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NOTICE.

CHRISTMAS WEEK.

The *Freemason* for Dec, 28th will be published as usual on Friday morning, Dec. 27th, but the Editor will be glad to receive reports, communications, etc., on Monday, or by the first post on Tuesday morning.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—On Tuesday, the 3rd inst., this lodge met at the Club House, Kennington Oval. There were present Bros. G. Everett, P.M.; H. Higgins, I.P.M.; Stuart, P.M., Sec.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, S.W. (*Freemason*); Kohler, J.W.; Speedy, S.D.; Webb, J.D.; Marsden, I.G.; Robinson, D.C.; Stokes, W.S.; Stranger, A.W.S.; Mann, P.M.; Koch, P.M.; Drysdale, P.M. and Honeywell, P.M., Org. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Everett stated that in consequence of the indisposition of Bro. Reeves, their W.M., he had been unexpectedly called upon to occupy the chair that evening. Bro. Baldock, one of the candidates for raising, being in attendance, was duly inducted to the Degree of M.M. Bros. Swainsbury and Silvester were passed, and Mr. John Jenkins initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. The three ceremonies were performed by the acting W.M. with his wonted ability. Upon the motion of Bro. Stranger and Everett, and which was carried, the fees for initiation and joining were raised to the sum of ten and five guineas respectively. It was proposed by Bro. Webb, seconded by Bro. Honeywell, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Walls be elected to represent the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the R.M.B.I. A notice of motion was also given by the same brethren that the sum of ten guineas should be voted from the funds of the lodge to head the Steward's list. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed, and the brethren and visitors adjourned to the banquet, which was well served. The visitors were Bros. Maloney, P.M. 25; Davies, 177; Davies, jun., 177; Hardy, 190; Moore 548; Appleton, 861; Morgan, 1305; and Bott, 1558. Upon the removal of the cloth the acting W.M. gave the usual Royal and Craft toasts with pertinent brevity, and they having been duly honoured, the I.P.M. rose and proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that he was sorry that their W.M., Bro. Reeves, should be absent through ill-health, but he had every reason to believe that it was not of serious moment, and that he would be at his post at the next meeting. He (the W.M.) had, however, been well represented that evening by Bro. Everett, I.P.M. They had so many opportunities of witnessing his "working" and other Masonic capabilities that it was unnecessary for him (the I.P.M.) to state more upon his and their behalf than that they were glad to see him (Bro. Everett) in the enjoyment of such good health. The acting W.M., in reply, briefly said that he also regretted that their W.M. should have been prevented by indisposition from presiding that day. He felt very gratified that he should have requested him to be his "locum tenens." It had always been his pride to promote the interests of the Kennington Lodge. It was a matter for congratulation that it had fair to be one of the best "working" lodges in the Craft, and although but seven years had elapsed since its consecration, its position, both financially and otherwise, could challenge comparison with any lodge in the Masonic community. In conclusion, he cordially thanked them for the very hearty manner in which his health had been drunk, and he again wished to assure them that nothing on his part should ever be wanting to further their interests. "The Initiate" followed, and having been received with excellent "fire," Bro. Jenkins responded. In the course of his speech he stated that it had been his ambition for a very long time to become a Mason. He had been highly pleased with the ceremony, and also with the principles set forth in the degree. He hoped that the members of the lodge which he had joined would never regret having conferred the honour of initiating and welcoming him amongst them, and, in conclusion, he particularly thanked his proposer and seconder for having manifested so kindly an interest on his behalf, in introducing him to so good a lodge. "The Health of the Visitors" came next, and was acknowledged at length by Bro. Maloney, P.M., and others.

"The Past Masters," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toasts brought the proceedings to a conclusion. In the intervals of the toasts Bro. Honeywell and others discoursed most excellent music.

CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1572).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday week, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, under the presidency of Bro. James Cowan, W.M. There were present on the occasion Bros. James Cowan, W.M.; T. S. Hellier, S.W.; N. Reed, J.W.; Clarricoats, T.; Whitaker, P.M., Sec.; G. Brock, J.D.; Briggs, S.D.; Morgan, I.G.; Hooton, I.P.M.; Cotton, W.S.; Burman, D.C.; Hopkins, Org.; Russell, Perkins, Thexton, Jaccard, Leman, Edwards, Brown, Tregear, Byles, Willcocks, J. Garratt, Hendy, Swain, Goffin, Chaffey, Gosnell, Lovebond, Bullock, Taylor, White, Pearce, W. Poole, Werring, H. Poole, Hobbs, S. Garratt, J. Hervey, Jas. Terry, and H. G. Buss. The visitors present were Bros. Atkinson, 1622; C. Taylor, J.D. 1426; G. Plenderleith, 1598; Slatter, 610; Warden, 1671; Mutch, W.M. 706; Baker, 1641; Foreman, 34; Saloman, 185; Carter, 192; Potter, 393; Bergmann, J.W. 1671; Oppenheimer, 435; Wickham, 251; Bush, W.M. elect 1728; Hayes, 619; Chatterton, 1692; Massey (*Freemason*), 619; Mather, P.M. 1471, P.P.G.D.C. Herts; Saul, S.W. 1201; Jennings, 1471; Bowyer, 1580; P.G.D. Herts; Lord, 25; Russell, 857; and Curtis, S. 145. After the W.M. had initiated Mr. J. H. Bennett into the Order, he installed Bro. Thomas Stacy Hellier as Master of the lodge. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. James Cowan, I.P.M.; Nelson Reed, P.M. 1671, &c., S.W.; G. Briggs, J.W.; J. Clarricoats, Treas.; W. S. Whitaker, P.M., Sec.; G. A. Brock, S.D.; F. Morgan, J.D.; J. E. Burman, I.G.; R. Cotton, D.C.; A. T. Pearce, D.C.; and W. Steedman, P.M. 754, Tyler. After the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual toasts followed. Bro. John Hervey, G.S., in responding to the toast of "The Pro and Dep. G.M., &c.," said after paying a graceful tribute to the high qualifications of the Earl of Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale, that with regard to himself, it had given him unmixed satisfaction and gratification to be present at this meeting, because when he looked back to the short period of three years, for which time this lodge had been established, and looking at the great increase in the number of the members he saw the evidence of the necessity there was for having such a lodge. He was happy to say there were but few of the lodges, recently formed, which had not justified the expectations entertained of them at their formation, and the Craft might congratulate itself, as a body, on finding that it rallied round its standard those whom it might be proud to have among its members, who did justice to the position they took in the Order. It was so as regarded this lodge, because there was not an installation in it, which he had not attended, and at which he did not find this to be the case. It had also happened to another good friend of his, Bro. Terry, who had also consecrated many lodges, and both of them could go about and see the same prosperity prevailing, and the same progress in Masonry made. If they could congratulate this lodge more than another upon anything it was upon its officers qualifying themselves for the posts which they were called upon to occupy. He had said in many lodges that nothing could be more mortifying than to see an officer of a lodge not able to perform his duties. It was mortifying both to the Master and the officers, if an officer did not know whether to turn to the right or the left. It was not so in the Carnarvon Lodge, whose officers thought it worth their while to learn the duties which they had to perform. If there was any honour in being an officer of a lodge, an officer should endeavour to qualify himself for the post. He would put it to the initiate of that evening, whether he would not have felt, if the ceremony had been stumbled through by Bro. Cowan and his officers, he would not have had a very different impression of Masonry to what he now had? That brother had shown that he was impressed with the ceremony he had gone through, and appreciated the honour of being admitted into the Order. He (Bro. Hervey) was glad to see on his right his good friend, Bro. Buss, who had worked with him in harmony for a good many years. Their opinions, he believed, went in the same direction as nearly as it was possible. He trusted that this lodge would continue in the course which it had begun, and follow the rules already laid down; and that at the end of the Master's year of office, the W.M. would find a brother as able to fill the chair as he was himself. Bro. J. Cowan, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." The W.M., he said, had only been initiated in Masonry less than five years ago. He had taken a great interest in Freemasonry, he made himself thoroughly proficient in lodge duties, and qualified himself for the discharge of the important duties he was now called upon to fulfil. He (Bro. Cowan) had watched with satisfaction, and no doubt other members had done the same, the efforts the W.M. had made to fit himself for the chair. As a consequence the W.M. now found himself presiding over the lodge, and he could look forward to the coming year as a prosperous one. The W.M. had the ability to discharge his duties, and if spared health and strength, would justify the high opinion the brethren entertained of him. The W.M. was a man of great kindness of disposition, and did good by stealth. That was his desire, and when he did it he blushed very often to discover that his good actions had found fame. Since he (Bro. Cowan) had had the pleasure of knowing the W.M., that brother had proved himself to his (Bro. Cowan's) mind to be without exception one of the most conscientious and straightforward men he had ever had the pleasure of meeting. That was saying a good deal. The W.M. had proved himself a very conscientious man, and as good a man as was to be found either in Masonry or elsewhere. The W.M., in reply, said

he scarcely knew how to reply to the too flattering terms used concerning him by Bro. Cowan, but the I.P.M. had really reminded him of the truth of Shakespeare's line—"Uneasy rests the head that wears a crown," for he had increased the difficulties of the W.M.'s position by suggesting merits which he was afraid he did not possess, and should not be able to display. However, he cordially thanked the brethren for having placed him in the chair, and he would do the best he could to discharge his duties properly. He felt honoured in occupying the chair, inasmuch as he thought Bro. Brock and himself might claim the credit of being the fathers of the lodge, in connection with Bro. Hooton and some other members of the St. James's Lodge. Bros. Nelson Reed, Whitaker, and Stock got up the lodge, but the idea first came from him, consequently he felt the greatest pleasure and pride in being now in the Master's chair. He sincerely hoped he should fulfil the I.P.M.'s expectations of him. Bro. Bennet replied to the toast of "The Initiate." The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Cowan," and presented him with a massive P.M. jewel, adding that Bro. Cowan had well performed his duties while he was Master of the lodge. Bro. Cowan, in replying, said he was pleased that the members of the lodge were satisfied with what he had done. It was an honour to him to accept the office of Master of the lodge, inasmuch as he knew what an excellent name the lodge had sustained, and that the name and reputation of the lodge was in a great measure in the W.M.'s hands. He had been preceded by two of the best Masters that ever took the chair of a lodge. When he was first appointed Warden he was told that what he saw praiseworthy in others he was carefully to imitate. He had done so to the best of his ability for the past twelve months, and he hoped it would be found that he had fully sustained the honour, reputation, and usefulness of the lodge. He thanked the brethren for the handsome P.M.'s jewel they had honoured him with, not so much for its intrinsic worth, or for its artistic beauties, but more especially because it was presented to him by the unanimous vote of the lodge. He should prize it on every occasion when he put it on. He thanked the brethren for the support they had given him, and he found that he had had a most efficient staff, so efficient, indeed, that it would be difficult to find a staff more worthy of being entrusted with office. With one single exception every member of the lodge had been present at every meeting, and was punctual. When all had done their work so well it would be very much out of place to name any one in particular, but he could not refrain from mentioning the Treasurer and Secretary. He congratulated the W.M. on having such a body of officers as he had, and he also congratulated the officers on their promotion, and he hoped he should live to see them all attain to the W.M.'s chair. Bros. Cowan, Whitaker and Hooton replied to the toast of the "P.M.'s" and Bro. Mather and several other brethren to the toast of "The Visitors." Bro. James Terry responded to the toast of "The Charities," and urged the brethren to pursue the same course they had hitherto pursued in support of the Institutions. He gave a graphic description of the good work these institutions were doing, and he hoped the brethren would aid them in still further extending their excellent work. Bros. Nelson Reed and G. Briggs replied for "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast having been given the brethren separated. Some charming melody was performed during the evening by members of the lodge—Bros. Willcocks, Brown, Reed, Cotton, Whitaker, S. Garratt, Pearce, Byles, Potter, White, Hopkins, Wickham, Clarricoats, and Russell.

MIZPAH LODGE (No. 1671).—This lodge met last Saturday at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, when it was presided over by Bro. D. R. Still, W.M. There were also present Bros. Nelson Reed, I.P.M.; W. W. Medcalf, S.W.; Johannes Bergmann, J.W.; J. J. Avery, Treasurer; C. Schmidt, S.D.; R. H. Morgan, J.D.; P. Alpeter, I.G.; David Wright, William Wilson, Henry Warden, junr., C. W. Meiter, Richard Nelson, F. B. Wooten, Benjamin W. Nunn, Charles Sissons, James Bromwich, Henry Wills, Charles H. Flack, G. Lewis, Joseph Zeder, George Copland, W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572; H. Warden, 715; Thomas W. C. Bush, 1728 (W.M. elect); R. Challoner, 1178; R. M. Sewill, 21; Thomas Brown, 765; Charles J. Olley, 1524; Thomas Barlow, 1538; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*). The work of the lodge consisted of raising Bro. Bromwich, and passing Bros. Wooten and Zeder. The following two motions by Bro. Nelson Reed, I.P.M., were adopted: "That the sum of £10 10s. be taken from the Benevolent Fund, and given as a donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." Also, "That the sum of £1 1s. be taken from the same fund and given as a donation to the Wentworth Little Memorial Fund." After the work of the lodge the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet, and subsequently honoured the usual toasts. The W.M., in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," referred to the death of the Princess Alice, and said that unfortunately Her Majesty had that morning lost a favourite daughter. In her deep grief every Freemason fully shared, and as a loyal body they participated in all the sorrows of their sovereign. It was with sincere feelings of regret they had heard of Her Majesty's loss, a loss which must be universally felt, as Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice had endeared herself to the whole country by her amiability, and the devotion with which she nursed her royal father in the illness of which he died, exactly seventeen years before she breathed her last. A ruffled "fire" followed the toast. Bro. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers," and said it was a great honour to him to hold the high position of a Grand Officer, and in that position it was his desire to perform his duties with credit. He trusted he should have to do so for many years to come, and that he might for a long while have to respond to

this toast in the Mizpah Lodge, which he trusted would always flourish. In proposing the W.M.'s health, Bro. Nelson Reed said that Bro. Still performed the duties of Master with great ability, not only in the lodge but at the banquet table. He was not at present very well, but the brethren trusted his health would soon be restored, and that the remainder of his year of office might be as prosperous as the early portions of it had been. Bro. Still responded, and while stating that he had performed his duties to the best of his ability trusted that the day would be very, very far distant when anything like discord should arise in the Mizpah Lodge. The W.M., in giving "The Health of the Visitors," advised the brethren to visit other lodges as an excellent means of attaining good working. They would be able by that means to see if there was any imperfection which they could correct themselves before they had the honour of reaching the W.M. chair. Bro. Bush, W.M. elect, Temp'e Bar Lodge, replied. After thanking the brethren for their hospitality, he referred to what the W.M. had said concerning the death of Princess Alice. The country had sustained a great loss by that event, and he thought the name of Mizpah was well applied to this lodge. In its most generous and liberal meaning it was never more applicable than to the event of that day. In a distant land, a Princess, dear to this country, was lying dead; while at home sat her sorrowful mother in solitude and tears. He was pleased at the touching manner in which the W.M. alluded to the event, and in the minds of all the brethren the word Mizpah would be inculcated. Bro. Nelson Reed responded to the toast of "The I.P.M." The little he had done for the lodge during his year of office, he said, was done with as large an amount of ability as he was able to throw into his work and into the welfare of the lodge. In saying this he thought he said everything, and he hoped that each succeeding Master would have as happy and successful year of office as he had as the first W.M. Bro. H. Massey responded to a toast, specially proposed, for "The Press." Bro. J. J. Avery responded to the toast of "The Treasurer." The W.M. having referred to the Treasurer's desire to keep a good balance, he avowed that it was his pride to see the lodge in a good financial position. The lodge had been generous that evening, but even if it had had a desire to be more generous it could very easily have done so without touching the reserve fund. He thought, however, they had done wisely, as there were three societies which wanted assistance, and it was better to act with caution. What they had voted that evening they had voted from their hearts honestly. A further sum had been invested since last meeting, and without trenching on that they had voted money at the present meeting. Masons did their work, in this respect, very well. An emergency arose some time ago, but when it arose there was no necessity for calling on the brethren of the whole kingdom; but if an emergency did arise, when it would be necessary to call on them, he was sure it would be liberally responded to, and that the brethren of the Mizpah Lodge would not be found backward. Bro. Buss replied to the portion of the toast which referred to "The Secretary." A song had just been sung, advising some soldiers to keep their powder dry, and the advice was very applicable to a lodge. The Treasurer had shown them the necessity for being prepared for emergencies, and the course pursued by the Mizpah Lodge would, if observed in other lodges, certainly lead to success. It was a great pleasure not to have to put on a brother's summons, subscriptions so much, arrears so much, and in the Mizpah Lodge it did not occur that he had to put it. This was a great saving of labour, and further than that it enabled the Treasurer without any difficulty to make provision for the wants of the brethren. In conclusion he was sure that he would always find his office as easy and comfortable as it was at present. The W.M. being obliged to leave at this period of the evening Bro. Nelson Reed took his place, and proposed "The Masonic Charities," the brightest ornament of Masonic profession. The Masonic Charities were all well supported. This next year the Benevolent Institution would have Bro. Medcalf S.W., Steward for its festival as representing the Mizpah Lodge. He (Bro. Reed) had had the honour of representing the Schools for the same lodge and he was well supported on that occasion. He hoped that the S.W., would be equally well supported. Bro. Medcalf, S.W., replied. He was a young member of the Masonic Order, but long before he was a Mason he had had the duty of charity inculcated in him. He was impressed with the belief that whether a man was a Mason or a non-Mason he could do nothing which was more pleasing in God's sight than perform acts of charity. A guinea given to his list by a brother who could afford no more would be in the eyes of God as valuable as the five guineas of a brother who could afford as much as that. The principle was the same when he accepted the office of Steward, he did it with a certain amount of diffidence, but he began to work at it as soon as he accepted it. The lodge had responded most handsomely to his appeal, and so far as his words could express thanks, he thanked the brethren most heartily. The lodge he was sure would not let him go to the forthcoming festival with an amount which would disgrace it. He was not going up without a good list. He should endeavour to get a great deal more on his list than he had already; he had not finished yet. There were one or two brethren he should try, and he should have them one afternoon, let the trade be good or bad. If any of them did give five guineas he knew they would not get up in the morning and say they had done a wrong thing. The great thing was to pay and he hoped the brethren would come forward and add their names to his list; so that when the Mizpah Lodge met after the festival he might be able to tell the brethren that it had been first on the list. Bro. Bergmann replied for "The Officers." His first wish was to be an officer of the lodge and he had the firm conviction that there was not an officer of the Mizpah Lodge that had not had the same ambition, to serve as an

efficient officer and go up to the chair with honour. Men were not always to be judged by what they did; he thought they should be judged by what they wanted to do, by the good-will they had, and as far as that goodwill was concerned, he must say for himself and all his brother officers they had the desire and earnest wish to fulfil their respective offices with credit. The Tyler's toast having been given, the brethren separated. The evening was one of the most enjoyable in our experience. Everything was done that could make the brethren happy, and the music was of a character that drew praise from the whole company. Bro. Bergmann was untiring in acting as accompanist on the pianoforte, whereon he showed his marvellous skill as a pianist. He also treated the brethren to some vocal music, and Bros. Medcalf, R. A. Morgan, Warden, Norman, Meter, Avery, Bromwich, Slack, Brown, Olley, Barlow, and Nelson Reed formed a corps, whose vocal powers the brethren had an opportunity of testing, were perfect.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, Dec. 5th, at 7.30. There were present Bros. F. Wilkinson, W.M.; Brown, P.P.G.S.W., I.P.M.; Ashley, P.M., Treas.; F. Wilton, P.M. and Dir. of Cer.; Captain Peel Floyd, P.M., as S.W.; Braham, J.W.; Hunt, Sec.; Ames, as S.D.; Radway, J.D.; W. Baldwin, Organist; Robinson, I.G.; Holmes and Mercer, Stewards; Bigwood, Tyler; John Turner, Clark, Mourie, P.M.'s. of 41; Dr. Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W. for Warwick, and P.M. 43 and 958; F. Baldwin, P.M. 335; and many members. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Innes, of the Dalhousie Lodge, 639, and Dill, P.P.G.P., and P.M. 906. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. J. Robinson, as a joining member, which was unanimously favourable. A grant of £2 was made to a distressed brother, whose antecedents had undergone the strictest scrutiny. A letter was read from Bro. Major Preston, P.M., Governor of the Birmingham Prison, withdrawing his notice of resignation, which was received with great satisfaction, as he had won universal respect and esteem during his residence in Bath in a similar capacity. Mr. Edward Willis, who had been previously balloted for, was introduced, properly prepared, and initiated by the W.M. The working tools were explained by Bro. Mercer, and the charge was given by Bro. Dr. Hopkins. Bros. W. E. and H. B. Smith were then examined as to their proficiency in the First Degree, and having answered very satisfactorily, were entrusted and dismissed for preparation. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the candidates on their re-admission, were passed to the rank of F.C. by the W.M. Bro. Braham described the symbolism of the working tools, and, as before, Bro. Dr. Hopkins gave the charge. The lodge was brought down to the First Degree, and no other business offering, was finally closed at 9.30.

MIDDLETON.—Imperial George Lodge (No. 78).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at Asheton Arms Hotel, on Thursday, Nov. 28th. The W.M. Bro. W. Percival presided, and was assisted by Bros. F. Fothergill, S.W.; J. Hatton, J.W.; H. Heywood, P.M., Treas.; P. Lawton, J.D.; J. Fckersley, I.G.; and Jno. Kent, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Wm. Richardson, Chaplain 1532; J. Southwick, 1034; C. Bowker, 467; and D. Withington, 82, Fall City, New Jersey, U.S. The lodge having been duly opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary (Bro. Samuel Hewitt) and received confirmation. Bro. T. D. Yates having, to the satisfaction of the brethren, answered the questions leading from the First to the Second Degree was entrusted and passed out. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Yates was passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. the working tools being presented by Bro. F. Fothergill, S.W.; Bro. W. J. Iliffe having satisfactorily answered the questions leading from the Second to the Third Degree was entrusted with the test of merit, and passed out. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, Bro. Iliffe was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. H. Heywood, P.M., the working tools being presented by the S.W. Bro. Fothergill. The ceremony throughout was very impressive. The lodge having been lowered to the First Degree the brethren next proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. F. Fothergill, S.W. received the unanimous vote of the lodge. The unanimity of the lodge was further exhibited in the election of Bro. H. Heywood, P.M., as Treasurer; Bro. Jno. Kent as Tyler, and Bros. Samuel Lawton and John Reed, as Auditors. The W.M. appointed Bro. O. A. Jowett, as his Auditor. On the motion of Bro. J. Garlick, P.M., it was unanimously agreed: "That the officers of the lodge form a Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the St. John's Festival." A candidate was proposed for initiation and another as a joining member. "Hearty Good Wishes" were accorded from P.G.L. of East Lancashire, from lodges 62, 467, 1034, 1532, and 82, Fall City, New Jersey, U.S. Charity was next attended to, and the lodge having been closed, the brethren retired from labour to refreshment. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and the brethren adjourned at 10 p.m., having passed a most enjoyable evening.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Royal Gloucester Lodge (No. 130).—In addition to the constitution and consecration of a new lodge in Southampton, noticed elsewhere, making six lodges in that town and its immediate neighbourhood, the Worshipful Master, for the ensuing year of the mother lodge, the Royal Gloucester, 130, has been elected during the past week, the Senior Warden, Bro. C. W. A. Jellicoe, who is the Treasurer of the borough, being called to that position. The retiring Master, Bro. C. John Phillips, presented to the lodge a sketch of its history, compiled from the minute books,

assisted by some memoranda left by the late Bro. J. R. Stebbing, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and one of the Past Masters, as the result of his investigations for such a history on the occasion of the centenary of the lodge in 1872, there being included in the sketch an autograph letter from the Marquis of Ripon—who, with the members of Grand Lodge, attended at Southampton at the celebration—consenting to the dedication of this history to him; but Bro. Stebbing died before its completion. Bro. Phillips also presented to the lodge a pair of Wyl'd's pedestal globes, celestial and terrestrial, for the pillars on each side the chair of the lodge. In the course of the proceedings, which included a passing and the initiation of a French Protestant clergyman, now holding a cure in Southampton, it was stated that during the past year, with one exception, and in that instance the figures were equal, more Masons had been initiated in this the senior lodge of the town than during any previous twelvemonths since 1856, in which year there was an abnormal increase in the numbers. Bro. R. Sharpe, the I.P.M., was re-elected Treasurer. On Monday, at the meeting of the Peace and Harmony O.L. in the same town Bro. Thos. Lashmore was elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

MANCHESTER.—Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—The annual festival of St. John was celebrated by the members of this old and popular lodge on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall. There was a large gathering of members and visitors. Amongst the latter were Bros. J. L. Hine, P.P.G.S.W. of East Lancashire; the Rev. S. Y. B. Bradshaw, P.P.G. Chap.; Dr. P. Royle, P.P.G.S.D.; John Salmon, P.G.D. of C.; Thos. Southern, W.M. 935; D. Donbavand, W.M. 317; and others. The W.M., Bro. R. Eldershaw, opened the lodge at 4 p.m., and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Geo. F. East, P.P.G.D. of C., then occupied the W.M.'s chair, and in a very impressive manner installed the W.M. elect, Bro. John Robberds, in the chair of K.S., according to the ancient customs and usages of the Order. Bro. East initiated the following officers, viz: Bros. G. T. Mullock, S.W.; W. Bagnall, J.W.; the Rev. P. Harris, P.M., Chap.; John C. Hind, P.M., Treas.; R. L. Spencer, Sec.; Thos. Guest, S.D.; John Sutcliffe, J.D.; Thos. Fairlie, D.C.; H. T. Roberts, P.M., Org.; C. Duckworth, I.G.; Murray, Sawyer, Hurry, and Lawton, Stewards; and J. Sly, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where social enjoyment reigned for the remainder of the evening. The newly-installed W.M. presided, and was well supported by an important array of Past Masters and other distinguished brethren. This lodge happily possesses amongst its members an excellent glee party, viz., Bros. Lever, M. Thomas, C. Stanley, H. T. Robberds, and T. Snorrocks, who considerably enhanced the pleasures of the day by their rendering of glees and songs, and Bro. D. Donbavand won, worthily, the applause of all present by reciting Eliza Cook's poem "Heart's Charity" in a very feeling and pathetic manner. Bro. Hine, who seems at all times to keep in view the welfare of the aged and infirm, instituted an impromptu "whip" for the purpose of providing the inmates of the Croydon Institution with some little luxury on Christmas Day, and from the hearty response given to this thoughtful movement our old friends will have sufficient evidence to prove to them that at this festive season the members of 204, while themselves enjoying the blessings of this life, do not forget their brethren in adversity.

JERSEY.—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1003).—The installation, as well as the anniversary festival, of this flourishing lodge was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., attended by a large number of brethren, amongst whom several of the Provincial Grand Officers were present. The ceremony of installation was performed by W. Bro. J. G. Pallot, Past Master, in a very creditable manner. The newly-elected Master, W. Bro. John Huelin, was inducted in the chair according to ancient custom; and all were unanimous in giving him the cordial greeting which his new position entitled him to; indeed, a mere zealous Mason cannot be found, for he proves his love for the Order by word and deed, so much so, that three of his sons are members of the lodge of which he is now the Worshipful Master. After the investiture of the officers, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-hall, where the annual dinner was provided by Bro. Geo. Regers, in a manner which gave entire satisfaction. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to, as well as several good songs. At half-past ten the Tyler gave the toast of "All Distressed Masons," and the brethren dispersed to their respective homes, fully satisfied with the fourteenth anniversary of the Prince of Wales Lodge.

DERBY.—Hartington Lodge (No. 1085).—The December meeting of this lodge was held on the 4th inst., at the Derbyshire Masonic Hall. There were present:—Bros. G. Pipes, W.M., and Prov. Grand Organist; W. Heathcote, I.P.M., and P.P.D. of C.; J. O. Manton, Hon. Sec., as S.W.; W. B. Hextall, J.W.; M. H. Bobart, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; W. Butterfield, as S.D.; J. Russell, J.D.; C. D. Hart, as I.G.; F. Iliffe, P.M., P.P. J.G.W.; W. Naylor, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., and present Prov. G. Sec.; S. Pipes, W.M., P.P.S.G.D., and a large number of other members, also numerous visitors, among whom were Bros. T. Cox, P.M. 253 and 802, P.P.S.G.W., and present Prov. G. Treas.; W. Boden, W.M. 353; J. Brown, I.P.M. 731, Prov. J.G.D., and B. Cooper, P.M. 787. Mr. Chas. Osborne received the benefit of initiation. Bro. Belfield was advanced to the Third Degree. The W.M. reported that the R.W. Prov. Grand Master had been pleased to invest him as the P.G.O. for the ensuing year, and that the annual return of the lodge presented at the P.G.

Lodge on the 26th ult. was satisfactory in every respect. Several matters relating to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and other charities received attention, one result being the appointment as Steward of Bro. W. W. Popplewell, to represent the lodge at the next festival of one of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institutions. There were two nominations of candidates; and there was an unusual amount of other business disposed of, affecting, more particularly, the internal affairs of the lodge; an increase in the annual subscription being one of the most noticeable questions. The brethren after their long labours adjourned to the banquet room, there to enjoy a spread, provided in excellent style by Bro. S. Steele. Bros. Dodd and Hudson contributed to the harmony of the evening with some exquisite music.

MIRFIELD.—Mirfield Lodge (No. 1102).—The annual installation meeting was held on Friday, December 13th, at the Assembly Rooms. The lodge was opened at 4.30 p.m., prompt, by the W.M., Bro. A. A. Stott, assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. J. K. Ibberson, P.M., as S.W.; John Crowther, J.W.; Thomas Lang, P.M., Secretary; James Walmsley, S.D.; James Barker, J.D.; John Barker, P.M., as I.G.; and Bros. G. Armitage, P.M.; John Walmsley, P.M.; G. R. Harse, and James Simpson. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. Mr. Robert Lister being in attendance he was duly initiated into Freemasonry, Bro. Stott performing the ceremony in an impressive and effective manner, and so closing his year of office. The lodge was then opened into the Second Degree, when the following brethren and visitors entered the lodge:—Bros. J. Ibberson, P.M., P.P.G. Registrar; Joseph Wainwright, P.M.; H. R. Cousins, Wright, W. Airton, C. Sheard, T. B. Fairclough, S.W., W.M. elect; Bros. A. Williamson, 275; Ruddock, P.M. 275, P.S.G.D.; John Booth, P.M. 258, P.G.W.; T. Pickles, P.M. 258; J. Woodsworth, P.M. 1019, P.P.G.D. of Ceremonies; T. Heron, P.M. 208; M. Newsome, P.M. 208, P.P.G.D.; W. Whiteley, 208; C. Woollons, S.W. 208; A. Green, P.M. 208; R. Kelley, P.M. 750; W. Isherwood, 750; A. Wilmore, 750; T. Greenwood, 750; G. S. Bull, 750; C. Arrson, P.M. 264; T. J. Inman, I.G. 264; C. Claston, P.M. 264; W. Brearey, J.W. 264; C. Eastwood, 1214; E. Hemingway, P.M. 1214; W. B. Alderson, P.M. 495, P.G.J.D.; H. J. Holdsworth, W.M. 408; A. Gomersal, J.W. 408; J. Fozard, W.M. 971; J. Thompson, J.W. 171; A. Stott, 1301; D. A. Shaw, P.M. 827; T. H. Good, P.M. 1221; A. Cameron, 827. The W.M. now vacated the chair in favour of Past Master John Barker, to whom Bro. J. Ibberson, P.M., and John Walmsley, P.M., presented Bro. T. B. Fairclough, the W.M. elect. The customary ceremony having been completed in the Second Degree, the lodge was opened to the Third Degree, when all the brethren below the rank of Installed Master retired. The Board of Installed Masters was opened by Bro. J. Ibberson, P.P.G. Registrar, and Bro. Fairclough was duly installed into the chair of K.S. The W.M. having been saluted according to ancient form he invested the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing:—Bros. J. T. Barras, S.W. (by deputy, he being delayed by the lateness of the train); John Crowther, J.W.; John Walmsley, P.M., Treasurer; James Barker, Secretary; James Walmsley, S.D.; H. R. Cousins, J.D.; John Barker, P.M., Director of Ceremonies; J. Kenworthy, I.G.; W. Booth, O.G. The address to the Master was given by Bro. J. K. Ibberson, P.M., to the Wardens by Bro. A. A. Stott, P.M., and to the brethren by Bro. John Walmsley, P.M. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M., at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the same being brought to a close with the Tyler's toast, "To all Poor and Distressed Brethren." So ended another of these happy social gatherings which do so much to promote good fellowship and kindly feeling amongst the different lodges.

MANCHESTER.—Strangeways Lodge (No. 1219).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday week, at the lodge room, Empire Hotel, Strangeways. The brethren assembled about half-past five o'clock, tea being served shortly after that time. The lodge was tyled about 6.15, and after the usual preliminary business, two candidates were duly balloted for and initiated as Entered Apprentices, Bros. P.M.'s Needham and Schofield giving the charges in the most exemplary manner. Bros. Bond and Unsworth were afterwards passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, the W.M. (Bro. Brandon) performing the ceremony in a manner which was highly gratifying to the brethren present. The members then adjourned to the social board, the W.M. occupying the chair, being supported by Bros. P.M.'s Schofield, Rogers, and Needham, Bros. Leech, S.W., and — Dareson, J.W., occupying their respective places. Full honours were paid to the various loyal and Masonic toasts, the musical honours being conducted by Bro. W. Smith, S.S., with great effect. The healths of the "Newly Initiated" and "Newly passed Brethren" were then proposed by the W.M. in most flattering terms, which were gracefully acknowledged by those brothers. No toast at any of the meetings of this lodge is more popular than that of the W.M. (Bro. Brandon), who, from the hearty reception his name met with, must be assured of the high estimation he is held in by the brethren. Bro. Rogers, P.M., responded in a most jocular manner to the toast of the "Past Masters;" and Bro. Leech, S.W., on behalf of the "Officers of the Lodge," The "Visiting Brethren" was, as usual, given by Bro. Dawson, J.W., and suitably responded to. The enjoyment of the evening was greatly enhanced by some excellent songs by Bros. Smith, Ruddock, and Russell.

THIRSK.—Falcon Lodge (No. 1416).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of the Worshipful Master took place on Thursday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Thirsk, Yorkshire, when there was a good attendance of brethren, the compact little lodge room being pleasantly filled. The ceremony was announced to have been performed by Bro. George Marwood, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master for North and East Yorkshire, but at the last moment he was unable to be present in consequence of domestic affliction, and his place was filled by Bro. S. B. Whythead, Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies. The lodge was opened at 2 p.m., by the M.W., Bro. George Ayre, and after the reading of the minutes, was opened in the Second Degree. The chair was then assumed by the Installing Master, and Bro. Thomas J. Wilkinson, the S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented and installed according to ancient custom, and afterwards duly proclaimed in the Three Degrees. The working tools were presented by Bro. William Paley, P.M. De Grey and Ripon Lodge, 837. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. George Ayre, I.P.M.; W. Cottman, S.W.; W. Hall, J.W.; Rev. C. E. Camidge, P.P.G.C., Chaplain; H. Masterman, Treasurer; J. Johnson, Secretary; A. G. Duncombe, S.D.; R. Bell, J.D.; Charles Elsiey, M.C.; Z. Wright, Organist; J. Walton, I.G.; G. Anderson, P.M., Almoner; W. Ayre, and R. Long, Stewards; J. Farmery, Tyler. A banquet was afterwards held at the Fleece Hotel, to which about thirty brethren sat down. The W.M. presided, and was supported by his Wardens and officers, and many visitors. In proposing the toast of "The Health of the Worshipful Master, and prosperity to the Falcon Lodge," Bro. T. B. Whythead said that the lodge was happy in having secured a Master to rule over its destinies, who was so thoroughly a Mason at heart, who was such a deep student of archæology, and who was in every sense such an intelligent Mason. It was impossible but that the Falcon Lodge should prosper under his guidance. He (Bro. Whythead) had known Bro. Wilkinson now for some years as a Mason, and his only regret was that he had not known him sooner, that the privilege of his friendship might have been of longer duration. In replying to the toast of his own health, the Installing Master said, that whilst it had given him very great pleasure to have had the opportunity of installing his friend, yet he could not but sincerely express his regret at the circumstances that had led to the work being left in his hands. They would all have been only too glad to have seen that day in the chair he had so often occupied their good and respected Bro. Marwood, for whom the entire province entertained such a sincere veneration and affection. Other toasts followed, and the evening was spent in a most pleasant manner. Amongst the visitors and members of the Falcon Lodge present besides those already named were Bros. Geo. Balmford, P.M. 236, P.P.G.O.; T. S. Camidge, 236, P.P.G.O.; M. Knowles, P.M. 940, P.P.G.S.O., (Durham); J. Hunton, P.M. 940, P.P.G.O. (Durham); J. Richardson, P.M. 1001, P.P.G.A.P.; J. Fairburn, P.M. 1337; J. W. Walmsley, 1337; G. J. Robinson, 1337; W. J. Husband, 1611; W. H. Gainforth, 236; G. Kirby, 236; J. Rhodes, P.M. 1416; H. Smith, 1416; C. G. L. Kipling, 1416; J. Harker, and others.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—North Woolwich is not the most pleasant spot upon the surface of the globe, but it has within its heart a good and perfect little home for those of the Craft who dare and desire to penetrate its mysteries. Should they be coming that way upon the second Tuesday of the forthcoming months up to June, and call at Bro. West's the "Three Crowns" they will find a hearty welcome, and a brotherly reception, that will make them remember with pleasure and gratification their visit. We have been led into these remarks by the reception we and our brother visitors met with on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., when in the presence of a goodly muster, Bro. A. J. Mannring, the W.M., opened the lodge with the prospect before him of a good night's work, no less than the Three Degrees having to be worked by him before he could safely say his work was done. Besides the W.M. the following officers were present:—Bros. H. T. Turner, S.W.; J. Plume, J.W.; J. Ives, P.M., Sec.; Dr. W. Vance, S.D.; E. Lloyd, J.D.; J. Elder, I.G.; and A. W. Page, P.M., O.G.; The Past Masters present were Bros. W. Steele, I.P.M.; and W. West. The visitors composed Bros. R. P. Hogg, W.M. 1598; C. Roddam, 212; E. Dwelley, 933; and C. Jolly, 913, (Freemason.) The work of the lodge consisted of the raising of Bro. Holloway, the passing of Bros. Lewis and Cash, and the initiation of Messrs. John James Young and William Ball, Bro. Walter James Burgess, of the "Wanderers' Lodge" No. 1604, having previously been admitted as a joining member. The whole of the business being completed, and the ceremonies which throughout the Three Degrees were performed by the W.M. with that skill and ability that his previous career had so fully promised, having been finished, the brethren adjourned to an adjoining room, where a pleasant little unpretentious supper awaited them, and having discussed it, a move was made to the lodge room, where every necessity for the perfect enjoyment of the inner man, was served with profusion. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured as they should be among Masons, and the W.M. in response to a cordial reception of his name made a fair W. Master's speech, introducing many little points worthy of notice, and when he gave that of the "Visitors," always at this lodge made much of, he expressed the good it had done him through visiting lodges, and the immense amount of good fellowship, and brotherly love which was gleaned from those visitations. Bros. Hogg, Dwelley, Jolly, and others replied for the usual remaining toasts. "The Initiates," "The Past Masters," and "Officers of the Lodge," were severally responded to, and then the meeting closed.

MARQUESS OF RIPON LODGE (No. 1489).—A regular meeting of this lodge took place on Friday week, at the Hall of the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond-road, Dalston, present Bros. Dr. John Symonds, W.M.; John High, S.W.; James Glaskin, acting J.W.; W. Stephens, Treasurer; W. J. Murlis, Secretary; Charles Smith, I.G.; Gilchrist, Tyler. There was no business on the agenda but the balloting of a joining member, and this being the last meeting of the year, the Treasurer made a special appeal on behalf of the institution in whose hall they met, and where they had been so comfortably located since its consecration, five years since. Nearly fifty years ago the Metropolitan Societies Asylum was established for the reception of aged persons of both sexes. Members of any Benevolent Society are provided with a free residence, coals, gas, medical attendance, and a weekly allowance towards maintenance. Her Majesty the Queen: Patron, but the institution is but scantily endowed. It has been the usual custom, at Christmas time, to entertain the old folks with a dinner. He, therefore, urged the brethren, who had so nobly contributed to the Masonic Charities to do something for the inmates of an institution, so worthy of their support. Bro. Henry Patient, the Secretary, member of this lodge, then prepared a list, and a sum of ten guineas was immediately collected, for which he most heartily thanked the donors. At the closing of the lodge, a plain supper took place, and the usual toasts were proposed and honoured. Bro. Walford, C.C., I.P.M., responded for the P.M.'s, Bro. Murlis for the Treasurer and Secretary, Jno. High for the officers, Stephens for the Charities, and the Tyler's toast ended at an early hour a very pleasant evening, most ably presided over by the Worshipful Master, Dr. Jno. Symonds.

TWICKENHAM.—Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 1503).—On Wednesday, the 11th inst., this lodge met at the Albany Hotel. There were present Bros. H. Court, W.M.; W. Taylor, S.W.; Vaughan, J.W.; Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.D. of Norfolk, Treasurer; Charles Horsley, P.M., P.P.G.R. of Middlesex, &c.; Ashley, S.D.; C. Palmer, J.D.; A. Taylor, I.G.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, D.C.; H. Court, junr., Organist. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. There were two candidates for passing and raising in the agenda, but as neither were in attendance, the lodge was closed, and the brethren partook of a collation. The only toast honoured besides the customary preliminary ones were "The Provincial Grand Officers," (Bro. Horsley responded) "The W.M.," and "The Officers." The Tyler having been called upon to discharge his duty the formal proceedings closed at an early hour. There were no visitors.

FELTHAM.—Elliot Lodge (No. 1567).—An emergency meeting of the above prosperous lodge was held at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, on Saturday week, when there were present:—Bros. J. R. Nichols, W.M.; John Mason, P.P.G.S.D., acting as I.P.M., Treasurer; J. H. Pearson, S.W.; T. W. Clarke, J.W.; John Elliott, P.M., Secretary; F. Jacob, J.D.; W. H. Goodall, I.G.; and the following brethren: Bros. Randall, Pearce, Lawrence, Sanders, Jones, Pemberton, Dutton, Elliott, Chilvers and Wadeson. Bros. Wigley, Bubb, and Smith were present as visitors, Potter, Tyler. The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and by the kind permission of the W.M. the V.W. Bro. John Mason raised Bro. Davey, to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The lodge was then resumed to the Second Degree and Bros. Schmidt and Church were passed by the W.M. to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ballot having been taken for four candidates and declared unanimously in their favour, Messrs. R. A. Fraser and A. Stephenson, were duly initiated by the W.M. into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. The whole of the duties for which the lodge was convened having been ably performed, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. At the banquet, which was of the usual excellence which distinguishes Bro. Harris's catering, the usual Masonic toasts were given the V.W. Bro. John Mason responding for the "Provincial Grand Officers." "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the V.W. Bro. J. Mason, who said, brethren, I approach this toast with feelings of great pleasure and congratulation, you all know how short a time has elapsed since the installation of our esteemed brother the W.M. and many would have thought it hard had they been called on to hold a lodge of emergency at so early a date as this; but our W.M. did not hesitate to accede to the wishes expressed by several of the brethren. I doubt not many of you were surprised at the able manner in which our W.M. worked the degrees of initiation and Fellow Craft and I am sure each one of you must have felt pride and gratification thereat. I did not doubt his ability, and you all know his zealous desire to do well all that the lodge entrusts him to do. I ask you to join me in drinking "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Nichols," and wishing him a happy and prosperous year of office. The toast was received with unanimous applause and the W.M. returned thanks in a few well chosen sentences. "The Healths of the Treasurer and Secretary" were given by the W.M. and responded to by Bros. J. Mason and J. Elliott, the former making some happy remarks in favour of a more energetic support of the Charities. "The Officers of the Lodge," was acknowledged by Bro. Pearson, S.W., in a brief but suitable speech and he was followed by Bros. Clarke, J.W.; Jacob, J.D.; and Goodall, I.G. The toast "The Initiates and the Visitors," both of which were well received, were acknowledged by Bros. Fraser and Stephenson, and Bros. Wigley and Bubb, respectively. Several brethren enlivened the banquet with songs and recitations and the Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion another of those happy gatherings for which the Elliot Lodge is so famous.

Royal Arch.

ROYAL JUBILEE CHAPTER (No. 72).—A convocation of this chapter took place at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Thursday, the 12th inst., for the purpose of installing the Principals and exalting several brethren. The M.E.Z., Ex. Comp. T. Foxall, was supported by Comp. Duckin, as H.; Lockey, P.Z., as J.; J. Nunn, S.E.; H. Lovegrove, acting S.N.; Thurston, P.S.; Salter, 1st Asst.; Strube, 2nd Asst.; H. Webb, P.Z., Treas.; and Potter, Janitor. The ballot having been taken, Bros. Lean, Harris, and Cox were exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, the ceremony being performed by the M.E.Z. in his usual excellent style, and at its conclusion he proceeded to instal Comps. Duckin, as Z.; Nunn, as H.; Lovett, as J.; and the officers invested were Comps. H. Webb, P.Z., Treas.; T. Foxall, P.Z., S.E.; Dunn, S.N.; H. Lovegrove, P.S.; Salter, 1st Asst.; Strube, 2nd Asst.; and Potter, Janitor. Comp. Macpherson, of the Hornsey Chapter, was the only visitor. At the banquet which followed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

PRUDENT BRETHREN CHAPTER (No. 145).—The installation meeting of this celebrated chapter was held on the 10th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. The officers present were Comps. Edward Moody, M.E.Z.; E. H. Thiellay, H.; J. C. Cox, J.; G. S. States, P.Z., Scribe E.; H. Venn, S.N.; D. Haslett, P.S.; D. Belfredge, 1st Asst. S.; W. H. Braine, 2nd Asst. S.; H. Sadler, Janitor, also the following Past Principals:—Comps. John Boyd, P.Z., Treasurer, P.G.H. Middlesex; R. Warrington, H. Dickets, T. Bull, W. Platt, and J. M. Stillwell. The Scribe E. read the minutes of the last convocation, which were unanimously confirmed, and a Board of First Principals being formed, Comp. E. H. Thiellay, P.Z., P.G.D.C. Middlesex, and M.E.Z. elect, was duly presented by Comp. John Boyd for installation, which special ceremony was most efficiently rendered by the Installing Principal, Comp. Thomas Bull. Comp. J. C. Cox was next presented, and installed in the chair of H., by Comp. John Boyd, Comp. H. Venn was also presented and installed as J. The ballot was then taken for the candidates announced for exaltation, which proved unanimous in favour of the admission of Bros. the Rev. William Henry Frazer, P.G. Chaplain, Ireland, and Alfred Wallace Woodliffe, who were forthwith exalted to the Sublime Degree, with that same correctness of ritual and impressive solemnity which have so distinguished, for time past, the chapter of Prudent Brethren. In addition to the beautiful furniture and accessories could be observed the huge hemispheres, problems, and other mathematical implements, which are so elaborately explained at the annual public meeting of the chapter. It whispered that honour is due to their first founder, chief elder, and indefatigable tutor, who is a consummate exponent of the ritual, and whose teachings may be heard almost every Wednesday evening at the prosperous Domestic Chapter of Instruction. The lecture in rotation for the evening, "The Traditional History of the Nine Arches of Enoch," which was to have been delivered by Comp. John Boyd, was necessarily and most reluctantly omitted on account of the lateness of the hour. There being no further business, except the very pleasing duty of acknowledging the great satisfaction, unanimously evinced by the companions, towards the Immediate Past Principal, Comp. Edward Moody, for the very able and praiseworthy manner in which he presided over the chapter, the M.E.Z. placed upon his breast a handsome P.M. jewel, as a memento of their fraternal regard and esteem, which presentation was suitably acknowledged by the worthy recipient. Comp. Leggot announced in chapter that he was representing the Benevolent Institution as Steward for the forthcoming festival, and would be happy to receive donations. The chapter, presided over by the M.E.Z., banqueted at the Freemasons' Tavern, with the proprietor, Bro. Best's, best of everything. The Rev. W. H. Frazer having said grace, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts ensued, the Immediate Past Principal proposed that of "The M.E.Z.," which was warmly received by the companions, and gratefully and appropriately acknowledged by Comp. E. H. Thiellay, that of "The Exaltees," was respectively, and very earnestly replied to by Comps. the Rev. W. H. Frazer and A. W. Woodliffe, that of "The Visitors" followed, when, in reply to that of "The Past Principals," Comp. John Boyd felt pleasure in observing the goodly array of Past Principals by his side, on whose behalf he returned thanks, they were the acknowledged workers, the recognised and confirmed merit of the Chapter of Prudent Brethren, and he was also pleased to notify that, notwithstanding foreign origin, the M.E.Z. was no exception to the rule, as he had that evening performed the exaltation ceremony in a most exemplary manner. Comps. J. C. Cox and H. Venn replied to that of "The Second and Third Principals," in a brief but effective manner, suggestive of great anticipations. The toast of "The Officers" was ably acknowledged by the Principal Sojourner, Comp. P. Biggs. Comps. P. M. Holden, P.Z., and H. A. Dubois, P.Z., honoured the chapter as visitors. Letters of apology from absentees were duly received. There were also present Comps. G. Clark, jun., C. G. Gumpel, W. F. Masters, E. W. Braine, J. Chinnery, C. A. Wood, Jermyn Boyd, J. H. Leggett, J. Waugh, A. Daw Kerrell, C. J. W. Davies, J. Mason, J. W. C. Lupton, H. Hall, T. de Leliva, N. B. Hencon, Dr. W. H. Whiteway, Wilkinson, and others. The Janitor's toast brought to a close another pleasant and harmonious meeting, eminently characteristic of the Prudent Brethren.

JERUSALEM CHAPTER (No. 185).—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., this old chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. There were present amongst others:—Comps. Wagner, M.E.Z.; Robinson,

H. Mander, J.; Davage, P.Z., S.E.; T. C. Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, S.N.; Moss, P.S.; Stewart, 1st Assistant; Davis, 2nd Assistant; Harfield, P.Z., Treasurer; Loewenstark, P.Z.; Parkinson, Janitor; Whitley, Pratt, and Gispert. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was most ably rehearsed by the Three Principals, assisted by the rest of the officers. There being no other business before the convocation it was formally closed, and the companions adjourned to an elegant banquet. The preliminary toasts having been duly disposed of, Comp. Loewenstark, proposed in very flattering terms "The Health of the M.E.Z." He felt sorry that they had had no candidate that evening because the officers who had so ably rehearsed the ceremony of exaltation, and who had evidently taken a great deal of trouble to perfect themselves in the work, ought to have had their industry rewarded by exalting some worthy brother. The Jerusalem had always borne a good name as a first-class "working" chapter, and he as one of its oldest members sincerely trusted that it would still continue to keep up that proud position. In conclusion he hoped that their First Principal would long continue to be a member of the chapter as one of the most able exponents of Royal Arch Masonry. This toast having been duly honoured the First Principal briefly replied and immediately proposed "The Health of the Second and Third Principals." He said that the Jerusalem Chapter was exceedingly fortunate in possessing two such zealous and clever Royal Arch Masons as Comps. Robinson and Mander, the latter companion in particular was thoroughly conversant with the "work" and was well and deservedly known as an excellent preceptor in all the degrees of Freemasonry. This pledge having been most cordially received, Comps. Robinson and Mander returned thanks. "The Past Principals" followed, and was acknowledged by Comp. Loewenstark. In giving "The Treasurer and Scribe E.," the M.E.Z. paid a very high compliment to Comps. Harfield and Davage for the great care and interest they displayed in the discharge of their respective duties. The companions thus honoured having made a suitable response, "The Officers" was given, and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

ROSE OF DENMARK CHAPTER (No. 975).—On the 7th inst., this chapter entered in strength at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. There were present amongst others, Comps. Martin, M.E.Z.; Richards, H.; Green, J.; Dodd, P.Z., S.E.; Pitt-Lewis, S.N.; Walker, P.S.; James Warner, 1st Asst.; Newton, P.Z.; Price, P.Z. The visitors present were: Comps. Watts, J. 63; Pigott, J. (Herve); T. C. Walls, P.G.O. of Middlesex (*Freemason*); Mayes, 55; and Summers, 174. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Bros. J. Osborn, Secretary, 1622, and A. J. Shutter, 1599, were duly and most ably exalted to the Supreme Degree of the R.A. The election of officers then took place, with the following unanimous result: Comps. Richards, M.E.Z.; Green, H.; Pitt-Lewis, J.; Dodd, S.E.; Buss, P.Z. &c., Treasurer; Walker, S.N.; J. Warner, P.S.; and Gilbert, P.G.J. of Middlesex, Janitor. The members appointed on the Audit Committee were Comps. Warner, Green, and Osborn. A Past Principal's jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. Martin, and the sum of one guinea voted to the fund for the annual entertainment of the old people at Croydon. A notice of motion to increase the exaltation fee to five guineas having been given the convocation was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was admirably served by Comp. Stanbury in the new dining room of his capital hostelry. Upon the removal of the cloth the preliminary Royal Arch toasts were done ample justice to. "The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed by Comp. Price, P.Z. In the course of his speech he congratulated the Chapter upon having had so excellent a First Principal to preside over them as Comp. Martin had undoubtedly proved himself to be. The work of the chapter had been performed by him most efficiently, and his genial and social bearing at the convivial board was worthy of all praise. In conclusion he charged them to drink his health most cordially and to wish him every prosperity in his forthcoming retirement. The M.E.Z. who, in consequence of indisposition had vacated the chair in favour of Comp. Newton, briefly replied by stating that he felt extremely gratified for the very flattering encomiums that had been passed upon his poor merits by Comp. Price. He had tried to do his duty, and in that endeavour had been most ably supported by his colleagues in office and also by the members of the chapter, who had by their friendly remembrance rendered his position of First Principal a most enjoyable one. "The Health of the Exaltees" followed. Comp. Newton in proposing this toast said that he had been forcibly struck by the great attention which their newly exalted companions had displayed during the long but impressive ceremonial of exaltation. He hoped that having once entered the portals of Royal Arch Masonry that they would not rest until they had attained the high position of First Principal. In concluding his remarks he hoped that they would never regret having become members of the Rose of Denmark Chapter. This toast having been duly honoured, the newly exalted companion, in reply, expressed themselves deeply indebted to the members of No. 975 for having received them into their ranks. They felt highly impressed with the ceremony, and they hoped to become better acquainted with its beautiful but voluminous details in order that they might attain not only a theoretical but a practical knowledge of its mysteries. "The Visitors" came next in order, and was acknowledged by Comps. Walls and Summers. The remaining toasts "The Second and Third Principals," "The Past Principals," "The Treasurer and Scribe E." and "The Officers" followed in quick succession, and were duly honoured and responded to. The Janitor having been called upon to discharge his duty the proceedings terminated at an early hour, and the companions returned to town.

MID-SURREY CHAPTER (No. 1044).—An emergency meeting of the above chapter was held on Friday, the 13th inst., Comps. C. W. Grav, M.E.Z.; H. R. Jones, H.; and E. F. Storr, J. A ballot was taken for Bro. William Ashwell, S.W. 22; Bro. William A. Morgan, W.M. 1044; Bro. George Hardman Hoyle, 363; Bro. Thomas Penson Collins, S.D. 22; the ballot being in their favour, Bro. Ashwell, the only brother who could conveniently be present, was exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason. Comp. Frederick Charles Pelton, Lewis Chapter, 1185, was elected a joining member. The companions then adjourned to supper.

SHEERNESS-ON-SEA.—Adams Chapter (No. 158).—The annual convocation of this old and flourishing chapter met at the Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, on Tuesday, 26th ult., there being present M.E. Comps. A. Spears, P.Z., P.G.P.S. Bearer, Z.; J. Bagshaw, P.Z. and S.E., H.; E. J. Penney, J. Comps. T. M. Bigg, N.; J. Hancock, P.S.; M. J. Sullivan, 2nd Asst.; and S. A. Ingleton, D.C. The minutes of previous convocation were read and confirmed. The first Principal requested all companions below the rank of First Principals to retire. When M.E. Comp. W. Pannell, P.Z., was duly installed into the chair of Z. E., J. Penney, into the chair of H. and Comp. J. Hancock, into the chair of J. by M.E. Comp. A. Spears in a very able and impressive manner. The investment of officers then took place by the M.E.Z. as follows. M.E. Comp. J. Bagshaw, P.Z., S.E. for the fourth time. Comps. A. Baurne, N.; M. J. Sullivan, P.S.; Lieut. B. D. Acland, R. N. 1st Asst.; S. H. Tuff, W.M. of 1273, 2nd Asst. S.; Janitor, J. Akhurst. There being a candidate, Bro. H. G. Clarkson W.M. of 1089, who had been previously balloted for, was admitted and duly exalted into the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason. Among the companions we noticed C. Austin, R.N.; G. T. Green, T. Tanner, H. Hart, T. G. Redmond, and Lieut. S. B. Roupell, R.N. Visitor M.E. Comp. T. Hughes, P.Z. The ceremonies being ended the chapter was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The companions adjourned to the Britannia Hotel to partake of a splendid banquet, provided by Mrs. Green which gave great satisfaction, and after spending a very pleasant evening the companions departed hoping to meet again.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Chapter (No. 540).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Swan Hotel, Bedford, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 10th, and there were present Comps. Cookson, M.E.Z.; Cuthbert, H.; J. Fisher, J.; J. R. Bull, P.Z.; Col. Stuart, P.Z.; Billson, P.S. Combs, 2nd A.S.; Colburne, E.; Barfield, P.Z. 19, acting N.; Carter, Treas.; H. Thody, Organist; G. Reynolds, Janitor; and Comps. E. R. Green, Kilpin, and others. The minutes of the former convocation were read and confirmed, Bros. Robert Page Jarvis, and James Thury Alexander, both of the Stuart Lodge, were balloted for, duly elected, and exalted by the M.E.Z., the working of the several offices being excellent. After the exaltation ceremony had been completed, the companions proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following results:—Comps. Cuthbert, M.E.Z.; Fisher, H.; Rev. W. Tebbs, J.; Colburne, Scribe E., re-elected; Billson, N.; R. B. Stafford, P.S.; Carter, Treas.; Reynolds, Janitor. The Audit Committee was appointed, and a motion by Comp. Bull, P.Z., referring the question of subscriptions to the Audit Committee, for them to consider the expediency of lowering the same. At the conclusion of the business, the chapter was closed in due form, and the companions sat down to supper, and spent a pleasant evening.

LIVERPOOL.—St. John's Chapter (No. 673).—The regular meeting of this chapter took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., and being the evening appointed for the installation of chiefs, there was a large and influential gathering of companions. After the opening and the passing the minutes the chair was taken by Comp. Thos. Clark, P.Z., who proceeded (in his usual very effective manner) to instal Comp. Thos. Roberts into the chair of M.E.Z.; Comp. Henry Burrows, as H.; and Comp. David Jackson, as J. After this portion of the ceremony the following companions were appointed to office, viz., Comps. Wm. Brackenbury, S.E.; Lewis Herman, S.N.; and G. Musker, P.S.; M.E.Z. Roberts then exalted four brethren viz., Bros. C. Marsh, D. J. Parry, and Thos. Edwards, of St. John's Lodge, No. 673, and Bro. J. J. Ratchford of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182, in such a manner as to give perfect satisfaction to the companions, and with great credit to himself. After the routine business was over and the chapter closed, the companions adjourned to the banqueting room. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the principal one that of the "Three newly installed Chiefs" being entrusted to Comp. W. T. May, Senior P.Z.; who in doing so alluded to the admirable manner in which the chiefs had filled their respective offices more especially M.E.Z. Roberts, who during his career through the various offices in Freemasonry had performed them in such a manner as was not often equalled and very seldom surpassed. The toast having been suitably responded to, others followed, and a very agreeable evening was spent, the companions separating at an early hour, well satisfied at the steady progress made by the chapter.

Reports of the following unavoidably stand over:—District Grand Lodge of Ceylon. Lodges:—97, 177, 246, 339, 379, 673, 933, 1303, 107, 115; I.C. Mark Lodges:—Excelsior, Freeman.

The Installation meeting of the York Lodge, No. 236, was held in the Masonic Hall, York, on Monday last, Bro. A. Buckle being installed W.M., for the ensuing year. A report will appear in our next.

Mark Masonry.

BRIXTON LODGE (No 234).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Saturday, the 14th inst. The lodge was opened in due form by W. Bro. Thos. Poole P.G.I.G., P.M., the W.M., assisted by Bros. C. P. McKay, S.W.; H. Lovegrove, J.W.; H. Baldwin, Sec.; Pitts, (W.M. elect 168), as M.O.; J. Curtis, S.D.; Dr. Pearce, S.D.; Larham, as I.P.M.; Potter, Tyler; G. Moss, S.D. Eclectic 1201; G. W. Evans, Organist, Stuart, 1263; and G. J. Dunkley, Organist 1543, 1777, having been approved by ballot were duly advanced, the ceremony being performed with the W.M.'s well-known skill; and at the conclusion of the ceremony of advancement he favoured the brethren by giving the lecture on the Tracing Board. This new lodge offers opportunity to Masons in South London to join this interesting musical degree. Before the close of the proceedings the newly advanced brethren were invested, Bros. Moss, as J.D.; Evans, as I.G. and Dunkley, as Organist.

Reviews.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS AND PERIODICALS:—

"The Christmas Graphic;" "Arrows From the Bow;" "Christmas Number of the Quiver;" "Christmas Illustrated London News;" "Christmas Masonic Magazine;" "Baby Bell;" "Excelsior;" "Robinson Crusoe;" "St. Nicholas."

We are deluged this year with Christmas books, but no doubt to good effect. If our forefathers could rise from their graves, how they would rub their eyes and stare at this plethora of Christmas literature, so different from the dull dingy volumes of their own good time. And who can doubt but what it is for the best for us all? The youthful mind, (and the adult mind, for that), requires to be stirred up and gratified, as well as "talked at" and "preached to." "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and so in this undogmatic age, the dogmatic and slightly dull performances of earlier years cannot "hold their own."

Whether for good or for evil, Time, that shows all things alone can decide. We leave the matter confessedly "sub judice." Like Captain Cuttle, of careful memory, we simply "make a note of it."

The Christmas Graphic is very interesting, and the story of a "Romance Upon Wheels" inimitable.

We are much pleased with "Arrows from the Bow," the Christmas number of the Quiver, (Cassell, Petter, and Galpin), as the stories are good, and the moral most healthy.

The Christmas Illustrated London News is as usual very effective.

The Christmas Masonic Magazine comes out most brilliantly, and right genially for the Christmas season. We commend it to all our readers, alike old and young. But our own innate modesty forbids special laudation of a publication, (which needs no puff), in these veracious columns.

Baby Bell, Excelsior, and Robinson Crusoe, all three published by Routledge, deserve our admiration and gratitude, as both seasonable and most profitable readings.

St. Nicholas, Sampson and Low, is one of the best magazines out.

THE ROSICRUCIAN. George Kenning, 198, Fleet-street. This valuable quarterly comes before us with renewed vigour under fresh editorship.

We like it much, the more so as it will no doubt eventually become more and more critical, and less and less confiding in its acceptance of "ye mystic traditions of the past," not wrong, per se, be it noted; but ending often, as all mental excess ends, sooner or later, in a sort of Masonic "Fetish."

We should like to know, as it is a fact of history, on what authority the editors declare of a Masonic song (page 460), that it was written in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The archaisms of the song are not the archaisms "tempore Elizabethæ Reginae." The story of Sir Thomas Sackville is a myth. Where, then, do these verses come from? We commend the "Rosicrucian" heartily, especially to Rosicrucians.

CHRISTMAS AND THE POST OFFICE.—A notice issued by the Postmaster-General says:—A severe strain is put upon the Post Office on Christmas and New Year's Eve, owing to the large number of Christmas and New Year's cards, which it is now the fashion to send at those periods of the year. The Post Office does all in its power to ensure punctuality, but the due dispatch and delivery of letters are almost impossible unless the public render assistance by posting their letters, &c., early on the 24th and 31st December; and this, it is hoped, they will do. The general post, or morning delivery, will be the only delivery in London and its suburbs on Christmas day.

The death is announced of Mr. W. H. Payne, the head of the family of that name connected with English pantomime. He was attended in his last hours by Mrs. Aynsley Cook and his other daughter. Mr. Payne was over 70 years of age.

Lord Skelmersdale left Portland-place, W., on Wednesday, for Lathom House, Ormskirk.

Bro. Captain F. R. Sewell, J.P., has been unanimously elected W.M. of Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1102, Cockermouth. The installation festival will be held on Tuesday, January. Bro. Sewell has been S.W. for the past twelve months, and a more regular attender, or efficient worker, no W.M. could desire.

The Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket Book for 1879 is now ready, price, post free, 2s. 2d. Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.—ADVT.

Obituary.

BRO. COLONEL JOHN BRETT.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Brett, whose death on the 12th or 13th ultimo was announced in the London papers, was a native of Leicester. He was the eldest son of the late Samuel Brett, of Leicester, and enlisted about thirty-six years ago in the First Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. His splendid penmanship procured him a stool in the orderly office of his regiment—a life not at all to his taste. On the Kaffir war breaking out in the Cape, in 1846-7, he asked the permission of his Colonel (Baller) to vacate the stool for active service with his company. This at first was denied him, but he still retained his determination to leave the office, and at last his desire was granted. On his first engagement with the enemy he and his comrades in the rifles were ensconced behind a stone wall. The colonel's horse was wounded, and fell with the rider's leg under him. Young Brett at once saw his position, and forgetting the danger he himself would incur, stepped forth to extricate the Colonel from his perilous position. In doing so a ball from the enemy instantly passed through Brett's left breast and right through the body. He was reported to have been slain, and his friends here at home mourned for him as dead. But a friend unknown wrote to the War Office, and the reply came "not dead, but severely wounded." After Brett recovered his promotion was rapid, and he soon arrived at the top of the non-commissioned ladder. On the second outbreak of the Kaffirs in 1852-53 he went once more to the Cape with the brave Sir George Cathcart, who found young Brett very useful. They had scarcely settled down on their return from the Cape, when the Crimean War began, and the 1st Battalion of Rifles was ordered to Varna. Brett had at that time a younger brother named William in the 2nd Battalion of Rifles, and he asked to be permitted to be with his brother. This wish was complied with, and William accompanied his brother John. On their arrival at Varna John Brett was presented by his old commander, Sir George Cathcart, with an ensign's commission. After the Battle of Alma he was made adjutant, and his knowledge of discipline soon placed him in a prominent position. His duty in the trenches before Sebastopol was very severe, and yet all his letters were cheerful, and showed that he deeply sympathised for the poor fellows at work under his command. On the morning of the Battle of Inkerman almost the first intelligence he received was that of the death of his young brother, whose body he never recovered. During the day he himself was knocked down by a spent ball while conveying ammunition to his men, but sustained no further harm than a severe shock. After the fall of Sebastopol he was made captain. On his return to England he exchanged into the 3rd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, which was ordered to India, for the severe trench work had begun to tell upon his health, and it was thought that a warm climate might be beneficial. On his visit to his friends in Leicester before his embarkation he married at St. George's, the eldest daughter of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, of Rutland-street, who accompanied him to India, where they remained about seven years. On his return from India he continued with his regiment, and his mother and friends left Leicester. It is a rare occurrence for a young man to enlist as a private soldier, and by good conduct and perseverance, reach the rank of Lieut.-Colonel; but such was the career of this brave man, who died recently at Tunbridge Wells at the age of 58. The *Daily Telegraph*, in its obituary notice, says, Lieut.-Col. Brett was awarded the Kaffir war medal, the Crimean medal with three clasps, the Turkish medal and the Cross of the Legion of Honour. Bro. Brett, when a captain, was initiated into Masonry in the John of Gaunt Lodge, Leicester, on November 18, 1858, after his return from the Crimea, and whilst the sister lodge of St. John's has the honour to number amongst its sons "the gallant" Major Packe, who so gloriously fell at Waterloo, the brethren of the John of Gaunt Lodge may justly be proud of the brilliant military career of their townsman and fellow member, Bro. John Brett.

BRO. WORTHINGTON, P.M. 834, 858, P.M.E.Z. 834.

The funeral of the late Bro. Worthington, of 19, Ball-street, Kensington, who died suddenly in the street, within a few yards of his own dwelling, while in the actual performance of his duties as collector to the Gas Light and Coke Company, took place at the West London Cemetery, Brompton, at 12 o'clock on Thursday, the 12th inst. The deceased, whose untimely end is very deeply regretted by an unusually large circle of friends and brethren, was in his 50th year, and appointed by the Western Gas Company in March, 1859, since amalgamated with the Chartered, or Gas Light and Coke Company. No officer of this company was more highly esteemed, both from an official and social point of view. His genial kindheartedness, his unvarying courtesy to the public, rendered him an universal favourite with all. The cause of his death was rupture of the pericardium. About ninety brethren, brother officers, and friends met the procession at the entrance, and accompanied the coffin to the chapel, when, as at the grave, the service was most impressively rendered by the Rev. Comp. Vaughan. Two wreaths were deposited by his daughters previously to the body being lowered to the grave. He leaves an invalid wife and six young children to deplore his loss.

Amongst those who rendered the last tribute to our departed brother we noticed Bros. Hart, 33; Turner, 72; Ward, 382; Read, Cooper, Avery, P.M.'s; Collings, Barker, Burrow, 511; Millis, Burch, Knowles, Fisher, Bryett, Adamson, Lynes, Alais, Savage, Barker, Watts, P.M.'s; Purdue, Festa, Tarrant, 834; Egan, Kirk, P.M.'s; Bird, S.W.; Heather, Rankin, Till, 858. The funeral arrange-

ments were ably superintended by Bro. Millis, P.M. 834. His brother officers were represented by, amongst others, Messrs. Innous, Luff, Ball, Davis, Thatcher, Fitch, Friend, Thompson, Hayman, Dowding, Mortimer, and others.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

The following English artists, architects, and sculptors, whose works figured at the Paris Exhibition, have received decorations:—Mr. Millais, Sir F. Leighton, Mr. Barry, Mr. Alma Tadema, and Mr. Gilbert Redgrave have been appointed officers, and Sir John Gilbert, Mr. P. H. Calderon, Mr. J. Arnoux, Mr. W. P. Frith, Mr. J. Collier, Mr. Carl Haag, Mr. Street, and Count d'Epinau have been appointed Knights of the Legion of Honour.

The appearance of a new work by M. Gustave Doré is an event in art. Messrs. Hachette have just published a splendid folio edition, in 650 pages, of the "Orlando Furioso," translated by M. du Pays, with over 500 illustrations by M. Doré. Ariosto could not have wished for a worthier interpreter, and one rises from the contemplation of the pictures with a feeling of having been coursing over the grandest and strangest landscapes peopled by beings such as the ardent imagination of Ariosto alone could conceive. This work would have been enough to save Gustave Doré from oblivion, if his preceding productions did not protect him from the indifference of contemporaries and posterity.

The autobiography of the Duke of Grafton, the Prime Minister of George III., from which Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice drew so largely in his "Life of Lord Shelburne," has been placed by the present Duke in the hands of Lord Carlingford for publication.—*Academy*.

Mr. Henry Dawson, landscape painter, died last week at Chiswick. Some of Mr. Dawson's pictures formed a leading attraction at the recent exhibition in the Art Museum, Nottingham Castle.

A New Art Gallery is to be built in Dresden, and the design will be selected from the plans of Dresden architects, who are to send in their works by February. The scheme has been long under consideration, the site for the building having been given in 1862.

At a poll of the rate-payers of Whitechapel, held at St. Mary's School, a proposal to adopt the Public Libraries Acts was defeated by 496 votes to 261, the number of ratepayers being 4000. About £1000 in money and books had been promised to start a public library if the parish would pay the statutory penny in the pound to maintain it.

The Paris Louvre has acquired the trunk of a new statue of Venus unearthed in the neighbourhood of Vienna. The figure is in a stooping posture, and has unfortunately lost both hands and head, while on the back is a tiny hand evidently belonging to a Cupid which she must have been bearing on her shoulders.

ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL.—A correspondent writes:—"The Restoration Committee, after hearing a paper by Mr. J. O. Scott on Mr. Street's report to the Society of Antiquaries, and their resolution thereon, have resolved, with only two dissentients, to adhere to the former resolutions of themselves and of the meeting of subscribers last August, to replace the present ruinous low roof, to which Mr. Street assigned even a later date than had been previously claimed for it, and the ceiling which he admitted to be worthless and decayed, by a new roof on the visible early English lines, for which a considerable length of parapet has been rebuilt already. The committee were convinced that Mr. Street was wrong in saying there had been no parapet in early English and Decorated and Perpendicular times, and had overlooked several indications of the levels both of walls and roof having been altered when the Norman roof with eaves was replaced by the early English one with parapets, which were almost universal in great church roofs of all periods after the Norman."

The Italian Sculptors who exhibited at the Paris Exhibition have decided not to bring back their works to Italy on account of their fragility, but intend to sell them by auction in Paris. The proceeds of the sale will be equally divided among the sculptors, so that the minor artists may profit as highly as their more famous brethren.

Tableaux-vivants illustrating the prize pictures in the Paris Exhibition will probably be produced at the Gaîté this winter. The manager of the theatre has already written to Herr Mackart, the painter of the enormous "Entry of Charles V. into Antwerp," in the Austrian Section for permission to represent his work.

It may be remembered that the Metropolitan Board of Works lately resolved to test the value of the electric light as a means of street illumination, and the first of a series of experiments designed for this purpose was made on the Thames Embankment, between Charing-cross and Westminster-bridges, shortly after 4 o'clock on Friday, 15th inst. The engine had been set up on a piece of vacant ground on the western side of the railway bridge. Arrangements had been made for working 20 lights, but only ten were used. Though somewhat unsteady, they burnt with intense brilliancy, and Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the engineer to the Board of Works, and Mr. Keate, the consulting chemist, pronounced the result of the experiment in all respects satisfactory.

A Christmas number of *Touchstone*, will appear on Monday, the 23rd inst., containing stories by Annie Thomas, (Mrs. Pendu Cudlip), Captain Mayne Reid, Jean Middlemass, Henry S. Leigh, Ion Cassilis, Edith Stewart Drewry, and several others.

The *Whitehall Review* of this week contains a portrait of the late Princess Alice.

THE FREEMASON

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1878.

THE DEATH OF THE GRAND DUCHESS OF HESSE-DARMSTADT.

The death of H.R.H. Princess Alice, as she is familiarly known among us all (and always will be best known), will be deeply mourned for by all loyal Englishmen and Freemasons. The second daughter of the Queen, born in 1843, she was married in 1862, and her marriage has been one of great happiness, she herself winning golden opinions from all who knew her, for her amiability and ability, her kindness and sociability, and her desire to be useful and do good. Her young and promising family has recently been attacked by diphtheria, and having nursed her husband and children through this dangerous and mysterious malady, (losing her youngest-born in this dire complaint), she has herself at last succumbed to it—an irreparable loss to her desolate husband and orphans, to her mother and her own family circle, to countless friends, and to an admiring people. It is well known how she nursed and cheered the last days of her lamented father, the Prince Consort, just as in after years she nursed our M.W.G. Master, and by a strange fatality—though not strange to the inscrutable Providence of the Most High, if strange to us poor wondering mortals—she has been taken away on the actual anniversary of her great parent's death. Such a mournful episode must be a heavy blow to the Queen; and the feelings of all patriotic citizens, as well as of our always loyal Order, will be turned anxiously towards her, who, in the good providence of T.G.A.O.T.U., has had such heavy trials to bear, in the midst of such personal happiness, and such a glorious reign. We trust, as we express the feelings, we know, of the entire English Craft, that she may be graciously supported in her deep affliction by that Divine power, to which we are taught, as Masons, to look up confidingly, "in every emergency of life for comfort and support." H.R.H. Princess Alice died at the Palace at Darmstadt, on Saturday morning, December 14th, at 7.30 a.m. The sad news flashed far and wide, and received in genuine grief, has made all in England feel as if they had lost a near relative. Lord Beaconsfield in a very striking letter to the British Deputation from California, justly and eloquently sums up the character and inestimable worth of the lamented Princess Alice, in these impressive words, when he terms her, "one of the most noble-minded and gifted of women, endeared to the people of this country by her rich intelligence, and her life of perfect bliss and duty." The heartfelt sympathy of our whole fraternity is with the Royal Family in their great affliction, and with her Majesty the Queen in her most unspeakable bereavement.

1878.

Time, which is never still, and ever "moving on," has brought us well nigh to the close of 1878, and the *Freemason*, therefore, thinks it right to issue its valedictory memorial of another passing year, and to lay before its many kind and sympathetic readers a succinct resumé of the events which have marked its progress, or signalized its passage. And if, on the whole, at home especially, English Freemasonry in 1878 has witnessed but little to afflict the "even tenour of its way," if prosperity and prestige have marked its onward steps, if peacefulness and harmony have shed abundantly their great blessing on the long and lengthening roll of English lodges, yet, abroad especially, events have transpired and occurrences have taken place, which have set their mark on 1878 in the annals, at any rate, of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. We do not wish, however, to begin our review of 1878 with the accents of blame and complaint; as the events proceed we shall give again, as we have done before, our honest opinion, but we think it right to remind our readers, for whom this recapitulation of bygone episodes has a general as well as

a particular interest, that such events have taken place in 1878, and while they are, happily, without their appreciable influence on Anglo Saxon Masonry, they colour sadly and darkly the words and works of other jurisdictions at the present time. But we shall hear more about them as the roll of Masonic history for 1878 is unwound, and we beg our numerous readers to accompany us on the journey, with patience and perseverance, with attentive minds, and yet with lenient criticism.

JANUARY.—January opened with a seasonable New Year's treat to the aged inmates of the Asylum at Croydon, which was graced by the presence of many ladies. Bro. Terry's admirable arrangements were highly appreciated. During the month it was announced, (a most gratifying fact to all English Masons), that the receipts for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution amounted to £16,308 8s. 11d., for the Boys' School to £14,369 14s. 9d., for the Girls' School to £11,800, in all £42,478 3s. 8d. A very noble total! The annual Twelfth Night entertainment of the Girls' School took place with great eclat. During January a seasonable letter was published from the Grand Lodge of Hungary, repudiating all sympathy with the hurtful action of the Grand Orient of France, and the Grand Orient of Italy declined to adopt the course pursued by the French Grand body. Bro. Thevenot, at this time, declared in the *Freemason* that no schism existed in the Grand Orient of France, and that despite the minority, the action of the majority was agreeable to French Freemasons. The first meeting of the Board of Stewards for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution took place, and Bro. Terry announced 189 Stewards. A voluminous correspondence now took place about the Charities and Charity Administration, the upshot of which seemed to be, "leave well alone." The Mother Kilwinning Lodge held its annual meeting, and passed a resolution disapproving of the French innovation. The old and well-known Lodge of York, elected seven honorary members. Bros. Hughan, Woodford, Findel, D. Murray Lyon, E. J. McIntyre, John Hervey, and G. F. Fort. Bro. Hughan was also elected honorary member of Franklin Lodge, 134. During January, the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Denmark took place, when H.R.H. the Crown Prince was unanimously re-elected Grand Master, and a collection made at his request for the widow of a brother, who had lost his life on the ice. A numerous meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Eastern District of Ireland took place during this month, when Sir J. Keane resigned his office as Prov. G.M. A very interesting presentation took place to Bro. E. J. Morris, J.G.D. of England, by the brethren of Swansea, which was marked with much good feeling and Masonic heartiness. The Muggersidge Testimonial Fund now reached the sum of £215, a worthy tribute to an old and deserving Mason. "Old Mug" has deserved well of the Craft. Two very successful Masonic balls took place at Liverpool and Blackburn, in the former case the object was to support the West Lancashire Masonic Institution, a most useful educational endeavour, in the latter, the presentation of an illuminated address to Bro. Starkie, M.P., Provincial Grand Master. The Mount Lebanon Lodge, 73, celebrated its centenary, and the history of the lodge, by Bro. Dixon, P.M., was ordered to be printed. Two important Quarterly Courts of the Boys' and Girls' Schools took place this month, when interesting discussions arose on several important grounds. The following lodges were consecrated in January:—The Temple Bar Lodge, 1720; the Cholmeley Lodge, 1734, in the metropolis, and the Urnston Lodge, 1730, at Manchester. A new Masonic Hall at Liverpool was also opened, named the Skelmersdale Hall, a building in Gothic style, costing £20,000. We must not omit to mention that in January the Devonshire Freemasons sent £300 to the Indian Famine Fund, and that Bro. Sir F. M. Williams was appointed Grand Prior of Cornwall. The Lodge of Benevolence for January granted £365 in Masonic relief. Victor Emanuel, King of Italy died. Freemasonry in Italy being now permitted peacefully to meet, the Italian Grand Orient passed a resolution of sympathy.

FEBRUARY.—February witnessed the installation of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as Grand Prior of the Temple of Ireland, before one of the most remarkable gatherings ever congregated. The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire met, and it was announced that its subscription to the Charities for the year amounted to £1300—well done West Yorkshire. The Prov. Grand Chapter of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight assembled under Companion Beach, M.P., as Grand Superintendent. We had in this month the meeting of Grand Chapter, at which a grant of £500 was made to the Boys' and Girls' Schools, and £1000 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, in all £2000. The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland took place, when the deaths of Lord Kinnaird and Bro. Ballantine were feelingly deplored, and a resolution passed condemnatory of the action of the French Grand Orient. From New Zealand came the account of the installation of Bro. G. S. Graham as Deputy Grand Master at Auckland, before a most influential meeting, a striking and important event in the annals of Freemasonry at the Antipodes. The Royal Visit of our Grand Master and his amiable Consort to Dorsetshire came off in this month, and a loyal address was presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales by the Freemasons of the province. February beheld the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, under the chairmanship of the Duke of Manchester, supported by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and other distinguished brethren, and subscriptions were announced from the Stewards' Lists to the amount of £11,126 13s. 6d. In February the Consecration of the Bayard Chapter, by Lord Skelmersdale, Grand M., took place, before an influential assembly, as well as the Consecration of the Star Chapter, 1275, Greenwich. A long correspondence took place about Bro. Hubert's refusal, under present circumstances in France, to accept the chair of his lodge. His honest decision was much approved of in England. In February two additions to Masonic Literature and artistic excellence, appeared—Bro. Kenning's Cyclopædia, edited by Bro. Woodford, F.G.C., and Bro. Harty's Engraving of the Installation of the Prince of Wales. A very successful concert at Aberavon, under the patronage of Sir George Elliot, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, took place. Our worthy Bro. Dr. Brette, a great friend of the Charities, was elected and installed W.M. of the Aldersgate Lodge, a new but very flourishing lodge. In February died Pio Nono, Pope of Rome, who had foolishly sought to place Freemasonry under "ban Ecclesiastic."

MARCH.—March witnessed the translation in the *Freemason* of Bro. Desmon's Report, to the Grand Orient, which startled greatly all honest Masons and un-jesuitical minds. Special pleading could "no further go." The Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association met at Stratford, and announced that the yearly subscriptions amounted to £288 11s. 6d. The meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter for Suffolk took place, when Comp. Rev. C. J. Martyn was installed Grand Superintendent by Lord Skelmersdale, G.H. The annual Masonic Ball of the St. James's Union Lodge, was held at Freemasons' Hall, under most favourable auspices. In March the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of England was held, the Earl of Carnarvon presiding, and the brethren present numbering about 700. A grant of £100 was made to assist members of the Igualdad Lodge, No. 633, West Indies, who had suffered from the hurricane in September. The report of a special Committee on the action of the Grand Orient was presented and certain resolutions unanimously passed. H.R.H. the Grand Master was re-elected. The announcement of the failure of Grand Treasurer was made, and the appointment of a Committee to enquire and report on the finances carried. Grants were confirmed to the amount of £250. The adjourned debate on the proposition for altering the constitution of Lodges of Benevolence was resumed, and the proposal of Bro. Clabon negatived. Southam Lodge, No. 1054, Wilmslow, was erased from the Roll of Lodges. Models of the two Life Boats were presented to

Grand Lodge by the National Life Boat Institution. The following lodges and chapters were consecrated in March, Sunbury Lodge, 1733, and Trinity Lodge, 1734, Francis Burdett Chapter, 1503, Way Side Chapter, 1604, by Comp. General Brownrigg. The following consecrations also took place, St. Cuthbert's Preceptory, Darlington, Knights Templar, by E.G.S.P. Lt.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and of the Leoderns Chapter, Rose Croix, by Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Philips. H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught received the 30°, and was afterwards installed in the Studholme Chapter as M.W.S. The Provincial Grand Priory of Northumberland was opened, and V.E. C. J. Bannister, installed as P.G.P. A new Encampment at Bury, "Edmund Plantagenet Preceptory" was also opened. During March a purse of money was presented to Bro. Binckes as Secretary, by the Committee of the Boys' School Dinner Club. The Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, held its meeting, H.R.H. Prince Leopold being W.M., H.R.H. appointed Bro. Woodford, P.G.C., his deputy, who was duly installed. A P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., and a brilliant gathering assembled. Bro. Terry received a presentation of £50, very deservedly, from the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. The Poplar Board of Guardians distinguished themselves in this month by refusing their hall to a Masonic lodge. At the monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence a grant of £160, made at a former meeting, was confirmed, and a further sum of £415 voted to distressed claimants. At the Cambridge local examination, twenty-five candidates were entered from the Royal Institution for Boys, and twenty-four passed.

APRIL.—April beheld the Grand Festival at Freemasons' Hall, at which H.R.H. the Grand Master presided. Bro. H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Denmark was also present. The usual appointments of Grand Officers took place. The Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire met at Leeds, under Sir H. Edwards, Bart., Prov. G.M., when a vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of our lamented Bro. Bentley Shaw, a most worthy and genial brother, whose services to Freemasonry had been great, and a movement set on foot to obtain a presentation in the Girls' School, named the "Bentley Shaw Scholarship," and to cost £1050. The Inhabitants' Lodge, Gibraltar, No. 153, obtained a Centenary Warrant. In April Sir Edward Lechmere, Bart., M.P., was appointed Prov. G.M. of Worcestershire, in place of Bro. A. H. Royds. The Masons at Manchester arranged and carried out a very successful concert in aid of the E. Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The Grand Chapter of Cornwall also met this month, under the able presidency of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Provincial Grand Superintendent. The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Priory of Devon, under the Rev. J. Huyshe, (a good old Mason), also took place. A presentation took place to Bro. John Dennis, of Lodge 907, of a valuable tea service and a walnut cabinet. At the monthly meeting of the lodge of Benevolence £435 was voted. At the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School the lamented death of Bro. R. W. Little, its valuable Secretary, after a long and painful illness, was announced, amid the sympathy of all present. The Lodge of Saint John, 1736, was consecrated at Halifax, and the Dobie Chapter, 889, was consecrated by General Brownrigg, the oration being delivered by Bro. Arnold, G.C.

MAY.—In May the Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter took place, when warrants for 13 new chapters were granted. May also witnessed various meetings of Provincial Grand Lodges, such as that of Cambridgeshire at Wisbech, of Westmorland and Cumberland at Penrith, of Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire at Stafford, of East Lancashire at Bury. We also had in that month the meeting of Prov. Grand Chapter of Lancashire at Preston, presided over by Lord Skelmersdale. The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland took place, when resolutions similar in effect to those of the Grand Lodge of England were

unanimously passed in reference to the Grand Orient of France. The presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Muggeridge of a purse containing 300 sovereigns took place this month, and the veteran was greeted with much applause, when he feelingly replied to Bro. Meyer's speech. The 90th Anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls took place this month, Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon presiding, £8,600 were announced by the acting Secretary, Bro. Hedges. At the monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence £440 were granted. The following lodges were consecrated in May, Montgomerie Lodge, 1741, at Diss, Royal Savoy Lodge, 1744, and Farringdon Lodge, 1745, in the Metropolis. We are rejoiced to note the increase of Royal Arch Masonry. During the merry month of May, we have also to notice the opening of a new Masonic Hall at the Star and Garter, Kew. Bro. W. H. Smyth of Elkington Hall, Louth, was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire, and the Duke of St. Alban's transferred to Nottinghamshire. The first active work of the Albert Edward Life Boat took place at the Gunfleet Sands, where nine lives were saved.

JUNE.—In June a very fitting presentation of a silver salver and service of plate was made to Bro. Strong, for valuable services as honorary surgeon to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. During this month, the Provincial Grand Lodges of Leicestershire and Rutland, and of Middlesex, held their meetings. The annual Grand Mark Lodge met at Norwich, Lord Skelmersdale having been previously appointed its Grand Master. A grand Masonic fete was held in Dublin, at the annual festival, and a distribution of prizes to the children of the Masonic Orphan Schools. The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was holden in this month, the Earl of Carnarvon presiding, when a vote of congratulation to our illustrious brother the Emperor of Germany was passed by acclamation, in respect of his recent happy escape from a two-fold shameful attempt at assassination. The indignation and loyalty of the English Grand Lodge heartily sympathized with indignant and loyal Germany. Canon Farrar distributed the prizes, won at the Cambridge local examination, to the boys of the Masonic School, Wood Green. The Lodge of Perseverance was consecrated in London during June, at the Imperial Hotel, Holborn, by Bro. John Hervey, before a numerous attendance of brethren.

JULY.—July witnessed the annual summer fete of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at the school, Wood Green. Lord Suffield presided, and ably distributed the prizes to ready recipients. In Belfast, some interesting Masonic services were held at St. George's Parish Church, in aid of the Masonic Charities of Belfast and Dublin. The anniversary festival of the Boys' School took place during this month also, at the Alexandra Palace, under the illustrious presidency of Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and in the presence of a numerous gathering of ladies and brethren, whose subscriptions were announced to the amount of £10,000. The Provincial Grand Lodges of Berks, and Kent and Surrey, and Suffolk, assembled during this month. The annual festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund took place at the Alexandra Palace, under Lord Skelmersdale, who deprecated in his speech too many like appeals. It seemed to many, that coming so soon after the Boys' School festival, a sort of untimely appeal and unhealthy pressure was thus developed. Bro. Hedges was elected in July Secretary of the Girls' School, after a very severe struggle, by a decisive majority, showing that merit, not patronage, may justly be said to be the principles of our good old Craft. If the old adage be true, "palmam qui meruit ferat," Bro. Hedges had earned his legitimate promotion fairly, honourably, and distinctly. The District Grand Lodge of Tasmania in this month held its first communication at Hobart Town. The presentation to Bro. Hughan of a purse of twenty-five guineas, given by the Lodge of St. Martin, in recognition of his services on behalf of the Charities, took place at Liskeard. The presentation of a claret cup and fifty guineas was made by some admirers of

Bro. Jolly, an old friend and reporter to the *Freemason*. The American Masonic Knights Templar landed in Ireland, and were very hospitably received, as well as at York and Sheffield. In July the Ogmore Lodge, 1752, was consecrated at Bridgend, and the Chaucer Chapter, 1540, consecrated in London. On July 31st, a very complimentary dinner was given by Bro. Kenning, at Freemasons' Hall, to the American Masons visiting England. Bro. Kenning, as proprietor of the most successful and most widely diffused Masonic paper in the world, felt that he was bound as a patriot and a Freemason, to uphold the character of hospitality for his country and his Order. He, accordingly, issued invitations to all the American Masons, forming the company of Bro. C. E. Meyer, and he also invited a large number of English Masons to meet their American brethren. Nothing could exceed the cordiality and contentment, the satisfaction and success of the evening. A more happy idea was never more thoroughly carried out, and it has left imperishable "souvenirs" in a mutual regard which time will never efface. A very interesting account of it has been printed by Bro. Kenning, for presentation only, and which serves as a fitting record of a pleasant gathering and international fraternal unity and good will.

AUGUST.—In August the Provincial Grand Lodges of Worcestershire, Cornwall, Hertford, and North Yorkshire, held their meetings. In this month the Grand Master of the recently formed Grand Lodge of Quebec issued a proclamation against the Grand Lodge of Scotland: Our opinion has never varied. Neither side is quite right in the controversy, but we are bound to say, that in our opinion, the "onus" of everything lies on the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which, from the very "inception" of these fulminatory bulls and diatribes was absolutely wrong, as wrong in fact as wrong can be, on every ground of Masonic law and Masonic precedent.

SEPTEMBER.—September witnessed the disciplinary action of Grand Lodge exercised against a brother of high standing, who had unfortunately forgotten his Masonic duty and allowed the Scrutineers' returns to be tampered with. Grand Lodge acted with great dignity and discretion. Let us trust no similar scandal will again occur in English Masonry. The Provincial Grand Lodges of Somersetshire, Cumberland and Westmorland, of Cheshire, of Dorsetshire, of Nottinghamshire, and of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight held their meetings. The presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Captain Colville took place at Bodmin, and the London Charity Masonic Association, much needed to help the more friendless London candidates, amid much meaningless and personal opposition, was formed. The American brethren departed homeward again, greatly pleased with their English reception. Two new Masonic Halls were opened in this month—a hall at Shipley, West Yorkshire, by Lord Carnarvon, Pro G.M., and a hall at Chacewater, Cornwall. The following lodges were consecrated in this month: Eldon Lodge, 1755, at Portishead; Leopold Lodge, 1760, at Scarborough; Eleanor Cross Lodge, 1764, at Northampton. The Kensington Lodge, 1767, was also consecrated this month. The Herefordshire Masonic Charity Association was formed in September.

OCTOBER.—In October the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, North and East Yorkshire, Sussex, Northumberland, and Durham held their meetings. The Quarterly Courts for the elections of the Boys' and Girls' Schools took place, resulting in the election of four girls out of twenty-nine candidates in the latter, and thirteen boys out of sixty-three candidates in the former case. The polling was unprecedentedly severe, and seems to point to severe struggles in elections "yet to be." The foundation stone of St. Luke's Church, Southport, was laid with Masonic ceremonial. The following lodges were consecrated in October: Trinity Lodge, 1765; Pimlico Lodge, 1772; Royal Hanover Lodge, 1777; St. Leonard's Lodge, 1766; Lodge of Progress, 1768; and Vale of Whitehaven Lodge, 1770. St. Thomas's Chapter, 142; and Mid-Surrey

Chapter, 1044, were also consecrated in this month.

NOVEMBER.—The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter took place, with no business, however, of importance, and November also witnessed the meetings of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Cheshire and West Yorkshire, and of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire, and Wilts. Lieut.-Col. Sir H. Edwards, Bart., was installed Prov. Grand Superintendent of West Yorkshire at Sheffield, by Comp. Lieut.-Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. Grand Superintendent for East Lancashire. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold were advanced to the 33° at Golden-square, in the presence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Lord Skelmersdale presiding. H.R.H. Prince Leopold was installed Grand Commander of the Cœur de Leon Preceptory of the Province of Oxford. The Fête of the Grand Conseil of the Rite Ecossais at Paris took place in the Hall of the Trocadero at the Paris Exhibition, when Lord Skelmersdale and several English Masons were present. The ladies' banquet of the Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201, took place. In November the following lodges were consecrated, Ivanhoe Lodge, 1779, Kirkdale Lodge, 1756, King Henry VIII. Lodge, 1758.

DECEMBER.—In December the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge took place, when Bro. Gibson was appointed Grand Superintendent of Works, in the place of the late lamented Bro. Cockerell. In December another foolish "Mandement" of the Bishop of Nismes appeared against Freemasonry. December also witnessed the annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The Landport Lodge, 1776, was consecrated at Portsmouth, the Albert Edward Lodge, 1780, at Southampton, the Kennington Chapter, 1381, in the metropolis, and the Downshire Chapter, 594, at Liverpool. We had to deplore in December the death of Englishmen and Masons.

very observable, the increase of lodges and chapters, as well as the great material prosperity of English Masonry, at which we are heartily glad, though some brethren affect to question the propriety of such extension. But we do not like to hear brethren always finding fault with everything. "Rabagas" is a character not uncommon in society, and the disposition always to blame, is not confined to society. However, there are those who even deprecate this advance of Masonry, though on what grounds we never could profess to understand, and who see in this multiplication of Lodges and Chapters, a great future evil for Freemasonry. We do not. We, on the contrary, treat this increase of lodges as a good sign of the times, a pleasant omen for the future. English Masonry, cheerful and contented, seems to be moving on. If a few signs of imperfection crop up here and there; if we think we can put our finger on some weak points, or "spot," as our young men like to say in their classic lingo, some "bad form," yet, they are all very "few and far between," and can easily be amended and removed by care and control. Long may our good Craft speed on, we say, with a favouring breeze—not afraid to show its colours, "openly avow" God before man, and heartily alive to the wants and woes of humanity. Abroad the situation is not so good, or so sound, or so reassuring. In France, for instance, and Belgium, and one or two other portions, and amid some "weak brethren" of our Cosmopolitan family, the outrage and follies of 1877 have been repeated and renewed in 1878, by a policy which recalls ill-omened cries, a base fanaticism, and a degraded past. It is quite clear to all impartial observers, that if the Grand Orient of France pursues the present evil "tenour of its way," led away by its "Esprits Forts," its positivist orators, and its nihilist and warlike declarations, it will sink to the level of a baneful secret political society, which any government might fairly suppress. Its plea of toleration is as absurd as it is jesuitical, and is a practical insult to all

who have "brains" in their heads, who have studied the facts of history, or have marked the true teaching of Freemasonry. But there is one gladdening sight to our English mind's eye, which is worth a good many foreign perversities. The whole of Anglo-Saxon Masonry is standing firm to its own great principles, and above a million of Masons are united in the great and goodly duty of honouring T.G.A.O.T.U., and of being helpful and sympathetic to their brother men. And with this cheering assurance we leave 1878, and hail 1879, trusting that those sections of our family which have gone beyond the original design of Freemasonry may come back to it, those which are below it, may come up to it, and that we may yet form one grand and consistent whole, proclaiming as before an admiring world, Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace and good will towards men.

We have to deplore during 1878 the loss of the following worthy, and many of them distinguished, members of our Order:—

Richard Woolfe, P.M. 286, Past Z. and member of many of the higher degrees, who devoted much time to antiquarian, historical, and geological studies; J. Sutcliffe; P.M. Harbour of Refuge Lodge, West Hartlepool, &c.; W. Doyle, Liverpool, P.M. 667, P.P.G.J.D. West Lancashire, &c. &c.; H. H. Wright, J.P., of Bolton and Southport, W.M. No. 37, The Right Hon. George William Baron Kinnaid and Rossie, K.T.; the deceased brother was Provincial Grand Master of Perthshire East for fifty years, also Grand Master of Scotland for two years, and in that capacity laid the foundation stone of the New Harbour at Dundee, and presented an address to King William IV., expressing the abhorrence of Grand Lodge at the attack on his Majesty's life; Charles Bennett, P.M. 25, official shorthand writer to Grand Lodge; George Nelson, Limba Magna, near Leicester; Major George Barlow, P.M. 321; Dr. J. V. ... P.M. 220; Bentley Shaw, ... who was an ardent worker and ... and whose loss will be ... province of West Yorkshire; ...; John Miller, Deputy ...

... Master of Madras; John Henderson, P.M. 829, Woolwich; J. B. Forshaw, of Ormskirk, W.M. of the West Lancashire Lodge, 1403; G. Bubb, P.M. 190, St. James's Union Lodge; Prince Lucien Murat, for a while President of the Masonic lodges of France under the Empire; R. Wentworth Little, P.M., and founder of the Rose of Denmark Lodge, 975, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, &c. Bro. Little was most active in all true Masonic work, and was deservedly held in the highest esteem; his loss will be long felt by a large circle of sympathising friends; Thomas Austin, P.M. 933, and P.Z. 933; John Luter, of Cowes, of late years Tyler of Medina Lodge; Dr. J. M. Cunningham, of Sussex, P.M. 315, and 811, Brighton; J. Verity J.W. 1194, Isleworth; W. Brasier, of Margate, Union Lodge, Kent, P.Z., &c. Albert Schmidt, of Jersey; W. W. Squires, of Nelson, New Zealand; S. H. Wagstaff, P.M. 1216, P.Z., &c.; J. R. McDaniel, Past Grand Commander of Virginian Templars, at Washington; The King of Hanover, Past Grand Master of the Old Grand Lodge of Hanover; Robert Bagshawe, P.G.M., and P.G.P. of the Province of Essex; Samuel James Harvey, of Camberwell, P.M. Skelmersdale Lodge, 1658; Sir F.M. Williams, Bart., M.P., Deputy Grand Master of Cornwall, a Past Grand Warden of England, and a munificent supporter of the charities; J. A. Gooch, of Norwich, W.M. Lodge Prudence; W. Cowling, P.M. York Lodge, 236; C. Jardine, P.M. 140, St. George's Lodge—drowned in the Princess Alice disaster; R. D. Duckett, of Lodge 228; William Winch, of the Lodge of Unions, 256, Margate; William Smith, C.E., P.G.S., P.M. and P.Z. 33; F. W. Thiel, P.M. of Canterbury Lodge, 1048, New Zealand; Samuel Tomkins, Grand Treasurer; Foster White, P.G.D., Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Edwd. Beckwith, New Cross; Geo. Law, of the Lion and Lamb Lodge and Jerusalem Chapter; John Millward, P.M., at Longmore, near Buxton; William Henry Sleeman, P.M. Gosport Lodge, 903; John Nealds, Secretary Royal Alfred Lodge, 777; John Johnstone, proprietor of the *Standard*; J.

Bond-Cabbell, J.P., of Cromer Hall, Norfolk, John Bosworth, P.M. 1328; George Woodley, of the Star of the East Lodge, 880, Island of Trante; John Green, P.M. Lion Lodge, Whitby, 312; John Lemon, P.M. and P.Z. 327, Wigton; Francis Fellows, S.W. of Lodge 192; Woolf Lions, P.M. 1326, and P. Prov. G. Reg. Middlesex; Walter Graham, Lodge St. Andrew, 418, Auckland, New Zealand.

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.]

ROAST BEEF AND PLUM PUDDING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Last year some of your readers were led generously to help us provide nearly 500 Christmas dinners, of roast beef and plum pudding, on Boxing Day last, at Loddiges-road Hall, for the poorer boys and girls attending the mission schools, as well as one hundred orders for parcels of Christmas provisions to as many poor widows living in this district.

This being the seventh year of the mission work, I am anxious to assist in providing, as usual, for at least as many, if not more, than before. The dinner this year will be held (D.V.) at Lyme Grove Hall, Mare-street, Hackney, on Thursday, 26th December; all friends are welcome.

Donations in aid of this effort are invited, and may be sent to Mr. J. Newman, 117, Cheapside, E.C., Mr. H. M. Heath, 4, St. Thomas's-road, Hackney, or direct to Yours, &c.,

ATHRO ALFRED KNIGHT,
71, King Edward's-road,
Hackney, London, E.

OLD, BLIND, AND IN WANT.

Queen Anne's Mansions,
Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.,
19th Dec., 1878.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With great gratitude I acknowledge the under-mentioned further donations. My next (and last) acknowledgment shall be on the 11th of January, with your kind permission, and should it meanwhile enter the head of a score or so of our good brethren to send me half-a-guinea a-piece, the work already fairly done will be well crowned.

I am, fraternally yours,

JOHN B. MONCKTON, 32,
Prest. Bd. G.P.

Bro. E. C. Mather, P.M.	...	...	£2	2	0
" J. M. Case, P.A.G.D.C.	...	...	1	0	0
Friends in Council Lodge,	...	...	5	5	0
Bro. C. Sawbridge, P.M.	...	...	2	2	0
" Peter Long, P.G.D.	...	...	0	10	6

CAUTION.

UNITED MARINERS LODGE, No. 30.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It having come to the knowledge of the brethren of this lodge that applications for assistance are being made both to lodges, and lodges of instruction, by some person, or persons, who allege that he or they are members of the above lodge, it is requested that before complying with such applications, in future, the Secretaries of the respective lodges will communicate with Bro. T. A. Gladwell, W.M., 21, Gracechurch-street, City, or the undersigned,

JOSEPH DRISCOLL, P.M., Secretary,
2, Claremont Villas, Park, Tottenham, N.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS OF ENGLAND.

A meeting of the members of the Grand Masters' Council, No. 1 of this degree was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., at 2, Red Lion-square, Holborn. This degree, which was constituted in England in 1871, is making steady progress, and from the great interest evinced in its well-being by Bro. the Rev. G. Raymond Portal, M.P. G.M., and other distinguished brethren, it bids fair to attain a high position as one of the side grades of Freemasonry.

Amongst those in attendance were Bros. the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.P.G.M.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, 33°, R.P.D.G.M.; Hyde Pullen, 33°, R.P.P.C. of W.; S. Rosenthal, 33°, R.P.C. of G.; H. C. Levander, 31°, R.P. Lecturer; D. M. Dewar, 18°, R.P.A.G. Recorder; Lieut.-Col. S. H. Clerke, 33°; C. F. Matier, H. R. Cooper-Smith; T. C. Walls, 18°; and J. J. Reeve.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. R. L. Loveland, the Rev. W. Stanton Moses, and Elias Chandos Pole were duly admitted and received into the degrees of Most Excellent, Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent Masters.

Previously to the Grand Council being dissolved, the names of Bros. W. Hickman, W. J. Hickman, and F. Hedges were handed in for admission and reception at the next meeting.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1780.

This new Southampton lodge was constituted and consecrated at the Masonic Hall there on Friday week, by the Right Wor. the Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who was attended by his deputy (Bro. W. Hickman, P.M.), the first Master nominate, the Prov. Senior and Junior Wardens, and other provincial officers, together with a full attendance of brethren from Southampton, Portsmouth, Basingstoke, Lymington, &c., to the lodge, in which last-named place many of the petitioning brethren, living in Southampton, belonged, the Masters and Past Masters present numbering forty-five.

In introducing the ceremony of constitution and consecration, the Prov. Grand Master appropriately addressed the brethren on the object which had brought them together, and was followed by the Prov. Grand Chaplain (Bro. S. Scott) on the nature and objects of Freemasonry. At appropriate intervals in the ceremony several anthems were sung by a party of brethren, Bro. Westley, of Southampton, and the Prov. Grand Organist, each taking a part at the harmonium, these selections including a chant, Clarke Whitfield's "Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," and Kent's "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness," with a consecration hymn; and the Treasurer elect of the lodge (Bro. S. S. Pearce, M. 319, Lymington), before the investiture of the officers, delivering an address, on the object of the gathering, in rhyme.

The lodge was then constituted as follows:—Bros. Hickman, P.M., D.P.G.M., W.M.; Irvine Harle, S.W.; James S. Pearce, J.W.; S. S. Pearce, P.M., Treas.; W. Grinyer, Sec.; W. Berry, J.D.; Westley, Org.; Tanner, D.C.; Grant, I.G.; Whitworth and Harvey, Stewards; and Biggs, Tyler. The business of the lodge included the proposition of several candidates for initiation, and a number for joining from 319 and other lodges, with the election as honorary members of the lodge of the Prov. Grand Master and the Prov. Grand Secretary.

At the close of the business between sixty and seventy brethren sat down to the installation banquet, provided by Bro. Dartnall, of the High-street, the new W.M. presiding. During the after proceedings the toast of "The Right Worshipful the Prov. Grand Master" was cordially given by the Worshipful Master, and Bro. Beach, who was very loudly cheered, in reply, spoke of the advances Masonry was making, and commended new lodges as affording facilities for the instruction and initiation of brethren, impressing upon all, however, that only as the lessons taught in the lodge were reflected in the outer life of the brethren would the chief aim of Masonry be realised, and that it was impossible for a Freemason to be actuated and imbued with the principles of the Order without reflecting those relations in every-day life on those with whom he came into contact. He exhorted them, therefore, to strive to act up to the principles inculcated in the lodge; and after expressing an earnest hope that the new lodge would prove a great and distinguished success, he proposed the toast of "The New Worshipful Master," eulogising Bro. Hickman's labours in the cause of Masonry in the province, and cordially wishing him a prosperous year of office in his new sphere.

Bro. Hickman, amidst a very warm recognition, replied to the effect that he felt it a very great compliment to be requested to preside over the new lodge. He pointed out that they had no wish or desire in any way to retract from or to interfere with the lodges already existing in the town, but they rather desired to work in harmony and unison with them, and this he hoped and believed would be realised (hear), and that but one wish and feeling would animate them all—that of achieving the greatest good in their day and generation, and promulgating those great principles of brotherhood which characterised the Order.

Several other toasts of a local and complimentary character were given during the evening, which was spent in the greatest good harmony.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1783.

The consecration of this new lodge took place on Thursday last, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield, under very distinguished auspices. There were present a great number of brethren from all parts of the province of West Yorkshire. The ceremony of consecration was performed by the Right Worshipful Bro. T. W. Tew, D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, assisted by officers of P.G. Lodge.

After the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master had ascertained that the petition to and warrant from the Grand Lodge was in due form, and that the necessary appointments were correct, the anthem from the 133rd Psalm was sung by the choir, under the management of Bro. P.M.'s Wood and Marshall.

The Provincial Grand Chaplain then offered the dedication prayer, and the consecration ceremony was proceeded with, in which, along with the provincial officers, the following P.M.'s took part—viz., Bro. Abraham Smith, P.P.G. Chaplain; Bro. A. Jackson, P.P.G.D.; Bro. George Sykes, 290; Bro. John W. Turner, and Bro. Bottomely, P.P.G.R.

An oration was then delivered by the P.G. Chaplain, Bro. Lukis, M.A., in which he traced the history of Freemasonry in Huddersfield, referring more particularly to the ancient dates of the Harmony and Huddersfield Lodges, both of which will in a short time (some ten years or so) have completed their centenary; and the Truth Lodge, which was consecrated in 1845, and the development not only in numbers, but of zealous and worthy brethren, and

that the Albert Edward Lodge was the natural outcome of the three sister lodges.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed. Bro. Malcolm, P.G. Reg., then presented Bro. P.M. Thomas Ruddock, P.S.G.D., the W.M. designate to the Rt. W.P.G. Master for installation as the first W.M. of the Albert Edward Lodge, and he was duly installed in the presence of forty installed Masters, by Worshipful Bro. Wm. Geo. Dyson, P.M. (521), P.P.D.C., and afterwards invested, as his principal officers, Bro. P.M. Jackson (521) as S.W., and Bro. P.M. Geo. Sykes (290) J.W.

After the election of Bro. Sykes as Charity Steward, the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, and the brethren, to the number of sixty-four, adjourned to the George Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet awaited them, which was graced by the presence of the P.G. officers.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given, interspersed with capital and appropriate music; and after the toast of "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. Col. Day, in most enthusiastic and eloquent terms, the brethren separated, after expressing hearty good wishes for the prosperity of the youngest lodge in the province of West Yorkshire.

The oration will appear in our next.

CONSECRATION OF THE DOWNSHIRE CHAPTER, LIVERPOOL.

Another addition was made to the list of Liverpool combinations of Royal Arch Masons by the consecration of the Downshire Chapter, No. 594, which took place at the Masonic Hall, and the successful inauguration gives clear and considerable promise that the new chapter's existence will be a prosperous one in every respect. It has been commenced under the auspices of brethren who have given ample proof of their power to rule in the Craft wisely and judiciously, and there is little doubt that similar wisdom and discretion will mark their principalships of the Downshire Chapter. Comp. Robert Wylie, P.P.G.D.C., was the Consecrating Officer in the absence of the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, M.E. Grand Superintendent. The Consecrating Z. was assisted by Comps. B. B. Marson, P.P.G.S.A.S., acting as H.; E. B. Harding, P.G.J., acting as J.; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.F.A.S., acting as D.C.; S. Alpass, P.G.S.E., as S.E.; R. Washington, Z. 1094, as S.N.; Skeaf, as P.G.O.; S. Armstrong, P.G. Treasurer; W. T. May, P.Z., as P.S. There were altogether about fifty present at the ceremony, and these included, besides the above named, Comps. P. Macmurdrow, P.Z. 1094, P.P.G.S.N.; P. M. Larsen, P.Z. 220, P.P.A.S., West Lancashire; R. P. France, 220; John Hayes, 249; D. Hesketh, S.E. 1356; J. L. Houghton, S.N. 1356; J. O. Rea, 1356; J. Whitfield, 220; F. Mansley, 203; H. Ashmore, 823; C. Haswell, 203; A. Morrison, 249; H. Burrows, H. 673; J. T. Callow, P.Z. 673; R. Williams, 241; Rev. H. G. Vernon, 680; T. Dilcock, 220, T. Clark, P.Z. 673; Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, J. 216; David Jackson, J. 673; R. Yelland, H. 1094; P. Ball, P.G. Janitor 203; T. Roberts, 673; T. Davis, 220; W. P. Jennings, 249; Joseph Wood, Treasurer, 249 (Freemason), J. Hocken, P.Z. 220, and 673; W. H. Ball, 292; J. W. Burgess, J. 1094; R. Martin, Jun., 1356; Owen Williams, 210; &c. The ceremony of consecration was most admirably and impressively performed by Comp. Wylie, and the other assistants already named, and at the close the following were the principals installed:—Comps. R. P. France, Z.; John Hayes, H.; and J. L. Houghton, J.; A. Morrison was invested as S.E.; and T. Whitfield, as S.N.

There were no fewer than twenty-three propositions for exaltation and six for joining before the closing of the chapter, which indicates how much the "Downshire" is likely to prosper in the future.

At the close of the interesting business, the companions, to the number of about 40, adjourned to the banquet room, where a substantial dinner was very satisfactorily served by Bro. Chaplin, House Steward. The three newly-appointed chiefs (Comps. France, Hayes, and Houghton) were in their places at the festive board, and during the short but pleasant after-banquet proceedings, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with much appropriateness and received with great cordiality.

In response to the toast of "The Officers of Provincial Grand Chapter," Comp. H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.E., who was warmly welcomed, said the Downshire Chapter had started with the brightest prospect of success, and with plenty of work already cut out for the officers. He would take the liberty of strongly impressing upon the chiefs the importance of a thorough knowledge of, and acquaintance with, all their duties. With regard to the second chief, he (Comp. Alpass) had previously seen him do his work so well as to lead him to have the greatest confidence in his efficiency, and he had no doubt the other chiefs would display similar competence. In conclusion, Comp. Alpass wished the new chapter the greatest success.

The other principal toasts were "The Consecrating Officers," "The Three Principals," and "The Visiting Companions."

On the 1st January next, Newfoundland will be admitted into the General Postal Union, and correspondence to and from that colony will be subject, in all respects, to the same conditions of transmission as correspondence between the United Kingdom and countries of the Postal Union generally.

After an unusually long discussion, on Thursday, the directors of the Bank of England decided on not altering the minimum rate of discount, which consequently remains at five per cent.

Bro. Brassey, M.P., arrived at Constantinople on the 5th inst., in his yacht "Sunbeam," after paying a visit to the British Fleet at Artaki.

Mutuum in Parvo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

TREWMAN'S LIST OF LODGES FOR 1777.

As the list of lodges reprinted in the "Masonic Magazine" for December is not considered reliable, I beg to call the attention of "Masonic Student" and others to the following errors in the reprint and the original.

Errors in the reprint corrected:

- No. 16, Greenwich, should be No. 15.
- " 59, Bury " " 51.
- " 68, Gt. Queen-st., " " 60.
- " 464, Chester, " " 454.

Errors in the original reproduced in the reprint corrected

- No. 492, Baldock, should be No. 491.
- " 36, Bolton-le-moor " " 46.
- " 491, Southampton " " 494.

The lowest number on the list is No. 497, there being 214 numbers blank, some of these were foreign lodges and some dormant. I have discovered the omission of two lodges working at that period, viz., No. 39, Cowes, now No. 35, Medina Lodge, Cowes; and No. 71, Lodge of Brotherly Love, London, now No. 56, Howard Lodge of Brotherly Love, Arundel.

I believe there are more omissions, which I hope "Masonic Student" will discover, correct, and insert in a future number of the "Masonic Magazine." T. F.

Ireland.

NEWBRIDGE.—United Service Lodge (No. 215).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 27th November, when the following officers and brethren were present:—Bros. J. Aston, W.M.; F. Tovey, S.W.; E. Jordan, S.D.; E. Flatman, I.G.; W. Simmons, P.M.; J. Heaps, J.W.; J. Boyle, J.D.; G. Mills, Tyler, and J. E. Tukey, Secretary and Treasurer; Nugent, Seal, Ross, Barham, Parr, Ryan, Fletcher, Taylor, Hanley, Sawyer, Pole, Hutchinson, Martin, and Clark. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Gordon, Beattie, McKenzie, and Mills, which proved successful. The candidates being present, were then initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry; and a word of praise must be given to Bro. Barham for the able and impressive manner in which he conducted this beautiful ceremony, and which called forth expressions of admiration from the brethren present. During the initiation Bro. Nugent ably presided at the organ, which added very much to the solemnity of the scene. The brethren were then called to refreshment, which having partaken of, they proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:—Bros. G. Sale, W.M.; J. Boyle, S.W.; G. Flatman, J.W.; E. Nugent, S.D.; F. Mills, I.D.; J. Lewis, I.G.; J. E. Tukey, Secretary and Treasurer. The lodge was then closed in ancient form by the Worshipful Master, in peace, love, and harmony.

RED CROSS BALL IN LIVERPOOL.

The members of the Walton Conclave (No. 97), of the Masonic and Military Order of the Knights of Rome and of the Red Cross of Constantine, gave a most enjoyable assembly at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, on Thursday evening, the 12th inst., and the pleasant gathering formed a source of the greatest enjoyment to all who were present. The ball was under the distinguished patronage of the Ill. Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M., Prov. G. Com. (West Lancashire); Ill. Sir Knight Major Turner, Past P.G. Com.; and Ill. Sir Knight Dr. J. Kellett Smith, Dep. P.G. Com.

The large assembly room of the hotel, which is a model of artistic beauty, was brought into requisition for the occasion, and the power of a special dispensation from Lord Skelmersdale enabled the representatives of the various Masonic Orders to appear wearing the jewels and insignia of their rank and Orders. The hall was very largely attended by members of knightly rank, Royal Arch, &c., while the Craft clothing also had a conspicuous place amongst those who attended. Ill. Sir Knight Major Turner, P.P.G. Com., honoured the gathering with his presence, and, on making his entrance, was received under the Arch of Steel.

The ball Stewards were Sir Knights R. Lytham, J.G.; J. Orford, Prefect; R. Foote, S.B.; B. S. Riley, Orator; P. Thomas, Herald; A. McKenzie, T. Wilson, and J. Gilchrist; and those who merit special praise in connection with the ball plan are Em. Sir Knights H. Gribbin, M.P.S.; G. E. Hanmer, P.S., M.C.; W. E. Quayle, P.S., P.P.G.H., Treas.; and H. H. Smith, Rec. and Hon. Sec. Bro. Martin's band furnished the music for the dancing, and during the interval for supper Bro. H. Gill gave his celebrated "fairy bells" performances, which again elicited universal praise.

The catering of Bro. Ludlow, of Lodge 216, Secretary of the Adelphi Hotel, was the subject of general praise, and the Walton Conclave ball was generally voted one of the most pleasant which could possibly have been held.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS—Reliable Remedies.—In wounds, bruises, sprains, glandular swellings, enlarged veins, neuralgic pains and rheumatism, the application of this soothing Ointment to the affected parts not only gives the greatest ease, but likewise cures the complaint. The pills most assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders, whilst the Ointment cures the local ailment. The Pills remove the constitutional disturbance and regulate every impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching yet harmless preparations.—[ADVT.]

Masonic and General Tidings.

We are informed that there is no foundation whatever for the statement which appeared in the *Times* of December 12th, copied from the *New York World* of November 28, professing to give a report of an interview which the representative of the latter newspaper had with his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at Halifax. No such interview took place, and no conversation of the kind stated occurred.

At the last meeting of the Dobie Lodge, No. 889, Bro. William Harris Saunders, S.W., W.M. 1503, P.G.S.D. Middlesex, M.W.S. St. George's Rose Croix Chapter, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The installation meeting will be held on the 15th proximo, at which several Grand and Provincial Grand Officers have promised to attend.

A meeting of the Committee appointed to carry out the arrangements of the annual Masonic ball at the Town Hall, Liverpool, on the 14th January, in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, was held on Friday evening, the 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., in the chair. A corps of about fifty Stewards was appointed.

The installation meeting in connection with the Prince Arthur Lodge, 1570, was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the Masonic Rooms, 80, N. Hill-street, Liverpool, where Bro. S. Hinks, the W.M. elect, was placed in the chair of K.S. A report of the proceedings will appear in due course.

Mr. Anthony Trollope contributes an original love story, called "Catherine Carmichael; or, Three Years' Running," to the Christmas number of the "Masonic Magazine," which also contains a variety of articles referring more or less to the Craft. "How I was first prepared to be made a Mason," although widely discursive, is a most diverting paper by Bro. Samuel Poynter. From an address by Bro. Bergmann, "German Masonic Teaching One Hundred Years Ago" appears to have been of an ultra-sentimental character. Bro. G. M. Tweddell, writing of Shakespeare, indulges in a good deal of unnecessary passion concerning authors with whose opinions he does not agree; but his sketch shows both reading and thought. —*Daily Chronicle*, Dec. 18th.

The consecration of the Kennington Royal Arch Chapter took place on Thursday afternoon, at the Surrey Club House, Kennington Oval. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

We are asked to state that the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, meets every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, at Ashley's Hotel, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden.

time, and probably since, strangers to each other. The elder lived near Crewe; the younger en route for Ireland, intended to sleep at Chester. The conversation between them grew animated. Said the elder presently, "Give up your idea of sleeping at Chester, and do me the honour of passing the night at my house." The offer was accepted with grateful effusion. On leaving in the morning, said the guest, "Answer my question frankly; what induced you, on such an insufficient acquaintance, to confer so great a benefit on me?" Replied the host, "As you press me, your question shall be frankly answered. My wife always tells me that I am the ugliest man in Great Britain; I wished to show her that there was an uglier." —*The World*.

We have received from Bro. G. Kenning, the world-renowned Masonic publisher, a copy of his Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book for 1879. This publication stands alone for completeness and excellence in a Masonic point of view. It is the only Masonic Calendar which gives the lists of lodges, &c., of the many Degrees in Freemasonry outside of "the Craft." It consequently contains the rolls of Knight Templar Preceptoris, Red Cross Conclaves, Grand Councils, Rosicrucian Colleges, Rose Croix Chapters, and numerous other Rites. The names of the various Grand Officers of the different degrees at home and abroad may also be found in its pages, which refer not only to England, Scotland, and Ireland, but to Europe, Asia, Africa, America, Australia, and the Isles of the Sea. To the non-Mason a glance at this little work will convey some idea of the extensive ramifications of the brethren of the mystic tie throughout the world, and as for Masons themselves no brother can consider himself properly furnished without a copy of this pocket-book. We had nearly forgotten to say that to the list of Craft lodges are appended their dates (ancient and modern), which is a most valuable addition. —*Yorkshire Gazette*, Dec. 14th.

The Installation Meeting of the Crichton Lodge, No. 1641, takes place this (Saturday) afternoon, at the Surrey Masonic Hall. We hope to find room for a report of the proceedings in our next.

The *Freemason* of Saturday next, December 28th, will consist of twenty pages. The index will be included in this number.

All reports, advertisements, etc., for insertion in next week's *Freemason*, should reach the office, 198, Fleet-street, London, on Monday, or by first post Tuesday morning at latest.

A meeting of the Mount Olivet Red Cross Conclave, No. 35, was held at the George Hotel, Portsmouth, on Monday last. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the lodge, occupied the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, occupied the Senior Vice President's chair; and Bro. S. Rawson, Past District Grand Master of China, that of Junior Vice-President. The other brethren present were Bros. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Herbert Dicketts, P.G. Steward; John Hervey, Grand Sec.; H. G. Buss, Assistant G. Sec.; A. A. Pendlebury, P.M. 1056; S. D. Ewins, P.M. 766; W. Stephens, Charles Atkins, W. J. Murlis, C. F. Hogard, Charles Godtscha'k, G. R. Sherwill, G. P. Britten, Col. Somerville Burney, John Newton, P.M. 174; George Bolton, W. H. Perryman, P.M. 3; Thomas W. Allen, P.M. 733; R. H. Groombridge, P.M., Sec., 183; F. W. Koch, P.M. 820; H. Garrod, P.M., Sec., 749; W. A. Western, W.M. 1536; J. Cruttenden, P.G.D.C., Kent; S. Valentine, P.M. 9; R. Secker, A. J. Creak, W.M. 157; W. J. Parish, P.M. 1604; Edward Stephens, P.M. 879; Wm. Christian, P.M. 1662; G. F. Lancaster, P.M. 903; W. Stead, W.M. 813; Herbert Allead, P.M. 181; James Kindred, P.M. 554; James Keene, W.M. 1635; James W. Berrie, I.P.M. 1293; C. Breden, W.M. 781; L. B. Pillin, W.M. 180; Charles Dairy, W.M. 141; Thos. W. Allen, P.M. 733; Thos. W. Bar, W.M. 1185; J. Longman Cogan, W.M. 1365; George Read, W.M. 1767; W. Spooome, W.M. 1662; C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler; and H. Massey, (Freemason).

The lodge first confirmed grants to the amount of £290 made at last meeting of the Lodge, and then proceeded with the new list. There were thirty-three cases on this list, a larger number than has been before the lodge on any one evening for some time. Out of the thirty-three cases one case was deferred and three were dismissed. The grants made to the others amounted to £765. Two cases were granted £100 each (£200), two £50 (£100), two £40 (£80), three £30 (£90), three £25 (£75), five £20 (£100), one £15 (£15), ten £10 (£100), and one £5 (£5).

The lodge, after sitting more than four hours, was then closed.

The Prince of Wales will create quite a sensation in Bard-land on taking possession of his Breconshire sporting estate. To have a real Prince of Wales in Wales itself will be quite an original experience, and the loyal Welshmen are already on the war-path. The Freemasons in the eastern division of South Wales, under the P.G.M. Sir George Elliot, have concerted measures for the proper reception of their Royal Brother and Master. If the Prince is a brother of the angle as he is of the salmon, he will be a brother of the trout, seeing that all round Brecon there are the finest trout and salmon streams in the world.

The Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G.M., presided at the meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence on Wednesday evening for Baron's Court.

A Reuter's telegram from Melbourne states that the English Cricketers, under the captaincy of Lord Harris, have arrived there from Adelaide.

The Duke of Connaught, attended by Captain Fitzgerald, returned from Berlin on Wednesday morning, having been summoned home by telegram.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, December 27, 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, DECEMBER 21.

- Lodge 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
- " 1641, Crichton, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
- " 1732, King's Cross, 269, Pentonville road.

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 23.

- Lodge 1632, Stuart, F.M.H.
- 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 24.

- Lodge 205, Israel, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 1744, Royal Savoy, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden.
- R. A. C. 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
- Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.

- Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
- Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
- Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
- Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
- Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., E.
- Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
- Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton 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 Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25.

CHRISTMAS DAY; No meetings.

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.
- 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, Flect-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 26.

- Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
- Mark 118, Northumberland, M.H., Masons' Avenue.

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., Millbank.
- Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
- The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
- High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
- Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
- Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
- Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-rd., at 8.
- Covent Garden, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden, at 8.
- Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
- Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27.

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 28, 1878.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23.

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24.

- Lodge 1609, Dramatic, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1675, Antient Briton, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
- Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
- Prince Arthur L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25.

CHRISTMAS DAY; no meetings.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26.

- Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
- " 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 216, Sacred Delta, M.H., Liverpool.
- Stanley L. of I., 214, Gt. Homer-st., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27.

- Lodge 1393, Hamer, M.H., Liverpool.
- Chap. 680, Sefton, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.

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