

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—
 Craft Masonry 1
 Instruction 4
 Mark Masonry 4
 Red Cross of Constantine 4
 Obituary 4
 Freemasonry in the City... 4
 Dramatic Notes..... 4
 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution 5
 The New Year..... 5
 Foreign Freemasonry in 1878 6
 Ultramontanism and Freemasonry..... 6
 In Memoriam 7
 CORRESPONDENCE :—
 Profession and Practice 7
 The Masonic Charities..... 7
 Freemasonry in South Africa 8
 A National Memorial to the Princess Alice 8
 Grand Lodge of Ireland 8
 Grand Chapter of Ireland 8
 Freemasonry in Ceylon 8
 Freemasonry in Colombo 8
 Freemasonry in Liberia 8
 A Menu Card in Chaucerian English..... 8
 A Noble Masonic Example 8
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls 8
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys..... 8
 Marriage of the Earl of Carnarvon..... 9
 Masonic Benevolence in 1878..... 9
 Grand Masonic Entertainment in Liverpool 9
 Bro. Hughan's New Work..... 9
 The Forthcoming Exhibition of the Dublin Royal Academy... 9
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls 9
 Masonic and General Tidings 10
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week 10
 Advertisements i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi.

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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—This lodge was convened as an emergency meeting on Monday, the 23rd ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. In consequence of the exceedingly inclement weather the attendance was but small. Amongst those present were Bros. Charles Dairy, W.M.; Themans, P.M., acting as S.W.; Morrison, J.W.; Carter, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Secretary; E. Hopwood, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, &c., acting I.P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, J.D.; and Longstaffe, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Gladwell, S.D. Old Concord, and Prime, Hemming. The latter brother was, at his request, and by the consent of his W.M., passed to the degree of F.C. There being three candidates in attendance for initiation, viz., Messrs. Weeden, Kendall, and Joy, the W.M. with the assistance of his officers duly inducted those gentlemen to the degree of an E.A. No other business being on the agenda, the lodge was formally closed, and the brethren partook of a slight repast. Previously to the meeting being dissolved, the W.M. took occasion to call the attention of the brethren to the fact that he was a Steward at the forthcoming festival in aid of the funds of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and he hoped that they would give him their hearty co-operation in that laudable undertaking.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The December meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, for the first time in one of the fine rooms in the new portion of the building. Bro. Isaac Buscall, W.M., presided. There were three raisings, two passings, and one initiation. Bro. Edward White, S.W., was elected Worshipful Master, and Bro. George Everett, P.M., Treasurer. Among the brethren present were Bros. T. Adams, J. R. Foulger, M. Haydon, H. Elmes, J. E. Walford, Ferguson, F. Kent, A. Treadwell, and Jas. Willing. Among the visitors were Bros. Wm. Joyce, W. M. Stiles, McGavin, and Holt (*Daily Telegraph*). Bro. Robert Turnham, a very old member of the lodge, Past Chairman of the Licensed Victuallers' School, was also present. A banquet concluded the proceedings of the day. In the course of the speeches, which were delivered subsequently, the W.M., in reply to the toast of his health, said he was sure that during his year of office he had made many mistakes of omission and commission, but the kindness of the brethren had overlooked them. He had been received with the same kindness as other Masters had been, and he thanked the brethren for their treatment of him, and for the support they had given him during his year. In proposing "The Health of the W.M. elect," the W.M. said he was sure Bro. White would perform his duties creditably as he had performed them in the offices to which he had been called. He had been Master of another lodge, and in that position had gained renown. Bro. White, in reply, said he would do his best while Master to promote the interests of the lodge and the comfort of the members. He had had some experience having just vacated the chair in the City of Westminster Lodge. There was a great difference between that lodge and the Domatic, as the City of Westminster had but forty or fifty members; whereas the Domatic numbered 200. The difference in numbers made a great difference in the quietude, and he could not expect the Domatic to be so quiet as the City of Westminster. However, he had no doubt that every thing would be very harmonious. This was the first time for many years they had elected a new Treasurer. He had no doubt that they would all get on very well with Bro. Everett. Speaking for himself he owed a great deal to Bro. Everett, as he was the first to discover any Masonic merit in him (Bro. White.) That was the first round of the ladder which he put his foot on, and from being a quiet unobtrusive member he rose by degrees

to the position of W.M. elect. He was but a young man to take charge of so large a lodge, but with the assistance of the P.M.'s, he should get on well. He could inform the brethren that he should appoint his officers in rotation, so that they would all know what to expect. With a new lodge room they would be very comfortable, and he was glad that his year of office would be inaugurated under such promise of personal comfort. Anderton's Hotel was the old home of the Domatic Lodge, and the brethren would not like to leave it. Bro. Clemow had consulted their comforts, and he should look forward to his year of office as a very prosperous and happy one. P.M.'s Willing, Foulger, Walford, Ferguson, Kent, Everett, and Treadwell replied to the toast of "The P.M.'s," and Bro. Everett thanked the brethren for electing him Treasurer. Bro. Walter Joyce, Lawrence, Stiles, Brooks, Gilliam, and Baker, replied to the toast of the "The Visitors," after which Bros. Everett and Foxcroft responded to the toast of "Treasurer and Secretary." The brethren then drank the Tyler's toast and separated.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, the 18th ult. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. J. Douglass, assisted by Bros. T. A. Adams, P.G.P.; R. T. Kingham, I.P.M.; C. J. Scales, S.W.; W. Side, J.W.; J. Willing, P.M., Treas.; W. M. Stiles, Sec.; H. Stiles, I.G.; G. Clarke, D.C.; H. Lovegrove, W.S. and Asst. Sec.; Brumnel, Steward; Daly, Tyler; H. Clark, F. Perks, Edmonds, Tuck, Hatch, Beattie, Gilbert, jun., Cruikshanks, J. Van Camp, E. Van Camp, Tombe, W. B. Clarke, Fortescue, Brooker, H. Dimsdale, F. Dimsdale, Barton, and others, making in all fifty members of the lodge present. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Bros. A. Mellon, J. Mackie, L. Hollingsworth, and D. Morgan having been entrusted, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons. Bros. G. W. Pauley, C. Sheath, A. J. Thompson, and F. H. Parker were passed to the Second Degree, and after ballot Mr. John Clarkson was duly initiated into the mysteries of Masonry. It was announced that Bro. Kingham, I.P.M., and the W.M. had undertaken the office of Stewards at the forthcoming festivals of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, respectively, and a sum was voted to head each list. After the transaction of some routine business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet provided in Bro. Clemow's best style. The usual toasts were given and ably responded to, the W.M. gracefully alluding to the bereavement of Her Majesty the Queen. The visitors, Bros. Thompson, 1695; Carter, 1662; Spiller, 217; Jacobs, 1732; Hollidge, 1602; Pearce, 890; and others, who expressed themselves highly pleased with their visit to the lodge.

SAVOY LODGE (No. 1744).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 24th ult., at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden. Bro. James Willing, jun., W.M., presided; Bros. Sillis, as S.W.; F. H. Clemow, J.W.; W.M. Stiles, Sec.; Augustus Holt, Stwd.; F. W. Stiles, James C. Smith, Robt. C. Read, J. H. Bennett, H. Lloyd, J. H. Vaughan, M. Zumpf, Hyland; and visitors: Bros. Henry Stiles, S.D. 1732; B. Kauffmann, 1732; J. Cherry, 19; F. W. Lyon, 19; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*); were also present. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bros. J. H. Bennett, J. C. Smith, J. B. Vaughan, and M. Zumpf were raised to the Third Degree. Bro. Tomkins was passed to the Second Degree. Lieut. W. R. A. Cole, of Manchee House, South Tottenham, was initiated in Freemasonry. The day on which the lodge met being Christmas Eve, it was expected that scarcely sufficient brethren would be got together to form a lodge; the attendance, however, was very good. The brethren did not banquet, but separated immediately after the work was concluded with the usual seasonable greetings.

CRICHTON LODGE (No. 1641).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday week at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Bro. Andrew Middlemass, W.M., presiding. The following visitors were present at the meeting:—Bros. M. S. Larham, P.M. 1216; Edward Priest, Org. 152; P. Rose, P.M. 73, 1622; R. Isaacson, P.M. 104; Peter Parsons, P.M. 749; Robt. Turner, P.M. 795; H. Stephens, W.M. 754; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; A. Thomas, jun., W.M. 1446; W. Ough, P.G.P.; John Alexandria, Alfred Allworth, P.M. 1261, 1622; P. G. H. Griffin, 1395; J. H. Hill, 1604; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C.; Thomas W. Bone, W.M. 1185; Charles Wilson, 1329; Thomas Edmonston, 1658; H. Hammond, 1216; J. M. Harrap, 1420; H. C. Reeves, 1381; H. Clemence, 749; Robt. Johnson, 1649; Thomas Cull, 1446; Edward Clarke, P.M. 134; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*). Bro. Andrew John Murray having been admitted as a joining member of the lodge, Bro. Middlemass proceeded with the installation of Bro. Thomas Griffiths, S.W., and W.M. elect. This was the first time that Bro. Middlemass had performed the ceremony, and the execution of his work deserved as much praise as his performance of the other Craft ceremonies, of which he is known to be a skilled Master. After the installation the following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. Andrew Middlemass, I.P.M.; Thomas Gardiner, S.W.; Robert James Voisey, J.W.; D. D. Mercer, Treasurer; Thomas Weeks, Secretary; S. H. Goldschmidt, S.D.; Thomas Edmund Heller, J.D.; Percival A. Nairne, P.M., D.C.; David Mercer, I.G.; Arthur N. L. Byrne and William H. Baker, Stewards; and Robt. Harrison, Tyler. Bro. Middlemass then delivered the address, after which the W.M. initiated Mr. John Fredric Adams and William Pink in Freemasonry, performing his work in excellent style, and being ably supported by the newly appointed officers. The next ceremony was the presentation to Bro. Middlemass

of a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, and the W.M. in making the presentation paid a very high compliment to Bro. Middlemass for his ruling of the lodge during the past year. His remarks met with frequent interruptions of approval, as it is universally admitted in the Crichton Lodge that Bro. Middlemass has won the esteem and affection of all the brethren, both by his amiability and his good working. Bro. Middlemass made an excellent reply, in acknowledging the gift, to the kind observations of the W.M. and good feelings of the brethren. On the motion of Bro. Middlemass, seconded by the W.M., the brethren afterwards passed the following resolution unanimously, "That the brethren, deeply sympathising with the bereaved widow and children of the late Bro. J. H. Salter, of the Sphinx Lodge, do resolve to vote the sum of five guineas to the fund for their assistance, and that the votes of this lodge be given for the election of Arthur Salter to the Boys' School." Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a bountiful banquet, supplied with much taste and discrimination by Bro. Oliver, jun. The usual toasts followed. The W.M., in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," said that at the present time the brethren would deeply sympathise with Her Majesty on the sad occurrence of that day week. When such circumstances arose Freemasons cordially joined in the sorrow of their Queen, and felt her grief. The toast was followed by a muffled fire. In proposing the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," the W.M. said that Shakespeare evidently must have been a Freemason, or he could not have used those words in Henry IV.—"The immediate Heir of England, the hope and expectation of our time, it is the Prince of Wales." "Of our time;" by that he presumed Shakespeare must have meant the time of Masons. He was their hope and their expectation, as he had been in times gone by. After alluding to the resignation of the Grand Mastership by the Marquis of Ripon, he said the Prince of Wales's acceptance of the office was hailed with enthusiasm by Freemasons. He was now suffering under a deep calamity in the loss of his beloved sister, who endeared herself to him by her devotion in nursing him when he was on the point of death. Bro. W. Ough, P.G.P., and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., replied to the toast of "Lord Carnarvon, Lord Skelmeisdale, and the rest of the Grand Officers." Bro. Middlemass, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said the toasts of the Queen and the M.W.G.M. were; undoubtedly very important toasts; the Queen and the Prince of Wales were very important persons in their way, but their health was looked after several times a week; whereas, the principal person in Masonry, the Master of the Crichton Lodge, had very few opportunities to have his health well drunk and his prosperity well assured. He did not wish to be at all disrespectful to the eminent persons whose names he had mentioned, and who had been so eloquently represented by the two brethren who had preceded him, but he wished to inform them that they had given the chronicles of very small beer to what he was going to say. They had had to speak of eminent persons, whose merits were well known; but he had to speak of an eminent person, whose merits were only beginning to be well known, and who this time twelve months would show that he was equally worthy to have those merits proclaimed to the world at large. Most of the brethren knew the W.M. as he (Bro. Middlemass) did, and those who had become more recently acquainted with him, would not be sorry to learn that the more they knew the better they would like him. He (Bro. Middlemass), had had many occasions of seeing him, and the W.M. had occasionally blown him up and he had blown up the W.M., in the most Masonic way; but they had always separated with the greatest respect for each other. He believed the W.M. would conduct himself in the ensuing year in a way which would certainly secure the brethren's approbation; he not only believed it, but he was certain of it, and, therefore, was going to ask the brethren at the commencement of the W.M.'s troubles to drink his health. It was no light trouble to be the Master of a lodge; but even in the lightness of the troubles of the W.M. of the Crichton Lodge it was no small anxiety to keep all things straight. He would recommend the W.M. to do as he (Bro. Middlemass) had done—let everybody have his own way, and let every man cultivate a good opinion of himself. He had found that a capital specific. He had never for a moment affected to have a difference of opinion with the members of the Crichton Lodge, and it was marvellous to witness the unanimity with which they came to agree with him. If the W.M. did the same he would come out of his year of office with ten times the credit that he (Bro. Middlemass) had, and whether he did or not the brethren would now take him on faith, and drink his very good health. The W.M., in reply, said that while it was confessedly always difficult to respond to the toast of one's health, it was more especially difficult to him on this occasion, because when he entered Masonry he did not think he should ever become the occupant of the W.M.'s chair. It had pleased the brethren to place him there, and they must of course take him for what he was, all in all, his qualities for good and his qualities for bad. He would endeavour to remove the latter qualities from his character as fast as he possibly could; but Masons were but mortal, and although they might feel actuated by the kindest Masonic spirit, yet there might at times be something a Mason might have to regret. He did not know that he could charge his conscience with an unmasonic act in his Masonic life, and he never should be able to do so. If he only filled that chair with the same ability as the I.P.M. he should be satisfied. His ideas of Masonic working were that every Master should be able to go through the ceremonies in a decent manner, and if he could do so, he should. But there was something else underlying this—A Master should impress on the brethren the spirit of Masonry. He knew he was speaking in the presence of some brethren who had attained to higher degrees of Masonry than, perhaps, it

would ever be his fortune to attain to, but even in their presence he would say that a Master should show younger Masons the beauties of Freemasonry as exemplified in the dealings of Masons outside the lodges. It had been his lot, young Mason though he was, to meet men in Masonry that made him wonder how they got there. A W.M. ought to be very guarded in respect to whom he initiated. That evening he had initiated two gentlemen into Masonry, but he must tell the brethren it depended on every Mason, acting in his individual capacity, whether Masonry should be an honoured institution. It was no use to come to a Masonic lodge, it was no use for him as W.M. to go through the ceremonies, it was no use for the officers to perform their duties properly, unless the brethren went outside the lodge and enunciated and practised the teachings they had received therein. It might be that they would find men who did not come up to the brethren's standard of Masonry, but they should remember that they were to view a brother's failings with the greatest amount of charity they could put upon them, and give the most favourable constructions they possibly could. He only hoped that when his year of office ended he should have the good feelings of all the members of the Crichton Lodge. It should not be his fault, or from any want of striving to earn their good will, if he failed. He knew that men did fail to secure the ends for which they strove; however, one could but aim high, and if at the end of his year he went out of the W.M.'s chair with the good wishes of the brethren he would have the satisfaction of knowing that, at least, he had striven to do his duty. The W.M. next gave "The Initiates," to which Bro. Adams and Bro. Pink replied. The W.M. then proposed "The Installing Master," whose influence on the lodge he trusted would have its effect in causing his successor to follow in his footsteps. He also hoped the ceremony of that evening would leave its mark upon his (Bro. Griffiths') mind. Bro. Middlemass responded and said, there was a good old Scotch maxim, "Claw me, and I'll claw you." That was the case with the Masters and Past Masters of lodges. He had flattered himself that he should hear no more about the I.P.M. When he heard the W.M. speak of him in the lodge as he did, he thought he should have dropped on the floor. He was very deeply indebted to the brethren, very much more than they were indebted to him. He had said it before, and he should never cease to say so. Some time after the lodge commenced it appeared to him that there were two careers before it: one was to make Masons from among friends; the other was to devote the lodge to the practical cause of benevolence. He believed in Masonry, and he believed in Masons being men whose hands were guided by justice and whose hearts were expanded by benevolence. Not to indulge in vain boastings, this lodge had completed two years of existence, and in that time it had devoted a hundred guineas to the cause of charity. He had the honour of going up as Steward at the Boys' School festival and carrying with him forty guineas. He had also the honour as Master to go up to the Girls' School with fifty guineas, and they had devoted to the sustentance of widows and orphans of members the sum of ten guineas. That spoke much more for the lodge than anything that could be said of its interior arrangements or the number of its members. He hoped that as they had begun so they would go on to the end, and whatever deficiencies might be discovered in the Crichton Lodge, its deficiencies would never be that its members had been backward in the cause of benevolence. He was going to make an appeal to them on behalf of a very intelligent little boy, Salter. The good and true work of the late Bro. John Hall Salter had placed the people of Bermondsey under great obligations to him. The brethren knew how completely he showed himself the friend and benefactor of education. On his dying bed, and with his dying breath, he said, "Perhaps my brother Masons will get Arthur into the Boys' School." Now this Arthur was a remarkable boy. Give him the means of a good education, and he (Bro. Middlemass) did not hesitate to say that under the good providence of the G.A.O.T.U. he would rise to eminence in the world. When he went before the General Committee of the Boys' School that day fortnight, attended by Bro. Mercer, he astonished the brethren on the committee by his accurate reading. The brethren who were present were not numerous but they were certainly critical. The boy was passed. He was a lad of extreme intelligence, and he would ask the brethren to support his candidature. They must elect him in April. That was something practical they had before them. He (Bro. Middlemass) was quite aware of his shortcomings in the lodge, and he repeated now that he never felt timid with regard to what a Master should do except when he was in the chair. When he came to the sticking point, like Bob Acres, his courage oozed out at his fingers' ends. The brethren of the lodge were not like his colleagues in the Camberwell vestry, and he could not bore them. The brethren did not need to be bored, because they were much more intelligent than the vestrymen. The parochial intellect was somewhat dense; the Crichton intellect was somewhat bright. Thanking the brethren again for their kindness, he had no doubt that the present W.M. would fill the chair very much better than he (Bro. Middlemass) had filled it, and when he came to the end of his year he would most probably have the same signs of the brethren's deep and lasting kindness shown to him by the members of the lodge. He would ask the brethren to sustain the W.M. in his position by the same kindness and forbearance as they had always shown towards their late Master; then he would have a happy and successful year. Bro. Edward Clarke, P.M. 134, replied to the toast of "The P.M.'s." Bro. Nairne, he said, was distinguished for the excellence of his work, and for the amazing service he had rendered to different lodges, by the instruction he had given to those who had come on in office. He (Bro. Clarke) would have been

very well content to have been sheltered under Bro. Nairne's experience, and to have heard him respond for the P.M.'s. He hoped it would not be expected of him, at the close of a very fatiguing term, when he was somewhat exhausted by the work of the last few weeks, to say very much on behalf of Masonry. It was sufficient to say of P.M.'s, there as elsewhere, that they had worked through the different stages of Masonic honour, that they had in their way attempted to discharge the high duties of Master of a lodge, and Bro. Middlemass had spoken in not too high terms of the responsibility that fell upon every one who assumed for twelve months the government of a lodge. He (Bro. Clarke) was sure that every Master when he went into the chair felt that it was a precious possession that was entrusted to him in the reputation and the work of a lodge; and he (Bro. Clarke) confessed to a feeling of very great relief, when he had passed from the active duties of the Mastership of the Caledonian Lodge, and took his place in that quieter ground where he was only occasionally called upon to assist younger brethren. He hoped it might be said of those Past Masters who were now standing in response to this toast, and that it might hereafter be said of all the brethren present when they had passed through the chair, that they worthily upheld the highest traditions of Freemasonry. These social gatherings, although they helped to keep Freemasons together, and although they afforded many pretexts for the cultivation of that personal friendship and good will, which was one of the happiest aspects of Masonic life, still they did not constitute the principal object and duty of Freemasons. It was, in his belief, more and more essential that the true meaning of Freemasonry should be learned by and shown in the practice of Freemasons. As time went on, as men were gathered together, in the large assemblies of great towns especially, there was some difficulty in keeping alive the bonds of personal friendship. The residents of the neighbourhood were not sufficient, the connection of men of the same profession was a connection which was apt to degenerate into cliquishness and exclusiveness; and it was in the highest degree desirable that there should be some bond, which, having a good and true meaning for its object, should link together men of different professions, of different neighbourhoods, of different classes, in one common association for objects of good, which were common objects to all; and that was found in Freemasonry. They had been reminded that evening of the labour which this young lodge had already done in the cause of charity; they had had pointed out to them in a way which he hoped would affect the members of this Lodge, a special and particular duty which lay for discharge upon the friends and members of the Crichton Lodge at this time. There could be no better work in Masonry than such work as Bro. Middlemass had pointed out to be done in the next few weeks by the members of the Crichton Lodge. In conclusion, Bro. Clarke thanked the W.M. and brethren for the toast, and stated that the P.M.'s were always ready to give their assistance to younger brethren. Bro. Thomas and Bro. P. A. Nairne also replied, and the remaining toasts were afterwards given and the brethren separated.

CHELTHENHAM.—Foundation Lodge (No. 82).—The annual installation meeting of this old and popular lodge was held on Friday, the 27th ult. (St. John the Evangelist), when there was a large gathering of members and visitors. The W.M., Bro. John Bubb, opened his lodge at 5.30, and after the minutes of the last lodge had been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when a brother was duly passed. The chair was then assumed by the Installing Master, Bro. Henry Godfrey, P.M., Prov. G.S.W., who, in the most able and impressive manner, installed according to ancient custom, Bro. W. Anslow Sole, the W.M. elect, into the chair of K.S., and who was afterwards proclaimed in the Three Degrees. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Dr. Julius Maier, S.W.; the Baron de Ferrieres, J.W.; Colonel Basevi, Sec.; Frederick Ticehurst, S.D.; John Pearson, J.D.; E. Dyer, I.G.; Rev. C. R. N. Lyne, Chaplain; and S. Green, Treas. Upon the proclamations being made by the W.M., he referred to the very able, efficient, and impressive manner in which the installation ceremony had been performed by Bro. Godfrey, and concluded by proposing a resolution "That the best thanks of the lodge be accordingly presented to him," which having been seconded by the I.P.M., Bro. Bubb, was carried unanimously. The W.M. then closed his lodge in due form and with solemn prayer, after which the brethren proceeded to the large banquetting-room, where the banquet was subsequently served. The newly-installed Master, Bro. Sole, presided, and was well supported by a large and important muster of P.M.'s and Provincial and Past Provincial Grand Officers, of which the Foundation Lodge has many upon its roll of members. The W.M. in proposing the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" as also "The M.W.G.M. the Prince of Wales" referred in feeling terms to the great loss Her Majesty, our M.W.G.M., and in fact the whole country, had sustained in the death of the Princess Alice, and observed that as Masons he was sure we all mourned with our Sovereign and our M.W.G.M. in their bereavement. In giving "The Health of the Installing Master" the W.M. referred to the eminent services that had been rendered to the Foundation Lodge by Bro. Godfrey, in his great desire to bring its working as nearly as possible up to the high standard of the Emulation Lodge, in that endeavour sparing himself no trouble or expense. He also referred to the tribute of praise awarded to him by the R.W. Prov. G.M., who, when visiting the lodge during the Mastership of Bro. Godfrey, incidentally stated that he had been much gratified by the way the ceremony of "raising" had been performed, the work being as he considered as nearly correct as it could be. Bro. Godfrey having suitably responded, and thanked the brethren, the I.P.M., Bro. Bubb, then proposed "The Newly-

Installed W.M." who in responding mentioned that it was exactly seven years since he was initiated into Masonry, and that the then I.P.M., Bro. Bubb, was being passed to the Second Degree. That from that time, when filling each office successively in the lodge, he had always been immediately preceded by him, and that any success he may have attained in Freemasonry he could not but attribute in a great measure to the influence of that which he might term his guiding star preceding him. The other usual toasts followed, and the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner. Amongst the visitors and members of the Foundation Lodge present were:—Bros. Geo. Atkins, P.M.; J. B. Winterbotham, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; W. H. Gwinnett, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; E. W. Godfrey, Captain Nelson Foster, C. F. Gale, W. R. Porcher, P.M.; Rev. H. E. Bayly, P.M. P.P.G.C.; Captain Owen Lloyd, John Walker, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; H. Willmott, (Mayor of Cheltenham), General Money, P.M.; J. B. Battan, P.M.; J. Brook-Smith, P.M., Prov. G. Treasurer; R. J. Mitford, J. A. Matthews, H. d'Autier, Sir Brook Kay, Bart., L. Wirterbotham, P.M., P.P.G.Reg.; E. Williams, P.M.; R. J. Ticehurst, P.M.; T. F. Stoney, No. 246; T. Taynton, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., No. 839; W. H. Bruton, P.M. No. 839; A. W. Wheeler, No. 839; A. Lewis, No. 246; W. H. Bloxome, P.M. No. 318; J. Balcomb, P.M., No. 246; J. L. Butler, No. 246; J. H. H. Howard, P.M. No. 246, P.P.G.J.W.; Rev. W. Boyce, No. 97; G. Norman, No. 246; E. J. Bryant, W.M., 246, P.G.S.B.; R. B. Lewis W.M. No. 339.

SUNDERLAND.—Palatine Lodge (No. 97).—On Thursday, the 12th ult., the installation of Brother Thomas Millican Watson, W.M. elect, took place at the Masonic Hall, Park-terrace. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by the W.M. Bro. Taylorson Sharp, and the minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, Mr. William Vincent was unanimously elected by ballot, and initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M. Bro. T. M. Watson was then duly installed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Thomas Twizell, P.M., in a most eloquent and impressive manner, in the presence of about twenty Masters and Past-Masters. The newly-installed W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. T. Sharp, I.P.M.; Henry Tonkinson, S.W.; J. H. Leech, J.W.; T. Twizell, P.M., Treasurer; G. C. Watson, Hon. Secretary; T. E. Hall, S.D.; C. MacNamara, J.D.; J. J. Clay, P.M., D. of C.; George Tawse, I.G.; Robert Fairclough, S.S.; John Deans, J.S.; H. Fryer and A. F. Amundsen, Auditors; and John Thompson, Tyler. The lodge was then closed by the W.M. in the usual manner, and the brethren, numbering about forty, adjourned to the Queen's Hotel and partook of a sumptuous banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and responded to, "The Health of the newly-installed W.M." was proposed by Bro. T. Sharpe, I.P.M., and responded to in a feeling manner. Other toasts followed, amongst which was "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. Robert Hudson, Prov. Grand Dir. of Cer., in which he made an earnest appeal on behalf of those Benevolent Institutions. A most enjoyable evening was spent, enlivened by some excellent singing by several of the brethren.

BRIDGWATER.—Lodge of Perpetual Friendship, (No. 135).—The annual festival of this lodge took place on Friday, 27th ult., at the Royal Clarence Hotel, when the lodge was opened in due form at 1.30 p.m. The Worshipful Master elect, Bro. John Charles Small, was then re-installed W.M. for the ensuing year by the V.W.D.P.G.M. of Somerset, Bro. Richard Charles Elise. The officers for the ensuing year are: Bros. John C. Hunt, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., the I.M.; the Rev. F. Seale, P.P.G.C., S.W.; James Treiving, S.W.; J. C. Lyons, P.G.C., Chaplain; F. Shepherd, S.D.; W. L. Levy, S.D.; and J. J. Trundle, I.G. The banquet took place at 4 p.m. There were many distinguished brethren from neighbouring lodges present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

IPSWICH.—St. Luke's Lodge (No. 225).—On Wednesday, the 11th ult., the ceremony of installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year of the above lodge, was held, by kind permission of the Mayor, A. F. Nicholson, Esq., in the Council Chamber of the Ipswich Town Hall, which presented a very imposing appearance, laid out as a lodge. Bro. Thomas J. Wentworth was installed as W.M. by Bro. Joseph Whitehead, P.M. The lodge, on this occasion, was honoured by the presence and assistance of Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk, and P.G. Chaplain of England, and who met with a most cordial reception, being highly esteemed by the province. Bro. Thomas Clement Cobbold, S.D. 114, and M.P. for Ipswich, was prevented by parliamentary duties from being present. During the evening a most pleasing ceremony was very ably and feelingly performed by the Worshipful Master, in the presentation to the worthy Secretary of this lodge (Bro. A. C. Barker, P.M.), of a purse of money and a handsome watch, as a token of the great esteem he is held in, for eighteen years' services, by his brethren. There were nearly sixty members and guests present. The banquet was held in the Golden Lion Hotel, and was a great success; in fact, St. Luke's Lodge now stands first in the province of Suffolk, numerically, and is in a most flourishing condition. Amongst the brethren present were noticed:—Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, D.P.G.M. of Suffolk and P.G.C. of England; Rev. R. S. Sanderson, P.M. 956; Dr. W. P. Mills, P.M. 376; Dr. J. H. Staddon, P.M. 376; N. Tracey, P.M. 376; H. Miller, P.M. 114; W. Bobby, P.M. 114; H. Casley, W.M. 114; Churchyard, W.M. 376; W. B. Jeffries, W.M. elect 376; J. B. Fraser, P.M. 376; W. T. Westgate, P.M. 225; P. Whitehead, I.P.M. 225; A. C. Barber, Secretary 225; W. Daking, P.M. 225; W. G. Coumold, S.W. 225; Napier, J.W. 225; J. Talbot, S.D.

225; Geo. Abbot, J.D. 225; Daniels, I.G. 225; Cade, P.M. 225; T. Noble, P.M. 225; T. J. Wentworth, W.M. 225; and many others. The evening will long be remembered as a red letter one by the lodge generally. At a special lodge held on the 20th ult., of St. Lukes, No. 225; the W.M. Bro. T. J. Wentworth, was instructed to forward on behalf of the lodge, a vote of condolence to Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the lamented death of the Princess Alice, per the Home Secretary.

YORK.—York Lodge (No. 236).—The annual festival of St. John the Evangelist was celebrated by this lodge on Friday, the 27th ult., by the annual banquet in the Masonic Hall. An excellent menu was provided by Bro. J. Toes, of the De Grey Rooms, York, and there was an unusually good muster of the brethren. Bro. A. Buckle, the W.M., presided, and the vice-chairs were occupied by Bros. G. Balmford, P.M., P.P.G.O., and M. Rooke, J.D., both Wardens being absent through indisposition. Amongst those present we also noticed Bros. R. W. Hollon, P.M.; Sir James Meek, P.M.; W. D. Husband, P.M.; J. Todd, P.M.; F. Rawling, P.M.; W. Valentine, I.P.M.; T. B. Whythead, P.M.; Geo. Kirby, Sec.; T. S. Camidge, P.P.G.O., Org.; W. Powell, M.C.; T. G. Hodgson, and W. H. Sampson, Stewards; J. Redfan, Tyler; M. Varvill, E. Oates, J. Ward, P.G.P.; A. Hanson, G. Eastwood, E. J. Inman, J. Welburn, S. Border, T. J. Russell, J. S. Rymer, P. Matthews, W. McKay, J. Young, T. Sanderson, H. Aitken, G. Sellar, C. W. Simmons, H. Churchhill, J. Stead, J. Smith, W. Smith, T. S. Brogden, E. Houlden, J. Terry; and amongst the visitors, Bros. J. Hanly, W.M. elect St. Patrick's Lodge, 295 (I.C.); W. Harris, J. Shaw, W. Flint, J. H. Pedley, 295; J. A. White, J. Camidge, 294, Prov. G. Org.; T. Mills Richey, 199; T. Myers, 1605; J. S. Cumberland, W.M. 1611; J. M. Meek W.M. 1379; M. Millington, T. Humphries, J. Blenkin, Wm. Hill, and A. T. B. Turner, Eboracum, 1611. The W.M. gave in pleasing terms the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Pro. Grand Master and Grand Lodge," the latter being responded to by Bro. R. W. Hollon, P.P.G.S.B. England. The W.M. then gave "The Prov. Grand Master the Earl of Zetland" and "The Prov. Grand Lodge," responded to by Bro. J. Todd, Prov. G. Reg. "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" was replied to by Bro. Capt. Hanly, (4th Dragoon Guards) and Bro. Capt. W. P. Husband, (1st West York Rifles). Bro. Sir James Meek P.P.S.G.W. gave "The Health of the W.M.," and in his reply the W.M. asked the brethren to join him in drinking prosperity to the York Lodge from the silver Loving Cup, subscribed for by the brethren last year, the centenary year of the lodge, and this handsome cup was accordingly passed round the tables. Bro. Alderman Terry proposed "The Health of the Past Masters of the Lodge," which was responded to by Bro. the Rev. W. Valentine, P.P.G. Chap., Bro. T. B. Whythead, Prov. G.D.C., gave "The Lodges of the Province," to which Bro. J. S. Cumberland, W.M. 1611, responded; Bro. W. D. Husband, P.P.G.W. gave "The Visitors," and Bro. J. M. Meek, W.M., 1379, replied, "The Masonic Charities" was given by the W.M., and "The Officers of the Lodge" by Bro. Councillor Rymer, and replied to by Bro. G. Kirby, Sec., and the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant and harmonious evening to a close.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, Lancaster, on the 11th ult., under the presidency of Bro. J. Jowett, W.M. There was a good attendance of brethren. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, with the following results:—For W.M., Bro. Edward Cordwell; for Treasurer, Bro. James Hatch P.M. (re-elected); for Tyler, Bro. A. K. Allinson (re-elected); for Auditors, Bros. Gregson, Bayley, and Johnson. The installation meeting was fixed for the 27th ult., after which the usual proclamation was made, and the lodge closed in peace, love, and harmony.

BEDFORD.—Stuart Lodge, (No. 540).—During the more than thirty years that this lodge has been founded, amongst all its important gatherings, no work has ever been done within it so interesting as that which was so well carried out on Wednesday, Dec. 18th, the occasion of the initiation into Masonry of Mr. William Dugald Stuart, a Lieutenant in the 18th Beds. Light Infantry Militia, of which his father, Colonel William Stuart, of Tempsford Hall, is Honorary Colonel. Colonel Stuart is, himself, a Past Master of the Lodge, which was founded by and named after his father and uncle, the late Bros. William Stuart, of Aldenham Abbey, and Henry Stuart, of Kempston. Mr. William Dugald Stuart, who is thus the grandson and great nephew of the founder of the lodge that bears his honoured name, is a minor, but being a Lewis, obtained the dispensation of the M.W. the Grand Master. Many members of the lodge and visitors assembled to assist in the ceremony, many, too sending letters of regret at their enforced absence. The lodge was opened at 4 p.m. by the recently installed W.M. Captain Colborne, who worked remarkably well, as did his officers, Bros. Coombes, S.W.; Thody, J.W.; Rev. Canon Breerton, R.D., Chap.; Dr. Prior (P.M.), Sec. Sergeant (P.M.), Treasurer; Alderman Bull, J.P. (P.M.), Steward; Carter, S.D.; Stafford, J.D.; Capt. Verey, I.G.; Piper, Organist; and Reynolds, Tyler. There were also present:—P.M.'s Bros. Colonel Stuart, Cuthbert, Captain Nash, Whyly, Captain Green, Billson, and Lester; and Bros. Thompson, Warren, Pick, Forster, Kilpin, Roberts, Alexander, Jarvis, Bosanquet, Page, &c. Whilst amongst the visitors were Bros. Barfield, P.M., Zetland, 511, and W.M. elect of Medina Lodge, Cowes, 35; Lieutenant Higgins, St. Aubyn, Devonport, 954; and Tudball, I.P.M., Truth, Bombay, 944. After the minutes had been read and confirmed Bro. Bosan-

quet was duly passed by the W.M. to the Second Degree The Secretary then read the dispensation of the M.W. Grand Master, upon which a ballot was taken for Mr. Stuart, which proved unanimous. The candidate's father, Col. Stuart, then took the chair, and duly initiated his son into the mysteries of the Craft. Lodge having been closed, about thirty brethren sat down to supper, and during the toasts that followed, the W.M. most feelingly alluded to the recent sad bereavement experienced by the Queen and Prince of Wales by the death of the Princess Alice. Of course no singing took place. Before the close of the evening, as is usual on nights of initiation, a collection was made for the Masonic Charities, and thus was brought to an end an evening ever to be remembered and looked back upon by the members of this deservedly honoured lodge. It is almost superfluous to add that the arduous duties of the Steward were carried out, as usual, heartily and excellently.

OPENSHA W.—Lodge of Faith (No. 581.—On Wednesday, the 18th ult., the members of this lodge met to celebrate the festival of St. John, and install the W.M. elect, Bro. John Bedford, S.W. At 3-15 o'clock, Bro. Henry Darbyshire, I.P.M., in the absence of the W.M., opened the lodge in the First Degree. The minutes of the last regular meeting were then read and unanimously confirmed, the lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M. elect was presented to Bro. John Parker, P.M., Installing Master, by Bro. Henry Darbyshire, I.P.M. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with in a very able manner, to the great delight of a number of the visiting P.M.'s. The Board of Installed Masters was then closed, and all Master Masons being admitted, the Installing Master for the first time, and in the East, declared Bro. John Bedford duly installed into the chair of K.S. The lodge was closed in the Third Degree, and all F.C.'s admitted, when the Installing Master again made the usual declaration from the W., and by virtue of the power invested in him, declared the F.C. Lodge closed and open in the First Degree, and from the South again made the usual declaration. Bro. T. Tyers, P.M., presented the working tools in each degree, Bro. J. T. Richardson gave the address to the W.M. in a very eloquent style, and the address to the Wardens and Brethren was given by Bro. John Parker, P.M., Installing Master. The following brethren were then duly invested, Bro. J. Greenup, as S.W.; F. Hickson, as J.W., by the Installing Master, and the remaining officers were invested with the collars and jewels of their respective offices by Bro. Henry Darbyshire, I.P.M., viz., Bros. T. Walker, as S.D.; W. H. Brougham, J.D.; John Parker, P.M., Installing Master, as Treas.; Lee Speakman, as Sec.; T. Tyers, P.M., as D.C.; J. M. Johnson, as I.G.; C. Beswick (for the ninth time), as Tyler; W. Swift, J. Swift, and J. Bosustow, as Stwds.; Pettitt, as Org.; and Walter Mabon, as Std. Br. In investing the Standard Bearer, Bro. Darbyshire congratulated the W.M. on his having appointed Bro. Mabon to that office, for several reasons, some of which were, that Bro. Mabon being a fine, handsome fellow and a good brother, and having a beautiful banner (presented to the lodge by a lady) he would be able to lead the processions with splendour and dignity, and shed lustre to the proceedings. The office was gratefully accepted by Bro. Mabon. The installation ceremony was brought to a close by Bro. Darbyshire repeating the prayer. The Installing Master then called upon Bro. H. Darbyshire to make a presentation to Bro. Lee Speakman, Secretary, which consisted of a very handsome gold jewel, on which was neatly engraved, "Presented to Bro. Lee Speakman, Hon. Sec. to the Lodge of Faith, No. 581, by the W.M. and brethren, as a token of respect and with feelings of gratitude for the very able manner in which he had discharged his duties for the past three years; December 18th, 1878." Bro. Darbyshire, P.M., said: Dear Bro. Speakman, it is with feelings of very great joy that I, in the name of the W.M. and brethren, place this jewel on your breast, we feel that the very able manner in which you have always performed your duties is deserving of some tangible mark of esteem, and we feel that this jewel will be prized by you, your dear wife and family, not for its intrinsic value, but from the fact that it has been presented by the brethren generally as a mark of their personal esteem, dear Bro. Speakman, I am instructed by the P.M.'s, and the brethren to say that we are heartily proud of you, and we consider that the Faith Lodge has now a Secretary second to none in the province, nay even the Grand Lodge. It is a source of great satisfaction to the lodge to hear from the Auditors that your books are patterns of good order and regularity, and personally I hope you may long be spared to fill that office, and that your domestic happiness may increase in the sincere wish of every member of the Faith Lodge. Bro. Speakman simply bowed his acknowledgement, it being apparent that his feelings were such he could not give utterance to more words than, W.M. and brethren I thank you. The banquet was prepared for 6 p.m., and the tables presented a very beautiful sight by a floral decoration arranged and very kindly lent by Bro. J. C. Brown. The catering of Bro. Aldred, the host, was of a very satisfactory character, and the wines supplied of the first vintage. After the banquet the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given, and in a very feeling manner the W.M. referred to the sad loss their Grand Master and the Royal Family had sustained in having removed from their number a daughter, the fairest of all, a sister the most affectionate, a mother the most loving and endearing, and a wife a pattern for the world. He hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe would visit and console the Royal Family in the hour of their affliction, and would cause our Grand Master to feel that his great loss would be his dear sister's eternal gain. At 10.30 the most enjoyable meeting in the history of the Lodge of Faith was brought to a close, and the brethren took their seats in an omnibus (which is always pro-

vided) and proceeded to Manchester, in its route dropping the brethren in their respective districts.

SHEFFIELD.—Wentworth Lodge (No. 1239).—The annual festival of this well-known lodge was held on the 2nd inst., when Bro. W. R. Thomas, M.D., installed his successor, Bro. John Clarke, in a very able manner. The new appointments were as follows:—Bros. Dr. W. R. Thomas, I.P.M.; Chas. Hill, S.W.; J. E. Darling, J.W.; H. J. Garnett, Treas.; J. Broadhead, S.D.; H. Nixon, J.D.; Bennett, P.M., M.C.; T. Blair, I.G.; Unwin and Hewitt, Stewards; Leighton, Tyler. Amongst those present, in addition to the foregoing, we noticed Bros. Wostenholm, Scargill, Tindall, White, and S. B. Ellis, P.M.'s 1239; Hay, P.M. 139, W.M. 1779; Drury, P.M. 296; Nicholson, W.M. 296; Schott, W.M. elect 296; Webster, W.M. 139; Bromley, W.M. elect 139; Roome, W.M. 904; Harvey, S.W. 904, Prov. G. Orgt.; Gamble, of Grantham; W. H. Brittain, P.M., &c. (the Master Cutler of Hallamshire); S. H. Gatty, S.W. 1779; and many others. The business of the lodge being over, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was also a great success. For several years Wentworth Lodge has been noted for its menu cards; this time it was in the antique style (Chaucerian English), and gave great satisfaction, a copy of which will be found in another column. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. Bro. Thomas, the outgoing Master, received well deserved encomiums for the ability with which he had rendered all the ceremonies during the past year, and Bro. Clark, the W.M. was warmly congratulated and well supported on his accession to the chair of K.S.; and taking this meeting as a criterion we feel certain that the Wentworth Lodge has another bright, prosperous, and happy year before it under Bro. Clark's genial rule, indeed of this we are assured for all who know our Bro. Clark have found in him the right material of which W.M.'s are made, and that is suavitier in modo happily blended with the fortiter in re. We take this opportunity of personally congratulating Bro. Clark on this, the first time that he has presided over his mother lodge, and more particularly so as it meets in the beautiful Masonic Hall, of which he was the architect. Of this, his handiwork, he may well feel proud, for the lodge and banqueting-rooms are "perfection," both from Masonic and acoustic points of view.

LEWES.—Pelham Lodge (No. 1303).—On Friday, the 27th ult., the R. W. Provincial Grand Master of Sussex (Sir Walter W. Burrell Bart., M.P.), paid an official visit to Pelham Lodge, most of his Provincial Grand Officers being in attendance. Bro. W. W. Turner, P.M., was the acting Master, and very efficiently discharged his duties. In response to a vote of thanks for his attendance, the Prov. G. M. expressed the great pleasure which his visit had afforded, and in seeing the admirable working on the occasion. The visitors included Bro. J. H. Scott, Deputy Prov. G. Master; Bro. W. Sergison, Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. J. St. Clair, Prov. J.G.W.; Bro. Rev. E. Cave-Browne-Cave, Prov. G. Chaplain; Bro. V. P. Freeman, P.G. Sec.; Bro. W. Hale, P.G.S.D.; Bro. A. King, P.G. Organist; Bro. J. Farncombe, P.G.S.B.; Bro. W. Nell, P.G.P.; Bro. C. Tomkinson, P.G.S.W.; Bro. J. M. Kidd, P.G.D.C.; Bro. F. Holford, Bro. A. J. Hawkes, Bro. Ed. Bright, and Bro. G. McWhinnie, P.G. Stewards; Bro. T. Hughes, P.G. Tyler; Bro. R. Blaker, S.D. 311; Bro. H. Davey, W.M. 732. The members of Pelham Lodge present were Bro. W. Kraeutler, W.M.; Bro. H. Hauxwell, J.W.; Bro. R. Crosskey, Treasurer; Bro. T. R. White, Sec.; Bro. F. Noakes, P.M.; Bro. W. W. Turner, P.M.; Bro. R. H. Ellman, P.M.; Bro. H. F. Mackay, P.M.; Bro. G. Stone, P.M.; Bro. J. Stedman, S.D.; Bro. H. Hall, Tyler. Refreshments were provided at the Bear Hotel, in Bro. Whitcomb's best style, for which he was deservedly complimented.

LANCASTER.—Duke of Lancaster Lodge (No. 1353).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum. Bro. Robert Wolfenden occupied the chair of K.S., supported by his respective officers, a goodly number of the Craft being present. The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. It was resolved to send an address of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen, expressing the sympathy of the members on the bereavement Her Majesty and the Royal Family have sustained in the death of the Princess Alice. The motion was proposed by the W.M. (Bro. R. Wolfendale), and seconded by the senior P.M. present (Bro. J. Bell), and supported by the I.P.M. (Bro. F. G. Dale), and adopted in solemn silence. The Organist (Bro. J. E. Ogletorpe), played "The Dead March in Saul." The lodge closed with the usual formalities.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince Arthur Lodge (No. 1570).—The brethren connected with this admirably-governed lodge assembled in their handsome Masonic Rooms, North Hill-street, Toxteth-park, on Tuesday afternoon, the 17th ult., for the purpose of assisting at the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Samuel Hikins. There was a good gathering of members and visitors, and the whole arrangements were of a most satisfactory character. At the opening of the proceedings, shortly after 3 o'clock, the chair in the East was occupied by Bro. Archibald Morrison, W.M., and amongst those present were Bros. Thomas Evans, I.P.M.; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec., P.M.; S. Hikins, S.W.; R. Roberts, J.W.; R. Webster, S.D.; W. W. Thomas, J.D.; W. P. Vines, I.G.; Thomas Walters, W. Benn, I. Turner, D. Morris, J. Webster, J. Seeley, J. Kenwright, C. Colcroft, J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; W. Pughe, W.M. 1620; E. Paull, Treasurer, 1356; J. L. Houghton, W.M. 594; J. W.

Williams, W.M. 1356; J. H. Gregory, J.W. 667; Lindo Courtenay, W.M. 1609; T. Nickson, P.M. 1356; J. T. Amson, 1393; W. Roberts, 1356; A. Woolrich, Treasurer 1609; E. George, S.D. 1356; W. Parry, 1505; J. G. Hartley, 594; T. Boswell, S.W. 594; J. B. MacKenzie, S.W. 1609. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the W.M. (Bro. Morrison) closed his year's work by performing the ceremony of initiation in a remarkably able manner. The chair of Installing Master was afterwards taken by Bro. Thomas Evans, P.M., of the Prince Arthur, whose Masonic zeal and ability are so well known in Liverpool, and in a most excellent and highly impressive manner he placed Bro. Samuel Hikins in the chair of K.S. The following were invested as the officers for the ensuing year: Bros. A. Morrison, I.P.M. Thomas Evans, P.M., Treasurer; Robert Roberts, S.W.; Henry Worthington, J.W. (by proxy); Ralph Webster, Secretary; Walter W. Thomas, S.D.; William P. Vines, J.D.; David Morris, I.G.; and Peter M. Larsen, Tyler. The brethren subsequently dined together in the lodge room, the banquet being served by Bro. W. S. Vines, P.P.G.D.C., in a manner which left literally nothing to be desired. The W.M. in giving the toast of "The Queen," said that on the recent death of the Princess Alice, which had come so unexpectedly, Her Majesty would have no more wide-spread and heartfelt sympathy exhibited amongst any of her subjects than in the body of Masonry. (Hear, hear.) While Queen and subjects alike must submit to the will of the G.A.O.T.U., Her Majesty would, doubtless, feel the consolation of having the sympathies of a loyal and loving people. The W.M. next proposed the toasts, "The M.W.G.M. Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon," and "The Right W. Dep. G.M., and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire, the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, and the Officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past." Bro. H. S. Alpass responded to the last toast, and in doing so he said that as a P.M. of the Prince Arthur Lodge he naturally took a great interest in it. He was very glad to say that they had hitherto gone on very quietly, and he was quite sure his lordship would be quite satisfied with the manner in which the W.Ms. and all their officers had invariably performed their duties. The I.P.M. gave "The Health of the W.M." in highly eulogistic terms, and the toast, received with much enthusiasm, was most suitably acknowledged by Bro. Hikins. "The I.P.M.'s" health was next on the list, and, in proposing it, the W.M. presented Bro. Morrison, the I.P.M., with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, as a token of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren during his connection with the lodge since its consecration. The toast and presentation were very feelingly acknowledged by Bro. Morrison, and the other toasts given during the evening were "The Installing Master," Bro. P.M. Evans (most cordially received), "The Officers," "The Visitors," "The Press," &c. Several capital songs were given during the pleasant evening's proceedings.

INSTRUCTION.

YORK.—Eboracum Lodge, (No. 1611).—A meeting for instruction was held on Monday evening by this lodge at the Queen's Hotel. Bro. J. S. Cumberland, the W.M., worked the First Degree ceremony, and the meeting was very interesting, several matters being discussed relative to the lodge affairs. Bro. J. Hanly, W.M. clect of the St. Patrick's Lodge, was present by special invitation. A supper followed the closing of the lodge and a social evening was passed in all harmony and good will. Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., presented to the lodge a copy of Dr. Oliver's "Twelve Lectures on Freemasonry" and some photographs of American brethren for the Lodge Album.

Mark Masonry.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—Freeman Lodge (No. 105).—This lodge held its quarterly meeting on the 12th ult., and the business on the agenda paper was to install Bro. William H. Lucia, Grand Sword Bearer of England, as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and, if elected, to advance thirteen brethren. The ballot being taken, a unanimous voting was declared for all the candidates. Past Master Bro. R. N. Sanderson, of the Victor Albert Lodge, Ipswich, assisted by P.M. Bro. T. W. Westgate, of the same lodge, then advanced the following brethren:—Bros. I. Hedley Bevan, 1008; J. T. Hassall, 1008; H. Thompson, 1008; J. D. Perrott, 1008; E. Sparke, 1502; N. Tracy, 376. The installation ceremony was performed by Past Master Bro. Thomas Poore, P.M. and Secretary 139; assisted by Bro. George Lilly, P.M. and Treasurer 139. The newly installed Master invested his officers as follows:—Bros. I. N. York, S.W.; B. Chennell, J.W.; C. T. Oakes, S.D.; E. King, J.D.; T. F. Lucia, M.O.; I. Hedley Bevan, S.O.; W. J. Nunn, J.O.; R. Thompson, I.G., Wm. Armstrong was appointed Secretary, and T. J. Huddleston, elected Treasurer. The whole of the work was admirably done, and thanks were given and recorded on the minutes to the four brethren who had so kindly made special journeys to carry out the duties of the evening. At the close of the business, the addresses were delivered to the officers and brethren by the Installing Master, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to banquet. Loyal and Masonic complimentary toasts followed, intermixed with harmony, and it was acknowledged that the evening was a most enjoyable one, not only in sociability but from the satisfaction that Mark Masonry was now firmly established in the town.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 19th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Eaglesfield-street. There were present:—Bros. J. H. Banks, W.M.; T. Maudle, I.P.M.; W. Armstrong, S.W.; P. Dodgson,

J.W.; E. G. Mitchell, M.O.; J. Quay, as S.O.; G. D. Thompson, J.O.; W. F. Lamouby, W.M. 229, Chaplain (Freemason); Jos. Nicholson, P.M. and Treasurer, a S.D.; J. Adair, Secretary; J. W. Robinson, S.O., as J.D.; J. Gardiner, P.M. as I.G.; and J. Smith, O.T. The minutes of previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the advancement of Bros. John Elliot, S.W. Lodge of Perseverance, No. 371, Maryport, and John Wilson, of the same lodge. Both ballots were unanimously clear, and Bro. Elliot, being in attendance, was duly advanced to the honourable degree of M.M.M. After the transaction of some other business the lodge was closed in harmony.

Red Cross of Constantine.

PORTSMOUTH.—Naval and Military Conclave (No. 35).—The quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on the 16th ult. The conclave was opened by Sir Kt. G. A. Green, M.P.S., at 6.30 p.m. The meeting was honoured with the attendance of Sir Kt. M. A. Bolton, M.P.S. Thanet Conclave, No. 121. The minutes of the September Conclave were adopted. Bros. E. Good, P.M. 804; A. Wendover, 1069; and G. F. Brown, 342, were balloted for and unanimously elected. Bros. Brown and G. Whitehall being present, were entrusted, admitted, installed, and proclaimed. The M.P.S. delivered the Historical Oration. The Recorder informed the members that he had received letters from Lady Williams and Mrs. Little, acknowledging their receipt of addresses of condolence from the Rec. in the name of the officers and members generally. The Sir Kts. adjourned to the George Hotel, High-street, where a banquet had been provided by Bro. Kemp, but some twenty only attended, the weather being unpropitious. The Sanctuary K.H.S. was held early in the evening, when Sir Kts. Clay, Triggs, Hall, and Health were received into this exalted Order.

Obituary.

BRO. B. HEAD, P.G.D.

We are sorry to have to record the departure from this world of a good and kind brother who was much esteemed and valued by all who knew him, Bro. Benjamin Head, who died quite peacefully at his residence 12, Earl's terrace, Kensington, on Tuesday afternoon, the 24th ult. He was interred in the grave of his late wife at Arnot's Vale, Bristol, on Monday the 30th ult. Bro. Head was born at Ipswich, September 28th, 1801, and was initiated into Freemasonry in the Doric Lodge, Woodbridge, 5th October, 1826, raised to the Third Degree 7th December, 1826, and remained a member till death. He was a Past Grand Junior Warden of Suffolk; he joined the Cornerstone Lodge, No. 37, (previous to its amalgamation with the St. George's Lodge, No. 5,) remaining a member till death, and served as Grand Steward in 1856; he joined a lodge at Bristol, and one or two at Ipswich, he was also a member of the Caveac Lodge, No. 176, for many years, and an old member of the Stability Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Head was appointed Grand Deacon in 1863 by the late M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland, he was exalted in the Doric Chapter, Woodbridge, joined the St. George Chapter, No. 5, served the office of M.E.Z. in 1856, and that of Treasurer from 1859 till he resigned the office in the early part of 1878 on account of advancing years, to the great regret of the members by whom he was much respected and loved as a brother and a friend. He was appointed Sword Bearer of Grand Chapter in 1863. Bro. Head was a Vice-Patron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for the Aged, a member of the House Committees of each, and for some years Chairman of the House Committee of the Boys' School. Not only have the Masonic Charities lost a good supporter, but various charities outside Masonry will miss him very much, particularly some of our hospitals.

BRO. JOHN BOYD P.G.P.

It is our painful duty also to record the death of Bro. John Boyd, which sad event took place suddenly on Monday last, the 30th ult. The following brief account of his Masonic career will be read with interest by his numerous friends and admirers:—

Bro. John Boyd was initiated on the 3rd January, 1848, in the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25; joined the Lodge of Prudent Brethren, 22nd March, 1853; and the Globe Lodge, No. 23, 14th April, 1869; Polish National Lodge No. 534, in 1854; appointed Assistant Grand Pursuivant in 1871, Grand Pursuivant in 1872; exalted in Polish National Chapter, No. 534, on the 25th October, 1849; was First Z. of Prudent Brethren Chapter, No. 145, in 1869; one of the Founders of Burdett Chapter, No. 1293, Hampton Court, and was at the time of his death G.N. in the Prov. Grand Chapter of Middlesex. Bro. Boyd took great interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and worked the ceremony and lectures with great taste from his thorough knowledge and meaning of the Ritual. He also took great interest in, and rendered very valuable aid at, the Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, which was established by the Prudent Brethren Chapter. He consecrated several lodges and chapters, he was one of the committee of the Wentworth Little Memorial Fund. It was only a few days ago that he paid over to the Treasurer several sums for that fund, and said he hoped to do much more yet. Bro. Boyd was a Knight Templar, and also took great interest with Bro. Little in the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

The funeral takes place this (Saturday) afternoon, at Brompton Cemetery, at 2 o'clock.

BRO. BRYAN WORMALD.

On Thursday, the 19th ult. a number of the York brethren met at the York Cemetery to see the last of the remains of their late Bro. Bryan Wormald, who died on

the previous Tuesday after an illness of five years. Bro. Wormald was initiated, in 1866, in the York Lodge (No. 236), and was always an ardent admirer and supporter of the Craft. He was a member of the Zetland Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of the York Lodge of Mark Master Masons (Time Immemorial), and of the Hilda Chapter Rose Croix. His long illness prevented him from undertaking the chair of the York Lodge, but he served the office of Preceptor in the Ancient Ebor Preceptory of Knight Templar, and cherished a very warm regard for that Order. According to his express wish the pall was supported by six members of the Preceptory, E. Sir Knts. N. B. Whythead and G. Cooper and Sir Knts. J. S. Cumberland, J. Keswick, C. Palliser and F. Rawling. A beautiful cross formed of camellias and chrysanthemums, sent by the Preceptory, bearing the motto of the Order, "In Hoc Signo Vinces" was placed upon the coffin.

FREEMASONRY IN THE CITY.

It appears from the calendar of the United Grand Lodge of England that there are now 1,785 lodges of Freemasons on the register of Grand Lodge, of which 50 have been registered in 1878, and warrants have been granted for three new lodges in the City during the year, viz.: No. 1,743, the Perseverance, held at the Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct; No. 1,745, the Farrington, held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn; and No. 1769, the Clarendon, held at the Guildhall Tavern; making the total number of lodges held in the City, 79 of which 15 are held at the Albion, and one at the Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-street; 16 are held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, and three at the London, in the same street; 10 at the Cannon-street Hotel; 10 at the Guildhall Tavern; nine at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street; five at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, and one at the Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct; four at the Masonic Club, Queen Victoria-street; three at the Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street; one at the Cheshire Cheese, Crutchedfriars; and one at the New Market Hotel, Smithfield. Fourteen Lodges of Instruction are held in the City, viz.: At the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street (2); Railway Tavern, London-street; Bell Tavern, Carter-lane; the Whittington, Moor-lane; the White Hart, Bishopsgate-street; the Guildhall Tavern; the London Masonic Club, Queen Victoria-street; the Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street; the Jamaica Coffee-house, Cornhill; the White Hart, Abchurch-lane; the Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street; Punch's Hotel, Fleet-street; and at Masons' Hall Tavern. In the City there are also 27 Royal Arch Chapters, of which seven are held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street; five at the Ship and Turtle, five at the Albion; three at the Cannon-street Hotel; two at the Guildhall Tavern; two at the Masons' Hall; one at the Cheshire Cheese, Crutchedfriars; one at the White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane; and one at the Masonic Club, Queen Victoria-street. Chapters of Instruction are held at the White Hart Tavern, Bishopsgate-street and at the Jamaica Coffee-house, St. Michael's-alley Cornhill.—City Press.

DRAMATIC NOTES.

The Sheffield Masonic Amateur Dramatic Society gave two more performances at the Freemasons' Hall there, on the 21st and 22nd ult., when "Friend Waggles," "An Ugly Customer," "Delicate Ground," "Fish out of Water," and "Rosebud of Stinging-nettle Farm," were successfully produced. Bro. Gatty was again to the fore; good service was also rendered by Bros. Capt. Mills, Garnett, Reaney, Middleton, Brailsford, Townsend, Hoyland, Scargill, Holiday, B. M. Renton, S. B. Ellis, J. W. While, and Leighton, in their various parts.

Bros. Blair and Bennett were efficient prompters, and the band, under Bro. Webster, was all that could be desired. Last, but not least, these brethren were most ably assisted by two lady professionals, Miss Marie Montgomery and Miss Frederica Taylor, of London. These ladies received a hearty welcome, which the impression they made on their former visit fairly justified, and they fully sustained the reputation they had gained.

The Sheffield Masonic Amateur Dramatic Society is a great success; we hope it may be our lot to chronicle many more such pleasant and clever entertainments as those given in its first season, which certainly surprised us and many others, showing that if brethren work together much may be done, especially where there is such a manager at hand as our hardworking Bro. Reaney.

MUSIC.

Hearts yield easily when under the divine influence of music. Its soothing, thrilling, and softening effect on us tender-hearted mortals is really charming, enchanting, sublime! It gives rise to emotions which steal over and lift us completely above our common-place existence. The new pleasures that are born within us, by the harmonious strains of soul-inspiring melody, are often seraphic. The soul seems to expand and to quit the body, to be wafted heavenward with the ascending sounds. Nature hath no greater or sweeter joy to give unto man than that which is conveyed to him by music; the gift of which must be, in some degree, a compensation for that beautiful, that benign, and blissful paradise—the Garden of Eden; the loss of which is a curse to the human race, and a cause of its utter degradation and souls' bondage. The first ray of bliss, of hope, and even of piety, may be, nay is often let in to the sleeping soul by the sweet sounds and heart touching chords of refined, classical, and sacred music. The love of it grows apace, it fills our hearts with joy, and those whose souls are not enraptured by its celestial strains, have hearts that cannot feel all the sublimity of the heaven-bestowed gift. Music cheers the heart, smooths the rough path of life, and makes the world bright and gay. Without it the earth would be dreary, and man less happy.—SAVANICUS.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual New Year's Entertainment to the annuitants resident in the Institution at Croydon, was given on Wednesday last, and notwithstanding the great success of all the entertainments of former years, a programme was arranged which put previous New Years' celebrations, at the same place, in the shade. The weather was very inclement, the rain falling fast and furious, but it can hardly be said that it was unfortunate that it did so, as it considerably enhanced the warmth of the hospitality which greeted the brethren and ladies who journeyed to Croydon to assist in making the old people once more happy for a few hours.

On entering the building the visitors were met by Bro. Terry (Secretary), Bro. Norris (Warden), and Miss Norris (Matron), and welcomed with the best wishes for the New Year in the hall, which was decorated with elegant cards, tastefully arranged on the walls, and interspersed with branches of holly. Everywhere was to be seen an indication that the day was to be a happy one, and glorious fires were in the grates to keep out the damp and cold. No time was lost in beginning the enjoyments of the day, for as soon as the company had assembled the bell was rung to summon the old brethren and ladies from their different residences to partake of the liberal fare which had been provided for them in the hall, which, by the way, although of sufficient dimensions in former times for the requirements of the Institution, affords, at the present time, totally inadequate accommodation for such entertainments as are given twice a year. The hall where the dinner took place was profusely adorned with seasonable symbols, the arrangement of which had occupied the attention of Bro. Terry and assistants for the best part of two days. The three large tables, which were placed on as many sides of the room, were loaded with good things, and every available seat was soon occupied. The arrangements were excellent, for although there was no room to spare, every inmate of the Institution was studiously attended to. The visiting brethren volunteered their services to look after the annuitants and the lady visitors, and, with an admirable corps of waiters, left no one any occasion for complaining of neglect.

Dr. Strong, Honorary Surgeon to the Institution, took the chair, having on his right Bro. Norris, the Warden of the Institution, and on his left Mrs. Terry. Bro. Terry occupied the Vice-Chair.

The visitors present were:—Bros. Dr. Strong, James Terry, G. S. Recknell, R. F. Cheesewright, George Everett, and Mrs. Everett, H. Massey, Miss Annie Massey, Master H. W. Massey, W. H. Main, Mrs. Notson, Mr. J. E. Terry, George Knill, W. H. Wallington, A. H. Tattershall, C. J. Perceval, F. R. W. Hedges, (Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls), Mrs. Hedges, Bro. Joseph Stock, Mrs. Stock, Mr. Aug. A. Perceval, Bro. John Newton, Mrs. Newton, Bro. Charles Daniel, Mr. Thomas S. Oborn, Bro. B. Wyer, Mrs. Bowyer, Bro. Thomas Cubitt, Mrs. W. Culmer, Bro. R. H. Halford, Mrs. Halford, Bro. Richard Piercy, Mrs. Piercy, Thomas Goode, Bro. Edwin Legge, Mrs. Legge, C. H. Webb, Mrs. Hilliard, Mrs. Oborn, Bro. J. Tickell, Mrs. Tickell, Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Terry, Miss Terry, Miss Jessie Terry, Bro. G. J. Hilliard, Mrs. Wallington, Miss Wallington, Bro. W. W. Morgan, Mrs. Morgan, and Bro. C. Stewart.

A Christmas card of the prettiest pattern and choicest workmanship, was provided for every one, and after dinner each female annuitant was presented with a packet of tea, and every male annuitant with a packet of tobacco, the gift of Bro. W. Hale.

Bro. Perceval also presented every male annuitant with a handsome snuff-box, and every female annuitant, with a scented packet.

Dr. Strong proposed the three usual toasts, "The Queen," "The Founders of the Feast," and "Bro. Norris, the Warden of the Institution." In proposing "The Founders of the Feast," he said that the entertainment was not provided at the expense of the funds of the Institution, but by a few brethren and ladies who took a great interest in the welfare of the annuitants, and were never tired of doing something, which would promote their happiness. These brethren and ladies were always pleased to see their aged friends happy, and came down to Croydon, periodically, to assist in making them so. In giving "The Health of Bro. Norris," he said that this toast would be as pleasing to all the visitors as well as to the residents in the Institution, as Bro. Norris looked carefully after their welfare. Bro. Norris, who was the oldest Mason in England, was within a week or two of eighty-nine years of age. Bro. Norris was very proud of being the Warden of the Institution. He was ably assisted by his daughter, Miss Norris, who had been appointed Matron, and in such entertainments as the present she took a very important part, seeing to the dinner, the cooking, and the arrangements for refreshments and tea. In this way a very heavy burden necessarily fell upon Miss Norris, but the duties she had to discharge were performed most efficiently. The residents in the Institution would testify how solicitous she was for their welfare, and no one was more qualified than he (Dr. Strong), to give testimony to her unremitting care and attention to those who were sick or infirm.

Bro. Terry here announced that he had received a telegram from Bro. J. L. Hime, of Manchester, who, with some other brethren there, had contributed one-sixth to the expenses of the entertainment, trusting that the entertainment was being enjoyed and wishing every one a "Happy New Year." Bro. Terry said he had sent a telegram in reply, thanking Bro. Hime and the Manchester brethren, and wishing them also a "Happy New Year."

Bro. Norris, in reply to the toast proposed by Dr. Strong, said it would not surprise the company if he said

he felt completely overwhelmed by the compliments which had been paid to himself and daughter. He hailed the compliment to his daughter with peculiar satisfaction, and as to himself, the less he said, perhaps, the better. Brevity was said to be the soul of wit, and he should, therefore, say very little. He most heartily returned thanks for the compliment paid to him and his daughter, and most earnestly wished every one a Happy New Year, and that every succeeding year might be happier than its predecessor.

The company then retired, and those brethren who had been busy attending to the wants of the diners then partook of dinner.

Bro. C. J. Perceval proposed "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," to which Bro. Terry, in replying said that happily the brethren never liked to meet at their social gatherings without remembering this toast. No doubt they had all seen in that morning's newspapers the grand success that had attended all the Masonic Institutions in the year 1878. In the year 1877 these Institutions totalled up £42,300; but in the year which had just passed, despite all the failures, the dreadful calamities which had overtaken the country, and the fearful depression of trade, the three Institutions had totalled more than £40,000. Of that sum the Benevolent Institution for the second time had the honour of taking the lead, totalling the amount of £14,880. The Girls' School was regaining its old position, which it unfortunately lost, of being at the head of the poll; this, last year, stood second on the list, with £12,866. The Boys' School, for the first time during the past sixteen years, stood at the far-end of the list with £12,566, less by £300 than the Girls'. Looking at these figures it appeared that although there had been great disasters in trade, the Freemasons of England had not been affected by them, and, therefore, they might be congratulated upon having a greater amount of success than other branches of the community. As regarded the Benevolent Institution, while he desired most heartily to see the Girls' and Boys' Schools progressing, it should never be his fault if the Benevolent Institution did not retain its present proud position—not for his own sake, but for the sake of the Institution. He looked upon the matter in this light:—The Girls' School was established ninety-one years ago; the Boys' School was established eighty-one years ago. These were established by the old Masons, and the old Masons worked to support them. This continued for a long period, and it was not till 1842, or thirty-six years ago, that the poor old people were worthy of any recognition at all. Since the establishment of the Benevolent Institution it had grown, notwithstanding the opposition of the then Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex, and the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Zealand, who would only allow the Institution to have a festival once in three years. It had, however, been able to hold its own and to show itself worthy of the brethren's confidence. He could only say that since he had had the honour of being the Secretary of the Benevolent Institution he had had the pleasure of having around him, as he had now, a number of representative men—men coming up from their lodges, from different localities, entertaining different opinions—yet all agreed in one thing, that the Benevolent Institution was worthy of their support, and worthy of introducing to these social gatherings those ladies they had now with them. Thanking Bro. Perceval very much for proposing this toast, he hoped and trusted, that as years went by, they might be enabled to see this Institution go on and prosper; and pre-eminently as it had taken a position in, and highly as it was thought of by the Craft, yet that, like the electric light, it might only be in its infancy, and instead of having one year £16,000, and another year £14,000, in years to come it might add a nought to those figures, and cause surprise among the outside world at where the Masons got their money from. If health and strength were continued to him he would never flag in his efforts to uphold the Institution. If he could not get help for the Institution he should still be pleased to get it for the Girls' and the Boys' Schools. He was now looking forward to the festival of this Institution, and already he had attained 210 Stewards for that festival. That number was twenty-one in excess of the number he had this day last year when he first summoned a meeting of the Board of Stewards. If each of those 21 Stewards brought up £50 he would have a thousand guineas. He looked forward to a bright future in 1879. Col. Starkie would take the chair at the festival, and Col. Starkie was Grand Master of a province which had 89 lodges and 37 chapters, or nearly 130 collective Masonic bodies. The Board of Stewards numbered some 50 or 60 brethren from that province, and he thought it likely he should be able to say he had never had such a list announced as they would hear at the next festival on the 12th of February. He hoped Bro. Hedges would be successful in obtaining an equally prominent chairman for his festival in May. No doubt he had his eye upon some distinguished brother, for he was ambitious. The late Secretary obtained the Prince of Wales; perhaps the present Secretary would obtain the Duke of Connaught. At all events he hoped Bro. Hedges would be successful and get a better festival even than he had yet had. He was worthy of it. His friends had made him Secretary, and it was their bounden duty to support him. He would be thrown on his own resources in 1880, but never mind that; he had good friends round him for 1879. He hoped also that Bro. Binckes would have a bumper festival for the Boys' School. Bro. Terry then made a strong appeal for support for the Benevolent Institution, and concluded by again thanking the brethren for remembering the toast.

Afterwards the company paid visits to the abodes of the aged brethren and widows, and then partook of tea. In the evening a delightful Drawing-Room Entertainment was given by the celebrated Pickwick Histrionic Club, of which the following is the programme:—Pianoforte Selection Mr. G. S. Graham; "Nine Points of the Law," Joseph

Ironsides, Mr. E. Johnson; Cunninggame (an Attorney), Mr. G. J. King; Rodomont Rollingstone (a gentleman a large), Mr. Dupree; John Britton, Mr. E. Baker; Mrs. Smylic, Miss Lizzie Henderson; Katie Mapleson (his niece), Miss Fanny Perfit.

After which Mr. G. S. Graham presented his Musica Olio, introducing:—Descriptive Song, "The Fisherman's Daughter," Anon; Buffo Song, "The British Lion," Anon; Organophonic Piccolo Song, "Il Trovatore," Verdi (with natural whistle accompaniment); Buffo Song "The Adventures of Little Mr. Binks," Walker; and "The Muddle Puddle Porter."

The performance concluded with the Comic Drama written by Mr. J. B. Buckstone, entitled "A Rough Diamond":—Lord Plato, Mr. E. Johnson; Sir William Evergreen, Mr. Dupree; Captain Augustus Blenheim, Mr. F. Baker; Cousin Joe, Mr. G. J. King; Lady Plato, Miss Fanny Perfit; Margery, Miss Lizzie Henderson.

When the performances were concluded, votes of thanks were passed to Bro. Terry, and also to the Pickwick Histrionic Club, on whose behalf Bro. E. Johnson replied, and expressed the pleasure it gave his company, and himself particularly as an old Mason and supporter of the Institution, to do anything they could on its behalf. Speaking for himself he looked upon it as a duty. The visitors then shook hands individually with all the annuitants, wishing them "A Happy New Year," and returned to town in the special saloon carriage, kindly provided for the party by the South Eastern Railway Company.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The first meeting of the Board of Stewards for the festival of 1879 was held on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present:—Bros. J. L. Mather, P.M., 1471; Charles Dairy, W.M., 141; Thos. Cubitt, William Stephens, George Newman, J. B. Dodson, George Jeffery, 7; H. H. Smith, 25 Chapter; W. Norris, S.D. Sir Hugh Myddelton; R. R. Davis, P.M., 256; J. Tanner, P.M. 1707; Dick Radclyffe, J.W. 742; W. Henry Farnfield, P.M. and Sec. 907; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, D.M. No. 2; P.G.C., Joseph Clever, P.M. 12, P.M. 171, P.Z. 12; W. Maple, P.M. 657; George Blythe, 1348; Joseph Driscoll, 30; C. P. Mills, 898; H. Massey (Freemason); H. C. Levander, and James Terry (Secretary).

Bro. Terry, said before a Chairman of the Board of Stewards was selected, he had to inform the brethren that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., had appointed Wednesday, the 12th of February, for the next festival of the Institution. He had also to inform the brethren that Lieut.-Gen. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, had consented to be Chairman of that festival. In accordance with the usual custom he (Bro. Terry) had sent round notices to all the lodges and chapters under the English constitution, with the exception of those in the colonies, and he had received responses from 209, which had agreed to send Stewards for the festival; that number was an increase of twenty over the number he had that day last year. He thought this seemed to augur well for the success of the festival, and considering all present circumstances—the depression of trade—it was a great achievement for the Institution.

On the motion of Bro. William Stephens, seconded by Bro. Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P., Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford Past Grand Chaplain, was elected Chairman of Board of Stewards, and therefore took his seat as Chairman of the meeting, and thanked the brethren for the compliment paid to him.

On the motion of Bro. J. L. Mather, seconded by Bro. George Newman, Bro. Thomas Cubitt, P.G.P., was elected Treasurer, and on the motion of Bro. W. Stephens, seconded by Bro. J. L. Mather, Bro. Terry was elected as Honorary Secretary.

Bro. Terry said he hoped when the festival came round they would be able to say it was the most successful festival the Institution had ever had.

The price of tickets and other usual preliminaries were then arranged.

Bros. Tanner, W. Stephens, W. H. Farnfield, Charles Dairy, and H. H. Smith, were chosen as Musical Committee.

The toast list and the arrangements to be conformed to by the Stewards were then read over.

The Stewards' fee having been arranged to be two guineas, Bro. Terry read a letter from a brother of Woodbridge, Suffolk, suggesting that if a country Steward found that he was unable to attend at the festival, he should, on giving notice of such inability a fortnight before the festival, be charged only a guinea and a-half instead of two guineas. The proposition was then put to the meeting and negatived.

Some minor details were then settled, and the meeting was adjourned till the 25th inst., at four o'clock.

At the conclusion of the above meeting the Musical Committee assembled and proceeded to make arrangements for the music to be performed at the festival.

STOKES ON MEMORY.—Some very interesting and valuable proofs of the extent to which the memory may be strengthened by skilful training are given by Bro. Stokes, at the Royal Polytechnic Institution, and it is to be hoped his untiring efforts made for many years to assist teachers and students will be productive of great good to the public. This system is based upon the association of ideas, and is suited for classical studies, and for every phase of thought.

Bro. Henry Garrod announces the termination of his partnership with the firm of Postons and Garrod. He will for the future carry on his Wine and Spirit business at 44, Eastcheap.

TO OUR READERS.

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

	United Kingdom.	America, India, the Continent, &c.	India, China, &c. Via Brindisi.
Twelve Months	10s. 6d.	12s. 6d.	17s. 4d.
Six "	5s. 3d.	6s. 6d.	8s. 8d.
Three "	2s. 8d.	3s. 3d.	4s. 6d.

Subscriptions may be paid for in stamps, but Post Office Orders or Cheques are preferred, the former payable to

GEORGE KENNING, CHIEF OFFICE, LONDON, the latter crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

Advertisements and other business communications should be addressed to the Publisher.

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

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

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

FOREIGN REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Adamson, G., New York, ...	0	12	0
Benjamin, F., India, ...	0	12	0
Callaway, H., Malta, ...	0	3	3
Campbell, D., Jamaica, ...	0	12	0
Ebert, J. W., ...	1	10	0
Edwards, W., Paris, ...	0	12	0
Fitch, G., Canada, ...	0	12	0
Goldsmith, L. R., Panama, ...	1	15	2
Gutteridge, E. J., ...	1	3	10
Hill, T. J., South Africa, ...	0	12	0
Jackson, F., Jamaica, ...	0	12	0
Lisle, F. J., New Zealand, ...	0	12	0
Lodge of Friendship, Gibraltar, ...	0	12	0
" Meridian, The Cape ...	0	12	0
" Victoria, British Burmah, ...	0	12	0
Robertson, T. N., Ceylon, ...	0	12	0
Sly, F., Victoria, ...	1	0	0
Smithies, E. J., The Cape, ...	1	3	10

Answers to Correspondents.

BOOKS, &c. RECEIVED.

"The Civilian;" "The Liverpool Mercury;" "The Boot and Shoemaker;" "Der Triangel;" "Corner stone;" "Australian Freemason;" "Masonic Review;" "Kalender fur Freimaurer" (Bro. C. van Dalen); "Brief;" "Night and Day;" "The Hebrew Leader;" "Our Home, a Masonic and Family Journal;" "The Scottish Freemason;" "Hull Packet;" "The Garden Oracle;" "The Masonic Newspaper;" "The Liberal Freemason;" "The Masonic Record of Western India;" "Broad Arrow;" "Voice of Masonry;" "The Masonic Herald;" "The London Express;" "Freemasons' Monthly;" "Keystone;" "Design and Work;" "The Colonies and India;" "A Pastoral for the Year 1879."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

PRESTON.—On the 26th ult., at Stafford-villas, Brixton, the wife of H. W. Preston, of a son.

DEATHS.

BOYD.—On the 30th ult., suddenly at 94, Buckingham Palace-road, John Boyd, aged 69 years.

DUFF.—On the 23rd ult., Col. Duff, M.P., P.G. Supt designate Norfolk.

FARWIG.—On the 20th ult., at her residence, 208, Brixton-road, S.W., Christina Elizabeth, widow of Frederick William Farwig, late of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, in her 72nd year.

HEAD.—On the 24th ult., at 12, Earl's Terrace, Kensington, Benjamin Head, aged 78 years.

RINGROSE.—On the 28th ult., at his residence, Wood-green, John Ringrose, Surgeon, in practice for 37 years at Potter's Bar, Barnet, in the 75th year of his age.

STONE.—On the 24th ult., at Ventnor, Bro. William Stone, of Myddleton-square, many years with Messrs. Vyse, Sons, and Co., Wood-street, aged 53.

WORMALD.—On the 17th ult., Bryan Wormald, after five years' illness.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1879.

THE NEW YEAR.

With the new year which has now dawned upon us all when this has met the eyes of our many and kind readers in all parts of the world, the *Freemason* in all sincerity of heart begs to offer to them one and all, heartfelt good wishes for 1879. May it be of undimmed happiness to all our zealous patrons, to our good old Order everywhere, and to mankind. It is indeed impossible for us to shut our ears or close our eyes to the sounds and sights of much anxiety, depression, and suffering all around us, and no thoughtful Freemason, much less any English patriot, will wish or think it right to be insensible to what is patent just now, as alike painful and sorrowful, or to what is possible, or even probable, in the good providence of T.G.A.O.T.U. in the twelve-months, (unknown and untrod), which now lie before us. We end 1878, as we begin 1879, with national affliction, (in which the hearts of the people is bowed down as one man), for the premature loss of the lamented and gifted Princess Alice. Only let us believe reverently that what is our "loss" is, no doubt, her "gain," in the, to us, "inscrutable counsels of the Most High." We leave 1878, and we begin 1879, with much of local suffering, as well as a serious extension of mercantile embarrassment, and, in addition to this, we have also to realize a vast amount of personal distress. To none of these things can we, as loyal citizens, or zealous Freemasons, be indifferent, and we trust earnestly that 1879 may witness a speedy amelioration of a state of affairs, alike affecting and distressing for all who have capacity to think or hearts to feel. The charity of our Order, ever liberal and discriminating, may well be aroused at the sight of so much suffering among our fellow citizens and fellow creatures. Indeed, it may be a question whether some of our leading brethren might not form a committee to assist similar committees elsewhere. And thus the new year meets us, let us trust neither insensible to duty or insensible to responsibility. What 1879 will bring to any of us we cannot tell to-day. Its dark or sunny hours are still parted from us in the veiled and distant recesses of the mysterious future of an all-controlling Providence. But as Freemasons we leave an old year and hail a new one in a spirit of becoming hope, trust, and resignation. With the great American poet we can say, and should say—

"Look not scornfully into the past
It comes not back again;
Wisely improve the present—it is thine.
Go forth to meet the shadowy future
Without fear, and with a manly heart."

FOREIGN FREEMASONRY IN 1878.

The immense length to which our "Summary" of the yearly record of the *Freemason* extended on December 21st, excluded from any proper treatment necessarily, the history of non-Britannic Freemasonry, unless, indeed, we had wished to exhaust utterly the courteous attention of our readers. Many of our friends dislike long leaders as much as they disapprove of long sermons, and as we are not anxious to weary others, and admit freely that patience has its limits, alike with sermons as with leaders, we always seek to make a proper and charitable allowance for the amiable weakness of our good readers as men and Masons. Accordingly, we supplement to-day our yearly summary, with the following brief recapitulation:—In France and Belgium the situation is as bad as can be, in fact it cannot be worse, and as it neither deserves the sympathy of the patriot, nor calls for the consideration of the Mason, we may well leave these two insubordinate jurisdictions without further heed or notice to that *non-masonry* to which they are rapidly drifting. It is very doubtful whether they can

justly be considered offshoots of the one great and true Masonic family. They are altering their rituals to please positivist Masons and nihilist professors, and propose to erase from all their circulars their solitary recognition of T.G.A.O.T.U. It is quite clear from the mournful and insane proceedings of the last "Couvent" of the French Grand Orient that such erasure is only a question of time. In addition to this, they have "taken power" to establish lodges in "hostile jurisdictions," so that we may soon hear of French lodges in England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, and America. Not being Masons, we shall simply not recognize them: and, of course, the moment such a fact is a "fait accompli" all relations between French and English and American Masonry will "ipso facto" cease, and French Masons will be inadmissible in Anglo-Saxon lodges. We leave them to-day with feelings of commiseration and unmitigated regret. In Germany Freemasonry, under the wise patronage of our august brother, the Emperor of Germany, and of the Crown Prince, pursues its peaceful course. The meeting of the Grand Masters seem practically to have taken the view of the *Freemason*, of the "position," and to have condemned, (by implication at any rate), the proceedings of the French Grand Orient. In Spain and Portugal Freemasonry is in activity, though in Spain a divided body under great disadvantages. In Italy the Grand Orient of Italy seems to be acting with prudence and discretion, though we feel bound to admit that we have received from most reliable sources, complaints of political, and even revolutionary tendencies in Italian Freemasonry. All we can say is, if that be so, that their practice belies their profession. Our worthy Bro. J. C. Parkinson can best enlighten English Masons on the subject. Freemasonry seems also to be flourishing truly in Denmark and Sweden and Hungary, (though again here with divided authority), in Switzerland and Holland, and to be springing into life again in Austria. In Russia it is still absolutely prohibited, though it was once highly favoured by the upper classes, and even patronized by the Empress Catherine. In Canada, Freemasonry is moving on, though the Grand Lodge of Quebec has in the heat of controversy put forward pretensions of jurisdiction which are inadmissible. Many of the professing Masonic jurists in Canada (of more than doubtful authority) confound the rights of a sectional, or provincial, or district Grand Lodge with that of a National Grand Lodge. The analogy of the American Grand Lodges is fallacious, as the States of America are Sovereign States, upon an equality with one another, and claim a quasi national jurisdiction. But the Grand Lodge of Quebec only represents a portion of a nationality and is practically an "Imperium" in an "Imperio." Assuming that it is legally formed, it can only claim to exercise the rights the Grand Lodge of Canada claimed to exercise and did exercise; it cannot by self asserting resolutions extend its powers beyond Masonic precedent, or "in international comity." We are very sorry thus to express our opinions, but feel bound to speak out clearly on the subject, whether we please or displease others. We confess that we feel very proud of the position of the American Freemasons. 700,000 brethren seem to be acting with most commendable zeal and correctness in the maintenance of our great principles, and we rejoice to think that we are entirely one with them, alike in the assertion of Masonic truths and the "outcome" of Masonic practice. The American Masons have some difficulties to contend with of which we know nothing, and as in their national life so in their Masonic progress, they demand and deserve the admiration of the reflecting, and the sympathy of the intelligent. In South America Freemasonry is working on under many drawbacks, but we hear of its progress alike in Mexico, Brazil, La Plata, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, New Grenada. Freemasonry is at work in Liberia, and the Island of Cuba. Freemasonry is also apparently progresssing in Turkey, Greece, and Egypt, as well as in Hayti and St. Domingo. Indeed, as Bro. Kenning's *Cosmopolitan Calendar* tells us,

"In every land we find a friend,
In every port a lodge."

JAN. 4, 1879.

So sang Dibdin of old, and so say we in 1879. May the old Craft keep still to the fore in this year of grace and light, 1879.

ULTRAMONTANISM AND FREEMASONRY.

The restless spirit of Ultramontanism just now cannot leave Freemasonry alone. It is, to use a French expression, its "bête noire," or, as we should put it, its "bit of red rag." The mere mention of its name suffices to make its Popes, its cardinals, archbishops, bishops, to say nothing of its "seminary priests," lose their heads, their reason, and their charity. The last deliverance of this kind, which 1878 has witnessed, is the very foolish, and we may add, mendacious "mandement" of the Bishop of Nismes, Monseigneur Besson, in which he reproduces, and repeats all the calumnies, all the shameful libels, which Ultramontane traducers and Jesuit accusers have so industriously circulated and heaped upon Freemasons. According to this most charitable and correct Bishop Besson, Freemasonry is a vast secret political body, an aggregation of assassins and revolutionists, whose one mission is to destroy the Roman Catholic Church and to uproot society, the law, and all social organization. Therefore in the words of previous Jesuit calumniators for whose lying words there is not the slightest pretence or even excuse, he proceeds gravely to assert—in an episcopal charge—that since 1785 Freemasonry has been a combination to destroy society and religion, to murder monarchs, and to revolutionize nations. The extraordinary jumble of accusations, with which he "piles up the agony," is alike amusing and absurd in the highest degree. At the Convent of Wilhelmsbad, in 1785, he declares the Freemasons decided to destroy Louis XVI.; the Freemasons were the cause of the death of Gustavus the III. of Sweden, at the masked ball, the Freemasons imprisoned Pope Pius VII. at Valence, and made Napoleon III. go to war with Italy. Freemasonry has recently poisoned, (so says this good man), the Archbishop of Quito, and the President of Equador, and has driven Brazilian and German bishops into exile and plundered them. Can any one believe that a Roman Catholic Bishop could talk such nonsense, such absolute rubbish, in a so-called serious charge? Yet, there it is, as you can see, in *La Semaine Française*, and page 581 of the *Freemason*. Without taking the trouble, (for it would be an insult to our readers), to wade through this tissue of "malice and mendacity," we will take two points, as facts of history, to shew how utterly ignorant Bishop Besson is of what he so complacently chatters. The Convent of Wilhelmsbad in 1782, was a purely Christian movement of the so-called Strict Observance, presided over by the well-known Duke Ferdinand of Brunswick, at which a large number of noblemen and gentlemen assembled, most anti-revolutionary. At this convent the Templar Order of the Strict Observance and the Clerical Observance, which Von Hund and Starck had founded, was changed into "Knights of Benevolence," but purely Christian, and having nothing in common with Freemasonry. Starck some say was a Jesuit, at any rate eventually a Roman Catholic, and died one, and Von Hund died in the odour of Roman Catholic sanctity and is buried before the high altar of Melrichstadt. Be it also remembered that the "Illuminati," with whom Freemasonry is confounded, were not Freemasons, but were established by a Roman Catholic professor, who died at Gotha, a Roman Catholic, an exile from his native land. In this sense, to Roman Catholicism as the origin rather than to Freemasonry, (which has ever ignored them), must fairly be attributed the creation of those pernicious secret societies, like the Illuminati with their countless ramifications and developments, which, in former days brought such evil on society and on the world, and which as "Lothair" tells us, are still at work, and potent for evils many and great. It is no concern of ours, (neither does it affect the argument, let us observe,) that in some countries, just now, Freemasonry seems to be laying itself open to the charge of becoming a secret society. That is a very deplorable fact, per se, but it is one which does not affect Freemasonry in general, however

it may disgrace it in particular. Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, we repeat, knows nothing of such teaching or such revolutionary ideas. It is a religious, benevolent, God-fearing, law-observing, Order, and is always to be found, where it is faithful to its abiding principles, on the side of peace, order, and equality, and an opponent of social anarchy, and intestine commotion. It is a loyal, genial, tolerant, friendly, brotherhood, and thus goes on its way, heedless alike of the curses or the praise of men, disregarding Ultramontane impertinences, and laughing heartily at such puerile opponents as Monseigneur Besson.

IN MEMORIAM.

The Craft at large, and the metropolitan brethren in particular, will hear with deep regret, the lamented departure from amongst us of our worthy Bro. Benjamin Head, who died on the 24th December, in his 78th year. Bro. Head, whose services to Masonry, to Grand Lodge, and the Charities, above all, are well known, will be a very "missed man" amongst us. When many read these lines of ours they will sincerely regret to think, that they no more shall greet the "pleasant presence" or clasp the warm hand of Bro. Head, that it will be theirs no longer to profit by the singularly matured wisdom and kindly moderation of his energetic mind and warm heart. Bro. Benjamin Head has, we understand, been for some time ailing, and had not long ago recovered from a severe illness, but though he leaves us in a "green old age," his place will be hard to fill, and his loss will be long sincerely mourned and felt by all who knew him, all who valued him, and all who loved him. Thus the close of 1878 will ever appeal to all London brethren especially, with regretful memories, in the realization of the loss of so wise a counsellor, so true a friend, and so sincere a brother Mason, as Bro. Benjamin Head. We have also to mention another name, as added to the list of our Masonic worthies departed, which will be a name most familiar to London Masons, and well known to the Craft. We have to announce with sincere regret the death of our lamented Bro. John Boyd. His services as a Masonic Preceptor, especially in the Royal Arch Grade, are too well known to need comment or encomium, but we feel sure that we express the feeling of our entire fraternity and of our London brethren in particular, when we say, that his valuable labours for Masonry will long be gratefully remembered by his friends and companions and that his memory will always be endeared to them, as a true, a honoured, a most worthy and kindly brother.

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.]

PROFESSION AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

Though I think your Editor is quite right in leaving the "Grand Orient" to itself, as it seems doubtful whether it is really any longer a true Masonic jurisdiction, I am of opinion that it is equally proper in your cosmopolitan and impartial pages to call attention to what I deem a most melancholy proof of the real decadence of French Freemasonry.

This, according to my view, (though unlike the Grand Orient and the Pope, I do not profess to claim infallibility), is to be found in the last "Budget," and anything more absolutely unsatisfactory, I have never perused, or more suggestive of its present abasement, more symptomatic of its future fall.

Its accounts have long since been pointed out as most peculiar and dubious, and I will defy anyone to tell me on the present statement, whether the Grand Orient is in a state of solvency or insolvency. The Grand Orient began with a balance, in March, 1877, of 1167.50 francs, or £46 19s. 8d. The receipts from all sources for the 12 months amounted to 133,954.65 francs, or £5414 15s. in round numbers; its expenses to 131,782.50 francs, or £5320, in round numbers. The balance on the 28th February, 1878, was 2175.15 francs, or £87 3s., in round numbers. Of this amount £5414 15s., the only sum devoted to charity that I can find, is 12,822.75 francs, or £518, 15s in round numbers, and this is paid by collections, special

gifts, temporary special payments, and £200 interest on certain funds. The "cours gratuits" of instruction cost £160, towards which the Grand Orient receives 5,898.125 francs, or £237 10d. The travelling expenses swallow up 16,000 francs, or £640. The office expenses cost 28,000 francs in round numbers, or £1120.

But I cannot understand what is the exact position of the Grand Orient and the Société Civile. The Grand Orient lets out lodge rooms for 20,092.15 francs, £802 16s. but it also pays for "loyer," or rent, in 1878, and will pay the same in 1879, 15,000 francs, or £600. I can only suppose that the Grand Orient "sublets" to the lodges from the "Société Civile." Perhaps some French brother can explain this fact. I fear that French Freemasonry under the Grand Orient has many troubles to contend with, owing to its suicidal policy and dark days before it, under the patronage of political partisans; but I think it well to point out to your readers, as the moral of this letter, that a great body which spends £640 on the travelling expenses of its members, and only gives for all purposes of Masonic relief £518 10s., seems to the reflecting mind a burlesque on the name of Freemasonry. For it will be then seen that the travelling expenses and the office expenses cost £1760, as against charity £518. There is a payment to the Société Civile, in addition, of 24,000.60 francs, £960.

I have put these figures as clearly before your readers as I can, but they still seem to me very obscure, and if any French brother can throw light upon them, simply as a matter of fact, I shall be greatly obliged, and I have no doubt your readers will too.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,
MASKELYNE.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I think it may safely be affirmed that there are few members of our Order better acquainted with Masonic statistics than my esteemed friend, Bro. James Terry, and those who, like myself, have long enjoyed the pleasure of knowing him, will readily concede that from the ingenuous frankness of his character, he would not make any statement incapable of proof.

These premises being granted, it follows as a natural corollary that any serious utterance of Bro. Terry commands and deserves attention.

In the interesting report, given in your issue of the 28th ult., of the consecration of the Kennington Chapter (vide *Freemason*, vol. XI., page 601), Bro. Terry is reported to have made a statement which ought to be printed in letters of gold and be placed in the hands of every brother throughout the length and breadth of the land. The statement was as follows:—"If every Mason gave five shillings a year to each Institution, the Institutions would never require a festival or an election, as they would be able to meet every demand made upon them."

Consider, for one moment, what this short sentence implies. Five shillings to each Institution means fifteen shillings a year—in other words, one half-penny per day!

Can it be supposed that anyone among us is unable to afford this trifle? If so, I venture to think that it would be well for himself, as also for his family, if he withdrew from our Order.

Bro. Terry tells us that, if every member of the Craft made this small contribution, no festivals would be required. Now it will, I think, be universally admitted that we can well dispense with the festivals, provided the object of them (raising funds) be attained by other means.

The festivals entail a vast amount of labour to the several Secretaries; to a certain extent they bring, I fear, discredit to the Craft, as the outside world naturally imagines the £10,000 or £12,000 collected is in some way or other due to the festivity, than which a greater error cannot exist, the fact being that the Stewards' lists are made up and handed in before the banquet. Therefore, if the income of the Institutions be otherwise secured, the abolition of the festivals will be a loss to no one excepting to the tavern-keeper.

But it is Bro. Terry's second point to which I would especially draw attention. Fifteen shillings a year from every Mason would obviate the necessity of elections!

What does this not mean?

A brother dies—his widow, in straitened circumstances, seeks the election of her child to one of our Schools—or, a poor widow is a candidate for the Benevolent Institution. How many weary journeys do they take? How many ill-afforded postage stamps do they employ? How many anxious hours do they spend in their endeavour to secure the election?

If all this can be avoided, by so small a sacrifice from each of us, surely it ought to be done; and if Bro. Terry's speech be the means of accomplishing it, he will gain the gratitude of hundreds of present and future applicants for the benefits of our noble Institutions.

Bro. Terry has touched upon a weak point in our system. We need only look at the several lists of subscribers to see that the Institutions are supported by a comparatively few. What is wanted is not only the guineas of the few, but the crowns from all. Let it be remembered that "unity is strength," and every Mason should feel it a duty incumbent upon him to make, at least, a small annual contribution to each of the Institutions. If the whole Craft were to co-operate as Bro. Terry suggests, the lists of the subscribers would form three portly volumes.

In concluding this letter (for the length of which I apologize) I venture to hope that means may be devised for bringing this subject prominently before every lodge under the English Constitution. If every W.M. were to use his influence how much might be done!

Faithfully and fraternally yours,
P.M. OF A LONDON LODGE.

MARRIAGE OF THE EARL OF CARNARVON.

On Monday last the marriage of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon and Miss Elizabeth Catharine Howard, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Howard, of Greystoke Castle, was celebrated at St. Andrew's Church, Greystoke, Cumberland. A large family party had met at Greystoke Castle for the wedding, which excited much interest in that part of Cumberland where the bride and her family are so well known and respected for their benevolence. From the Castle to the church, about a mile distant, several arches, composed of evergreens and decorated with flags, were erected, bearing mottoes expressive of the joyous feelings of the inhabitants; among others, "Every blessing attend thee, Elsie," "God bless the happy pair," "Luck to the Houses of Howard and Herbert," "Canny auld Cumberland wishes them weel," and others. The pathway from the carriage road to the church was covered by an awning and carpeted with crimson cloth, as was also the aisle of the church. The fine old collegiate church of Greystoke was handsomely decorated. The wedding party came from the Castle at half-past eleven o'clock, the Earl of Carnarvon, who was attended by the Hon. Alan Herbert, his brother, arriving just before the bride, who was received by her brother, Mr. H. Howard, on her arrival, and at once proceeded to the Communion table, attended by four bridesmaids, namely, Miss Maud Howard, her sister; Lady Camilla Wallop, niece of the bridegroom; Miss Macan, cousin of the bride; and Lady Caroline McDonnell. The bride's dress was of ivory white satin trimmed with Brussels point lace; a wreath of orange blossoms and myrtle, covered by a tulle veil. Her jewels were a diamond necklace and bracelet, the gift of the bridegroom, and a gold and diamond locket, the gift of the tenants at Greystoke. The bridesmaids' dresses were of pale pink cashmere, trimmed with dark ruby satin, ruby satin hats turned up with velvet to match, and pink feathers. Each lady wore a gold bracelet set with pearls and lapis lazuli, Lord Carnarvon's gift. The marriage was solemnised by the Rev. Norman Ogilvy, M.A., Rector of Hanbury-near-Bromsgrove, assisted by the Rev. Edmund Askew, B.A., Rector of Greystoke. The bride was given away by her brother. The ceremony concluded, the wedding party returned to Greystoke Castle to breakfast. The déjeuner was served in the great hall of the Castle, which has been recently restored after the fire which partially destroyed the Castle a few years ago. Among the relatives and friends who met on the happy occasion were Mr. and Lady Mabel Howard, Mrs. Howard and Miss Maud Howard, Mr. Stafford and Lady Rachel Howard, Lady Gwendolen Herbert and Hon. Alan Herbert, Lord Porchester and Lady Winifred Herbert, Lady Camilla Wallop, Lady Caroline McDonnell, Sir John Ogilvy, Sir Richard and Lady Musgrave, Sir Wilfrid and Lady Lawson, General and Mrs. Brougham, Colonel and Mrs. Wybergh, Captain and Mrs. Markham, Mr. Howard and Mrs. Howard of Corby, Mr. Mowbray Howard, Mr. Esme Howard, Miss Macan, the Rev. Edmund and Mrs. Askew, Mr. Tremayne Buller, Mr. and Mrs. C. Fetherstonhaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Mr. Senhouse, Miss Hayell, and others. Early in the afternoon the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon left the Castle for his lordship's residence in Bruton-street, Berkeley-square, on their way to Pixton Park, Somersetshire. Her ladyship's travelling dress was of dove-coloured cashmere, with jacket and muff trimmed with fur to match, and plush hat and feathers to correspond.—*Daily Telegraph*.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN 1878.

During the year 1878 the income of the three Masonic Charitable Institutions from donations, subscriptions, and all other sources, amounted to £40,312 4s. 3d. Out of this sum the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution obtained the largest amount—namely, £14,880 2s. 7d., for the second year in succession heading the list. The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls took the second place with £12,866 1s. 8d., while the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys took the third place with £12,566. The total amount for the three Institutions for 1878 was about £2,000 less than was contributed in 1877, but it was very much larger than was expected, when at the beginning of the year public charity was extensively diverted to other channels. The Masonic body, however, although giving liberally to non-Masonic appeals, strongly supported their own charities, which in 1878 only fell short by £2,000 of the most successful year on record, 1877. The Benevolent Institution has between 300 and 400 annuitants on its books; the Boys' School clothes, maintains, and educates about 220 boys; and the Girls' School over 200 girls. In the year 1878 the Lodge of Benevolence, connected with Grand Lodge, contributed £4,984 to distressed Freemasons, and the widows and orphans of deceased members. This lodge meets every month. The largest amount dispensed at any one meeting in 1878 was at the December meeting, when £765 was granted, and the smallest at the August meeting, when the sum voted was £203. The Fund of Benevolence now amounts to some £45,000, and it has for some years been a proposition of Mr. J. M. Clabon that a portion of the annual surplus should be set apart towards apprenticing or otherwise advancing in life the children when they leave the schools.—*Times*.

Bro. J. C. Dwarber, P.M. 55 and 1589, has been elected, by a large majority, Guardian of the Poor for the Ward of Farringdon Without.

The funeral of Bro. John Boyd takes place at Brompton Cemetery this (Saturday) afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The following reports have been received, but unavoidably stand over, 1002, 1051, 1536, 1609.

GRAND MASONIC ENTERTAINMENT IN LIVERPOOL.

The vitality of Freemasonry in the province of West Lancashire, (notwithstanding the silly sneers and ignorant denunciations of those who know little about the Order) was most significantly shown on Friday evening, the 20th ult., at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool, where an entertainment of a novel and singularly attractive nature, almost without a parallel in the history of dramatic performances, was given by the members of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons, in aid of the Masonic Hall Fund of No. 1609. The whole of the arrangements which were of the most elaborate kind, were entirely carried out under the direction of the members of this lodge, which has deservedly secured a prominent place in the Masonic roll of West Lancashire.

It may be explained that since its erection the principal rooms of the Masonic Hall in Hope-street, solely devoted to Masonic purposes, have remained without any permanent decoration, and the object of the performance on this occasion was to secure sufficient funds to decorate and furnish the banqueting room in an effective manner. The enterprising spirit thus displayed by the brethren of the Dramatic Lodge elicited the admiration and cordial support of the brethren in every lodge in this district, and the immense gathering at the Amphitheatre on Friday, the 20th ult., not only demonstrated that Masonry is something more than the mere fiction which ignorant person, delight to call it, but will certainly result in enabling this Dramatic Lodge to carry out their excellent intention to the full extent.

The performance was under the patronage of his Worship the Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. T. B. Royden), Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, D.P. G.M. of England and Prov. G.M. of West Lancashire; and his Worship the Mayor of Bootle (Bro. J. Newell), Bros. Alderman J. G. Livingston, E. Samuelson, J. Pearson, A. Boyd, and Sir A. B. Walker, Knight; Bros. Councillors J. A. Forrest, G. Fowler, G. Peet, E. Grindley, T. H. Sheen, and W. J. Lunt, the P.G. Officers Past and Present, and the W.Ms. and P.Ms., Wardens, and brethren of West Lancashire and other provinces. So great was the demand for seats at extra prices that seven rows of orchestra stalls had to be provided; the dress circle was fully booked a fortnight ago, and, as the tickets for all the other parts of the theatre sold well, the audience was one of the most brilliant and crowded which has been seen for a long time, even with the dense fog which prevailed.

The free use of the theatre was generously given by Bros. Leslie and Courtenay, the lessees, the latter of whom is the W.M. of the Dramatic Lodge for the current year. The programme furnished was about as attractive as could be conceived, and all the arrangements both before and behind the curtain were most complete and admirable. By permission of Mr. Tom Taylor, the ever-welcome comedy "Still Waters Run Deep" was the chief dramatic item of the bill, the different male characters being principally represented by members of the lodge, assisted con amore by ladies whose husbands are both worthy Masons. Miss Rachel Sanger (wife of Bro. J. C. Scanlan, of Lodge 1609), travelled all the way from London for the special purpose of giving her valuable help on the occasion, and the splendid manner in which she played Mrs. Mildmay elicited frequent and hearty applause from every part of the crowded house.

Mrs. Lindo Courtenay (wife of the W.M. of the Dramatic Lodge), also most kindly gave her services, appearing as Mrs. Hector Sternhold, whom she represented with telling spirit.

Bro. John Dewhurst, belonging to a Southport Lodge, who also gave his services, very pointedly hit his mark as the Still-water, Mildmay, and Bro. Lindo Courtenay, W.M. proved to demonstration that he is an actor of a very high order by his representation of the amorous and unprincipled Hawkesley. Bro. Frank Emery, J.D. 1609, gave a portrait of Mr. Potter, which, while free from exaggeration, was singularly forcible, artistic and intelligent. Dunbilk was played with remarkable raciness by Bro. R. J. Roberts, 1609, and minor parts were well filled by Bro. Constantine I.P.M. (Gimlet), Bro. H. P. Squire, J.S. (Mr. Markham), Bro. C. Courtenay, 1609 (Mr. Langford), Bro. J. Pyer, I.G. (Richwood), Bro. J. A. Mercer, 1609 (Jessop), and Bro. Henry Leslie, 1609 (aide to Captain Hawkesley). The comedy was staged with exquisite taste, and calls were given to the chiefs in the cast at the close of each act. The stage management was under the able direction of Bro. J. A. Mercer. A vocal and dramatic entertainment, in connection with which an almost unequalled array of talent was brought into requisition, under the able and skilled management of Bro. D. Saunders, 1609, followed the comedy, and this was as thoroughly appreciated as any section of the performance.

A specially written Masonic overture, composed and conducted by Bro. H. Round, a work of much merit, was capitally played by the excellent orchestra, chiefly composed of brethren, and gave additional value to the evening's entertainment. Mrs. F. R. Phillips opened the second section of the entertainment with much effect, and the others who appeared during the evening were Bro. J. Busfield, 216; Miss L. Price; Bro. J. Hill, 1609; Mr. and Mrs. Charles; Bro. E. Saker, 1609; Bro. H. Walsham; Bro. H. Gill, 1086; Bro. Walton, 1609; Bro. Hemming; Bro. J. Webster Williams, 1609; Bro. W. J. Ashcroft (who came from Manchester for the purpose of assisting, with his usual success), and Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O. (accompanyist). The National Anthem and "God Bless the Prince of Wales" were sung at the close with an enthusiasm which clearly showed the essence of Masonry is loyalty, the solos being given by Bro. Webster Williams, whom the public must be glad to welcome back to Liverpool in connection with the Hague Minstrels. The success of the performance is largely attributable to Bro.

J. Atkinson, 1609, the Honorary Secretary, and Bro. P. Lownes, 1609, the Honorary Treasurer; while all the officers and the principal members of the Lodge contributed their services most willingly to secure complete success. An efficient band of Stewards did their best to contribute to the comfort of the patrons of the Masonic entertainment, and they wore elegant badges.

The theatre was perfumed with Rimmell's Patent Vapouriser, supplied by the eminent photographers Bros. Brown, Barnes, and Bell, all connected with the Dramatic Lodge, and an admirable Shakesperian programme was also got up by them for the occasion.

BRO. HUGHAN'S NEW WORK.

Bro. Hughan's new work, "A Numismatical and Numerical Register of the United Grand Lodge of England," is now printing, and may be expected early in the new year. It will be handsomely printed and illustrated, and be the best of the books he has brought out for the benefit of the Craft, as well as the most valuable, Masonically.

It is to be dedicated to the R.W. Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods, (Garter) G.D.C. of England, especially as the heraldic part of the work has been partly prepared under the superintendence of that worthy brother. The frontispiece will consist of the Arms of the Grand Lodge of England, beautifully lithographed in appropriate colours, and the other plates will comprise drawings of several important medals, such as the Royal medals of the "Antiquity," and "Prince of Wales" Lodges, the Freemasons' Hall medal of 1780, the Charity, Inauguration, and Royal Installation medals, special jewels of the "Grand Master's" "Royal Somerset House and Inverness," "Westminster and Keystone," "Royal Alpha," "Royal York of Perseverance," &c., Lodges, also particulars of many other lodges, lists of Centenary Lodges, Roll of "Union" Lodges, &c. Intending subscribers should remit at once, half-a-guinea for each copy, direct to the author Bro. W. J. Hughan, Truro, as after publication the cost will be twelve and sixpence.

THE FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION OF THE DUBLIN ROYAL ACADEMY.

The exhibition of the present year, we are informed, promises to be a brilliant one, and we have fortunately been allowed a private view of some of the pictures that are going from England.

Amongst them we cannot refrain from noticing three works of a rising young artist—Mr. William Bennett, jun.—who has adopted, as his abode, one of the most beautiful spots in Surrey, and therefore in all England, Caterham Valley.

The pictures to which we refer are beautifully executed in water-colours, and are respectively:—"A Day in the Surrey Lanes," a view near Warrington, an exquisite piece of rural scenery in Spring; "The Day before the In-gathering," an old gateway opening upon a cornfield at Tilling-down, a lovely Autumn picture, which we are glad but not surprised to see, bears the magic word "Sold;" and "The Coming October," a finely executed Summer view of a hop-garden, with Godstone in the middle distance, and the downs beyond. All are contiguous to the charming valley we have mentioned. The artist kindly showed us other works in progress for the Dudley Gallery, the Royal Academy, and the Bristol Exhibition, all of which we hope to speak of in due course. All who have seen this artist's pictures at the Crystal Palace and other galleries, will gladly welcome his works again wherever and whenever they may be exhibited.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday afternoon, the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton, V.P. and Trustee, presided. There were also present Bros. Thos. F. Peacock, Arthur E. Gladwell, John Faulkner, L. H. Webb, C. Harcourt, Griffiths Smith, Thos. W. White, R. B. Webster, H. A. Dubois, E. H. Finney, S. Rawson, Thomas J. White, F. R. W. Hedges, Secretary; and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The House Committee minutes, which were read for information, recorded that notices had been served by the Brighton Railway of their intention to apply for a bill next session, which would require a portion of the grounds of the Masonic Girls' School, to be taken for the new works to be carried out if that bill was successful. These minutes also notified the steps that had been taken with regard to the cookery class which had been established at the School. It was also recorded that the Pickwick Histrionic Club had been engaged to give a dramatic entertainment at the Twelfth Night treat to the children remaining at the School during the Christmas holidays.

Six petitions were received, and the candidates placed on the list for next election in April. Eighteen vacancies were declared for that election, for which there are forty-eight candidates.

The Committee then adjourned.

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

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. George Kenning has, following the spirit of the times, published a Christmas number of his excellent Masonic Magazine, which contains quite a large collection of literary attractions.

The annual installation meeting of the Walton Lodge (No. 1086), was held on New Year's Day, at the Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Westminster-road, Kirkdale, Liverpool, when Bro. G. J. Townsend, W.M., was again placed in the chair for the second consecutive year.

The annual ball given jointly by the Carnarvon Lodge (No. 1572), and the Mizpah Lodge (No. 1671), will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on the evening of the 7th of February.

The marriage of the Duke of Connaught will, it is understood, take place at Windsor Castle on the 13th of March, the ceremony, originally fixed for February, having been postponed a month in consequence of the death of the Princess Alice (Grand Duchess of Hesse).

Bro. Herbert Rymill, of the Barbican Repository, has, according to the City Press, made his customary distribution of coals and other gifts to the poor in the neighbourhood of Barbican.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has received kind messages from the Queen and the Empress Eugenie, and an autograph letter from the King of the Belgians, expressing their sympathy with her in the loss of her much loved and valued friend, Mrs. Hannah Brown.

Bro. John Derby Allcroft, M.P., P.M. Lodge

ruary 1st.

Bro. H. B. Marshall has forwarded to the Lord Mayor a donation of ten guineas for the Surgical Aid Society.

His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief will hold a levee at one o'clock on Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Horse Guards, Whitehall, the number being limited to 158.

With the expiration of the year 1878 the custom of awarding good conduct gratuities to soldiers has been abolished.

The funeral of the late Bro. Colonel Duff, member for North Norfolk, Prov. Grand Superintendent designate for Norfolk, took place on Tuesday last, at Westwick, Norfolk, and was attended by Lord Rendlesham, M.P., Lord Tollemache, L. Suffield, Sir E. Lacon, M.P., Sir Robert Buxton, M.P., Mr. Clare Sewell Read, M.P., the Hon. Harbord Harbord, and hundreds of gentlemen from distant parts of the county.

A supper and entertainment to the employes of Bro. J. H. Spencer, proprietor of the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, took place on Tuesday evening at that establishment. Mr. John Hainsworth occupied the chair. After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the Chairman gave, "The Health of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer," wishing them in every sense a prosperous new year.

At a recent meeting of the Town Council of Leeds it was resolved to purchase Hunslet Moor from the lords of the manor for the purposes of a recreation ground for the people.

The Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors have granted a donation of twenty guineas to the North-West Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

VEGETABLES ALL THE YEAR ROUND.—It should be the aim of everyone to grow their own vegetables. It is true economy besides being a pleasure. To do so is very simple and the greatest novice may soon be a good gardener, by purchasing "Sutton's Amateurs' Guide in Horticulture," the most practical work on gardening yet published.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS, For the Week ending Friday, January 10, 1879.

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, JANUARY 4. Funeral of Bro. Boyd, at Brompton Cemetery, at 2 p.m. Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.

Lodge 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st. " 1022, Rose, Surrey M.H. LODGES OF INSTRUCTION. Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6. Lodge 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H. " 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st. " 144, St. Luke's, 2, Westmr. Chmbrs., Victoria-st.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7. Colonial Board, at 4. Lodge 9, Albion, F.M.H. " 172, Old Concord, F.M.H. " 255, Harmony, Greyhound, Richmond.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8. Gen. Com. R.M.B.I., at 3. Lodge 11, Enoch, F.M.H. " 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., Woolwich. " 15, Kent, F.M.H.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9. Lodge 91, Regularity, F.M.H. " 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st. " 534, Polish National, F.M.H. " 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st. " 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10. Lodge 157, Bedford, F.M.H. " 177, Domatic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st. " 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.

LONDON MASONS CLUB, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C. Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., 6 to 8 p.m.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE. For the Week ending Saturday, January 11, 1879. MONDAY, JANUARY 6. Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.

TUESDAY JANUARY, 7. Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool. " 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's. " 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8. Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescot. " 281, Fortitude, Athenæum, Lancaster. " 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9. Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool. " 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool. " 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10. Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

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