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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.

CAPPER LODGE (No. 1075).—On Thursday, the 14th inst., Bro. Francis Brien, W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair of the above lodge as W.M. for the ensuing year, in the presence of some ninety odd brethren of the lodge and visitors, among whom were Bro. Terry, the honoured and esteemed Secretary of the aged Freemasons' Institution, who had especially attended to give éclat to the proceedings. Among the visitors were Bros. H. Balls, 77; E. Benjamin, 1766; C. Reeve, 1437; S. Clapp, 1437; E. F. Catchside, 1063; Thos. Wren, 50; T. E. Ives, 781; C. H. Stevens, C. Jolly, 913; (*Freemason*) and others. The Past Masters of the lodge present were Bros. J. Dorton, I.P.M.; E. West, E. Gaskell, T. G. F. Day, H. B. Holliday, and A. Knox. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. White, W.M., soon after 2 p.m., and after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, Past Master Dorton presented Bro. E. Brien to Bro. White, to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. Nothing could exceed the masterly manner in which Bro. White carried out the important duties entrusted to his charge, and the effect was most satisfactory. Bro. Brien then proceeded to invest his officers as follows. P. McCarthy, S.W.; H. Tapley, J.W.; B. B. Bragshaw, P.M., Treasurer; (re-elected), James Mitchell, Secretary; J. K. Job, S.D.; W. Dorton, J.D.; W. Nevans, I.G.; M. Sherwin, Org.; A. Mason, D.C.; R. Brown and Harris, Stewards; and B. Norman, O.S.; (re-elected). The charges were most effectively given by Bro. White, and on their conclusion, a handsome ten-guinea Past Master's jewel was presented to that brother, as a token of the regard and esteem he is held in by the lodge, as well as to note their admiration of the manner in which he has conducted the business of it during his year of office. After a suitable reply from Bro. White, it was unanimously resolved, that the thanks of the lodge should be inscribed on vellum and presented to Bro. White for the excellent manner in which he had that day carried out the duties of Installing Officer, and the proposition was carried with acclamation. Upon the W.M. rising for the second time, Bro. White said: For the good of Freemasonry in general and this lodge in particular, I would like W.M. to say something further about the lodge becoming a V.P. of the Aged Freemasons' Charity. I would like each brother to give me 7s. 6d. between this and January next, either 2s. 6d. in this month, 2s. 6d. next month, and 2s. 6d. in January, or the whole now, or his promise to pay. For this small sum, brethren, this lodge will become V.P. of the Royal Benevolent Institution. Reflect on this, for 7s. 6d. each of you who might require them, would have ten votes, whereas, for a member to get two votes only, it would cost five pounds. Ten votes every year at the disposal of this lodge! Brethren, you remember my speaking to you, and asking for votes and interest on behalf of the child of Mrs. Priestly. How many votes do you think I obtained from this lodge? Two from our W.M. and one from our J.W.; but three votes from this large lodge. I know that Bro. Holliday, P.M., is a thrice told Governor, that Bro. Dorton, P.M., is the same, that the wife of one of our P.M.'s. has given five pounds for a Life Governorship. Now, I joined the London Masonic Charity Association to further Mrs. Priestly's child's case. After I had laid it before the Committee, I noticed that a brother on my left stated that although pledged to support the Committee's "last chance" selections, still he could not give up some 300 votes, he willed. On this he was assured that if he lent those votes, his case should be carried on to the next election. Now, brethren, what votes could I promise? None! At the Board, or Lodge of Benevolence, there is no case comes before it but the question crops up, "What has the brother done for our Charities," you may be sure that there is a considerable

difference made between the one who has done something and the one who has done nothing. Now, I want you not only to give me these three half-crowns, but to give me one each quarter day, until such time as this lodge is Vice-President of each of our great Charities. Only think, brethren, that there are now nearly 1800 lodges, and of lodges and chapters, but 200 of them who rank as V.P.'s. In four years we should have cleared them all off, and by that time, I venture to think, we should count our Life Governors by the score. Your good example may ultimately be followed by other lodges, in fact, it might be possible to build a Vice-President's wing to the Royal Masotic Benevolent Institution by such an effort, and the time may come when the candidate for our Order might qualify for the "Three Degrees" more fully by taking up three Life Governorships. The effort can hardly be elevated into the rank of a sacrifice, the sum being so trifling, yet how noble the result. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, at host Hillier's town business, the City Restaurant, in Milk-street, Cheapside, where a superb banquet awaited them. That having been discussed, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," Bro. Sherwin sang one verse of the National Anthem. "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," God Bless the Prince of Wales. "The Health of Lord Carnarvon, D.G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers" was cordially responded to, and then Bro. White rose to propose "The Health of their W.M. Bro. Brien, and expressed the extreme pleasure it gave him to have the toast in his hands. He proposed it, he felt sure, with the unanimous wish of them all. He wished him no higher position than the Master of the Capper Lodge, and the wish of every individual member of the lodge was that he might have a prosperous and good year of office. (Cheers.) He had stepped into the breach at a time when the want of good officers was felt deeply. Bro. Day had given him his first step, and now it was his (the speaker's) privilege to place him in the highest position that was attainable in the lodge. (Cheers.) Their Bro. Brien was not known to them only as a good Mason, a good working Mason he meant, but a good charitable mason. He had given ten guineas towards the steward's list for the Old Men's Charity, and would, he knew, so support the honour and dignity of the position they had placed him in, as to be a credit to the Capper Lodge and its members. (Cheers.) Bro. Brien briefly replied, and hoped he should be all to them that Bro. White had represented him to be. The toast of "The Past Masters of and belonging to the Capper Lodge" followed, and Past Master's White, West, Gaskell, Day, Holliday, and Dorton, severally responded. The next toast was one which the W.M. justly designated a most important one, it was "success to the Masonic Charities." Without those Charities Freemasonry would be a myth, and totally unworthy of the splendid traditions connected with its name. He felt it a great honour to have so distinguished a brother as Bro. Terry with them that night, and he should couple his name with the toast. (Applause.) Bro. Terry, in the course of a long and exhaustive speech, in which he eloquently advocated the claims of the Aged Freemasons' Charity, urged the brethren to assist it by every means in their power. He told of the many claims made upon its resources, and of the many poor, old, and deserving Masons now eligible for its benefits, many of whom would never participate in its advantages, because of their not being funds enough to go further than they are going at present. He pointed out how every lodge might assist by small sacrifices, and instanced the Capper Lodge, taking its numbers as 150, he said the payment of eight shillings per year per member meant £60, which would make the W.M. a V.P. of the Institution, a member of the Committee of Management, and place him in a position to do good for, and influence good for, any of their members who required aid and assistance from them. And as they went on year after year, they would not only make their W.M., but S.W., J.W., Deacons, and, in fact, every member, a voice and a power in the great institutions of the Masonic Charities. (Great applause.) He then showed how 2s. 6d. per week would be from each of them a great help to the Charities, and even 2d. a week, just the price of one glass of bitter, meant 10s. a year. He asked them to avail themselves of this great privilege offered them, and by their earnestness, show the world that charity was one of the brightest jewels in the crown of Freemasonry. His speech was loudly applauded, and the outcome of it was a collection of £30 made in the room, and as Bro. Dorton had consented to stand as Steward at the next festival of the Aged Freemasons' Charity, it was placed at once to his list, which will, no doubt, be worthy of Bro. Terry's eloquence and the lodge. The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and most of those brethren remaining responded. "The Officers" gave an opportunity for Bro. McCarty to express his, and his brother officers' desire to do all they could to support the dignity of the Master and the best interests of the lodge, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the business and pleasures of the meeting.

BURDETT COUTTS LODGE (No. 1278).—A meeting of the brethren of this prosperous lodge was held on Thursday last, the 21st inst., under the presidency of Bro. C. K. Crouch, W.M., who was supported most ably by Bros. Sayers, S.W.; Dr. Defries, J.W., and the rest of his officers. The muster of members and visitors was large, numbering in all thirty-four, the majority of whom were in time for the opening ceremony. The business consisted of initiating two gentlemen, Messrs. Johnson, and Harrison, and this over, the brethren adjourned. Among the guests present were Bro. Brayshaw, P.M.; Brooks, P.M.; Finch, P.M.; Robertson, Hodges, Hughes, Anglis, Tarillgrave, Hogarth, and Edwards. The lodge unanimously agreed to a petition for a warrant for a new lodge to be created at the Victoria Tavern, who will be its nearest neighbour.

The banquet to which the brethren adjourned was done ample justice to and the usual toasts given and heartily responded to.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, November 21st., at Bro. T. Butt's, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield. Bro. G. S. Elliott, W.M., presided, supported by his officers, Bros. J. Howes, P.M., S.W.; J. Johnson, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, P.M., Treasurer; E. Mallett, P.M., Secretary; W. Pennefather, P.M., S.D.; W. Malthouse, J.D.; T. McButt, I.G.; H. Lardner, D.C.; G. Stephens, W.S., and others. He, in an able manner, initiated three gentlemen into the Order. It was unanimously resolved to present the Treasurer, Bro. F. Walters, with a ten-guinea testimonial from the lodge funds. Banquet was well served. There were twelve visitors.

SIR HUGH MYDDLETON LODGE (No. 1702).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Friday last, when there were present Bros. E. G. Sim, I.P.M.; A. F. Rowley, S.W.; J. Weston, J.W.; J. Osborne, Sec.; W. E. Poulton, J.D.; H. Field, I.G.; R. G. Thomas, Tyler; J. G. Rimell, W.S.; also, Bros. E. Somers, P.M.; W. H. Lee, P.M.; E. Payne, E. J. Perdy, J. Greenfield, J. Kitchener, L. Hollidge, R. Allison, W. Payne, W. Francis, J. Francis, and E. Pelikan. The visitors were Bros. A. H. Chisholm, 159; W. B. Clarke, 186 and 1507; W. H. Rohu, S.D. 946; W. Rowley, S.D. 917; W. Hirst, 15; A. W. Fenner, S.D. 1227 and 1673; E. W. Braine, W.M. 1471; and H. S. Godolphin, I.G. 1349. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. T. J. Coombes, the W.M., who was detained on business in the country, the I.P.M., Bro. E. G. Sim, acted as W.M. Lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. Hollidge was raised and Bros. Kitchener and Pelikan passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Greenfield was elected Treasurer to the lodge. The sum of two guineas was voted out of the funds on behalf of the children of the late Bro. Wyatt. Some other business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a light repast. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. On the toast of "The Visitors" being acknowledged, all expressed themselves highly gratified, and Bro. Godolphin expressed his intention of joining the lodge. On an appeal being made on behalf of the Charities, to assist Bro. Norris, S.D., who is Steward for the R.M.B.I., and Bro. Weston, J.W., Steward for the Girls' School, several subscriptions were placed on the lists. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing by several of the brethren, and brought to a close at an early hour by the Tyler's toast, after a very pleasant and enjoyable evening.

TEMPLE BAR LODGE (No. 1728).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the London, Fleet-street, on Thursday, 21 inst., when there were present Bros. Dixon, W.M.; Butcher, S.W.; Bush, J.W.; Adamson, Treasurer; Reed, Secretary; Staley, S.D.; Harris, J.D.; Buckworth, I.G.; Knapton, W.S.; also Bros. Rexworthy, Recknell, Goodwin, Chapman, Lehany, Kempton, Mackrell, Blackmore, Charles, and Buckworth. Visitor Bro. Richardson, Organist 1658. Bro. Bush, J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Adamson, Treasurer, and Bro. Church, Tyler. The installation will take place on Thursday, 16th January.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at the Derbyshire Masonic Hall, present Bros. G. Pipes, W.M.; J. O. Marston, Secretary, as J.W.; W. B. Hextall, J.W.; M. H. Bolart, P.M., P. Prov. S.G. Warden, Treasurer, as Secretary; S. Steele, S.D.; G. Arnold as J.D.; W. L. Dodd as Organist, W. Butterfield, I.G.; J. Worsnop, P.M., &c., Hart, Wallis, Coulthurst, Hopplewell, Walters, Lane, Carr, Belfield. Visitor Bro. Hudson. The ballot was taken in favour of Bro. Richardson, of the Philanthropy Lodge, Stockton-on-Tees, Bro. Cadman of the Calendar Lodge, Rusholme; Bro. Wagstaff, of the University Lodge, Penrith, and Mr. Charles Osborne, a London resident, but frequent visitor to Derby. Bros. Belfield and Carr were advanced to the Second and Third Degrees respectively, the able work of the W.M. being excellently supported by his officers. A supplementary grant from the lodge funds was voted to the nearly exhausted funds of the Town Almoners. Sundry communications were read, and other business disposed of, after which the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, there, in the Fourth Degree, to promote the genuine good fellowship which exists among them, and to welcome a continuance of visiting brethren to the mysteries of the advanced step.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—As we briefly announced in a previous number of our journal, the annual installation meeting of the members connected with the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on Monday, the 18th inst., when and where there was a very large and influential muster of the Craft, including several P.G. Lodge Officers, and about a score of W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and other chiefs in the Craft. The W.M. elect was Bro. Sigismund Schönschadt, and the numerous gathering of the fraternity not only clearly evinced the popularity of his unanimous election to his high and honourable office, but also served to demonstrate that during its several years existence the Lodge of Israel has deservedly secured a most honourable position in the extensive province which s so genially and courteously ruled by Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M. of England. There were altogether about ninety brethren present on this interesting occasion—a yearly event which invariably has a strong drawing power for

nearly every brother—and the whole of the afternoon's proceedings was characterised by an enthusiasm and unanimity which elicited the admiration and commendation of every visiting brother, whether belonging to the Christian or Jewish persuasion. The lodge was opened shortly after four o'clock, when there was a goodly gathering of members and visitors to give *clat* to the inauguration of the proceedings. Bro. A. Jones, the retiring W.M., presided at the opening of the lodge, and the other principals present were Bros. Maurice Hart, I.P.M. and Secretary; Alfred J. Henochsberg, P.M.; Ralph Robinson, P.M., P.G. Reg.; S. Schönstadt, S.W.; H. D. Marks, J.W.; Prof. Prag, Chaplain; Isaac de Frece, Treas.; S. J. Henochsberg, J.D.; M. P. Tueski, I.G.; H. F. Wright, S.; W. G. Veale, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The members present included Bros. E. W. Yates, H. A. Tobias, S. J. Jordain, B. D. Sonaje, M. H. Edwards, A. Liebschutz, H. Henochsberg, M. Aronsberg, M. Blinkowstein, J. P. Grand, W. Levy, J. Sagar, J. M. Myers, A. Levy, M. Ansel, A. Zolki, M. Baum, M. Ehrenfeldt, D. Gabrielson, E. J. Fraser, M. Parkes, S. Jacobs, J. Mutton, A. Rabow, H. M. Silver, E. Myer, A. Saqui, P. Barnett, Simmons B. Levy, H. Ridchalgh, A. Isaacs, D. Joseph, J. Frank, A. A. Sissons, A. Cohen, and others. The visitors present were Bros. H. S. Alpess, P.G. Sec.; P. Macmudrow, P.P.G.S.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; W. P. Evans, W.M. 1350; Rev. T. W. Richardson, P.M. 1380; P. Wilkinson, 249; J. Saber, 1409; Henry Gabriel, 263; W. W. Captain, P.M. 113; L. Foinquinos, late 1532; J. Bowes, P.P.G.J.W., Sec. (Cumberland and Westmorland); J. Winsor, W.M. 241; F. Barnett, W.M. 249; J. Barber, P.M. 1102; J. Walmsley, P.M. 1102; D. Lavenstein, W.M. 1474; A. Hart, W.M. 724; T. Morris, 148; E. Hanke, 1073; L. Hart, 1502; Dr. F. J. Bailey, S.W. 786; I. Woolf, 1393; J. Robertson, 251; Henry Ellis, 1091; and others. After the transaction of the routine business of the lodge, and the election of three candidates, Bro. A. Jones, W.M., concluded his year of work in the chair by installing Bro. Sigismund Schönstadt as his successor for the ensuing year—a ceremony which he performed with great Masonic ability and to the satisfaction of all the brethren who were present. The new chief of the "Israel" Lodge subsequently invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. A. Jones, I.P.M.; the Rev. Professor Prag, Chaplain (re-appointed); Maurice Hart, P.M., D.C.; the Rev. H. D. Marks, S.W.; Henry A. Tobias, J.W.; Isaac de Frece, Treasurer (re-elected unanimously for the fifth time); S. J. Henochsberg, Secretary; M. Aronsberg, S.D.; P. Tueski, J.D.; J. Saber, I.G. (by proxy); W. G. Veale, Organist; H. F. Wright, S.S.; D. Gabrielson, J.S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler (re-elected). After the installation ceremony, the new W.M. initiated three candidates (Messrs. Robel, Phillips, and Mamelock) in a manner which augured well for his year's occupancy of the chair, and the officers ably seconded his efforts. The brethren subsequently dined in the banquetting room of the hall, under the presidency of Bro. Schönstadt, the W.M., who was supported by a brilliant assembly of P.G.L. Officers and other visitors, the latter including several well-known brethren from the sister "Israel" Lodge in Birmingham. After the toast of "The Queen" had been briefly given, and enthusiastically responded to, the W.M. proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and stated that H.R.H. had on many occasions shown an interest in the welfare of Freemasonry, which it would be well for the Masonic fraternity generally to imitate. The W.M. next submitted the toast of "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., P.G.M. West Lancashire, and the Provincial Grand Officers," observing that these brethren were respected in proportion to the admirable manner in which they performed the important duties of their exalted stations. In Lord Skelmersdale he believed they had a P.G. Master who had no superior and very few equals, who discharged his duties in a manner which must satisfy every one of the brethren. This was more expressly the case at the recent meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge at the Philharmonic Hall, one of the most successful and imposing meetings ever held in the provinces. In Bro. Alpess, their P.G. Sec., who was present that night, who had performed the most important duties of his office for a number of years with the utmost fidelity, and to the entire satisfaction of the brethren throughout the province, thereby gaining the approbation of the P.G.M. and the Masonic brotherhood generally. The W.M. also alluded to the distinguished honour which had been conferred on one of the P.M.s. of that lodge, Bro. Ralph Robinson, who had been appointed Prov. Grand Registrar, in recognition of the very valuable services which he had rendered to the Craft. The toast was also coupled with the names of Bros. P. Macmudrow, P.P.G.S.D.; and G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C. Bro. Alpess, in response, said it had given him great pleasure to be present that day. He was sure that Lord Skelmersdale would have been delighted to be present on that occasion to witness the great prosperity of that lodge, which although only established four or five years, had achieved a success which was worthy of the greatest commendation. He Bro. Alpess was peculiarly well pleased with the excellent working, and the manner in which the W.M. had performed the ceremony of initiation that afternoon showed his fitness for the office to which he had been appointed. In Bro. Robinson, the lodge possessed one of great experience, and when he looked around and saw other brethren of well known ability he (Bro. Alpess) was sure the ritual would be closely attended to, and that "brotherly love, relief, and truth," would be the grand principles ever kept in view. He had not experienced greater pleasure for some time than he had done that day in witnessing the prosperity of the Lodge of Israel. Bro. Robinson thanked the W.M. most cordially for the manner in which he had spoken of him, as well as the brethren who had so

enthusiastically received the toast. He trusted that he would fully merit all the kind things which had been said, and in the course of an excellent speech he eloquently advocated the claims which the Hamer Benevolent Fund, of which he was recently appointed chairman, had upon the charitable support of the brethren. He also strongly counselled the brethren to give active and cordial support to the forthcoming performance by the Dramatic Lodge at the Royal Amphitheatre, for the decoration of the banquetting room of the Masonic Hall, and hoped that each one would feel it his duty to take tickets for so admirable an object. Bro. Macmudrow and Bro. Broadbridge also acknowledged the toast. The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which was enthusiastically received. In giving "The Installing Master" (Bro. A. Jones) the W.M. presented him with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, in token of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren. "The Visiting Brethren" (coupled with the names of Bros. Lavenstein, W.M. 1474; J. Winsor, W.M. 241; and Barnett, W.M. 240); "The Fund of Benevolence" (given by Bro. Robinson, P.G.R.); and "The Initiates" (most admirably proposed by Bro. A. J. Henochsberg, P.M.), were amongst the other toasts. Songs, &c., were given by Bros. Isaacs, Jacobs, Hart, Ehrenfeldt, Marks, and others, the accompaniments being played by Bro. Veale, Organist.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This lodge held its last meeting on Thursday, the 21st inst., when there were present amongst others Bros. John Hammond, P.G.S., of Middx, I.P.M.; Jessett, S.W.; T. W. Ockenden, J.W.; E. Ripwood, P.M. 141, 1412, P.P.G.S.B. of Middx., Treas.; William Hammond, P.M. 201, 1326, 1512, W.M. 1656, P.P.G.D. of Middx., Sec.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middx., S.D.; Raw, P.M. 157, 957 and 969, acting I.P.M.; T. Moody, D.C., acting I.G.; W. J. Day, A.W.S.; Long, Tyler. Previously to the lodge being opened the I.P.M. stated that in consequence of the indisposition of Bro. Fox, their W.M., he had been requested to act as his deputy that evening. The minutes of the last regular meeting in October, and an emergency meeting held on the 12th inst., having been read and confirmed, the I.P.M. passed Bros. W. Burdett, E. Russell, and R. M. Oxford, to the degree of F.C. and raised Bro. S. Hanlon to the Third Degree. Both ceremonies were performed by Bro. J. Hammond most ably. Previously to the lodge being closed Bro. T. C. Walls was elected to represent the Hemming as its Steward at the next festival in connection with the R.M.I. for Boys and the sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted to head his list on that occasion. The lodge having been closed the brethren adjourned to a collation. Bros. Scott, W.S., and Handel, both of 1656, were visitors. In consequence of the lateness of the hour the toasts were necessarily curtailed, and those that were given were but tersely prefaced by the I.P.M. Bros. W. Hammond and Hopewood responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers Present and Past." Bro. Handel for "The Visitors" and Bros. Jessett and Walls for "The Officers."

MAIDSTONE.—Douglas Lodge (No. 1725).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, 22nd ult., at the Gateway of the College. The W.M. (Bro. Aretas Akers-Douglas) presided, and amongst the brethren present (in addition to those mentioned below) were:—Bros. Rev. W. A. Hill, G. Graham Bell, William Russell, T. P. Franklyn, R. W. Stephens, J. S. Ancomb, C. Monckton, H. Crutenden, D. W. Longton, Walter Monckton, E. Thurston, F. A. Seymour, J. Hodgson, and others. Bro. Herbert Monckton was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being most ably and impressively performed by that gentleman's brother, Bro. J. B. Monckton (Town Clerk of London). The following officers were invested for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. Akers-Douglas, I.P.M.; Dr. Davis, S.W.; R. T. Tatham, J.W.; Rev. E. Moore, Chaplain; Alfred Spencer, Treasurer; Edwin B. Smith, Secretary; F. S. Stenning, S.D.; J. E. Meredith, J.D.; G. Friend, I.G.; J. W. Menpes, D.C.; C. Arkcoll, jun., Steward; J. C. Hill, Tyler. After the business of the lodge, the brethren repaired to the Mitre Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served by the manager. It should be mentioned that a handsome banner, bearing the arms of Bro. Douglas, was presented to him by the lodge, together with an elegant gong, to be placed in the hall of the mansion at Chilton Park.

HOUNSLOW.—Royal Hanover Lodge (No. 1777).—This lodge held its first meeting since its consecration on Saturday last, at the Town Hall, there being present Bros. H. A. Dubois, P.P.S.D. Middlesex, W.M.; H. Lovegrove, S.W.; G. Clark, jun., J.W.; W. Ramsey, Hon. I.P.M.; H. Clark, S.D.; Cruikshank, S.D.; Dr. Whitmarsh, I.G.; G. J. Dunkley, Organist; E. W. Dubois, McKay, and several other brethren. The lodge was opened at half-past five by the W.M., who proceeded to initiate the following candidates into the mysteries of the Craft, Messrs. W. H. Heelis, C. J. Axford, T. G. W. Wood, and Horace Brooks Marshall, of Fleet-street, publisher, and the representative of the Ward of Farringdon in the Common Council. This brother is well-known in the charitable world, and inaugurated his admission into our Order by at once qualifying himself as a Life Governor of all our Masonic Charities, first by placing a donation on the list of the W.M. for the Girls' School, and himself representing this lodge as Steward at the next festival of the Boys' and Benevolent Institutions respectively. He also presented to the lodge a handsome Volume of the Sacred Law, for use of the Master's pedestal, and which bears the following inscription:—"Presented by Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, Treasurer to the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, in the Town Hall, Hounslow, at the first lodge meeting Nov. 23rd 1878, upon his initiation, with an earnest prayer that all who are sworn on this Volume of the Sacred Law may be enabled by the Great Architect of the Universe, faithfully to discharge the duties and obliga-

tions of Freemasonry." So generous an example is indeed worthy of emulation, and the lodge is to be congratulated that so early in its career it has been able to secure a brother who is destined to be an ornament to the Craft by fully carrying out one of the great fundamental principles of our Order, viz., Charity. The following letter was read, from the Secretary of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland,

Grumden 13th October, 1878,

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 8th October, His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland and Brunswick Luneburg, has charged me to convey to you the expression of his sincere satisfaction that the lodge of Free and Accepted Masons shall be called the Royal Hanover Lodge. At the same time the Duke has consented gladly that the Royal Hanoverian Arms shall be used on the summonses of the founders, and that the founders shall have the same arms as founders' jewels. I herewith send you a coloured drawing of the Royal Hanoverian Arms.

His Royal Highness wishes to express to all members of the lodge his cordial thanks for this kind commemoration of his beloved and lamented father, King George V.

With much esteem and consideration, I have the honor to remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed)

A. VON BOTTMER.

On the motion of the W.M. the Secretary was directed to enter the letter on the lodge minutes and also to write and thank His Royal Highness for his gracious permission, and also to ask His Royal Highness to honour the lodge by accepting an honorary membership of the same. The lodge being closed the brethren adjourned to a slight supper, when the usual Masonic toasts were duly proposed and honoured. In reply to that of the newly initiated, Bro. Marshall mentioned how impressed he had been with the ritual of our order, and stated that he had been for some time acting the part of an operative Mason, as both he and his family had been engaged in the work of laying many foundation stones for religious and philanthropic objects, and he was therefore no stranger to the working tools, for he possessed no less than twelve tools and other implements used in this labour of love. This night he had linked with operative, Free and Speculative Masonry, and hoped thereby he might be able to further continue in the great work of dispensing those gifts that the Great Architect of the Universe had for a time entrusted to him.

INSTRUCTION.

WANDSWORTH LODGE.—A meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, on Wednesday, the 27th inst. Bro. J. Featherstone was the W.M.; Bro. J. J. Holland, S.W.; and Bro. F. Reed, J.W. There were also present:—Bros. H. R. Jones, P.M.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; C. Digby, W. A. Blackmore, H. J. Newens, J. Frost, P. Y. Denham, and A. A. Denham, Sec. The Three Degrees were worked, Bro. Newens being the candidate for the First and Second, and Bro. Featherstone (who resigned the chair for the Third Degree to Bro. Digby) going through the ceremony of raising. Bro. J. J. Holland will be the W.M. at the next meeting.

Royal Arch.

CAVEAC CHAPTER (No. 176).—On Saturday 23rd inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, the installation meeting was held. Comps. J. B. Sorrell, Z.; W. M. Gees, J.; C. Browne, J., and others, opened the chapter. Afterwards Comp. P. A. Nairne, P.Z., installed W. M. Gees, Z.; C. Browne, H.; the J. elect being absent through illness. The ceremony was well done. The officers are F. Walters, P.P.G.A.S. Middlesex, P.Z., Treasurer; J. B. Sorrell, jun., S.E.; A. Middlemass, S.N.; R. P. Tebbis, P.S.; S. Pownseby, 1st A.S.; H. Boyson, 2nd A.S.; C. T. Speight, Tyler. Bros. R. Strong, J.P.; J. Soper, and H. Soper were exalted; the ceremony was beautifully rendered. A seven-guinea Past Z's jewel was presented to Comp. J. B. Sorrell, P.Z., for his able services rendered to the chapter. Business ended, the chapter was closed and adjourned, and the banquet followed. The visitors were Comps. W. A. Barrett and W. J. Stride.

WHITTINGTON CHAPTER (No. 862).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on the 22nd inst., at Anderton's Hotel, when there were present Comps. Thomas Kingston, M.E.Z.; W. A. Tinney, H.; William Stephens, P.Z. and Treasurer, as J.; James Weaver, P.Z., S.E.; and W. Grist, P.S.; Collinson, Brown, Fisher, Smout, Parkhouse, W. J. Murlis, J.; Cuff, Gilbert, Janitor; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 (*Freemason*); besides several other companions. Bro. Charles Henry Pike, Lodge 862, was exalted, the work being very well performed by Comps. Kingston, Tinney, W. Stephens, Glaskin, and Grist. Comp. W. Stephens afterwards assisted by Comps. Weaver, Kingston, and Massey, installed Comp. Tinney as M.F.Z., and Comp. W. J. Murlis as H. The installation of Comp. Alfred Moore as J. stood over, that worthy companion being unable to be present. The officers appointed were Comps. W. Stephens, P.Z., Treasurer; James Weaver, P.Z., S.E.; Glaskin, Scribe, N.; W. Grist, P.S.; W. Penn, 1st A.S.; Parkhouse, 2nd A.S.; and Gilbert, Janitor. On the proposition of Comp. W. Stephens, P.Z., seconded by Comp. W. J. Murlis, five guineas were voted to Comp. Kingston's list, for the Aged Freemasons' Festival. Chapter was then closed, and the companions sat down to supper. When the toasts were proposed, Comp. Stephens gave the companions the toast of "The M.E.Z.," whose chair was occupied by Comp. Kingston, as Comp. Tinney had to leave to fulfil a professional engagement. Comp. Stephens apologised for the absence of Comp. Tinney, but said that he was sure Comp. Tinney would perform the duties of the First Principal as well as he had performed the duties which fell

to him in the other offices. He then proposed "Comp. Kingston's health as I.P.Z.," and congratulated the companions on having had a Z. who, while doing everything he could for the comfort and happiness of the companions, had yet curtailed the expenses in such a way as to have a large balance in hand. The companions had not met once in the year without enjoying their banquet, and yet the M.E.Z. had not forgotten to look after the funds. In recognition of the great services he had rendered to the chapter the companions had resolved to present him with the jewel of a P.Z., and this jewel he now affixed to Comp. Kingston's breast. The companions in voting the jewel wished to express their conviction that while Comp. Kingston had held the office of First Principal he had done everything which a First Principal could do in that capacity. The companions would always regard him with the same feelings. Comp. Kingston, in acknowledging the presentation, assured the companions that he felt very grateful for the handsome testimonial so kindly presented. Even were the jewel of less intrinsic value than it was he should set the same value on it as he did now, as a token of the companion's appreciation of what he had endeavoured to do for the chapter. Every one had some shortcomings, and though he was not exempt from them, he had done the best he could for the chapter. He was a founder and original member of the chapter, and as long as he lived he hoped to continue a member. Comp. Kingston then gave "The Health of Comp. Pike, the Exalteé," who, in reply, said he had been much impressed with the ceremony, and would not forget the kindness with which he had been received. Comp. Murlis, H., proposed "The Health of the Past Principals." The two Past Principals in attendance were as good as any could be. Comp. Stevens he had known for twenty-five years, and he had found him in that time an excellent friend, and in Masonry no one could deny that he was a great power. He hoped the Past Principals would be spared many years to see young Royal Arch Masons coming on and doing their duty. Comp. Stevens, in reply, said that Comp. Murlis's reminder of a twenty-five years' acquaintance was a warning that he was getting on in life. He was exceedingly pleased to be connected with the Whittington Chapter, which was the first chapter that gave him an opportunity of passing the chair. He should always look upon the chapter in that light. It gave him great pleasure to think of the cordiality with which he had at all times been received in the chapter. He believed he had the confidence of the members, both as a Past Principal and as Treasurer. He took great interest in Freemasonry generally, and in Royal Arch Masonry in particular, and he must say that if there was one chapter particularly which he esteemed it a favour to be connected with, it was the Whittington Chapter. Comp. Kingston also responded, and then proposed "The H. and J." In the course of his observations he thanked the companions for having voted five guineas to his list for the Benevolent Institution, at the festival of which, on the 12th February next, Comp. Stephens would also be a Steward. Comp. Murlis replied, and said, after apologising for many shortcomings, that he did not suppose he should ever make a first rate Freemason as far as words were concerned, but with regard to the "right hand of fellowship" he yielded to no one. If his pockets were filled with gold he should throw it broadcast to Masonic institutions. He hoped to go on and improve, and he trusted that the companions would support him in his attempts to benefit the charities of the Order. Comp. Massey replied for the toast of "The Visitors," and Comps. Glaskin, Grist, and Parkhouse to that of "The Officers." Comps. Fry, Smout, and High, replied for "Lay Members," and Comp. Gilbert gave the Tyler's toast, after which the companions separated.

MACDONALD CHAPTER (No. 1216).—The installation convocation of the above chapter was held on Thursday, the 21st inst., at the head-quarters of the 1st Surrey Volunteer Rifles, Flodden-road, Camberwell. The chapter was in mourning for the late M.E.Z., Comp. Wagstaff, whose sudden death was a source of great regret to the companions, and threw over those present a feeling of gloom and regret for his absence at this meeting, he being so highly esteemed by all who knew him, for his amiable disposition. The chapter was opened by Comps. Henry Muggeridge, Past Grand Standard Bearer, as Z.; W. J. Messenger, Past Grand Standard Bearer, as H.; J. H. Hastie, Past Grand Standard Bearer, as J. The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, when a vote of condolence to the family of the late Comp. Wagstaff was carried unanimously. A conclave of Installed Principals was then formed, and Comp. Muggeridge installed Comps. W. J. Messenger, M.E.Z.; J. H. Hastie, H.; Newington Bridges, J. The conclave was closed and the companions re-admitted, when the following companions were inducted into the different subordinate offices, viz.:—Comps. Captain Thomas, S.E.; Bradley, S.N.; Captain Wire, Treasurer; Youngman, P.S.; Colonel Gardner, 1st A.S.; Lieutenant Nevill, 2nd A.S.; Hammond, D.C.; Lieutenant Woodcock, W.S.; Hale, C.S. This being a military chapter the members appeared in uniform, and we could not help noticing that the commanding officer of the regiment, Colonel Gardner, accepted a junior office in the chapter under non-commissioned officers and private members of the corps. In addition to the above the following companions were present, viz.:—Comps. C. E. Goldring, W. C. Hale, H. Hammond, E. Oldridge, A. R. Cranch, and H. P. Jarman. The visitors were Comps. P. A. Nairne, P.Z. 176; M. S. Larham, H. 720; A. Middlemas, 176; T. Edmondston, 1216; W. L. Permesson, 1329; and Fountain Men, 1185. The chapter was closed in ancient and solemn form, and the companions adjourned to the comfortable mess room, where a very substantial and pleasant banquet was supplied, which the companions appeared to do full justice to, not forgetting the sparkling wine, which was excellent, and reflected

great credit on the taste of the worthy and esteemed host. After dinner, "The Health of Her Majesty the Queen" was drunk in a very loyal manner, and the name of the M.E.G.Z., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales also honoured, the M.E.Z. proposed "The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, M.E. Pro G.Z.; Lord Skelmersdale, G.H.; Lord De Tabley; G.J.; and the rest of the Grand Officers," coupling the toast with the name of Comp. Henry Muggeridge, P.G.S.B., who returned thanks. "The Health of the M.E.Z. and the Officers," together with other toasts, were drunk. Comps. Cranch and Jarman delighted the companions with their vocal abilities, Comp. Muggeridge gave the "Balaclava Charge," and the companions separated at an early hour, highly pleased. We understand that Comp. Wagstaff's son will be a candidate at the next election for the Masonic Boys' School.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, at 7.30 p.m., on Tuesday, Nov. 19th, which was unusually well attended. The following companions occupied the several chairs: Carey, M.E.Z.; Hill, H.; Hearne, J.; Moutrie, P.Z., Treas.; Dr. Hopkins, acting as I.P.Z.; Brown, E.; Reeves, P.Z. as N.; Williamson, P. Soj.; Howes, S. Soj.; P. C. Young, as J. Soj.; in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Hunt on account of illness. There were also present E. Comps. Rubie and Keene, P.Z., and many members of the chapter. The Board of Installing Principals was opened punctually, and on the subsequent admission of the companions the chapter was opened. This done, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The next business was the exaltation of Bros. F. Wilkinson, W.M., and Radway, J.D. of Craft Lodge 41, who were in attendance. After the usual preliminaries they were admitted, and the first part of the ceremony as far as the O.B. was conducted by the M.E.Z. Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins completed the work, including the delivery of the historical, symbolical, and mystical lectures, the conclusion of which was greeted by the acclamations of those present. The duties of Principal Sojourner were admirably performed by Comp. Williamson. A ballot was taken for Bro. Peach as a candidate for exaltation at the next meeting, and two other brethren were proposed. The officers for the ensuing year were nominated and balloted for, in each case unanimously favorable. Their names will be given after the installation next month. The by-laws having been revised, it was ordered that 100 copies should be printed, and that one should be given to every member. The chapter was finally closed at 10 o'clock.

Mark Masonry.

YORK.—York Lodge (Time Immemorial).—The regular meeting was held at York, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., Bro. T. B. Whythead, W.M., in the chair, the Wardens' chairs being occupied by Bros. T. Cooper, P.M. and G. Balford, P.M. The first business was the confirmation of the minutes, which included an alteration in the bye-law respecting the installation of Master, which in future will take place in January. This step was rendered necessary by the inability of the W.M., elect (Bro. the Hon. W. T. Orde Powlett) to be present that day, he being a guest of the Earl of Scarbro' at the festivities at Sandbeck Park. Three brethren were advanced to the honourable degree of M.M.M. and the W.M. proposed as a joining member Bro. A. Gerald Duncombe, of the University Mark Lodge, No. 55, Oxford. Bro. M. Millington, J.D., presented to the lodge a set of candidate's aprons, which were much admired. An excellent supper was provided at the close of the lodge, at which about twenty-five brethren sat down, amongst the guests being Bros. Major Shaw Hellin (4th D.G.) Captains Tynte and Hanly (4th D.G.) Lieutenant Richey, R. A. and others, the visitors, in replying to the toast of their health, alluding in terms of high praise to the splendid working of the lodge.

DEVONPORT.—St. Aubyn Lodge (No. 64).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, 25th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Morice Town. V.W. Bro. Vincent Bird, Past G.M.O., and P.G. Sec.; presided. A.M.M. of the Royal Naval College, No. 1,593, Lieut. Charles Elsdon Gladstone, R.N., a nephew of the ex-Premier, was advanced to the degree of M.M.M., and joined the lodge. Bro. Lieut. James R. W. Quinn, R.N., P.G.S.O.; was elected and installed the W.M. for the ensuing year. V.W. Bro. V. Bird conducted the installation, supported by the following Board of I.M.'s:—W. Bros. S. Jew, P.P.G.M.O.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.M.O.; T. Goodall, P.P.G.S.O.; John Baxter, P.P.G.S.D.; E. Aitken Davies, P.P.G.J.D.; E. D. Parnell, P.P.G.St.B.; E. J. Knight, P.P.G.S.B.; and John Allen, P.P.St. The following brethren were also present during the evening:—W. Bros. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., W.M. elect, Sincerity Mark Lodge, No. 35, P.P.G. Chap.; H. Horton, P.G.J.W.; and T. Searle, P.P.A.D.C.; and Bro. Herbert Dinham, Temple Lodge. At the close of the installation the following brethren were appointed the officers:—W. Bros. M. H. Rickard, P.P.G.S.D., I.P.M.; John Masters, P.P.G.S. Wks., S.W.; Bros. Lieutenant C. E. Gladstone, J.W.; G. Nuteher, M.O.; J. Williams, S.O.; W. Bros. P. B. Clemens, P.P.G.O., J.O.; C. Watson, P.P.G. Purs., Treas.; John Baxter, Sec.; John Ripper, S.D.; V. Bird, J.D.; W. Littleton, P.M., I.G.; T. Goodall, O.; W. H. Roberts, Tyler.

WALTHAMSTOW.—Beaconsfield Lodge (No. 205).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Chequers, Marsh-street, on Saturday, the 16th inst. Bro. D. M. Dewar, P.G.M.O., opened the lodge for the W.M., and the minutes of the last lodge and audit meetings were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for six brethren, which proved unanimous in their favour. Four of the

candidates being present, they were regularly introduced and advanced into the Order, according to ancient form and custom. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with, Bro. Binckes, G.S., being the Installing Master. Bro. W. T. Christian, the W.M. elect, was then installed, proclaimed, and saluted in due form. The W.M. appointed the following brethren his officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. T. Pinder, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Claridge, S.W.; W. Grooms, J.W.; W. G. Hallows, M.O.; T. Franklin, S.O.; J. S. Badkin, J.O.; F. Hallows, Sec.; E. Lavcrack, R.M.; B. Brown, J.D.; J. M. Hunt, J.D.; J. H. Cambridge, I.G.; J. Upward, Org.; E. Lane, D.C.; E. Sheppard, W.S.; W. Gilchrist, Tyler. It was proposed, seconded, and carried, nem. con., that a vote of thanks be tendered and recorded upon the minutes of the lodge to Bro. Binckes and Dewar for their able and efficient services as installing officers. The lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer. After the labours of the evening were ended, the brethren sat down to a banquet, after which the usual Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. Bros. Binckes and Dewar responding for the "Grand Officers," and the toast of "The I.P.M." Bro. J. Pinder, was ably given and heartily responded to by the brethren, and for his able and efficient services as first W.M. of the lodge, the brethren, through the W.M., presented him with a very handsome Past Master's jewel. Bro. Pinder replied, thanking the brethren for so highly appreciating his services, and wishing the lodge prosperity and success. "The Health of the W.M." was then proposed by Bro. Pinder, and responded to, the remaining toasts were then given, and the brethren separated after spending a very pleasant evening.

ABINGDON.—Abbey Lodge (No. 225).—The consecration of this lodge, and the installation of the W.M. took place at Abingdon on the 30th ult., in the presence of Bros. Levander, Grand Registrar; D. M. Dewar, P.P.G.O. and Grand Asst. Sec.; Robt. Bertridge, Grand Director of Ceremonies; and a large number of brethren from Oxford, Aldershot, and other places. The ceremonies were beautifully and impressively performed by V.W. Bro. the Rev. P.M. Holden, Past Grand Chaplain; and Bro. Walter Ballard was installed as W.M. of this new Mark Lodge with every prospect of a most successful year of office. The effect of the proceedings was greatly enhanced through the kindness of the Mayor and Corporation placing the handsome municipal buildings at the disposal of the brethren for the ceremonies, and great credit is due to Bro. E. S. Shepherd, for the excellent arrangements which he was principally instrumental in making. An elegant banquet concluded a most pleasant day.

THE NORTHERN MASONIC MUTUAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

A system of Masonic relief or assurance has been in existence in the United States for the last ten years, which we think peculiarly effective in rendering aid to the widows and orphans of deceased Masons, by its simplicity, cheapness, and perfect safety. It has been wondered why a plan of assurance, now so wide-spread in the United States, doing so much good of a truly Masonic character, has failed to reach these shores. The brethren of the mystic tie in America are banding themselves together all over the country for a closer union and a better protection. Their work receives the plaudits of the multitude and has caused brethren widely separated to be brought together in sympathy and the bond of charity. It has united them in purpose, and concentrated their efforts in a work which is causing every heart to glow with the inspiration of a new life. A sketch of the initial organisation will best illustrate the working of the system. In the year 1869, the Southern Tier Masonic Mutual Life Insurance Company was organised in the State of New York, at the City of Elmira. This name was changed in 1869 for prudential reasons to its present name, "The Southern Tier Masonic Relief Association." On the evening of organisation, a few brethren met in the lodge-room, for the purpose of taking such action as they might think proper. After a mutual interchange of views and opinions, it was deemed advisable to form a company. Thirty-eight brethren subscribed their names, and became what is termed, Charter Members. The real work of organization then began. Committees were appointed to mark out the way in which, in their judgment, it seemed best to follow. The course before them was wholly untried. They had no precedents to guide, and no landmarks to direct them. Principles in the government of such associations were entirely unknown. But, it had strong hands and willing hearts to lay the foundation and superintend the erection of the superstructure. The cement that united them into one common bond was charity, this was the pole-star of their hopes, and has never been lost sight of. From the first the work prospered, and grew beyond their most sanguine expectations. Not one of its projectors ever dreamed, in the outset, of a membership to exceed five hundred. Its name indicates that it was intended to relieve the lodges, to a certain extent, of their heavy charitable work, and at the same time, place in the hands of many, more than they could reasonably expect from the lodges. The success attending this initial Masonic Relief Society attracted much attention. Outsiders began to see that a real advantage and lasting benefit was being conferred by Masonry through connection with this association. Not long had this grand scheme been before the Masonic public, when association after association, was formed on the same principle throughout the States and Canada, till at the present moment, no less than one hundred and sixty-eight societies exist in the United States and Canada, with a membership of 84,808; the death-rate on this membership, was 1½ per cent. in 1876. The plan may be briefly and simply stated—sup-

pose we succeed in forming an association, say of 200 members, to pay an entrance fee of 20s. to 40s. according to age, and upon the death of a member, each surviving member to pay into the treasury the sum of 5s., which would make £50; this sum the Secretary would hand to the representatives of the deceased member. With 200 of a membership, and taking the death-rate at one per cent.,* we would have 2 deaths yearly at a cost of 10s. for a payment of £50, assessments to be made only on the death of a member of the Association. In all American Associations only Masons in good standing are admitted. The limit of age is usually fixed at 60 years. It will be seen from the foregoing, and also from the annexed proposed rules and regulations the desirability which exists in this country for the introduction of this system of Assurance. We have the feeling that should such a plan as proposed be introduced in connection with the Masonic fraternity of Ireland, new life and energy will be infused into our ancient and worthy Society, by making it more fully what it claims to be, a truly benevolent and charitable organisation.

* One per cent. is the rate ascertained, taking the average of lives at 38 years. This rule may and does vary somewhat, when we compare one with another; but with a series of years, it is unvarying. It was first observed and brought to notice in Carlisle, England, and because of its accuracy, has formed the basis of all mortality rates of Insurance Companies since their first formation.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

CONSECRATION OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS CHAPTER.

That the spread of Freemasonry under the English Constitution has been rapid in this province, has been proved by the number of lodges and chapters lately added to the roll of the Grand Lodge. The rising town of Invercargill has long possessed a most excellent English Craft Lodge, and during the last two years a lodge under the sister Constitution of Scotland has also been formed. In order metaphorically to place the cope-stone on the foundation already raised, it has for some time past been the earnest endeavour of several of the most prominent brethren to form a Royal Arch Chapter. For this purpose application was made to the Grand Chapter of England, and in reply to that a Charter empowering the formation of a chapter was granted, and in due course reached its destination. A very handsome and complete set of appropriate furniture was also procured from England, and all things being in readiness, invitations to several eminent members of the Craft were sent out. These were responded to, and on Thursday, the 19th September, the day fixed for the consecration and dedication of the chapter, the companions of this branch of the Royal Craft met in the elegant little lodge-room attached to the Southern Cross Lodge, 997, E.C., and to which the chapter is attached, for the purpose of assisting in the beautiful ceremonies consequent on its dedication.

The chapter was opened in due form by Excellent Comps. E. Nathan, P.M.E.Z., as Z.; J. Joyce, P.M.E.Z., as H.; Sydney James, P.M.E.Z. as J.; C. de Longueville-Graham, J. 942, as P.S.

The usual preliminaries having been disposed of, Ex. Comp. Nathan offered the following prayer:—"Almighty and Eternal God, who in heaven and earth is like unto Thee? Thine omniscient eye brings all things into review; Thine omnipotent arm directs the movement of the vast creation; Thine omnipresence pervadeth the secret recesses of every heart; Thy bounteous goodness and mercy provide for the wants of all creatures, while Thine infinite greatness and glory far surpass the understanding of the children of men. Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, O our Father, to look down with favour on the work we are about to do, and grant that this chapter which we are about to consecrate may so redound to Thy glory that all men may know that Thou alone, who art called Jehovah, art the Most High over all the earth.—So mote it be."

Comp. Burwell, who presided at the organ, then played an appropriate voluntary, and the companions were again addressed by Ex. Comp. Nathan. On concluding he again offered up prayer, and proceeded to consecrate it with corn, while the companions chanted the introit, "Glory be to God on High, for His mercy endureth for ever."

Ex. Comp. James then sprinkled wine, and Ex. Comp. Joyce oil, the companions meanwhile rendering appropriate chants.

The chapter was then dedicated by Ex. Companion Nathan, and declared duly constituted by Ex. Comp. De Longueville-Graham. — *Otago Daily Times*, September 25th, 1878.

The new Masonic lodge Eden was opened and consecrated at the Rising Sun Hotel, Newton, in the presence of a large number of the brotherhood. There were present: —Bros. G. S. Graham, D.G.M.; E. T. Wildman, D.D. G.M., and the following Grand Lodge Officers:—Bros. Rev. C. M. Nelson, D.G. Chaplain; C. F. Goldsbro', D.G. Treasurer; H. G. Wade, D.G. Secretary; E. Willcocks, D.G.D.C.; Dawson, D.G.A.D.C.; Hesketh, Org.; Rattray, Pursuivant. The Masters and officers of district lodges were present, also a number of visitors.

The following officers were installed in the usual manner:—Bros. J. Warren, W.M.; D. Chapman, S.W.; J. Carlaw, J.W.; W. J. Suiter, Treas.; W. Johnson, Sec.; E. W. Morrison and J. Moore, Deacons; T. Walker, I.G.; C. Westmoreland, Tyler; and Thomas Barnett, steward.

A banquet was held at the close of the ceremonies, which was of a satisfactory character, and highly creditable to Captain Mann, the host of the Rising Sun.

There was an excellent attendance at the annual meeting of the Kilwinning Otago Royal Arch Chapter, No. 116,

S.C., on Monday evening, at the Masonic Hall, Moray Place. After the opening of the chapter, and the transaction of the usual routine business, a Board of Installed Principals was constituted, and M.E. Comp. W. Caldwell, P.M.E.Z., assisted by a number of Past Principals, formally installed Ex. Comps. J. A. Fergusson as M.E.Z.; T. Moodie as H.; R. Forrest as J. The Board of Installed Principals was then closed, and the following officers were formally invested with the distinguishing badges of their several offices:—Comps. W. Tait, S.E.; T. Fogo, S.N.; P. Adair, Treasurer; J. Nisbet, P.S.; J. Barron, rs. A.S.; L. Schulenberg, 2nd A.S.; F. Cadie, M.E.M.; R. Campbell, R.W.M.M.; S. T. Kerr, Chaplain; G. Smith, Janitor. The chapter was afterwards closed, and the members, together with several visitors from the Otago and Joyce Chapters, E.C., repaired to the Criterion Hotel, where a banquet was ready. The customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given, and duly responded to, and the companions separated at an early hour.

The annual installation of the officers of the Otago Chapter, No. 844, E.C., took place in the presence of a very large number of companions. The sister chapters represented were the Joyce, 942, E.C., and Kilwinning, 417, S.C. After the routine business of the chapter had been transacted, a Board of Installed Principals was formed, Excellent Comp. Nathan, P.M.E.Z., acting as Installing Officer, when E.C. T. Fordyce was installed as P.Z.; E.C. Walker, P.H.; and E.C. J. F. Peak, P.S. The Principals having been duly installed and saluted according to ancient custom, the following companions were invested in office for the ensuing year:—S. De Leon, S.E.; G. Marsden, S.N.; H. Eldrige, P.M.E.Z., Treas.; A. Myers, P.M.E.Z., Principal Sojourner; R. Greenfield, First Assistant Sojourner; S. N. Muir, Second Assistant Sojourner. The ceremony of installation having been concluded, the Principals and companions adjourned to a banquet, at which the usual Royal Arch Masonic and loyal toasts were duly given and honoured.

SUPREME COUNCIL 33°.

We have been requested to publish the following changes that have taken place in the Supreme Council Thirty-third Degree.

III. Bro. Dr. Robert Hamilton having resigned his seat in the Supreme Council, in consequence of his ceasing to reside in England, III. Bro. General John Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., has been appointed in his stead, and Bro. Dr. Hamilton has been created a supernumerary member, residing in the West Indies.

The Supreme Council is now constituted as follows:—
GRAND PATRON.

III. Bro. H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., 33°.

HONORARY MEMBERS OF SUPREME COUNCIL.

III. Bro. H.R.H. Arthur, Duke of Connaught, K.G., 33°.

III. Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., 33°.

SUPREME COUNCIL.

III. Bro. The Rt. Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.P.S.G. Commander.

III. Bro. Captain Nathaniel George Phillips, Pt. M.P.S.G. Cr., and M. III. Lt. G. Commander.

III. Bro. Major-General Henry Clerk, Grand Treas.-General.

III. Bro. John Montagu Pulteney Montagu, Grand Chancellor.

III. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Shadwell Henry Clerke, Grand Secretary-General.

III. Bro. Hugh David Sandeman, Grand Treasurer, Foreign Correspondence.

III. Bro. Sir Michael Costa, Grand Captain of Guards.

III. Bro. Colonel Alexander William Adair, Sov. Grand Inspector-General.

III. Bro. General John Studholme Brownrigg, C.B., Sov. Grand Inspector-General.

III. Bro. The Hon. Dr. Robert Hamilton, Supernumerary Member, residing in the West Indies.

All official letters should be addressed to the Grand Secretary-General, No. 33, Golden-square, W., at which address all information concerning the Ancient and Accepted Rite can be obtained.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

NEW ROYALTY.—The new programme at this house embraces the well-known comic drama, "Checkmate," which is excellently played, and provokes constant and hearty laughter, and Burnand's latest burlesque "Overproof," as good a piece of fooling as ever was seen. Miss Kate Stanley as the little girl "only five" is perfectly irresistible, her "get up" is so good, her face so pretty, and she contrives with it to put on such a sweet, innocent baby-face, that she looks simply—"a fine girl for her age." In two songs "put me in my little bed" and "only five," Miss Kate Stanley is nightly encored. The whole piece is full of fun, and should be seen by all lovers of good burlesque.

STRAND THEATRE.—On Saturday morning last Bro. E. Swanborough took his benefit at this house. As might have been anticipated, the attendance was large, the genial treasurer being a great favourite with every one who knew him. The programme was of a mixed character, but exceedingly attractive, and well suited to the occasion. It included, among other attractions, the best act of "Family Ties," a song by Bro. E. Terry, and that funniest and best of burlesques "Nemesis." The whole performance was a complete success, and the result a highly deserved compliment to the genial qualities of Bro. E. Swanborough.

MAY STREET READINGS. (W. Kensington).—A committee of gentlemen, among whom are the Rev. Gerard Williams, the Rev. H. E. Walker, the Rev. T. H. Cardell, and Mr. G. A. Cook, have inaugurated a series of

entertainments, consisting mainly of songs and readings, to be given in the school-rooms in the above neighbourhood. It is proposed that these entertainments shall extend over the long winter months, and that the proceeds shall be devoted to some charitable object. The first of the series was given on the 5th inst., when Mr. and Mrs. Payne, both excellent singers, contributed not a little to the success of the evening. The second of the series was equally successful, Mr. Marriner rendering good services to this end. The intense enjoyment exhibited, and the appreciation shown by the poorer classes, who are mainly supporting these entertainments, must be very gratifying to the worthy committee. The third of the series takes place next Tuesday, December 3rd.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Grand Lodge of England will be held on Wednesday next at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Grand Lodge proceedings will commence punctually at 7 o'clock p.m.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN CORNWALL.—Colonel J. W. Peard has been appointed Provincial Grand Prior for Cornwall, in succession to the late Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart., M.P. There are two Encampments, or Preceptories, in the Province, situated at Truro and Tywardreath, and, doubtless, the fact of such a popular Mason as Colonel Peard being at the head of affairs will do much to popularise the Order in Cornwall. Sir Frederick Williams had never been installed, having declined the honour, in consequence of his many other duties, but, we believe, he much valued the compliment. The Earl of St. Germans was the previous Provincial Grand Prior, and prior to his appointment to Cornwall was connected with the Province of Devon.

The Installation Meeting of the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, took place on Thursday last, 28th inst., at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Regent-street, W. A report will appear in our next.

We hear Bro. Smallpeice has resigned the Preceptorship of the London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Eccleston Lodge of Instruction, 1624, on the first Saturday in December, Bro. Coulson, P.M., in the chair, at the new quarters of the lodge, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico.

LORD CARNARVON.—It is announced that a marriage is arranged between our Pro Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon and Miss Howard, of Greystoke.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked by the brethren of the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, at the Westbourne, 1, Craven-road, Paddington, on Monday, 2nd December, at 7 o'clock precisely, Bro. George Davis, J.W. 167, W.M.

The time of meeting of La Tolerance Lodge of Instruction, No. 538, should have been 7.45, instead of 8.15, as stated in our last.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction, No. 1360, held at the Princes's Head, York-road, Battersea, on Tuesday, December 3rd, at 7 p.m. precisely. Bros. Collings, 1585, W.M.; Pulsford, 1158, S.W.; Whitley, 846, J.W.; A. Withers, 211, Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Marshall, the well-known publisher of Fleet-street, was initiated into Freemasonry on Saturday last, in the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, by Bro. H. A. Dubois. We are pleased to learn that Bro. Marshall announced his intention of qualifying himself a Life Governor of all the Masonic Charities, as a commencement; and also presented to the lodge a very handsome Volume of the Sacred Law. We think we may congratulate the Craft on such an acquisition to its roll of members.

A half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, London, on Tuesday next. Lodge will be opened at 5 o'clock. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

It is announced that the official dinners given on the eve of the meeting of Parliament will not take place until the reassembling of the two Houses in February.

The Installation Festival of St. John's Lodge, No. 104, will be held on Monday week, Dec. 9th, at Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport. A report of the proceedings will appear in due course.

Special Advent Services at St. Anne's Church. Bach's "Magnificat," and "My Spirit was in Heaviness," will be sung with orchestral accompaniments, under the direction of Mr. Barnly, on Friday, October 6th, 13th and 20th, at 8 o'clock. Tickets of admission, free, may be obtained of Bro. J. E. Shand (churchwarden), 2, Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, S.W.

The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers have given a donation of £10 in aid of the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.—A full report of the proceedings at the Festival of this popular lodge will appear in our next.

THE MASONIC MAGAZINE.—The Christmas Number, consisting of ninety-six pages of letter-press, with a handsome illuminated cover, will be ready on December 16th. It will contain a new and original story by Anthony Trollope, a portrait, with biography, of Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy Grand Master of England, and numerous contributions from eminent Masonic writers. Price 1s., post free 1s. 2d. May be had of all booksellers, or direct from the office, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.—ADVT.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 4th September, 1878, for confirmation.

Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.

Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.

Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence for the year ensuing.

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following Grants, viz. :—

A brother of the Morning Star Lodge, No. 1396, Newton Abbot	£100 0 0
A brother of the Rutland Lodge, No. 1130, Melton Mowbray	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Witham Lodge, No. 207, Lincoln	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Brunswick Lodge, No. 159, Plymouth	50 0 0
The orphan daughter of a brother of the Royal York Lodge, No. 315, Brighton	100 0 0
A brother of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, London	100 0 0

Report of the Board of General Purposes.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a Statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 15th day of November, shewing a balance in the hands of the Trustees of the late Grand Treasurer of £3542 18s. 9d.; in the London and Westminster Bank, £985 1s. 10.; in the Bank of England £1822 10s. 3d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash, £75, and for Servants' Wages, £96 15s.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

19th November, 1878.

Proposed Motions.

By brother John M. Clabon, P.G.D.

That the Constitutions, under the head "Fund of Benevolence," be altered as follows:—

Alter "three pounds" to "five pounds" and add at the end, the words "or to any country in which they have been established or have friends."

After the words "Certify in Writing" add "on a form to be from time to time settled by the President and Vice-Presidents of the Lodge of Benevolence and the Grand Secretary."

Alter "two pounds" to "five pounds."

NEW LODGES.

The following is a list of New Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- No. 1780.—Albert Edward Lodge, Southampton.
- 1781.—Ionic Lodge of Amoy, Amoy, China.
- 1782.—Machen Lodge, Coleshill, Warwickshire.
- 1783.—Albert Edward Lodge, Huddersfield.
- 1784.—Lodge Hiram, Bombay.
- 1785.—St. Petros Lodge, Pa'stow, Cornwall.
- 1786.—Wimmera Lodge, Horsham, Victoria.
- 1787.—Grenville Lodge, Buckingham.
- 1788.—Hervey Lodge, Trinidad.
- 1789.—Ubique Lodge, Regent-street.
- 1790.—Old England Lodge, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
- 1791.—Creaton Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1792.—Tudor Lodge, Harborne, Staffordshire.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ETHELBERT CHAPTER, ROSE CROIX, AT CANTERBURY.

A special meeting of the Supreme Council Thirty-Third Degree of England, Wales, and the dependencies of the British Crown was held at the Masonic Rooms, Saint Peters-street, Canterbury, on Monday, the 18th November, for the purpose of perfecting candidates in the 18th Degree, and to consecrate a Rose Croix Chapter under the title of the Ethelbert Chapter, to be held at Canterbury, when the following members of the Supreme Council were present.

Capt. N. G. Philips, 33°, Lt. Grand Commander; J. M. P. Montagu, 33°, Grand Chancellor; Lt. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, 33°, Grand Secretary General; H. D. Sandeman, 33°, Grand Secretary Foreign Correspondence; As well as Samuel Rawson, 33°, Deputy Inspector General, S.E. district; Lt. Col. Somerville Burney, 32°, Director of Ceremonies to Supreme Council; Dr. W. Deamer, 30°, M.W.S. of the Excelsior Chapter, New Zealand; R. Joynes Emmerson, 30°; Professor G. M. Lott, 30°; Rev. J. Branfill Harrison, 18°; Alex. H. DesBanes, 18°; Horatio Ward, 18°; and Capt. Chas. J. Hamilton, 18°.

The Supreme Council Chapter Rose Croix having been opened, the following brethren were perfected by Lt. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, 33°, Grand Secretary General, Hon. T. Sankey, P.M. 31, P.P.G.S.W. for Kent; F. Hughes Hallett, P.M. 709, P.P.G. Reg. for Kent; John Emery, P.M. 31, P.P.G.J.W. for Kent; Philip Higham, P.M. 31, P.P.G.J.W. for Kent; Francis J. Giraud, P.M. 133, P.P.G.J.D. for Kent; John M. Goldfinch, P.M. 133, P.P.G.J.D. for Kent; James D. Terson, P.M. 199, P.P.G.S.D. for Kent; George Page, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.J.D. for Kent; Charles Holburn, P.M. 31, P.P.G.S. of Works for Kent; Major Philip H. Knight, P.M. 31; Frederick Lith, P.M. 482; Rob. L. Harrison, 1206; Richard Harrison, jun., 1206; Rev. F. C. Jugg, 133; Arthur C. Plater, 1206; Edward Lukey, 199; and James S. Harris, 1209.

The consecration and dedication of the Ethelbert Chapter was then proceeded with.

The brethren having assembled in the hall and formed the Arch of Steel, the Supreme Council Thirty-Third Degree entered in order, and the Lt. Grand Commander (Capt. N. G. Philips) assumed his seat, and the Warrant of the Ethelbert Chapter having been read, he gave the declaration of constitution, and consecration and dedication address, and the Grand Marshal proclaimed that the chapter had been consecrated.

The ceremony of installation then followed, Ill. Bro. R. Joynes Emmerson, 30°, Most W. Sovereign designate, was presented, and very ably and impressively installed by Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke, 33°, Grand Sec. Gen., after which the M.W.S. appointed and invested the officers of the chapter, as follows:—Bros. J. Branfill Harrison, High Prelate; Lieut. Alex. H. Des Banes, 1st General; Horatio Ward, 2nd General; James D. Terson, Grand Marshal; Arthur Charles Plater, Raphael; Charles Holtham, Herald; Francis J. Giraud, Captain of the Guard; Richard Harrison, jun., Recorder; George Page, Director of Ceremonies; John Wilson, Tyler.

Bro. Herbert T. Sankey was unanimously elected Treasurer of the chapter.

The Most W. Sovereign then expressed the acknowledgments of the chapter to the illustrious brethren present, members of Supreme Council for the honour conferred in their attending to consecrate the chapter, and a proposal that a vote of thanks be entered upon the minutes, and that for their excellent and valuable services they be elected honorary members, was carried by acclamation. Also, that the thanks of the chapter be given to Ill. Bros. Samuel Rawson, 33°; Lieut.-Col. Somerville Burney, 32°; Dr. W. Deamer, 30°, and Professor G. M. Lott, 30°, for their services in assisting in the ceremony of consecration, and that they be elected honorary members of the chapter.

A committee was next appointed to draw up the by-laws, and propositions were made for reception of candidates at the next meeting of the chapter.

All business being done, the chapter was closed in due form. After which the brethren adjourned to the Fleur-de-lis Hotel, where the members of the Supreme Council, the visitors, and members of the chapter, numbering thirty-three, were hospitably entertained at a handsome banquet by the Most W. Sovereign, Ill. Bro. A. Joynes Emmerson, 30°, and where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

The Lieut. Grand Commander, in returning thanks for the toast of "The Supreme Council," congratulated the chapter on the very admirable way in which it had been fitted up, and on the excellence of all the arrangements, results which were chiefly attributable to the skill and energy of the Most W. Sovereign, and of Bro. Horatio Ward, 18°, one of its founders.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

A GRAND LODGE FOR NEW ZEALAND.—We are informed that some brethren, hailing from New Zealand lodges, who are now in Sydney, having made every enquiry, are fully enlightened as to the correct modus operandi to be pursued, and so have decided to use every endeavour to ensure the erection of a Grand Lodge in New Zealand. We commend them for their laudable intent, and advise promptitude of action. We have been assured that the brethren throughout that colony are unanimous in their desire for a Grand Lodge for New Zealand.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE, E.C., AUCKLAND.—A quarterly communication was held at the Masonic Hotel on 4th September; V.W. Bro. E. T. Wildman, D.D.G.M., as D.G. Master, in the chair. D.D.G.M. read a letter from Bro. G. S. Graham, R.W.D.G.M., apologising for his absence, as he was going to Melbourne. Bro. C. F. Goldsboro, D.G. Treasurer, presented a financial report, which was very satisfactory. D.G. Secretary read the report of the consecration of the St. George Lodge, Dargaville, and of the installation of Bro. John Dargaville, as W.M., also the report of the consecration of Eden Lodge, 1530, and of the installation of Bro. John Warren, P.M. 689, as W.M. It having been reported that certain irregularities had occurred in one or two of the lodges in the District, the D.G.M. undertook to investigate the matter.

A regular meeting of the Unity Lodge, No. 1169, E.C., was held at Sydney on September 17th, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather the brethren assembled in great force; Bro. Frederick Lee, W.M., in the chair. Two brethren were admitted as joining members, and one gentleman was initiated in a solemn manner by the W.M., Bro. Robinson, P.M., giving the charge in an able and impressive manner. The W.M. announced that he had given £2 for the relief of a poor brother who had become blind. A proposition was handed in for a joining brother, and one for the purchase of a piano for the use of the lodge; also one to empower the W.M. and Treasurer to vary the investment of funds belonging to the Unity Benevolent Fund. At the close of the proceedings the brethren adjourned to the banquet-room, where a pleasant fraternal hour was spent.

ROYAL ACADEMY.—Mr. F. A. Eaton writes to the *Times* as follows:—"As the statement made by a weekly paper, that the Royal Academy is doubtful about including drawings by the old masters in the ensuing Winter Exhibition, may surprise and mislead those who have kindly promised to lend such drawings, I shall be much obliged if you will give me the earliest possible opportunity of saying that the statement is quite incorrect."

NOTES ON ART, &c.

The Belgian Gallery in Bond-street has reopened with its usual small but well selected show of pictures. The landscapes, which are unmistakably of the foreign school, both in the subjects chosen and in the manner in which they are treated, are on the whole more worthy of remark than the figure subjects. There are several capital sunsets and snow scenes, among which may be mentioned "Marshes in the Campine," by J. Coosemans—a dreary subject certainly, but one in which the artist has succeeded in putting upon canvas that which he was looking at. He has succeeded in getting that bleak or damp look which a low-lying country has at sunset in the evening of a short autumn or wintry day. No. 17, another sunset, although a more wintry one than the former, is well painted, the snow in particular being very conscientiously done. C. Heffner has a pair of pretty and carefully painted landscapes, entitled "Spring" and "Winter," the subjects of which it is unnecessary to explain. No. 71, a group of soldiers, entitled "On Active Service," by H. Breling, is worthy of notice, although on looking at it one cannot help thinking of Meissonier, to the detriment of the picture itself. No. 40, "The Dancing Lesson," by Bruner, is a pretty but well-worn subject. Professor Gassow, whose works we have already admired in former exhibitions of this Gallery, has a capital study, entitled "A Beggar," Among others, "Somewhat Fresh," by Maurice Courant, "Rue des Chaises," by H. Schaeffels, "Cattle in Pasture," by Victor Weishaupt, and "The Dinner Call," by P. Baudouin, may be mentioned as worthy of notice. A quantity of pictures already exhibited in Messrs. Gammon and Vaughan's Old Belgian Gallery in Old Bond-street, the lease of which has expired, will be sold by auction on Saturday, the 23rd, including works of many of the present exhibitors at the Belgian Gallery.

WESTMINSTER PLAY.—The "Phormio" of Terence will be performed as usual by the Queen's scholars in the Dormitory on the evenings of December 12, 17, and 19.

Further reports are appearing from day to day of the great progress that is being made in the application of electricity both to lighting purposes and to the telephone. The *Scientific American* gives a description of the Edison light, which, it says, is based on the fact that a wire may be heated by electricity; a coil of platinum wire being made white hot by the current. When the heat approaches the fusing point of platinum the expansion of a small bar checked the flow of the current. Besides this Mr. Edison has proved the possibility of adjusting the brilliancy of any particular light in the circuit without affecting any of the other burners. This evidently brings the electric light more nearly on a level with gas as regards convenience. Another improvement, tending to lessen the ultimate cost, has been effected, by which the consumption of carbon points may be practically reduced to nil. This has been done by two electricians, named Sawyer and Man, of New York. The apparatus consists of a small pencil of carbon little larger than a pin, and enclosed in a hermetically sealed glass globe filled with pure nitrogen gas, this gas having no affinity with carbon. There is also a substance in the bag at the bottom of the lamp which would absorb oxygen and carbonic acid gas. According to Mr. Sawyer one lamp had been in use two or three hours a day for three months until the sudden jarring of a door broke it. The only change in the carbon was its purification. The light, moreover, can easily be subdivided.

Mr. Tennyson's new drama is founded on the history of Thomas à Beckett, so says the *Daily News*.

The efforts of Sir Samuel Wilson to acclimatise Californian salmon in Victoria have been successful.

Another and most interesting lacustrine station has been discovered at Lorcas, on the Lake of Bienné.

It is proposed to construct, from the shores of the lake of Brienz to the Giesbach, a railway, the gradients of which will exceed those of the Righi line.

It has been the custom for several years to count on some afternoon in November the number of pleasure vehicles passing a selected spot on the road along the cliff at Brighton in ten minutes. Inspector Dumfrie took the necessary steps for making the count one afternoon last week, and it was ascertained that 256 such carriages passed in the ten minutes between 3.40 and 3.50. The number was 154 in 1858, and 248 in 1868.

Some interesting experiments in telephony were recently conducted between Norwich and London over a wire 115 miles long, under adverse circumstances, caused by bad weather and the neighbourhood of other wires. In spite of these disadvantages the carbon telephone worked well, and a conversation was carried on without difficulty, the American tone of voice of the speaker being distinctly recognised. According to a recent work by Mr. Prescott, the chief electrician of the Western Union Telegraph Company of America, the carbon telephone has been successfully used "when included in a Morse circuit;" and further, "several stations could exchange business telephonically upon a circuit that was being worked 'quadruplex' without disturbing the latter." Mr. Edison has lately made an improved receiver to his instrument, of which he says, that by its means one of his assistants "heard a whisper fifteen feet away from the receiver, and ordinary conversation came out almost as loud as originally spoken." Mr. A. Scott, Professor Bell's representative in this country, in a letter to the *Times*, says that the receiver was a Bell's telephone, Mr. Edison's carbon telephone being only the transmitter. A similar experiment was made by the Great Eastern Railway some time ago without the carbon telephone, but with equal success.

TO OUR READERS.

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

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

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 108, Fleet-street, London.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL and FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

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Further particulars may be obtained of the Publisher, 108, Fleet-street, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

ERRATUM.—In the review of Adams's Synchronological Chart the dimensions should have been 22 inches x 26 inches, not feet. The publishers are Walker Bros., 5, Ludgate Circus-buildings, Fleet-st.

J. R. Hendry, (Onehunga). The book is not yet ready, but will be doubtless early in the new year.

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

"Brief"; "Hall Packet"; "London Express"; "Broad Arrow"; "Western Morning News"; "News of the World"; "Der Triangel"; "Corner Stone"; "Freemason" (Sydney); "Ballarat Star"; "Australian Freemason"; "Le Monde Maconnique"; "Arrows of the Bow"; "Quiver" (Christmas number); "Bundes Presse"; "New York Dispatch"; "Proceedings of the United Grand Lodge of England at the Quarterly Communication in September"; "Risorgimento"; "Masonic Newspaper"; "Hebrew Leader"; "Keystone"; "News of the World"; "Christmas Number of the Poet's Magazine."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

ARCHIBALD.—On the 25th inst., at 3, Amersham-road, Putney, the wife of Mr. W. F. A. Archibald, of a son.

BENNETT.—On the 22nd inst., the wife of the Rev. John Bennett, Vicar of Bedford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BYRON—BURNSIDE.—On the 23rd inst., at St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, by the Hon. and Rev. W. H. Freeman, Rector, the Hon. and Rev. William Byron to Mary Burnside, of Notts, daughter of the Rev. J. Burnside, of Notts.

DAVIS—FRASER.—On the 23rd inst., at St. Mary's Church, Cheltenham, by the Rev. C. T. S. Escott, M.A., J. Owen Davis, of Alcester, to Florence, daughter of the late Mr. Alexander Augustus Fraser, of Worcester.

DEATH.

ADAMSON.—On the 25th inst., at the Railway Tavern, Camden-road, Mr. Thomas Henry Adamson, in the 53rd year of his age.

THE FREEMASON,

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1878.

THE NEXT GRAND LODGE.

One of the most pleasing duties of the next Grand Lodge will be the re-election of our Royal Grand Master. As Freemasons we are a most loyal body, and we rejoice to-day, as our forefathers rejoiced in their days, in that happy union which brings the House of Brunswick in immediate connection and ever friendly sympathy with our needful and benevolent Order. The Prince of Wales, who has a most difficult part to play on the great stage of human and social life, the observed of all observers, the criticised of all critics, deserves, in our humble opinion, the thanks of us all, as Freemasons, and patriots, and citizens of our great empire. He came forward chivalrously, at an hour of great emergency, to place himself at the head of our Order, and incur responsibilities from which some might have shrunk back, and he has ever since manifested the warmest interest in its progress and proceedings. He has presided over our assemblies, and he has, with the able assistance of the Pro Grand Master and his amiable Deputy Grand Master, ruled the Craft wisely, kindly, and well. His re-election, (a matter of certainty), will be hailed by the entire Craft with loyal gratification, as cementing an union, which they hope will long endure between the Prince of Wales and English Freemasonry. For this fact, honourable to both, is evident to the entire world, that despite the accusations of the ignorant or malignant, the heir to the throne knows us to be true patriots and good citizens, vouches for our unshaken loyalty, and is not ashamed as before all men to avow himself to be a Freemason, a brother of our peaceful, and kindly, and cosmopolitan Order. From France, as we know, our Royal and exalted Grand Master has returned with "golden opinions" and sympathetic admiration. His amiability and "don de plaisir," his attention to business, the energy he throws into all he undertakes, the unceasing interest he displayed in his own special section, whether as regards the mother country or the colonial dependencies, conducted greatly to the success of a very remarkable undertaking. And we, therefore, as Masons, may gladly hail as our honoured chief from year to year the eldest son of a Mason's child, the more so, as with him are bound up let us trust indissolubly the hopes of a loyal people, and the happiness and well-being of a noble Empire. Anxious as these latter times have been for Governments and Empires, for crowned heads, and even republics, we in England resting securely under the great and goodly shelter of our constitutional monarchy, have learnt more and more to value the priceless blessings of that form of Government which seems after all most productive of individual liberty and contentment, most suggestive of patriotism and loyalty, most compatible with good order, justice, and legal sanctions. The future is no doubt before us, dark and untried, and may seem doubtful to some, but we have no fear but that our good old ship will weather every gale, and that our "Sea-girt Isle" will still preserve inviolate and inviolable its prestige and its power, because in God's providence it still reposes in happiest confidence on those ancient laws and venerated institutions with which a loyal and an understanding people has sagaciously surrounded the throne and constitution, so dear to every loyal and patriotic subject of Great Britain.

MASONIC ICONOCLASTS.

There are a good many amiable, if not very wise individuals, going about in the world, who think that they have a mission to upset, to reform, to improve everything. They are generally one-ideaed men, what the French and Napoleon termed "idicologues" and are usually great bores, and greater tyrants. Everybody else is wrong but themselves, and though theirs at the least can be but a subjective view of things, they

insist dogmatically on pressing it upon all objectively, regardless of time or season, convenience or congruity, and at once fall foul of all who are so bold, so stupid, and so ignorant, as to dispute their premises, or reject their conclusions. And even Masonry, tranquil and pacific, is not at this moment without some such amiable, enlightened and dogmatic individuals, who with a perseverance and energy worthy of a better cause, seem to think, that to them alone it belongs, and to them alone, to put everything straight, to proclaim in absolute confidence, what is the right and what is the true theory as regards Freemasonry, historically, archæologically, didactically. Well, we do not wish to be too severe upon them, or to find fault either with their energetic words or vehement disquisitions. Like all things here, they probably have their use in our Masonic system and life. And though we fear, if only we can find it out, that the value of these lucubrations is best represented by the "unknown quantity," yet, as printers must live, columns must be filled, and copy must be supplied, we do not wish to seem to bear too harshly upon them, or to write too cynically or critically about them. It may be true, and possibly is so, that many of their learned elaborations are better fitted for the waste paper basket than for the "chapel," but, as we said before, it always becomes the strong to be generous, and therefore, we make allowances when others make none, for statements in which nothing is stated, assertions in which nothing is asserted, arguments in which nothing is argued, and conclusions in which nothing is concluded. A good deal of what our excellent Bro. Dryasdusts are penning in prolific profusion, is certainly not worth printing at all, for any good that it does or is likely to do, and as we fear that a very vicious tide of pseudo criticism and childish objection is setting in for Masonry, we think it right to raise a humble note of warning and protest. Before we accept with implicit faith the disturbing theories of Masonic scepticism, let us know what we are offered in the place of our oldest traditions, as we feel sure that one of the results of a rampant Masonic Iconoclasm will be, to leave us without any history, any chronology, any facts, any teaching at all; and Masonry, despite its honoured name and ancient annals, will be reduced to the position, intellectually, archæologically and critically, of a modern benefit order. Beware, we say, of Masonic Iconoclasts!

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

The London *Good Templar Pioneer* of November 16th, contains the following passage:—"The Freemasons of Canterbury are in the path of progress. They have adopted the suggestion of their Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, and the three lodges in that city have resolved to discontinue holding them at public, and to arrange for premises dissociated from the tap-tub. Good; but why cannot we have teetotal Masonic lodges?" Now, on one head we agree with our contemporary in principle, though without adopting his verbiage, which is more forcible than polite, but we cannot profess to agree with him on the second. We have always advocated Masonic halls and private rooms for Masonic meetings, and we again repeat our honest conviction, the result of some experience, that the public house connexion has not done good to Masonry. But then we must always be just. It is not always possible or convenient, for a new lodge especially, to incur the heavy expenses which the hall-system inevitably entails, and in London and some of our large towns, the rooms appropriated in hotels and the like for Masonic purposes are both comfortable and commodious. But we entirely differ from our contemporary as to "teetotal Masonic lodges." A correspondent of ours fairly points out that in London, for instance, we meet at an hour which necessitates absence from our "home dinner," and if we had no dinner after work, we should not be living as is our wont, and, perhaps, doing ourselves harm, as regularity of habits and natural enjoyment of food, constitute one main ingredient in health, most essential above all for business men, who have to be in their offices and at their desks every day, and at a given hour. Teetotalism—all very

well as a voluntary principle, is most objectionable as it appears to us, as a compulsory law. It always appears to us, that teetotalism "does evil that good may come," inasmuch as it substitutes the autocracy of a majority, influenced by sentimental theories and the arguments of passion, for the individual right of choice and use of permitted and lawful "good things." We are most favourable to unlimited "private judgement" in this respect. If brethren wish to drink wine, let them do so, and let us protect them and uphold them in doing so. At our Masonic table we boast a "Liberty Hall" as regards all right and proper things, and especially in respect of sumptuary laws and dietary proceedings, and we always rejoice to think that we have emerged from any tendency to late hours and material excess, and have reached the happy medium of toleration and moderation. The persons who seek to compel others to be temperate, are equally, in our opinion, in error, with those who would make all others drink; and rejoicing in the progress of a temperate and moderate use of what certainly is not wrong in itself, we cannot approve of that arbitrary and ascetic view of things, which forgets that the great end of life, the needful struggle of duty and decorum, is not abuse on the one hand, or mere abnegation on the other, but that calm and contented and temperate moderation in all things lawful, which meeting duty and difficulty half way, so to say, render life and society both rational and enjoyable, as well for the man of sense, as the man of prudence, the man of temperance, and the man of moderation.

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.]

THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I do not write for "writing's sake," or for the mere object of sentimentality or personality. I simply address you as a "Masonic Student," working historically, and I cannot afford time, nor would the result be improving, in my opinion, to follow our energetic Bro. Binckes into these "bye paths," into which he with much ability seeks to entice the unwary and the novice.

I have not addressed you to attack the Mark Degree or Mark Masonry, and therefore I decline to be led away from the "historical facts of the case" by questions, however ingeniously chosen, which do not concern me, or by any pressing appeal, however touchingly painted, of the good and use of Mark Masonry.

The real point at issue is the actual antiquity of Mark Masonry, which I cannot accede to, but which Bro. Binckes affirms; and as that can only be proved by facts, not argument, I propose in a week or so to send you what I have been enabled to collect about Mark Masonry. I am led to do this, as Bro. Binckes dubs the statement about "St. Mark" as "absurd."

I will say no more on that head to-day, though I have always understood that such charters are extant—but if I am in error I will gladly admit myself to be in the wrong. Bro. Binckes evidently, in his earnest zeal for Mark Masonry, overlooks this fact, patent to all who have studied the question, that if his argument be good, and if his view be true, Mark Masonry and Craft Masonry are two distinct systems of teaching, one limited (Mark), the other universal (Craft). But, as I said before, I only profess to treat with historical facts, not "sentimental positions," and as a Mark Mason myself, made in an old Mark Lodge professing to act from "inmemorial usage," I feel some little interest in the question from an archaeological point of view.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
MASONIC STUDENT.

THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to Bro. "Querist" I beg to say:—

1. That it is not a fact that the London Masonic Charity Association has been established to defeat provincial organisations. The London Masonic Charity Association is on the best terms with all such.

2. Nothing of the sort has been avowed by any member of the London Masonic Charity Association.

3. No doubt the disparity as between subscriptions and success has been pointed out.

4. Certainly not, nor has it the least resemblance to them, except in this, the combination of votes.

5. With the principles of action of the provincial Charity Committees, we, in London, have nothing to do so long as they conform to the rules of our charitable institutions.

6. All London cases, certainly.

7. Such matters of detail can only be decided by the Sub-committee. The society could not pledge itself one way or the other.

8. I do not know to what Bro. Edmonston alludes, or what query eight has to do with the subject.

9. Certainly not. The establishment of the London Masonic Charity Association is an antidote to jobbing and a protest against individualism.

10. There can be no doubt whatever, that owing to the generosity of the London Freemasons, London cases do not increase in the just proportion which London votes, if combined might fairly claim. All the London Masonic Charity Association asks for is fair play, all it seeks to do is to help the friendless candidates.

With regard to the relief of the Board of Benevolence. London brethren subscribe 4s. and Provincial brethren subscribe 2s. to the Fund of Benevolence, and Provincial brethren have a Provincial Fund of Benevolence. But as a rule, I can say as a member of the Board, that any such theory is a mistaken one altogether. The one great evil of the Board of Benevolence is again "individualism" alike in personal influence and stirring appeals, and which must always be the case with a fluctuating body.

I am yours fraternally,

LEGIST.

A CASE OF DISTRESS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I beg permission to make known to the well to do of the Craft whose motto is charity, the briefest possible particulars of a case of deep distress.

A brother in a London Lodge lived a few years since with his wife and family in thorough comfort, and did his duty as a Steward in the cause of Masonic Charity. Evil days came upon him, his whole property, save the household furniture (fortunately settled upon his wife), was swept away and he started for Australia to endeavour to retrieve his fortunes. He is known to have arrived there, and nothing further has been heard of him. His wife (or widow) is upwards of 60, totally blind and with a blind son and a daughter (both quite dependent) has been for some time living scantily on the gradual sale of her furniture. It is earnestly desired to help her by raising a hundred pounds with which she may establish herself and let lodgings. She is by birth a gentlewoman, and it is not desired to make her name needlessly public. Those, however, who are good enough to help in this matter shall with a receipt have full detailed particulars. A City Company of which the lost man was a liveryman, has kindly given twenty pounds. I am, fraternally yours,

JOHN B. MONCKTON.

Queen Anne's Mansion, S.W.

Pres. B.G.P. 32°.

26th Nov. 1878.

P.S. I shall beg your kind permission to acknowledge donations in your paper.

THE FETE AT THE TROCADERO.

We take the following account of this gathering from the *Monde Maçonnique* for November, which only reached us on the 26th inst., we know not why. The account is written by Bro. Adrien Grimaux. "Considering the Exhibition, the Grand Orient had thought that it ought to invite all Masons to its annual banquet. That was but little, inasmuch as there had been nothing changed but the price of the said banquet, which had been fixed at 15 francs, without doubt to avoid crowding. The Supreme Council immediately understood the part it had to take, in the fault committed by the Grand Orient. It hastened to announce by repeated advertisements in French and foreign papers that it offered gratuitously a magnificent fete in the Great Hall of the Trocadero, to "all Masons" who would come. With these views there was no question either of the banquet, which was to end the fete, nor of those pecuniary or other conditions to which a participation in the gastronomic labours was subordinated. In addition, it was announced that the Prince of Wales had been invited. This was well done to excite curiosity. It is well known that the part taken in the organization of the exhibition by the heir to the English throne had brought about much sympathy for him in our country. On the other hand, it was interesting to know if, after having invited the Grand Lodge of England to pronounce an opinion on the acts and tendencies of the Grand Orient of France, and after having sanctioned the resolutions adopted by the London Assembly, the Grand Master of English Masons would consent by his presence to recognise the Supreme Council of France, with its numerous and pompous hierarchy. As will be seen, the fete of October 24th, wanted not in attraction, and its skilful organisers must have been satisfied in seeing the crowd which had come together to fill the great hall, notwithstanding the horrible weather. In truth, they ought to feel some gratitude to the French Freemasons who, with the ladies, formed the greater part of the assembly. They ought to understand that the Masons of the two rites do not espouse the quarrels of "obedience," which they are unable to understand, and which appear to them with good reason to jar with the sentiments of fraternity, with which true Masons are penetrated. We even heard some brethren express naively a little astonishment, that the "Conseil of the Order" of the Grand Orient had not been invited. After the ladies, after the Masons in blue "cordons," or blue with a red border, we were able to contemplate without being overcome, the Sovereign Princes of Rose Croix, the Grand Inspectors, Grand Elect Knights Kadosch, Knights of the White and Black Eagle, the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Secret Most Faithful Guardians of the Sacred Treasure, and then all the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, members of the Supreme Council, before whom the Very Illustrious Bro. Ad. Cremieux, Most Powerful Sovereign, Grand Commander, Grand Master, and the Very Ill. Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of England, and Ambernay of that of Switzerland sat. But

what was remarkable in this fete, consecrated particularly to foreign Masons, was the very small number of foreign Masons present. At 2.15 the meeting opened with a nuptial march of Mendelssohn, a symphony of Bach, a prelude on the Organ by Bro. Brayer, the Austrian hymn of Haydn, magnificently executed by the orchestra. The grand air of "Ernani" (by Verdi) sung by Mlle. Duval. After this Bro. Cremieux, rose, and asked permission of the auditory to be seated, adding with a charming grace and manner, that he wished all those assisting might reach to eighty years, in order that they might all know why at that age one finds the needs of remaining seated. He then commenced his discourse or rather a series of digressions, which the hearers had great difficulty in connecting one with the other, the more so, as at every moment the voice of the able orator failed him.

There were nevertheless some passages of his discourse which we were able to take down. "From the earliest antiquity Masonry has always preserved a great secret. Formerly powerful societies were formed, composed of the men belonging to the religion of the country, they invited disciples to themselves to whom they taught science, art, religion. In all the countries the heads of religion were the heads of Masonry." Then followed a very vague digression on Iris and Osiris, and then a comparison, very fantastical, between the great empires of Assyria, Persia, and Egypt, and the modern nations of America, England, Greece, and Belgium. "There was then a great secret which was transmitted from mouth to mouth. It is said that Freemasonry existed then, and for myself I do not doubt that Freemasonry then had its place." It will be seen that Bro. Cremieux seems to doubt that the historic method has penetrated into Masonry; he has remained in the fables and conjectures of Lenoir and Regbellini, fables which were current at the epoch when he entered into Masonry. "We call ourselves Freemasons, but I am arrested at once by these words T.G.A.O.T.U. The Masonic religion admits all religions. He who speaks to you is a proof of this. It admits every honest and virtuous man. It lives in the intellect and mind. When it says T.G.A.O.T.U., it recognizes a Source or Living Guide. Among the ancients, the most beautiful monuments of the world have been erected by those we call Freemasons, and the most beautiful monuments are those of religion. The Masons saw around them the most beautiful constructions, the earth and the heavens. It was necessary that some one made them. It was necessary to protect themselves, to place themselves under shelter, they first built huts, then houses, and then monuments. This is why Freemasonry adopts these words A.L.G.D.G.A.D.L.U.

We have in France a Masonry which has suffered persecution, that is not astonishing since it had secrets. But persecution only strengthened it.

French Masonry first established female lodges, I do not wish to say what passed in those lodges, but they were presided over by ladies of high rank.

Freemasonry is itself a religion. It does not bring men to perfection, but it brings them up. The brethren are delighted to be directed by distinguished men. The secret is, that there is none.

We must be honest, and to be honest we must daily see honest men, and live with them, that is the use of lodges.

At the head of Masonic teaching we place that of attachment to the country. We are happy to sacrifice our children for the country when it asks them of us. The three great virtues of the Mason are love of family, love of country, and love of humanity. The Jews were a long time excluded from Freemasonry, although they were the best and the ablest Masons, although Solomon, the Grand Master who built the Temple, the Eighth Wonder of the World, was a Jew. To-day I know of no country where they are excluded from Masonry."

Bro. Cremieux finished by some considerations on death, which we ought to look on cheerfully, and the immortality of the soul.

To resume. Putting on one side his strange opinions, truly unworthy of so eminent a "jurisconsult," as regards the antiquity of Masonry, and his no less strange laudation of "Androgyne Masonry," it appeared to us that Bro. Cremieux was more than weak in his efforts to connect Freemasonry with belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. We did not find in him the warmth with which on other occasions he has sought to defend this opinion, and we remarked above all that among the virtues which he recommended to Masons, he omitted "love of God." This did not escape an English brother who answered towards the end of the sitting to Bro. Arago, as we shall see later.

We shall finish this sketch next week, (we must stop here to-day,) as for several reasons, the account deserves to be recorded and preserved in the accurate pages of the *Freemason*, faithful chronicler of the passing events of Freemasonry.

A report of the proceedings at the consecration of the Landport Lodge, No. 1776, will appear next week.

A movement is now being made, with every prospect of success, towards forming a company to build a Masonic Hall in Auckland, New Zealand.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Provi-
slender, delicate, and pale-faced youths become listless, languid, and debilitated, unless an alternative, combined with some tonic, be administered to quicken their enfeebled organs. This precise requirement is supplied in the e noted pills, which can and will accomplish all that is wanted, provided the printed instructions surrounding them meet with scrupulous attention. Holloway's Pills are especially adapted to supply the medical wants of youth, because his medicine acts gently, though surely, as a purifier, regulator, alterative, tonic, and mild aperient. A very few doses of these pills will convince any discouraged invalid that his cure lies in his own hands, and a little perseverance only is demanded for its completion.—[ADVT.]

FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

The regular meeting of Keystone Chapter, No. 757, E.C., was held in the Masonic Hall, Byculla, on Monday, the 9th September. Present: M.E. Comp. Counsell, P.Z.; V.E. Comps. Watson, P.H.; Cooper, P.J.; M.E. Comps. Rowe, P.P.Z.; Barrow, P.P.Z.; Comps. Tomlinson, S.E.; Kapadics, S.N.; Armstrong, P.S.; Anderson, 1st Asst. Soj.; Robinson, as 2nd Asst. Soj., Treas.; Seager, Janitor; and Madden. Visitor: M.E. Comp. Woolbridge, P.Z. No. 486, E.C. The summons convening the convocation was read. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The proposition of a brother as a candidate for exaltation was withdrawn. Comp. Taylor was then balloted for, and he was declared duly elected a member of this chapter. The proposition of Comp. Jones was ordered to stand over to the next regular meeting. A letter from the P.G.S.E. was read, acknowledging the receipt of the chapter returns for the year ending June 30th, 1878, together with dues for the same. M.E. Comp. P.Z. then gave instructions that three companions be served with notice of exclusion (for non-payment of dues) on the summons for the next regular meeting of 11th November, in accordance with Bye-law XII. Bros. Klee and Breiman having been duly elected candidates for exaltation, and having taken the O.B. of a R.A.M., were introduced in due form, and passed out for further preparation, after which they were admitted. The addresses were impressively delivered by the three Principals, to the edification of the newly-exalted companions, as also all the companions present. Comps. Klee and Brennan then signed the bye-laws. M.E. Comp. Rowe proposed, and V.E. Comp. Watson seconded Bro. R. Sowden, J.W. Lodge Concord, 757, E.C., as a candidate for exaltation. There being no further business, the chapter was closed in due form at 8.50, p.m.

FREEMASONRY IN CEYLON.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Ceylon was duly formed and instituted on Wednesday, 9th October. It is under the Irish Constitution, the majority of the lodges here being of that denomination. The charter only arrived by the previous mail, very opportunely for the dedication of the new Freemasons' Hall, which had been accordingly fixed for the following day. The new building was originally built by government for a sailors' home, but that scheme having collapsed, it was taken over by the Craft for their head quarters, for which it is very well adapted. On Thursday, 10th October, therefore, the ceremony of dedication was carried out with all due form and solemnity.

The Sphinx Lodge, No. 107 (I.C.), the mother lodge of Ceylon, was opened at 5.30 p.m. in the First, Second, and Third Degrees. Representatives from the four other lodges were also present, and a large number of the Craft assembled to assist at so interesting an occasion. The hall, though of considerable dimensions, was completely filled with sturdy forms, clad in the sombre dress clothes which are so admirably ill-suited to the exigencies of a climate like Ceylon.

The lodge being opened, the Provincial Grand Lodge demanded admittance, and entered with all fitting solemnity, to the strains of a slow march.

The Provincial Grand Master, Capt. W. J. Gorman, is a Mason of long standing and striking appearance. Both he and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. John Maitland, are worthy and respected brethren, whose efforts to further the interests of the Craft are such as to deserve the highest commendation. The other officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge are all well-known Masons of good standing.

The ceremony of dedication was performed in a most impressive manner; the elements (in three beautiful silver gilt goblets) were presented by the P.G. Secretary, Bro. Guthrie, and the Provincial Grand Master dedicated the building to Freemasonry in the usual way. The responses and salutations were capitally given, the brethren being well drilled by the P.G. Director of Ceremonies, Bro. J. Hegarty.

After an impressive oration by the Prov. Grand Master, and another by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, the Prov. Grand Officers retired, and the lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where the toasts appropriate to the occasion were drunk with great enthusiasm, and the meeting broke up in peace, love, and harmony.

An occasion such as this marks an era in Freemasonry in Ceylon, and, indeed, it is an uncommon thing to see so many brethren from different constitutions joining together to promote the interests of the Craft with such unanimity and zeal. Let us hope that such may always be the case.

FREEMASONRY IN AUSTRALIA.

On Tuesday, September 17th, the Masonic Hall, Camp-street, was the centre of attraction to the Masonic fraternity of Ballarat and the surrounding district, the occasion being the installation of Bro. Henry Wheeler, W.M. elect, and officers of the Yarrowee Lodge, No. 713. The brethren assembled to the number of 100 promptly at 7 p.m. Amongst those present holding high rank in the Order were:—Bros. Kelly, W.M. Orion Lodge; Wilson, W.M. Creswick Havilah Lodge; Herbert, W.M. St. John's Lodge, I.C.; Hale, W.M. Buninyong Lodge, I.C.; and Past Masters Finlayson, Little, Claxton, Kent, Tait, Babington, Kennedy, Lindsay, White, Robertson, Gibbings, Bright, and Alroe.

The beautiful ceremony of installation was most ably rendered by the retiring W.M., Bro. Nevett, the sublimity of the ceremony being enhanced by the assistance of an excellent orchestra, consisting of:—Bros. Thomas King,

W. Little, and A. W. Brunn, violins; Peter R. Cazaly and Kent, P.M., organists; Harrison, double bass; Towl, cornet; And. Brown, flute; Glasson, piccolo; and Robson, saxhorn, who played selections from "Le Prophète," "Norma," "La Tromba," and the overture, "The Caliph of Bagdad."

After the installation of Bro. Henry Wheeler as W.M., the following brethren were invested with the respective collars and badges of their offices:—Bros. H. A. Nevett, I.P.M.; Thomas W. White, S.W.; Andrew Brown, J.W.; W. Little, Treas.; Henry H. Peake, Secretary; F. H. Drew, S.D.; W. H. Batten, J.D.; J. Beauchamp, I.G.; S. J. Morgan, Tyler; Morgan and Harris, Stewards; and King, Organist. On the completion of the ceremony, Bro. Finlayson, P.M., presented Bro. Nevett, the I.P.M., with a very chaste Past Master's jewel, manufactured of Ballarat gold, blue and white enamel, and enriched with diamonds and rubies, nicely engraved as follows:—"Presented to Bro. H. A. Nevett, P.M., by a few members of the Yarrowee Lodge, as a mark of their esteem."

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to Craig's Royal Hotel. About eighty sat down to the banquet, the manner and service of which reflected great credit upon Bro. Wilkins. The tables being cleared, and the waiters having retired, the W.M. called upon the brethren to charge their glasses, and gave the following toasts:—1st, "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen;" 2nd, "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master;" 3rd, "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers;" 4th, "The R.W. District and Provincial Grand Masters."

The W.M. of the Orion Lodge, Bro. Kelly, then proposed "The Health of the W.M. of the Yarrowee Lodge." The large attendance must be gratifying, as showing that the unanimous vote of the lodge in placing him in the highest position he could receive or they could bestow, was thoroughly endorsed by all the Craft, and from what he knew of Bro. Wheeler, he was perfectly sure that the honour of the lodge might be thoroughly entrusted to his keeping; that he would discharge the duties of his high office to the best of his ability—without fear on the one hand, or favour on the other—in such a manner as would reflect honour on himself and credit to his lodge and Craft; that he would preserve the honour of the lodge, and guard it as carefully as if it were a young wife, and keep up the high reputation of the Yarrowee Lodge.

The W.M., Bro. Wheeler, responded, and after acknowledging the very flattering manner in which this toast had been proposed by Bro. Kelly and received by the brethren, proceeded—When he considered the kind of Masters who had presided over the Yarrowee Lodge since he had been connected with it, during the last five or six years—such men as Past Masters Little, Finlayson, Claxton, and Nevett, each one of whom had indeed proved model Masters—he must say he felt somewhat nervous in taking the position so well filled in the past. He could, however, assure them that the honour was not unexpected, for when he first visited the Yarrowee Lodge he was so well pleased with its working that he considered it would be an honour to assist in working such a lodge, and laid himself out accordingly, and notwithstanding the good Masters they had already had, he was sure that if during the ensuing year he managed to please himself, he should also give satisfaction to them. His idea of what the working of a Masonic lodge should be was of a high standard, but surely not too high. It was that the Master and his officers should be so perfect in their work that the brethren might look forward to their lodge night with unalloyed pleasure; that no matter how they may have been distracted by the cares of business, or what not, during the interval, that they should know that when they entered the lodge all cares of the outside world could be forgotten, and that they could there work together to the credit of themselves, the honour of the Craft, and the glory of the Great Architect. He, like many others, regarded Freemasonry as embodying the great principles of true religion. A good Mason could not but be a good man, and if his life is spent as we are taught a Mason should live, as surely as there was a Grand Lodge above, so surely would he qualify himself for a position in that lodge. He had visited many lodges since he had been a Mason, and from what he had seen, and from the remarks of others well able to judge, he was sure there is no provincial lodge under the English Constitution can take precedence of the Yarrowee, and to keep up that high position is one of the responsibilities a new Master should take upon himself. He took it cheerfully when he looked round and saw the officers he had to assist him, and the very experienced Past Masters he had to fall back upon for advice. He should endeavour so to discharge his duties during the coming year as to deserve from all of them the title of Past Master of the Yarrowee Lodge.

Bro. Finlayson proposed the toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. Nevett." After eulogising the manner in which the ceremony had been performed, he commented upon the excellent example that had been set during the past year, in making liberal subscriptions to the charities. Over £300 had been expended by the lodges on Ballarat. It was the foundation of Masonic institutions, and he trusted that the lodge, during the ensuing year, would agree to lay apart a certain portion of its funds, so as to found some permanent charitable institution in Ballarat in connection with the Craft.

Bro. Past Master Nevett, in responding, stated that it was with some degree of satisfaction that he looked back to his year in the chair of the Yarrowee Lodge. It had been signalled by one of the greatest successes that had ever taken place in Ballarat, or, in fact, in the district. He referred to the Masonic concert in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund. To Bro. Little was due the credit of initiating that concert, and his energy and enthusiasm had

materially assisted to carry it to a successful result; but still he (Bro. Nevett) might fairly lay claim to a small share of the credit, as the arrangements before the curtain had been under his direction, assisted by the brethren of the lodges. The pecuniary results of the concert were gratifying in the extreme. The brethren would doubtless remember that within forty-eight hours from the close of the concert we were able to send £200 as the Masonic contribution to the fund. At his installation banquet he had promised the brethren a ball, and he had redeemed his promise. The initiative was due to him, and when some who had at first been enthusiastic became luke-warm and despondent, he and a few others had refused to allow the matter to drop, and the result of their efforts was by everyone admitted to have been one of the most successful public balls ever held in Ballarat. The pecuniary result of this was also most satisfactory, £50 having been sent to the Masonic Almshouses in Melbourne, a worthy and deserving institution. As regards the Yarrowee Lodge itself, his year had been most satisfactory; the number of members had increased, over £60 had directly and indirectly been dispensed in charities from the lodge funds, and he left the present W.M. a large cash balance with which to commence his year of office. His work in the lodge had been very heavy, and he left scarcely any arrears for the new Master. In conclusion, he wished again to thank the brethren for the assistance they had given him both in and out of the lodge room. The handsome jewel which had been presented to him that evening had been received by him as a great and unexpected honour. Such a tribute by the brethren to the retiring Master was unusual in the Yarrowee Lodge, and therefore it was the more gratifying. He had not been one to seek popularity, but had always endeavoured to do justice to all without fear or favour. In the terms of his obligation, he had endeavoured to do his duty zealously, impartially, and to the best of his skill and ability. This evidence of the kindly feeling of the brethren would be treasured by him as a proof that his efforts had been understood and appreciated.

Bro. W. Little P.M., P.D.J.G.W., said the health of the sister lodges meant success, not only to these lodges so numerous and honourably represented that evening, but also to Freemasonry throughout the world, at least where the ancient landmarks were observed. What is that power which permeates all society? It is non-sectarian as well as non-political. Its bark sails securely amid the oftentimes troubled waters of Church and State, and, like an ark, affords a refuge to every peaceable, law-abiding man. It glides noiselessly onward and upward, guided by that unerring chart, the Volume of the Sacred Law. Systems of religion and politics may come and go, but, like Tennyson's brook, Freemasonry goes on for ever, simply because it is a superstructure raised on those three great foundation-stones, "brotherly love, relief, and truth"—cardinal virtues coeval with that period when the "morning stars sang together, and all the sons of men shouted for joy," the echo of which they were told was heard 4000 years afterwards on the plains of Bethlehem in the proclamation, "Glory to God in highest; peace on earth and good-will towards men." Unlike many societies, Freemasonry is not indebted to any straining of proselyting influence. It is content to grow from within. Indeed, to invite an outsider to join their order was to violate a well-known law, and a wise lodge looks not for strength in numbers, but in unity, hence some lodges restrict the number of their members, and yet, notwithstanding this, Freemasonry is represented by untold thousands in every nook and corner of the globe. Monarchs are among their rulers and patrons, and benefactors of mankind crowd their ranks and adorn their assemblies, each one worshipping God after his own fashion; all that he has to subscribe to is a firm trust and belief in Him as the Creator and Ruler of the Universe, without which subscription he can never enter their sanctuary, where their proceedings are begun, continued, and ended by invocations for Divine guidance. He would not presume to constitute himself judge, and in the presence of older and wiser Masons than himself, decide moot points which their most learned historians are divided upon, but would merely say the early ceremonial which his Masonic ancestors subscribed to probably in a measure corresponded to the mysteries of the ancient Egyptians, whose magi veiled their philosophy from the common people under signs, symbols, and hieroglyphics. Some venture to give Masonry an existence anterior to the siege of Troy, Solomon's Temple, or even the obelisks of Egypt; while others, more modest in their claims for the antiquity of Masonry, place its advent about the days of Pythagoras, whose problem is depicted on the Past Master's jewel. Anyhow, as regards English Masonry, and with which the toast was more particularly associated, he thought himself safe in saying it was greatly encouraged and practised by the conquering Romans in Britain—that land so genial to Masonry, and in which the Craft raised so many monuments of architectural skill, the admiration of subsequent ages—

'The solemn temples, cloud-capt towers

Th' aspiring domes are works of ours;

By us those piles were raised.

And where it existed with varying success till the year 1717, when speculative or philosophic Masonry started, phoenix-like, out of the ashes of associated operative Masonry, and immediately afterwards became the progenitor of Masonry in America, India, and elsewhere. Previous to that date it appears to have existed as a vast co-operative society, having for its object the promotion of science and art, but especially of operative Masonry, with its trade secrets, privileges, and a ceremonial beautifully illustrating the principles of piety and virtue. The Masonic lodge may justly be regarded as a school for discipline, tracing the lowest to the highest how to regulate his conduct in every possible situation in life, so that were the sublime lessons

of the art practised outside as they are professed inside the lodges, the world would soon see truth stamped on every action of life and friendship—cement heart to heart—until one mighty boundless confederacy would be formed for the welfare of all mankind. It is not pretended, much less seriously advanced, that Masons are any better than other people; in fact, he thought the same answer may be given to-night that was given to King Henry VI.:—"Some Maçonnés are not so virtuous as some other menne, but yn the most parte, they be more gude than they would be yf they war not maçonnés." He hoped lodges near and far would unite to promulgate the genuine tenets and principles of the Order.

The W.M.'s of the St. John's Lodge, I.C.; Bro. Kelly, of the Orion Lodge; Bro. Hale, of the Buninyong Lodge, I.C.; Bro. Wilson, of the Creswick Havilah Lodge; responded on behalf of the sister lodges.

Bro. Robertson, P.M. of the St. John's Lodge, proposed the toast of "The Newly-installed Officers of the Lodge."

Bro. Wheeler, in responding for the newly-installed officers of the lodge, stated that he purposed, with the assistance of the sister lodges and the Masons in the district, to make the Masonic ball an annual affair.

Bros. White and Brown, S. and J. Wardens, also responded.

Bro. Claxton, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Visitors" in a few brief and appropriate remarks.

Bro. Wilson, of Creswick, responded for the visitors.

Bro. White, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge," coupled with the name of the Immediate Past Master, to which Bro. Nevett, in a suitable manner, responded.

"The Health of the Past Officers" was proposed, to which Bro. Wreford responded.

Bro. Kelly, in a few happy remarks, proposed "The Health of the Ladies," to which Bro. Potter responded.

"The Press" was proposed by Bro. Wreford, and responded to by Bro. H. R. Nicholls.

"The Host and Hostess," and the Tyler's toast, interspersed with a few songs, concluded a very pleasant evening.

MASONIC NEWS FROM AMERICA.

Communicated monthly by Bro. ROB MORRIS, P.G.M. Kentucky.

The *Freemason* is familiar with the proceedings of its own Grand Lodge, but do its readers know how we manage these things in America? Let me sketch our operations in Grand Lodge last week in the Grand Lodge of Kentucky which held its seventy-ninth annual session at Louisville, Kentucky, October 22nd to 25th. This is the first Grand Lodge formed after the American Revolution, away from the sea coast. The "Great West" was first opened by Boone and others, in 1774, in the section called by the Indians "Kain-tuck-ee," and by 1770 so large a population had crowded into "the dark and bloody ground" (for that is the meaning of the word) that Masonic lodges were formed under Virginian authority, and in October, 1800, the delegates of five of these lodges constituted "the Grand Lodge of Kentucky." We now term it the Mother Grand Lodge of the Mississippi Valley. In the seventy-eight years that this Grand Lodge has "met, acted, and parted," many of the notables of the State have spoken from her forum. Henry Clay was our Grand Master in 1821-2, and in 1852, thirty years later, his body was borne through our streets, preceded by a great array of the "white aproned brotherhood," to Lexington, where they now repose under a noble monument, whose corner stone your correspondent assisted in planting in 1857—but, to our seventy-ninth meeting.

Only two or three of the American Grand Lodges hold quarterly sessions, viz., Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and, perhaps, one other (Maryland) has semi-annual meetings. The rest meet but once a year, save in emergent cases, when the Grand Master summons the lodges. Such is the case in Kentucky.

We assembled, 600 of us, in Louisville early on Tuesday evening (Oct. 22nd), our Grand Master, the Hon. U. C. H. Johnson, having been there for several days to greet the delegates as they arrived, and to see that all things were in due state of preparation. We have no such autocratic body as a "Board of General Purposes," which is the "imperium in imperio" with you, but in its place eight Committees, composed of three members each, selected from the very brain of Grand Lodge. These Committees are so many schools of practical instruction in Freemasonry. All our brightest brethren graduated in these Committees. The titles are, Committees on Finance; Grievances; Returns (of Lodges); Lodges under Dispensations (inchoate lodges not warranted, but under apprenticeship); Foreign Correspondence; Visitors; Credentials; Jurisprudence. The distribution of all questions among these eight Committees conduces to a speedy and systematic disposition of affairs.

The Grand Lodge was opened at 9 a.m., and continued for four days. As every delegate receives four dollars per day during the session, also a mileage of ten cents per mile for coming, the expenses count up to 24,000 dollars per annum (including printing bills and incidental expenses). The labour of "purging" the Grand Lodge, as we call it, that is of making ourselves certain that every man of the 600 is a "Master Mason in good standing," is a task not easily described. For in our Grand Lodge all Masters Masons are welcome visitors, and before the Grand Master sounds his warning knock, the great hall is crowded in every part. They do these things better with you.

The opening ceremonies being performed, and the Grand Chaplain's prayer delivered, the Grand Master read his address, and then copies of it, already printed, are dispersed through the hall. The Grand Treasurer delivers his re-

port, which being also printed in advance, is placed at once under the supervision of 600 pairs of eyes. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence do the same. By the way, the elaborate reports of these Committees (nine this year) covering 216 closely printed pages, are not to be considered as adopted or even approved by Grand Lodge; it is only the resolutions at the end of the report that come under the consideration of Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master now appoints the eight standing Committees for the coming year, and the mass of documents that have accumulated in the Grand Secretary's hands are distributed among them. Public announcement is made as to where each Committee will sit. Then the Grand Lodge "calls off," as we call it until 2 p.m. The afternoon sessions are dull and uninteresting because Committees are not prepared to present business. There are no evening sessions, as that time is given up to the Grand Chapter and other Masonic organisations. The "crack" lodges of Louisville (and we have some lodges there not to be excelled for their perfection of work) announce through the daily press that such and such degrees will be conferred, and they vie with each other in paying respect to Grand Lodge delegates who may thus be induced to visit them.

Wednesday a.m. the business fairly begins. Reports of every sort come fluttering in and speeches of more or less merit are heard, approving or disapproving the conclusions of committees. In my twenty-five years' attendance upon this Grand Lodge I have listened to efforts as fine as I ever heard in Congress or State Legislatures. For the most part however such objections are voted down, as the Grand Lodge is in the main better satisfied to accept the reports as rendered. Yet I have known two entire days spent in debate over a single proposition and the objections so persistently urged that the Committee was handsomely beaten.

On Thursday is election of officers. By usage the Grand Master, Deputy, and both Wardens, are considered to be in nomination for re-election. Yet other nominations may be (and often are) made, and this year we saw the, novel act of electing the Senior Grand Warden (Bro. Thomas S. Pettit) Grand Master over the head of the Deputy, and then the re-election of the Deputy. But we rarely vary the usage of passing each other one grade higher, and making strict rotation a custom, which has worked well in Kentucky for nearly for four-score years. It is very rarely the case that either of the first four officers is re-elected.

On Friday comes the installation, and then the good-bye. Delegates scatter into every part of our great territory, some travelling as much as 400 miles, half of it on the saddle or by coach.

These universal re-unions are in the highest degree social and pleasant. Acquaintances are renewed from year to year, and new friendships formed. I met the present Deputy Grand Master (Bro. Riel) in the Grand Lodge in 1853, when we were both scarcely on the summit of that life on whose down hill we are now so far advanced.

Now, this article scarcely reaches the idea expressed in the title, but I thought your readers would like such a gossip account of the internal workings of a Grand Lodge. In future papers I will stick more closely to my text, and give "Masonic News from America."

"AN AMERICAN IN MEMORIAM."

We take the following interesting column from the *New York Dispatch*—

New Jersey sympathises and mourns with the following sister jurisdictions:

With New York, in the death of M.E. Comp. P.G.H.P. Ezra S. Barnum and Comps. John Orton Cole, Grand Secretary for forty-two years, and Orrin Welch.

Excellent they, in justice, if to do,

In all that life presents from day to day,

To others as you would they do to you;

If this be Masonry, Masons then were they.

With Virginia, in the death of Comps. F. A. Karns, W. S. Peet, G. K. Goodrich, and a number of other Comps.

With Connecticut, in the death of Comps. John W. Leeds, Gideon Wells and Edwin Gorfield.

With Mississippi, in the death of Comp. Benjamin Springer.

With Kentucky, in the death of Comps. A. M. January and Charles Marsh.

With Iowa, in the death of Comp. Wm. Leffingwell.

With Nebraska, in the death of Comps. Charles Hays and Samuel H. Manley.

With Canada, in the death of Comps. James Fischer, Richard Town, and a number of others.

With Ohio, in the death of Comps. Kent Jarvis, L. V. Boice, and J. B. Covert.

With Tennessee, in the death of Comps. John Chester and George H. Smith.

With Wisconsin, in the death of Comp. Moses Strong, who lost his life whilst endeavouring to save the life of a comrade.

Generous and brave;

Love and duty were to him as needful as his daily bread.

With Louisiana, in the death of P.G.H.P. Robert F. McGuire and a number of other companions.

Two hands upon the breast, the work is over;

They now stand

Where sin's no more, and tears are wiped away

By God's own hand.

With Arkansas, in the death of P.G.H.P. E. H. Whitfield.

There is no death; the stars go down,

To rise upon some fairer shore;

And bright in heaven's jeweled crown

They shine forevermore.

With Vermont, in the death of Companions Rev. K. Haven, P. D. Ballou and a number of others.

With Massachusetts, in the death of Comps. S. K. Hutchinson, E. W. Fowlman, W. J. Sawyer, and a hundred and five others. They have gone.

Out of the shadow of sadness,

Into the sunshine of gladness,

Into the light of the blest.

With Quebec, in the death of Comp. James Gibson.

With New Hampshire, in the death of P.G.H.P., J. A. Harris, P.G.H.P., J. Livingston, and P.G.S. Lewis Woodman.

And ever near, though yet unseen,

Their dear, immortal spirits tread;

For all the boundless universe

Is life; there are no dead,

With Florida, in the death of P. G. H. P. David Jones, and P.D.G.H.P. E. P. Jordan.

Two hands upon the breast; the work is over,

The warfare is o'er,

And they who have toiled and striven in faith

Shall fight no more.

With Maine, in the death of P.D.G.H.P. Amos Nourse.

'Tis gloom and darkness here,

'Tis light and joy above.

With Colorado, in the death of Comp. W. W. Payne.

With Rhode Island, in the death of P. G. H. P. Joseph Belcher, P.G.L.S.A. Robinson, and a number of other companions.

Friend after friend departs;

Who has not lost a friend?

There is no union here of hearts

That finds not here an end.

With Minnesota, in the death of Comps. P.G.H.P. Robert S. Allen and P. G. S. A. Richardson.

While pity prompts the rising sigh,

With awful power impressed

May this great truth—I, too, must die—

Sink deep in every breast.

With Maryland, in the death of Comp. F. G. Woodworth.

With Alabama, in the death of P.D.G.H.P., J. McCaleb Wiley and Comp. W. E. Beiard.

Thus star by star declines,

Till all are passed away,

Then hide themselves in Heaven's own light.

With Illinois, in the death of P.G.H.P. Levi Lusk.

There is no death; an angel form

Walks o'er the earth, with silent tread,

And bears our best loved friends away—

And then we call them dead.

With Kansas, on the death of Comp. R. T. Jackson and a number of others.

With Georgia, in the death of Comp. R. J. Baddy.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution held their monthly meeting on the 28th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Thomas W. White, V.P., presided; and there were also present:—Bros. Griffiths Smith, E. Letchworth, W. Bailey, Henry Muggeridge, Frederick Adlard, Wm. Henry Farnfield, Charles Lacey, John A. Rucker, R. B. Webster, J. B. Scriven, E. H. Hewitt, F. R. W. Hedges, Secretary, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

In the report of the House Committee, which was read, information was given as to the proposition that the girls should receive instruction in cookery at the School of Cookery. On the recommendation of W. Buckmaster of that establishment, the House Committee resolved to engage a Miss Hutt to superintend a cooking class at the Institution at a salary of £40 a year.

Nine candidates' petitions were accepted and three deferred.

A letter read from Mrs. Jardine, the widow of Bro. Jardine thanking the brethren for their sympathy with her in her bereavement by the drowning of her husband, Bro. Charles Jardine, who was lost in the wreck of the Princess Alice.

It was reported that the Committee had received the money from the Mansion House Committee for the purchase of one of the children of Capt. Grinstead into the school.

The Committee then adjourned.

RAILWAY PARCEL POST.—Our readers will be interested to learn that twenty-five railway companies of England, Scotland, and Wales have resolved to issue, from and after the 1st of January next, railway stamps to the public of the denominations of fourpence and eightpence, which shall carry parcels of two pounds and four pounds respectively throughout the whole systems, and have agreed to accept parcels at these weights and at these rates throughout the whole of their systems, and to grant an insurance up to 20s. at these rates, thus placing all the stations on these twenty-five companies at the command of the public for the receipt and delivery of parcels not exceeding four pounds in weight. The Irish companies are not represented. The Highland Railway Company, London and South Western, London, Brighton, and South Coast, and South Eastern companies will not accept parcels at these rates. In a circular containing the above information it is stated that a public meeting is to be held, at which the course of action to be taken to bring influence to bear upon those companies standing out, to thank the companies who have taken the public into their confidence, and initiated a movement fraught with blessings to the companies and the public, and to urge upon the Post-office to co-operate and deliver the parcels, thus placing all at the command of the public, will be considered.

Obituary.

BRO. WOOLF LYONS.

Bro. Woolf Lyons, a well-known inhabitant of Margate, died suddenly of heart disease, on Saturday, November 16th, at his residence, 4, King-street, Margate. He was initiated into Freemasonry by his friend, Bro. John Thomas Moss, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M. 1326, &c., into the Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326, Hampton, Middlesex, on February 15th, 1872, and continued a subscribing member to his death. He steadily refused all solicitation to take office in the lodge. However, he did good suit and service last July, by representing the lodge as its Steward at the Boys' School, and making himself a Life Governor of that noble Institution. He was a popular brother, and was well liked by all who knew him. He leaves a widow to deplore his loss. He was about to serve as Steward to all the Masonic Charities, and become a Life Governor of each. He was buried in London, and a large circle of relatives and friends were there to pay their last sad respects to him.

BRO. WALTER GRAHAM.

Lodge St. Andrew, No 418, Auckland, N.Z., held a lodge of sorrow on September 26th, in connection with the death of Bro. Walter Graham, one of its oldest working members, and who filled the Treasurer's chair for many years. As the hall in the Masonic Hotel did not afford the required accommodation for the number expected to be present, Bro. W. C. Walker, R.W.M. obtained the use of the Albert Hall, which was suitably fitted up for the occasion, the chairs of the Master and Wardens being draped in black, the Master's chair having a canopy and enshrouded with crape. The catafalque in the centre of the room was imposing, and arranged with all the outward trappings of woe. Bro. McCol, P.M.; occupied the Master's chair pro tem, Bros. Walker and the Rev. F. Gould, P.G. Chaplain, acting as Chaplains; and the Senior and Junior Wardens' chairs were occupied by Bros. Hewson and Hendry, Bro. Graham, D.G.M. of the English Constitution, and Bro. Whitaker, P.G.M. of the S.C., were absent through business engagements in Wellington. Bro. Pearce, the P.G.M. of the Irish Constitution, was present and most of the leading Masons of all grades attended. In fact there was quite an imposing array of W.M.s. and P.M.s. and it was estimated that fully 200 members of the Craft attended. There was an efficient choir, Bro. Hesketh presiding at the harmonium. The lodge was opened in the usual form as a lodge of sorrow, the R.W.M. delivering the address appropriate to the occasion. To those who knew Bro. Nicol it is unnecessary to say that it was most impressively delivered. The interval of darkness and the silence of the march round the catafalque were solemnly impressive, and only broken by the voices of the Junior and Senior Wardens and W.M. when placing the flowers, wreath, and evergreens, on the catafalque. Bro. Walker having given the prayer, Bro. Gould, delivered the eulogium and read the first seven verses of the 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes, giving, as he read, a running commentary and suitable admonitions. The offices of Stewards were filled by Bros. Gallagher and Lombard. The Deacons were Bros. McEwan and McCroskie. The pall bearers Bros. Holmbright, Sandford, Hitchens, McCoulsky and Coventry. The Auckland press in giving a resumé of the proceedings agreed in stating that it was a most impressive ceremony from first to last, edifying to the large assemblage of Masons present, and creditable to the officers who took part in the ceremonies, and to the lodge for this mark of Masonic respect to a deceased brother of the standing occupied by Bro. Walter Graham.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, December 6, 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 30.

House Com. R.M.B.I., at
Lodge 1686, Paxton, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
" 1706, Orpheus, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico.
Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 12, Fortitude & Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 69, Unity, Inns of Court Hot.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 83, United of Prudence, Albion, Aldersgate-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
" 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd.
" 1656, Wolsey, White Hart Hot., Hampton Wick.
" 1609, Royal Leopold, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1670, Adelphi, 4, Adelphi-terrace, Strand.
Chap. 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 1056, Victoria, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
Red Cross Con., Premier, 68, Regent-st., W.

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, DECEMBER 3.

Colonial Board.
Grand Mark Lodge, F.M. Tav., Great Queen-st.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 9, Albion, F.M.H.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1257, Grosvenor, F.M.H.
" 1298, R. Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq., W.
" 1397, Ancrley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
" 1668, Samson, F.M.H.
" 1693, Kingsland, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
Chap. 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., E.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Blds., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, Three Bucks, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Sir Hugh Myddleton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1585, Royal Commemoration, Star & Garter, Putney.

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, 2, Maddox-st., W., at 7.45.
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, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st., Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.
" 1351, St. Clement's Danes, 265, Strand.
" 1445, Prince Leopold, Mitford Tav., Sandringham-rd.
Chap. 2, St. James's F.M.H.
" 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
" 1339, Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hot., Tulse Hill.
Mark. 197, Studholme, 33, Golden-sq., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.
" 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1489, Marquess of Ripon, Balls Pond-rd.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
Chap. 8, British, F.M.H.
" 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
Mark 8, Thistle, 2, Westminster Chambers, S.W.

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, December 7, 1878.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
" 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
" 1045, Stamford Town Hall, Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.H., Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Red Cross Conclave, Skelmersdale, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 11, Joppa, M.H., Birkenhead.
" 161, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Boote L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby H., Liverpool.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Whittle-le-Woods.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Town Hall, Bootle.
" 1576, Dee, Union Hot., Parkgate.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

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

A. OLDROYD,

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