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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—On Tuesday, the 6th inst., the installation meeting of the Lodge of Joppa was held at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, Bro. J. T. Miller, W.M., presiding, assisted by his officers:—Bros. M. Spiegel, S.W. (W.M. elect); L. W. Auerhaan, Treas.; E. P. Albert, Sec.; R. Baker, J.D.; J. Benjamin, I.G.; Bro. Baum, steward; and E. P. Van Norden, Organist. There was a large attendance of brethren of the lodge and many visitors, among whom were Bros. B. Lyons, 1227; B. Hauffman, 1732; S. de Costa Andrade; H. Payne, 720; S. M. Lazarus, P.M.; L. Tallerman, 474; J. H. Dodson, 55; A. M. Cohen, 205; H. Ruthven, 249; J. Klein, 1267; C. J. Knight, 1414; J. D. Bonett, 1168; R. French, 5; D. Heines, 195; C. Rowland, Edward Lee, 185; and H. Massey, 1297. The ceremony of installation was the only business before the lodge, and was admirably performed by Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., for which a vote of thanks to him was subsequently ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The officers appointed for the year were as follows and were duly invested by the W.M.: Bros. C. Hyman, S.W.; Campion, J.W.; J. W. L. Auerhaan, Treas.; E. P. Albert, Sec.; R. Baker, S.D.; L. Myers, J.D.; Benjamin, I.G.; Lazarus, P.M., D.C.; Blanks, W.S.; P. E. Van Norden, Org.; Woodstock, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee and sundry letters from members having been read by the Secretary, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren thereafter adjourned to a sumptuous banquet in the lodge room—about 120 being present. On the cloth being withdrawn the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. In proposing "The Health of Her Majesty" Bro. Spiegel said, that as Freemasons were considered the most loyal subjects under the sun, as such they revered and paid Her Majesty every homage. On the present occasion it was their sorrowful duty to condole with Her Majesty under the calamity that had befallen her in the loss of one of her children—a child that had been loved by the people, not only of this country, but by those of her adopted country abroad. "The Health of the Prince of Wales," followed by the toasts to "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand officers, Present and Past," were duly honoured, the latter being responded to by Bro. Albert, the Secretary of the lodge, and Past Grand Pursuivant. The W.M. then proceeded to propose "Success to the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge," which he characterised as one of the most important toasts of the evening, as that Fund was the pride of every member, present or absent. The Benevolent Fund had prospered since the year 1828, and he trusted it would continue to prosper from generation to generation. The fund was under the management of a Committee, with a President and Vice-President, whose duty it was to see that it was properly administered, and he desired to propose the toast, "Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund," and "The Health of the President, Vice-President, and Committee," coupling it with the name of the President, Bro. P.M. Alexander. Bro. Alexander: Worshipful Master, Bro. Wardens, and Brethren,—“I rise, on behalf of the Vice-Presidents and Committee, as well as myself, to thank you sincerely for the very cordial reception you have given to this toast. The W.M. has been pleased to remark upon the rise and progress of the Benevolent Fund; and there is little else for me to say; but this fund was established in 1849, and there are several of the brethren present, thank God, who were the originators and founders of that fund. I am very happy to say that from the time of its institution we have progressed yearly; and I am also happy to inform you that, notwithstanding the award of £160 to two applicants, we have still stock belonging to the fund of nearly £1,300.” The speaker then announced donations collected at the table by Bro. Lewis Lazarus, P.M. and D.C., amounting to nearly £10; and added on behalf of those for whom he was responding to this toast,

that though they would always be very careful to see that the money was well applied, they would always guard against anything like imposition on the fund. He was sure that the brethren would be pleased to hear that a visitor, Bro. Pim, had been kind enough to offer a contribution to the fund, which, however, it had been his duty to decline with thanks, as they had always considered it an exclusive fund, and must keep to their text of declining to accept donations from visiting brethren. "The Health of the Three Visitors" was then duly honoured and responded to. Bro. J. T. Miller, I.P.M.: "It is my pleasing duty to rise for the purpose of proposing the health of the W.M. He has worked through our lodge creditably. He is known in Masonic circles—not only in the lodges, but in the schools—and I am sure the Lodge of Joppa should feel proud of a Master occupying this dignified position. I trust that his year of office will be a very prosperous one for the Lodge of Joppa, that the roll of its members will be increased, and that its officers will be encouraged to work up to the dignified position he now holds. Brethren, I ask you to rise and drink the health of our W.M. Bro. Spiegel." Bro. Spiegel: "Brethren, the response you have given to the toast just proposed by our I.P.M., assures me that you fully approve of the selection that has been made on a former occasion. I thank you once more for my election to this chair. I have to thank you on this occasion for being here. Here we see my father and mother in Freemasonry. I am glad to see here Bro. P. M. Levy, who was kind enough to initiate me into Freemasonry in this lodge. It made an impression on me, and even at that time I was anxious and solicitous to come to this chair. I did not then know the difficulties that lay in my way. However, the difficulties, however great I have overcome. My thanks are due to Bro. Alexander; he was the first to give me instruction in Freemasonry. Brethren, on the last occasion I made certain promises, which I have discharged, that is leaving the nomination of officers to the Board of General Purposes. Future occupants of this chair, therefore, will have none of the difficulty of selecting their officers. Brethren, another promise I made was to exercise economy, which, when the next balance sheet is issued I am sure you will see has been fulfilled. One thing more. I have to impress upon you to be careful in the members you wish to propose; consult not your own comfort, but the comfort of the brethren." The W.M. concluded with some remarks upon the exercise of the privilege of black-balling members proposed. "The Health of the Visitors" having been drunk, the W.M. then presented to the Immediate P.M., Bro. Miller, a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, which the brethren had subscribed for as a mark of their appreciation of his work during his year of office. Bro. Miller having returned thanks, other Masonic toasts were proposed, including the P.M.'s, the Treasurer and Secretary, and other officers of the lodge, were proposed from the chair and cordially received. The proceedings were enlivened with some excellent vocal music by Miss Pattie Laberne, Miss Burman, and Mr. Prenton, Bro. P. D. Van Norden, Org., presiding at the pianoforte.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 102).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when the following brethren were present: Bros. Henry Legge, W.M.; Thomas Cohu, P.M., acting S.W.; W. T. Rickwood, J.W.; George Kenning, P.M., Treas.; George Abbott, P.M., Hon. Sec.; S. T. Lucas, S.D.; J. G. Chillingworth, jun., J.D.; Stevenson, acting I.G.; H. A. Pratt, D.C.; Edward Jones, I.P.M.; J. G. Marsh, P.M.; George Newman, P.M.; Ebenezer Roberts, P.M.; John Kent, R. E. Bright, Charles Arkell, Thos. Fisher, W. F. Poulton, R. H. Goddard, T. T. Hampton, H. A. Carter, J. Copelin, R. J. Dart, Thomas Agutter, John Quy, and others. Visitor: Bro. Frankau. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Coleman and Cobb were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Mr. James E. Groves was initiated into the mysteries and secrets of Freemasonry. The following motion was proposed, seconded, and discussed: "That bye law No. 15 be altered to read as follows: 'That in future each member, in addition to his annual subscription, shall pay the sum of 5s. per annum toward the lodge Charity Fund; that such fund be audited annually by the Audit Committee (vide Article 12), and a statement of the Treasurer's account be inserted from time to time in the minute book of the lodge; the said Charity Fund to be disposed of only by vote of the majority of the members at a regular lodge meeting.'" The motion was adjourned until the next meeting for further consideration. The brethren dined together.

ROYAL SAVOY LODGE (No. 1744).—An emergency meeting of this young lodge took place on Monday, the 6th inst., at Ashley's Hotel, Covent-garden, Bro. J. Willing in the chair. There were also present: Bros. Stiles (Sec.), as S.W.; J. L. Jones, as J.W.; Hyland, S.D.; J. W. Smith, J.D.; Cook, I.G.; Sillis, Steward; Read, Hixon, Bareham, and over thirty members and visitors, despite the foggy weather. The business consisted of initiating Mr. P. W. Earle, and Mr. G. C. Dickey; raising Bros. C. Hammond, and P. Cheek; and passing Bro. Howeroft. After the ceremonies were completed in the usual satisfactory manner, seven propositions for initiation and one for joining were given; and the lodge, after some general observations of the W.M., particularly with reference to the lodge already having paid all its liabilities, was adjourned until the fourth Tuesday in January, the next regular meeting. We are pleased to witness these last two meetings of this lodge, as evincing on the part of the brethren a desire, by denying themselves the customary banquet, to fully qualify the lodge as a strong supporter of the various charities connected with Freemasonry. The W.M. announced his intention to represent the lodge at the ensuing festival of the Girls' School, and so to endorse his support

of Bro. Hedges at his election as Secretary of that Institution, who, by the able discharge of the duties of that office, had fully confirmed the choice of the brethren.

PLYMOUTH.—St. John's Lodge, (No. 70).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on the 7th inst., at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Princess-place. The St. John's is the senior lodge of the Order in the locality, and there was a large number of members and visitors present. The W.M., W. Bro. Samuel Roach, presided. W. Bro. Alfred Ernest Lean, the W.M. elect, was installed by W. Bro. Samuel Roach, assisted by W. Bros. R. Pengelly and Jno. B. Gover, P.P.G.A.D.C., and supported by the following Board of I.M.'s:—W. Bros. V. Bird, P.P.G.T.; S. Jew, P.P.G.T.; L. D. Westcott, P.P.G.S. Wks.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G.S. Wks.; C. Stribling, P.P.G.S. Wks.; F. P. Holmes, P.P.G.S. Wks.; F. R. Tomes, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Browning, P.P.G.D.C.; J. no. Du Pre, P.P.G.D.C.; J. P. Phillips, P.P.G.D.C.; H. F. Hearle, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. M. Hiffey, P.P.G.A.D.C.; F. Codd, P.P.G.O.; R. M. Andrews, P.G.St.; J. Richards, J. Wainwright, H. W. Thomas, P.Ms., 70; J. T. Browning, W.M.; Jno. James C. Cooper, P.M.'s, 105; R. Cawsey, W.M., 230; W. Harries, Jas. Gidley, 1205; J. R. Lord, 1247; R. G. Bird, J. G. Keverne, 1550. At the close of the installation the W.M. invested the following brethren as the officers:—W. Bro. S. Roach, I.P.M.; Wm. Odam, S. W.; E. Tout, J.W.; W. Bros. L. D. Westcott, Treas.; J. B. Gover, Sec.; Bros. Henry Richardson, S.D.; Jas. Griffin, J.D.; W. Bro. R. Pengelly, D.C.; Bros. F. B. Westlake, A.D.C.; John D. Barker, O.; Geo. Robert Mitchell, I.G.; Thos. King, jun.; John Dwelley, Stewards. In the evening a large party of the brethren dined together at the Globe Hotel, where they were joined by the following additional officers:—W. Bros. I. Watts, P.P.G.T.; R. P. Culley, P.M. 70 and 1247; Geo. Hilsen, P.M., 105; W. Marsh, W.M., 156; S. Hyne, W.M., 1205. Apologies were read for the non-attendance of several P.G.L. officers, among others one from W. Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., whose recent presentation by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter to the living of Bucknell, a township three miles from Honiton, to which the Bishop of Exeter had just instituted him vicar, together with some engagements in his former parish at Devonport, had prevented his attendance. An apology from another brother was grounded on a recent sad misadventure he had suffered. He held 150 shares in the West of England and South Wales Bank, and had the prospect before him of having all his other property swept away to meet the calls upon those shares. Congratulations were expressed at the success of Bro. Lemon, and sympathy and condolence for the brother that had met with so great a misfortune. The R.W. Bros. the Rev. J. Huyshe, M.A., P.G.M., and L. P. Metham, D.P.G.M., whose non-attendance arose from the state of their healths, were loyally remembered in warm eulogiums. The toasts of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, R.W.P.G.M. of Cornwall," and "The P.G.L. of Cornwall," proposed by Bro. S. Roach, and replied to by W. Bro. S. Hyne, was also very warmly received, the high esteem expressed by both brothers for the distinguished G.M. of the adjoining province being most heartily reciprocated by the brethren. During the evening a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented by the lodge to Bro. Roach, with the following inscription:—"To W. Bro. Samuel Roach, in fraternal recognition of his services as Master of the St. John's Lodge, No. 70, in 1878." A reference made by Bro. Gover, to the coming meeting, expected to be held in the latter part of January, for organising a local Masonic school fund for the aid of brethren's children left in need of such assistance, drew a hearty response from a W. brother, who announced his intention of making himself a life governor and an annual subscriber to the fund. General approval of the scheme was also expressed among the brethren. It was announced that during the past year the lodge had subscribed £40 towards the several Masonic Charities.

FALMOUTH.—Love and Honour Lodge (No. 75).—The brethren of this lodge, the premier lodge of the Province of Cornwall, celebrated the festival of St. John at the Masonic Hall, Royal Hotel, on Friday, 3rd inst., when Bro. Wilson Lloyd Fox was installed the W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was efficiently performed by W. Bro. W. F. Newman, P.M. P.P.S.G.D., assisted by the following Board of Installed Masters: W. Bros. John Vivian, P.P.G.S.B.; Francis Dennis, P.P.G. Purs.; Timothy C. Polglase, P.P.G.A.D.C.; Wm. H. Dunstan, P.P.G.S. Wks.; Harry Tilly, W.M.; and Thomas Rickard, W.M. 967. The W.M. installed the following as his officers:—W. Bro. Harry Tilly, I.P.M.; Bros. Joseph Wallace, S.W. and W. D. Rogers, J.W.; W. F. Newman, P.M., and C. Treas.; Richard Carter, P.P.G.O., Sec.; Edward May, S.D.; Henry James, J.D.; R. N. Rogers, I.G.; R. C. Richards, D.C.; Michael Richards, A.D.C.; C. W. Robinson, Org.; Wm. Vincent, S.S.; J. C. Bennet, J.S.; Wm. Rusden, P.P.G. Tyler, Tyler. W. Bro. T. C. Polglase was elected Steward for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund. Subsequently the brethren dined together, and were joined by W. Bros. Michael Little, P.M., and S. H. Mitchell, P.M. 589; with 25 visitors, E. D. Anderton, P.M. 331, P.P.J.G.W.; Arthur T. Grant, P.M. 318, P.P.G. Purs.; T. Rickard, W.M. 967; Stephen Sara, W.M. elect of 967; T. B. Hart, J.W. 967; and Captain Rashleigh, 331.

WARRINGTON.—Lodge of Lights (No. 148).—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M. and the 232nd annual banquet of this ancient and flourishing lodge, was held on the last day of the old year, at the Masonic rooms, Sankey-street, at three o'clock in the afternoon. The W.M., Bro. Joseph Pickthall, was supported by Bros. J. Rymer Young, S.W., W.M. elect; C. E. Hindley

J.W.; Thos. Grime, J.D.; Arthur Peake, I.G.; John Armstrong, P.M., Treasurer; John Bowes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland, Hon. Sec.; John Harding, P.M.; S.E. Johnson, Charles Skinner, F. Walter, Thos. Jones, Dr. Mackie, Dr. Joseph, Thos. Morris, Christoph. Ekkert, R. W. Francomb, W. Barn, Domville, Tyler. Among the visitors we noticed, Bros. J. S. Crapper, P.M., Prov. G.A.D.C., Staffordshire; D. W. Finney, W.M. 1250; Prov. G. Steward, Jas. Kenworthy, J.D. 1565; D. Gabrielson, 1502; Morris Flatau, 1502; Charles Petty, 477; J. H. Evans, W.M. 1565; J. H. Wilson, 384; J. H. Galloway, Treas. 1250; and others. The lodge was opened in due form with prayer, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then announced the receipt of a letter of request from Bro. S. Schonstadt, W.M. of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, to pass Bro. M. Flatau, of Hamburg, to the degree of a F.C. Bro. Sec. having read the communications from the W.M. and Sec. of 1502, and Bro. Flatau having proved his claim to preferment, was entrusted, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Flatau re-admitted and passed by the W.M., assisted by Bro. D. W. Finney, W.M. 1250. The chair of K.S. was now assumed by Bro. Bowes at the request of the W.M., who presented his successor, Bro. John Rymer Young, S.W., W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. The presentation was duly attended to, and the first part of the ceremony being completed the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, when Bros. Past Masters Armstrong and Finney were placed respectively in the West and South. All below the degree of Installed Masters having retired, the W.M. elect was entrusted and retired. A Board of Installed Masters was then opened in ample form, not "declared" as the manner of some is, the W.M. elect admitted and placed in the chair of K.S. according to the ancient custom. Having been saluted, proclaimed and greeted in the usual form, the W.M. requested the Installing Master to call off for a brief space, and during this interval the "cement" was judiciously applied, and then labour was resumed. The Board having been closed, the brethren in the several degrees were re-admitted, and the W.M. saluted, proclaimed, and greeted in each degree. The Installing Master requested Bro. Crapper to deliver and explain the working tools, which he did in a most able manner. The W.M. invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. Joseph Pickthall, I.P.M.; C. E. Hindley, S.W.; A. H. Young, J.W.; Jno. Armstrong, P.M., Treas.; John Bowes, P.M. &c., Sec.; James Paterson, S.D.; Thos. Grime, J.D.; Thos. M. Pattison, Org.; Arthur Peake, I.G.; and Thos. Domville, Tyler. Bro. Bowes having addressed each of the officers with respect to the teaching of their emblems of office, situation, and duty, then delivered the ancient charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. The Auditors' report was then read, which showed that after a very expensive year there was in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of nearly £70. The W.M. then said he had a very pleasing duty to perform, namely, to present to Bro. Joseph Pickthall, I.P.M., a handsome gold Past Master's jewel, on behalf of the lodge. The inscription on the back of the jewel so fully expressed the feelings that prompted the presentation that he would add nothing to it, and concluded by placing the jewel on Bro. Pickthall's breast. Bro. Pickthall, who was evidently much moved by this token of esteem, said: "Worshipful Master, Past-Masters, officers, and brethren all, the presentation of this beautiful jewel, which has been awarded to me by you, conveys along with it a value of far greater worth than any words of mine can express. You must bear with me if words fail to express all I feel at the present moment, as nothing is more embarrassing than to return thanks in suitable terms. This much I must say, that in accepting this jewel, I bear with me into the future a trophy of brotherly love. I never can forget your kind regard, and never can I look upon this jewel without the happy feeling again springing up, which now well-nigh overpowered me. The "esteem" which you say it conveys specially merits my warmest thanks; I am proud of such regard, and to my dying day the association with the brethren of the Lodge of Lights, No. 148, will be remembered by me as among the happiest days of my existence. With regard to any worth of mine, as late Worshipful Master of this lodge, I cannot lay any claim to, for whatever responsibilities are attached to that high office, such responsibilities have been shared in by my Wardens and other officers, by them my year of office has been made pleasant, and the duties of Worshipful Master considerably lightened by their knowledge of the ritual, their general urbanity of manner, and strictly regular attendance at lodge. Allow me here to tender my best thanks to each of them, and also to each of you, my brethren, for the respect you ever manifest to the Worshipful Master of our lodge, and without unnecessarily trespassing on your time, allow me a further indulgence in expressing a hope that the same harmony which characterised my year of office may be extended to you, sir, our worthy brother, and now Worshipful Master of this lodge—John Rymer Young. With my precious jewel I now retire and join the rank of Past Masters, where, with them, I trust I may be more useful than during the limited period of my office experience. To be associated with Masonry, we all know, is a privilege only appreciated by Masons. The sacred tie which binds us all in one common brotherhood, is but a type of the Grand Lodge above, and to be gathered there as one family with the G.A.O.T.U. is the aspiration of every true and loyal Mason. Brethren, I thank you all again and again, and may the Lodge of Lights ever continue to be united, prosperous, and happy, and God be with us all." A gentleman having been proposed as a fit and proper person, and some routine business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Lion Hotel for the banquet. This was served in excellent style by mine host, Bro. Speakman. Grace after meat having been said, the usual

loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a most enjoyable evening was enlivened by the musical talent of Bros. Crapper, Petty, Francomb, Skinner, and Ekkert.

BRIXHAM.—True Love and Unity Lodge (No. 248).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, 3rd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Brixham. Bro. W. C. Gregory, the W.M. elect, was installed by W. Bro. J. McLean, P.M.; supported by the following Board of I.M.s.:—W. Bros. S. Colston, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Johnson, J. Howard, H. Brown, P.M.; and J. Hammick. The following officers were invested and appointed:—Bros. J. Hammick, I.P.M.; H. Cowell, S.W.; G. Searle, J.W.; W. Woolley, Treasurer; J. Cranford, Secretary; E. Barter, S.D.; R. Stevens, J.D.; C. Jones, I.G.; and S. Clarke, Tyler. The brethren dined at the Bolton Hotel.

YORK.—York Lodge (No. 236).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 6th inst. Bro. A. Buckle, the W.M., presiding, and working the ceremony of the Third Degree. A vote of condolence with the family of the late Bro. Bryan Wormald, was moved by Bro. J. Todd, P.M. and Treas., seconded by Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., and passed unanimously. A vote of thanks, moved by Bro. T. S. Camidge, P.P.S.O., to Bro. W. B. Richardson, P.M., through whose liberality principally it was that the lodge organ was now in its efficient condition.

ROCHDALE.—Lodge of Harmony (No. 298).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, at three o'clock on New Year's Day. The W.M., Bro. Hudson, was supported by Bros. R. R. Grey, S.W., W.M. elect; Dods, J.W., W. Roberts, P.M., P. Prov. G.P.; Holdroyd, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.B., W. Yorks; Butterworth, P.M., P. Prov. G.A.P.; Green, S.D.; Turner, J.D.; Parker, I.G.; Matley, Sec.; Taylor and Collingwood, Stewards, Hoyle; Duckworth and Fielden, visitors; Bros. John Bowes, P.M., P. Prov. G.J.W., Cumberland and Westmoreland; Schofield, W.M., 367; Fletcher, W.M., 1129; and Schuler. The lodge was opened in due form with prayer, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M. invited Bro. John Bowes to take the chair as Installing Master. The W.M. elect was then presented and installed in the usual manner in a Board of Installed Masters duly opened in ample form. Bro. Roberts, P.M., &c., acted as Director of Ceremonies throughout. The W.M. appointed and invested as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Hudson, I.P.M.; Dods, S.W.; Green, J.W.; Matley, Sec.; Turner, S.D.; Parker, J.D.; Taylor, I.G.; Collingwood, Steward, &c. The addresses to the various officers, as well as the charges to the W.M., Wardens, and members generally were all given by the Installing Master. At the conclusion of the interesting ceremony a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Bowes for his services that day. In acknowledging the compliment, Bro. Bowes said it had afforded him very great pleasure to come to Rochdale to instal his old friend, Bro. R. R. Grey, the esteemed Head Master of their Grammar School, and if the manner in which he had worked the degree had met with their approval his pleasure was enhanced, and he was amply repaid for any little trouble and inconvenience he may have experienced in visiting them that day. The remainder of the business having been transacted, the lodge was closed, and the room transformed into a banquet-hall. In the degree which followed, ample justice was done by all present, and the various loyal and Masonic toasts were very heartily considered, and a pleasant evening spent. We cannot close this brief notice of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 298, without congratulating the members on their possession of such a comfortable, well-furnished, and convenient lodge room, and also on their wisdom in electing a gentleman of position and education to fill the chair of the lodge. Our ritual always merits consideration at the hands of brethren of Bro. Grey's social position and attainments.

MANCHESTER.—Affability Lodge (No. 317).—This old and popular lodge held its annual St. John's Festival on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. The brethren assembled at five o'clock p.m., and the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. D. Donbavand. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been ratified, and other routine business disposed of, the W.M. proceeded to instal his successor, Bro. J. R. Lever in the chair of K.S., the P.M.'s of the lodge ably assisting him. After the brethren had saluted and greeted the newly-installed W.M. in the Three Degrees, the following officers were invested by Bro. Lever, W.M., viz.:—Bros. Mark Vickers, S.W.; W. Nicholl, J.W.; John Church, Sec.; J. Tomlins, S.D.; J. Halliday, J.D.; Jas. Dawson (P.M.), Reg.; Jno. Bladon (P.M.), D.C.; Cunliffe, Org.; E. Cohen, I.G.; P. Holmes, W. Wilson, and R. Forshaw, Stewards. The Treasurer (Bro. Smethurst) was absent through ill-health. As is customary on this annual gathering, grants were voted for the Masonic Charities, and the lodge was closed in due form. In consequence of so many claims for charity (Masonic and otherwise) which are now presented to the brethren, it was decided to dispense with the usual banquet, and tea was substituted. The absence of the expensive luxuries did not, however, interfere with the enjoyment of the evening. Toasts, songs, and recitations were heartily given, and Bro. Bladon, P.M., collected a good round sum on behalf of the Aged Freemasons, which will be added to Bro. J. H. Sillitoe's Steward's list for the next festival.

BODMIN.—One and All Lodge (No. 330).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 3rd inst., when W. Bro. W. Rowe, in an able and impressive manner, in-

stalled Bro. R. Adams as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. afterwards distributed the various collars as follows: W. Bros. W. Rowe, I.P.M.; J. G. Vincent, S.W.; R. Vercoe, J.W.; J. Crang, P.G.S.D., Treasurer; W. Angwin, Secretary; J. Trevorton, S.D.; S. Trevail, J.D.; T. Spear, D.C.; H. Jacobs, O.; B. G. Derry, and S. G. Bake, Stewards; J. Gatty, I.G.; and P. Carroll, Tyler. The banquet was afterwards held at Sandoe's Royal Hotel. In proposing the toast of "The Royal Family," the W.M. spoke of the recent bereavement which had befallen them in the death of the Princess Alice, a devoted wife and mother so suddenly taken from those for whom she had laboured so indefatigably and with such anxiety to restore to health. The toast was drunk in silence, as was also that of "The Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England."

OXFORD.—Alfred Lodge (No. 340).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Friday, 27th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Alfred-street. The Worshipful Master (Bro. F. W. Ansell, P.P.G.S.W.) presided, and there was a large attendance of the brethren, including the Deputy Prov. Grand Master (Bro. R. Bird, M.A.), and the Masters of the Bertie, Bowyer (Chipping-Norton), and St. Mary's (Thame) Lodges. Opportunity was taken to present Bro. W. R. Hobbs, the retiring Secretary, with a testimonial from the brethren for his services for the past 25 years. In making the presentation the Worshipful Master spoke of the very efficient manner in which the duties of Secretary had been performed, and the length of time (a quarter of a century) during which they had had the benefit of Bro. Hobbs's services. The testimonial consisted of a handsome Masonic jewel and a purse. The jewel bore the following inscription:—"This jewel, with a purse containing fifty guineas, was presented to Bro. W. R. Hobbs by the brethren of the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, on St. John's Day, 1878, as a small token of esteem and appreciation of his services for a quarter of a century as Secretary." Bro. Hobbs expressed his thanks in suitable terms for the kind compliment paid to him, and assured the lodge that it was only increasing infirmities that induced him to relinquish the office, but he hoped to be with them as often as possible. Bro. James Jenkins, P.P.G.S.B., was then installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed in a very masterly manner by the retiring Worshipful Master. The new Worshipful Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:—F. W. Ansell, Immediate Past Master; F. Ryman Hall, Senior Warden; J. J. Hughes, Junior Warden; H. Houghton, Treasurer; P. M. W. G. Emberlin, Secretary; R. Payne, Assistant-Secretary; W. E. Knowles, Senior Deacon; J. M. Dorner, Junior Deacon; Senior Master of Ceremonies, A. Wheeler; Junior ditto, J. H. Robson; Organist, W. R. Bowden; Inner Guard, T. Eley; Stewards, E. Horn and S. Harris; Tyler, W. Stephens; Assistant-Tyler, G. Norwood. On the proposition of the Secretary (Bro. Emberlin), seconded by the Worshipful Master, it was resolved that a Past Master's jewel should be presented at the next meeting to Bro. Ansell, in recognition of his services to the lodge. At the termination of the business, the anniversary banquet was held in the hall, the new Worshipful Master occupying the chair, and discharging the duties with much genial ability. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to, and several excellent speeches were delivered. About 40 brethren, including the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, sat down. The banquet, which was of a very recherché character, was well served, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

SWINDON.—Royal Sussex Lodge of Emulation (No. 355).—On Friday, the 27th ult., the annual festival of St. John was celebrated by the above lodge at the Masonic Hall, Victoria-street. A large number of brethren attended the lodge to take part in the installation of Bro. William Jenkins, the W.M. elect. The customary preliminary business having been gone through Bro. Jenkins was regularly installed in the chair of K.S.; and he then having invested the late W.M., Bro. J. Campbell Maclean, P.G.J.D., Wilts, as the I.P.M., the loving cup was passed round in a massive crystal goblet, handsomely engraved with Masonic devices, and the health of the newly-installed W.M. was duly honoured. The following brethren were next invested as the officers of the lodge for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. E. J. Hollings, as S.W.; J. Green, J.W.; H. Bevir, S.D.; J. Bryant, J.D.; Rev. A. Law, Chaplain; Geo. Whitehead, Organist; B. Coibron, I.G.; J. Savory, Tyler. The indefatigable Treasurer, W. Bro. John Chandler, P.G.D.C., Wilts, having been re-elected, and the likewise energetic Secretary, W. Bro. Joseph J. New, having been re-appointed, both zealous and experience Past Masters, they were again invested with the badges of their respective offices. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by the late I.P.M., W. Bro. T. E. Liddiard, P.G.S.B. Wilts, who acted as the Installing Master. The meeting was well supported by the former Past Masters and officers of the lodge, amongst those present being W. Bros. John Toomer, P.S.G.W. Wilts; W. H. C. Tombs, P.G.D. England, and P.G. Sec. Wilts; W. W. Affleck, P.G.A.P., Wilts; W. E. R. Ing, P.P.S.C.W., Wilts; W. R. Bradford, P.P.G. Treas., Wilts; W. R. Tarrant, P.P.G.D.C., Wilts; W. Alf. Plummer, P.P.G.A.D.C., Wilts; W. J. Godwin, P.P.G.S.D., Wilts; and as visitors, the W.M. the I.P.M. and the Sec. of the Gooch Lodge, No. 1295; W. Wm. H. Ludgate, and Jos. Goudge, also F. C. Kent, S.W., and Thos. Turner, J.W.; W. J. C. Milbourne, P.D.J.G.W., Egypt. The brethren adjourned to the Goddard Arms, where about forty sat down to an excellent banquet, the newly-installed Master presiding. The first toast from the chair was received with the usual feelings of loyalty, the brethren singing "God save the Queen," and after the next to the M.W. Grand Master, that of "God bless the Prince of Wales;" the subsequent toasts being also duly given and responded to, and

interspersed with some excellent songs, accompanied to music by the Organist, Bro. Whitehead, who presided at the pianoforte, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

HAYLE.—Cornubian Lodge (No. 451).—The annual meeting of this lodge took place on the 3rd inst. The W.M., Bro. William Husband, presided, and there was a good attendance, including W. Bros. H. S. Hill, W.M., No. 223, Plymouth; J. Jeffery, W.M., 318, Helston; John Thomas, P.G.S.B., 580; William Rowe, W.M., 1544; John Pool, J. P. Smith, P.P.G.D.; John Coombe, P.P.G.D.; F. Harvey, P.P.G.S.W.; N. J. West, P.P.G.R.; F. H. Pool, P.G.S.B.; William Huthnance, James Pool, and George Stevens. The W.M. elect, Bro. H. H. Trevithick, was installed by Bro. G. B. Pearce, and he invested and appointed the following officers:—Bros. W. Husband, I.P.M.; B. Spray, S.W.; Rev. G. Kennedy, J.W.; F. Harvey, Treasurer; N. J. West, Chaplain; J. P. Smith, Secretary; W. J. Jordan, S.D.; W. Bawden, J.D.; F. J. Vivian, I.G.; H. J. Warren, D.C.; and J. Bray, Tyler. Bro. John Coombe was appointed Steward of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund. The subject of a Williams' Memorial Fund was brought before the lodge by Bro. W. Husband previous to the installation, and after a discussion it was resolved that £10 10s. should be voted from the funds of the lodge, and that the brethren should be solicited individually to contribute. Some of the brethren at once put down their names for various sums, and in a short time nearly £30 was promised. The banquet was held at the White Hart Hotel. A speech on the Williams Memorial Fund was made by W. Bro. John Thomas, who warmly supported the movement, but expressed a desire to see the fund made available for educational purposes in the Province of Cornwall, instead of, as the letter Bro. W. Husband, sent to the various lodges, suggested, obtaining voting powers in the Boys' and Girls' Schools, &c. It was explained by Bro. Husband that his proposal was merely a suggestion, and that it would be for the P.G.M. and Prov. Grand Lodge to determine upon the form the memorial should take.

BERKHAMPSTEAD.—Berkhampstead Lodge (No. 504).—The installation meeting of this celebrated Hertfordshire Lodge was held on Wednesday last, at the Town Hall. The lodge, which was very fully attended, was opened by Bro. Henry Hollis, Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, W.M., at which time there were present the following brethren:—Bros. W. C. Maddever, S.W.; J. T. Rowe, J.W.; John C. Lane, P.M. and Treasurer; W. Wilson, P.M., A.G.P. Sec.; W. H. Hobson, S.D.; J. J. Hatten, J.D.; H. C. Lambert, I.G.; Wm. H. Rowe, P.M.; Robt. A. Wright, D. C. Foster, Fredk. Harvey, P.P.G.C.; Charles Bullock, J. M. Lockwood, W. Evans, Henry Monet, Z. Cartwright, John Greig, T. Harvey Hill, William Abbott, F. L. Lane, Thos. F. Peacock, A. Dennis, F. Graham Robinson, J. Edward Wilkin, 1241; George Gromley, 176; T. S. Watts, P.M. 916; R. Barclay Brown, George Brooks, 902; J. Tickle, P.M. 1196; W. Bristow, 861; W. T. Buck, 1196; J. K. Stead, G.S. 21; G. A. Rein, P.M. 1364; Henry Balderson, G. P. Bernard, Thos. E. Taylor, H. J. Foster, Wm. Field, A. Robbins, P.M. 1056; Ernest Wright, P.M. 1364; James C. Howell, C.C., 715; Edward Stuart Pugh, W. C. Mulligan, P.M. 305; Edward H. Smith, 404; J. J. Berry, P.M. 554; B. B. Fitzgerald, 1364; G. Young, 13; John Faulkner, 1423; Wm. Randall, 1470; Alfd. Thos. Parkes, Edwin Legge, W.M., 1196; David Stevenson (Wolverton), Henry Prince, 1309; H. D. Martin, 1309; Jas. Kift, 749; Lewis Poulton, S.D., 591. As a great number of these brethren went down from London, special arrangements were considerably made for them by the lodge with the London and North Western Railway Company. After the lodge had been opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Wilson read the Audit Committee's report and the report of the Benevolent Fund, both of which showed large balances in hand. The W.M. then resigned his chair to Bro. W. H. Rowe, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Works, P.M., who had engaged to instal the new W.M. Bro. W. C. Maddever, S.W., and W.M. elect, was then presented to Bro. Rowe by Bro. Hollis, W.M., and formally installed as Master of the lodge, in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters, numbering twenty-one. The officers for the ensuing year who were invested were Bros. Henry Hollis, Prov. G.S.B., I.P.M.; J. T. Rowe, P.M., S.W.; W. H. Hobson, J.W.; Lane, P.M., Treas.; W. Wilson, Assistant G. Pursuivant, P.M., Sec.; J. J. Hatten, S.D.; Hill, J.D.; H. C. Lambert, I.G.; Wright, P.M., W.S.; and Thomas, Tyler, who, in thanking the W.M. and the lodge for his re-election and investiture said that the present was the thirty-fourth year he had held his jewel of office. After the addresses had been delivered by Bro. W. H. Rowe, the lodge, on the motion of the Installing Master, seconded by Bro. Foster, P.M., unanimously voted a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Henry Hollis, the P.M. Bro. Wilson, Sec., then drew the attention of the brethren to the fact that Bro. Maddever would represent the lodge as its Steward at the festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on the 12th of February. As there was a balance of £12 2s. 6d. to the credit of the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge, and as it had always been the custom of the lodge to vote sums of money to the Masonic Charities he would move that the sum of ten guineas be taken from the Benevolent Fund and placed on the list of Bro. Maddever for the Benevolent Institution. The motion was seconded by Bro. Laxton, P.M., and carried unanimously. This completed the business of the lodge, which was thereupon closed, and the brethren adjourned to that excellent hotel, the King's Arms, to banquet. This was served in the very best style of a fine old English hotel, all the viands being of the first quality, and the wines of good old standing. The musical brethren were Bros. Martin, No. 1309; Upstone, No. 1309; and James Kift,

No. 749; who, after dinner, sang some excellent songs. The W.M. proposed the usual toasts, and in giving that of "The Queen and the Craft," said he was sure that the toast would be well received, as all Freemasons were loyal men. Bro. W. Wilson, A.G.P., responded to the toast of "The M.W.G.M. and Grand Officers," and said he, of course, felt it a great honour to be in a position to reply to the toast of the Grand Officers of England, and he appreciated the compliment that had been paid to him very highly. The other Grand Officers if they had been present would have been delighted with the warm reception given to the toast. For the information of the brethren who might not be aware of the fact, he would say that Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale were constant attendants at the Grand Lodge, and were always ready to do their duty. The Hertfordshire Freemasons, as well as other Freemasons, were ever ready to uphold the Grand Officers in the high positions to which they had been appointed, and it was a great satisfaction to the Grand Officers to feel that they had the support of the Craft in general. The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Prov. G.M., Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P.," who, he very much regretted, was unable to be present at this meeting on account of ill-health. The Prov. G.M. was a member of the Berkhamstead Lodge, and all the brethren knew how well he did his work, as they had had an opportunity of seeing it several times. In giving the next toast, "The Deputy Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Present and Past Prov. G. Officers," the W.M. said the brethren were all well acquainted with the Deputy Prov. G.M., and to tell the brethren how well he performed his work, would be only to tell them what they had no need to be reminded of. He was an old and well-tryed Mason, and a first-class worker. With this toast he would couple the name of the Rev. Bro. Harvey, who was a member of the lodge, and was giving infinite pleasure to the brethren by being present at this meeting. He (the W.M.) hoped that during his year of office, he should always have the pleasure of Bro. Harvey's presence at the meetings of the lodge. The Rev. Bro. Harvey, in reply to the toast, said the brethren were all so well acquainted with what he might say that he really had nothing to talk about. The Prov. G. Officers were worthy of the brethren's esteem and admiration, and this the brethren very well knew. From the Prov. G.M. downwards the Prov. G. Officers were as good Masons as could be wished. Therefore, as far as they were concerned, the brethren had done well to acknowledge their merits, and the Prov. G. Officers were much obliged for the recognition. When his name was coupled with the toast he did not really expect that, particularly when he found there were so many Grand Officers present who were senior to him, and nearly all of them holding higher office. But as the honour of replying had been conferred upon him he must say that he thanked the brethren very much for the compliment. The W.M. had not seen his work, but he hoped that would be remedied. It made him feel warm again, coming to this lodge, when there was a meeting like this. He had never sat down in it when there was such a crowded meeting, and he had not expected to meet such a distinguished company. As far as he was concerned he felt wonderfully pleased, and yet when he went back to former times when he first joined the lodge, and compared that period with the present and saw how the lodge had grown, he felt he must compliment the brethren. When the lodge was 742 he and the other brethren then in it thought they did their duty, and that they were a happy and good body of Masons; but to-day he saw before him a body of Masons who altogether eclipsed them. When he looked that day at the little leathern case which held his apron, he saw on it the date of 1857, and now the year was 1879. This was more than a quarter of a century, and it was then that he first came to the lodge. It was many years since he had the honour of filling the Master's chair. When he looked forward to what the lodge would be, and backward at what the lodge had been, as well as on it as it now was, he felt proud to "stick up," to use a common phrase, for the Berkhamstead Lodge. He hoped to continue a member of it, for he never felt more happy than when he came among the brethren and heard his health drunk by such a distinguished body of Freemasons as formed this lodge. He felt then that he was higher in the Craft than ever he was before, and he should always have pleasure in meeting the brethren and passing such a delightful time with them as he had passed that night. Bro. Henry Hollis, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." The brethren had seen the way in which Bro. Maddever had performed all the offices in the lodge. He had always discharged his duties creditably to himself and pleaurably to the brethren, and they had displayed their good taste and sense in electing him as their W.M. He was sure that Bro. Maddever would fill the chair of the lodge with honour, and carry out all the tenets of Freemasonry with his usual good feeling and urbanity of manner, and in so doing he would obtain the best feelings of the brethren. He (Bro. Hollis) wished the W.M. most sincerely a very pleasant year of office, and he would call upon the brethren to do the same. The toast having been most warmly received, Bro. Maddever, in reply, said that four years ago when he came into the lodge Bro. Wilson suggested that it would be a great pleasure to see him sitting in the W.M.'s chair. He had now the greatest possible delight in occupying that seat. It had been his ambition to achieve that distinction, and now that he had achieved it, he hoped that the way in which he would discharge his duties would give the greatest satisfaction to the brethren. He also trusted that the interests of the lodge or of Masonry would never suffer at his hands, and that the lodge when he left the chair would stand even higher, if it were possible, than it stood at present. Bro. Maddever then proposed the toast of "The Visitors," who, he hoped, had all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. He had the pleasure of knowing a great number of those visitors who were then present, but there

were some whom he did not know. He was, however, equally pleased to see those he did not know. Bros. Stead, Smith, Bristo, and Tickle replied very briefly, acknowledging the hearty reception they had met with, and expressing the great pleasure it had given them to visit the lodge and witness not only the ceremony of installation ably performed, but the new W.M., when investing his officers, keep closely to Masonic ritual. "The P.M.'s." was the next toast, and the W.M., in proposing it, acknowledged the great assistance the Masters of the lodge always received from these brethren. Bros. Hollis, Lane, Laxton, and Wright, replied, and spoke with pride and satisfaction of the gradual improvement in the lodge during the time they had been acquainted with it. It was now in the first position among the Hertfordshire lodges, and it would always be their greatest ambition to maintain for it that position. The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. W. H. Rowe." Ever since he (the W.M.) had been in the lodge he had always received from that worthy brother the utmost extent of kindness in every possible way, and to-day it had reached its climax. Bro. Rowe had that day installed him in the chair of the lodge, and he supposed this was the utmost he could do for him. He (the W.M.) knew the metal Bro. Rowe was made of, and he was sure that when he called upon Bro. Rowe for any assistance it would never be refused. Bro. Rowe's kindness had been shown in every way, and he (the W.M.) trusted that the brethren would for many years have the happiness of seeing him among them and greeting him with the same cordiality that they did now. Bro. W. H. Rowe, P.M., in reply, said it afforded him a very great amount of pleasure and gratification to return thanks for the kind manner in which this toast had been proposed by the W.M., and responded to by the brethren. He certainly did not think he deserved so much kindness as the W.M. had expressed, but he would ask the brethren to make some allowance for any deficiencies they might have observed in the ceremony of installation, as it was now twelve months since he went through it. It had given him very great pleasure to instal Bro. Maddever, and at all times he would be very much pleased to instal any Master of the lodge. Nevertheless, he hoped that at next installation meeting he would have the pleasure of seeing Bro. Maddever perform the ceremony himself. He looked upon it as the duty of the W.M. to instal his successor, especially London brethren, who had more opportunities for learning the ceremony than country brethren. He trusted that the W.M. would have a successful year of office, and that all the brethren would be happy under his rule. The W.M. next proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary." The Treasurer was a most important officer, and a most essential man in a lodge. He was happy to say that Bro. Lane, the Treasurer, was father of the lodge, and he performed his duties most satisfactorily, and took great care of the bullion. He hoped that Bro. Lane would long be in the position of Treasurer. The Secretary, Bro. Wilson, was another most important and indefatigable officer, and the brethren knew well how ably he discharged his duties, more especially in his arrangements for the lodge's summer outing, which were entirely in his hands. Bro. Lane in reply, said that his duties were not so arduous as Bro. Wilson's; who had always a great number of letters to answer, besides having the books to keep, and the summonses to issue, and in the Berkhamstead Lodge this was no light matter. Bro. Wilson, in replying as Secretary, said that ever since he became an initiate in this lodge he had had the interest of the lodge in view. He had always tried to promote good feeling among the brethren, and create the harmony and enjoyment of every member. So long as he was spared he should endeavour to follow the same course. "The Officers of the Lodge" was the next toast, which having been replied to by those brethren, the proceedings were brought to a close, and the company returned to town by the last train, after spending a most happy and harmonious evening.

LISKEARD.—St. Martin's Lodge (No. 510).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Friday, the 3rd inst., the Bro. John Beaglehole, W.M., presiding. W. Bro. William Nettle, the W.M. elect, was installed by Bro. Beaglehole, assisted by W. Bro. J. F. Childs, P.P.G.R., and supported by the following board of I.M.'s:—W. Bros. John Ough, P.P.G.D.; Thomas White, P.P.G.S. Wks.; W. Tonkin, P.G.S., Wks.; R. A. Courtney P.P.C.D.C.; J. W. Chegwidgen, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Barnes, P.P.G.P.; R. Coath, P.G., S.; W. George, P.M.; S. Secombe, P.M., 510; J. Rawlings, P.M., 1071; and N. H. Lamb, P.M., 977. At the close of the installation the W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers for the year ensuing:—W. Bro. J. Beaglehole, I.P.M.; Bros. J. Harris, S.W.; O. Colmer, J.W.; and the Rev. W. Fookes, Chaplain; W. Bros. T. White, Treasurer, and R. A. Courtney, Secretary; Bros. W. Sargent, S.D.; J. U. Hill, J. D.; C. F. C. Hole, Organist; J. Moon, D.C.; W. Hocken, I.G.; P. B. Henwood, and W. Huddy, Stewards; and R. Penwarden, Tyler. Bro. E. Venning was unanimously elected Steward for the C.M.A. Fund. The brethren dined together at Webb's Hotel, where they were joined by additional brethren, including Bros. J. Baxter, P.P.G.D.; W. H. Maynard, P.M., 1164; A. P. Davis, W.M., 977; and T. H. Gibbons, J.W. 1272.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, William-street, on Wednesday, the 18th ult., Bro. A. C. Woodley, W.M., in the chair. The following officers were present:—Bros. Past Masters, W. Graham, E. Bowles, G. Crawford, J. Wilkins, J.W.; T. Butt, P.M. and Treasurer; C. Norman, P.M. and Secretary; E. B. Hobson, S.D.; W. McCoy, J.D.; G. Beaver

I.G.; H. Roberts, D.C.; and B. Norman, O.G. Among the visitors were Bros. T. D. Hayes, W.M. 913; J. S. Mutch, W.M. 706; W. B. Lloyd, 213; A. Saunders, 1536; R. J. Warren, 1437; T. Green, 1076; T. Hassell, 13; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The work before the lodge consisted of the balloting for and initiation of Mr. S. E. Southgate, which was satisfactorily accomplished. Bro. Fenn was then passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. Reed and Swanson were raised to the Sublime Degree. Twenty guineas was then voted to the Boys' School as an instalment, for the purpose of making the lodge at some early date a vice-president of that institution; and three guineas to the Woolwich Soup Society. The lodge was closed, and after supper re-assembled in the hall, where the social board was spread. The usual toasts were drunk, and in responding to his health, which was given and responded to heartily by the assembly, Bro. Woodley thanked them. He had been, and he supposed most new Masters were for the first time or so, rather nervous in going through the ceremonies of the evening. He supposed he must attribute it in a great measure to the—well to the "fog." (Cheers and laughter.) He trusted, however, before his year of office was up to show that the name of the lodge for good working had not suffered at his hands. (Hear, hear.) He should like to say a few words about the Masonic Charities. They had that night resolved to present the sum of twenty guineas to the Boys' School—a course that had the fullest sanction of every member of the lodge. Considering the immense good the Charities of the Craft were doing, and the large amount of money necessary for their maintenance, that sum was undoubtedly a small one; but if every lodge in the kingdom did the same, or even gave five guineas to each, or either of the three great Charities, it would amount to £8,800, taking the number of the lodges as only 1600—an excellent nucleus around which to gather private subscriptions, and might, he considered, be easily appropriated from the funds of almost every lodge. They meant to give another twenty guineas next year, and he trusted they would so prosper as to be able to go on and make the lodge vice-president of all those grand charities that were so noble and so honourable to Freemasonry. (Applause) He then proposed the Past Masters of and belonging to the lodge, and Bros. Bowles and Butt responded. The "Initiate" was honoured, and modestly replied. The next toast was that of the "Visitors," which the W.M. characterised as a most important one. They knew how gratifying it was to the lodge to see visitors attend their meetings, not only from neighbouring lodges, but from distant ones. He tendered them in the name of the Nelson Lodge a hearty welcome. Bro. Hayes after thanking them for the toast, expressed his sorrow that he was unable to attend the working of the lodge on account of unfavourable circumstances, but he had hastened there to show how much he appreciated both the lodge and its friendship. That regret was, however, modified by hearing the Master promise to work better next time, for then he should certainly attend if only for the purpose of hearing something from him that might be of benefit to himself. (Cheers.) He hoped at the next meeting of his lodge, the Pattison, on the first Thursday in January next, to see the W.M. of the Nelson, and as many of his officers and brethren as could possibly come, and there he, as W.M., would try and imitate the good work he had upon so many occasions seen done in the Nelson Lodge. He always attended that lodge with a great deal of pleasure, and left it with pleasant memories, not the least was on account of the singing of Bro. Butt, whose "Yoicks, Yoicks, Hark Away" was an institution among them. (Laughter and cheers.) He had read the other day of an old huntsman who died at the age of eighty years. He hoped they would have Bro. Butt with them to sing "Old Fowler" till he was eighty-five. (Applause.) Bros. Jolly, Green, and Hassell, also briefly responded. "The Officers" and Tyler's toast concluded the business of the meeting.

WOOLWICH.—Florence Nightingale Lodge (No. 706).—The regular monthly meeting of the above select and pretty little lodge took place on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Bro. J. Scott Mutch, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers and visitors:—Bros. W. Gamble, P.M.; J. Donally, S.W.; Eugene Sweny, J.W.; Sydney Clark, P.M., Treasurer; E. Denton, P.M., Secretary; J. Black, S.D.; H. Eves, Tyler; C. H. S. Solbe, Hon. Chaplain, 1536; and C. Jolly, 913, (*Freemason*). The only work before the lodge was the initiation of Mr. Mathews, Solicitor, into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, and well did the W.M. sustain the prestige of the lodge, not only by the excellent style of his working the ceremonial, but by the eloquent and impressive rendering of the charge so seldom given in most lodges. Two guineas were then voted for the poor of the town, to be placed in the hands of the Rector, the Rev. and Hon. A. Anson, and one guinea to the "Woolwich Soup Society." The lodge was then closed and the brethren then adjourned to Bro. De Grey's House, The Freemasons' Tavern and Hotel, opposite the Dockyard Railway Station, where one of the recherché and unique dinners that the worthy host is so well able to give awaited them. One of the peculiarities of this lodge is that, except upon such occasions as the Installation meetings, no toasts are given with the exception of "The Initiate," and upon this occasion Bro. Mutch gave "The Health of the Initiate" in such choice and appropriate language, that we could not help regretting the strict observance of the custom above mentioned. However, he now welcomed Bro. Mathews as a valuable addition to the roll of the lodge, and hoped he would so make himself acquainted with their mystic lore, that he might be able at some future time to take the highest offices in the lodge. Bro. Mathews, in returning thanks, said he had attained that night one grand object of his am-

bition, in becoming a Mason in the first place, and in the next in being admitted a member of the Florence Nightingale Lodge. He should always remember the occasion with pride and pleasure, and trusted to be worthy of the position he now held as a member of their grand and distinguished Order. Some excellent harmony enlivened the evening.

LEVENSHULME.—Alexandra Lodge (No. 993).—The festival of St John and the installation of Bro. Wm. Parker, W.M. elect, was celebrated on the 28th ult., at the Midway Hotel, Levenshulme, the regular meeting being held on the preceding evening. Bro. G. Sharp, W.M., in the chair, assisted by his able officers, initiated Messrs. Cneetham, Mason, and Stoveld, then closed the lodge and adjourned the usual festive board until the afternoon of the following day. A very pleasing and rare circumstance in connection with this installation was that the Installing Master, Bro. John Parker, P.M. of the Faith Lodge (No. 581), and also P.M. of this lodge, is natural brother to the W.M. elect, who performed the ceremony in more than his usual very effective manner, assisted by Bro. Hind, P.M., who gave the address to the W.M., and Bro. Timperley, P.M., who gave the address to the Wardens. All the officers were invested by the Installing Master, viz.: Bros. Owen, S.W.; Peak, J.W.; Wright, Treas.; Cheseman, Sec.; Roberts, P.M., as D.C.; Nelson, S.D.; Bridges as J.D., by proxy for Bro. Ellis, whom the Installing Master said, with much feeling, was absent owing to a severe illness, and desired the prayers of the brethren for his safe and speedy recovery. Bro. Roberts, P.M., for the thirteenth year as Org., and Bro. Nall for the ninth year as S.S., Bros. Rycroft and Lingard as Assistant Stewards. The brethren sat down at 5.30 to a very sumptuous banquet provided by Bro. Davison; the usual loyal toasts were proposed by the W.M., who made a very feeling reference to the death of our deeply beloved late Princess Alice. The patriotic toasts followed in due order, after each of which appropriate songs were sung by visiting Bros. Greenwood, N. Damville, Lister, Pearson, and Prestwich. After the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Reberd, P.M., D.C., sang with much enthusiasm, "Here's to His Health," the W.M. responded, concluding by giving the toast of "The I.P.M.," and presenting that brother with a very handsome gold P.M.'s jewel, which was very gratefully received, and very feelingly acknowledged by Bro. George Sharp, I.P.M., in a few appropriate remarks. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was proposed by P.M. Timperley in a very welcome manner, coupling with the toast the names of the W.M. of the Egerton Lodge, and P.M. Darbyshire, of the Faith Lodge, both of whom were called upon to respond on behalf of the visiting brethren. The worthy W.M. of the Egerton Lodge, in a very able speech, returned thanks for the very kind reception and sumptuous repast given to the visiting brethren, and concluded by calling the attention of the brethren to the approaching charity festival, asking them, in a very enthusiastic manner, to give their individual support to that charity. Bro. P.M. Darbyshire concurred in all that had been said about the very kind reception given that day to the visitors, and took the opportunity, with the permission of the W.M., to propose a toast which was not in the programme, being that of "Installing Master." He said that the members of the Faith Lodge of which he had the honour to belong, held the Installing Master in high estimation, and as Bro. John Parker was first initiated into Freemasonry in the Alexandra Lodge the brethren ought and no doubt did think equally as much of their Installing Master as did the brethren of the Faith Lodge. The very able manner in which he had performed the ceremony that day, and the way which he had always performed every ceremony of Craft Masonry had very properly called forth and was truly deserving the praise of old and distinguished Past Masters, who it was well known never did give praise where it was not due, but were always very happy to give praise to any brother who showed such ability as had that day been shown by the Installing Master. He had a very pleasing recollection of the willing assistance that Bro. Parker gave him, when preparing for the high and important office of W.M., and he reminded the brethren, particularly the officers, that in Bro. Parker they would always find a very willing and able coach for any office connected with the work in Craft or Royal Arch Masonry, and called upon the brethren to rise and join with him in wishing good health, long life and prosperity to Bro. John Parker, P.M., Installing Master. The toast was responded to in a very able speech, which was received with rapturous applause and musical honours. The "Masonic Charities" was next proposed by Bro. Brocklehurst, P.M.; and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Hind, P.M. The toast of "The Officers" was next given, followed by "To all poor and distressed Masons," which brought the proceedings to a very pleasant close at 10.45.

CORNWALL.—St. Anne's Lodge (No. 970).—The brethren of this lodge held their annual meeting on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the lodge-rooms, East Looe. There was a large attendance of members. The W.M. elect, Bro. J. G. Henwood, was installed by Bro. G. Roseveare, P.P.G.S. Wks., supported by the following board of I.M.'s: Bro. J. Hill, P.G. Std.; John Walters, J. Crossman, J. Johns, J. Dawe, W. Fenwick, James Walters, and J. S. Tucker. The following brethren were invested by the W.M. as his officers:—Bros. J. S. Tucker, I.P.M.; T. Harding, S.W.; J. H. Dawe, J.W.; G. Kerswill, Treas.; G. W. Martin, Sec.; R. Oliver, S.D.; R. Solt, J.D.; T. Cook, I.G.; A. Hunter, and J. Marshall, Stds. The brethren afterwards dined together at Bro. T. Cook's Ship Hotel.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on

Friday, the 20th ult., in the Masonic Hall, Station-street. There were present:—Bros. R. Robinson, P.M. and Treas., in the chair, in the temporary absence of the W.M. Bro. James Black, who entered the lodge at a later period of the evening; Capt. F. R. Sewell, S.W., and W.M. elect; T. Bird, J.W.; W. Shilton, P.M.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Org.; W. F. Lamony, P.M. (*Freemason*); T. C. Robinson, Sec.; H. Peacock, I.G.; Jos. Hewson, Tyler; R. W. Robinson, Isaac Evening, E. L. Waugh, J. Pearson, J. Borrowscale, R. Harrison, J. Tedron, H. Ritson, Stephen Thwaite, J. Nicholson, W. Paisley, and A. Taylor, P.M. 310 (Carlisle), as a visiting brother. The business before the lodge was the raising of Bros. Nicholson and Paisley, which ceremony was performed by the W.M. in the chair; after which, on the motion of Bro. Lamony, seconded by Bro. R. W. Robinson, it was resolved not to hold a concert and ball in connection with Faithful Lodge of Mark Masons, No. 229, and Dyke's Conclave of Red Cross Knights, No. 36, as had previously been agreed by the two latter bodies, in deference to the isolated opposition of two or three brethren of the Skiddaw Lodge. This was all the business, and the lodge was closed in form.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 23rd ult., in the Masonic rooms, Athenaeum, Bro. A. Sheriff, W.M. in the chair of K.S. There was a fair attendance. The lodge having been opened in the First Degree the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was then opened in the Second, when Bro. J. C. Curtis having given proof of his skill as a Fellow Craft, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Curtis being re-admitted was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., the working being gone through in an admirable manner. The working tools were presented by the S.W. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, when the ballot was taken for Mr. Joseph Edward Hannah, C.E., and proving unanimous he was duly initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. The election of officers for the ensuing year was then taken. Bro. N. Helme, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. W. J. Sly, P.P.G.J.W., Treasurer (re-elected); and Bro. A. K. Allan, Tyler (re-elected). The usual proclamations were then made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, and the lodge closed with the usual formalities of the Craft.

LIVERPOOL.—Walton Lodge (No. 1086).—The annual installation gathering of the members of this highly prosperous and influential lodge, which comprises several brethren who have made their name and fame in the Craft, took place on New Year's Day at the Skelmersdale Hall, Westminster-road, Kirkdale, Liverpool; and the peculiarity of this particular installation ceremony was the fact that the W.M. of 1878 was, owing to certain unforeseen circumstances, again installed in the same position for the year 1879. The Walton Lodge thus conferred an honour of a very special kind on a brother who well merits the "compliment of the season," and there is little doubt that Bro. G. J. Townsend, the brother who has been thus distinguished, has well merited the honour of unanimous re-election. The vitality of Freemasonry at this part of Liverpool has more than once been recently exhibited—conspicuously so by the erection of a new Masonic Hall, named after our respected D.G.M. and P.G.M. for West Lancashire, and also by the consecration of a new lodge a few weeks ago,—and the Walton is the oldest as well as the most prosperous of the group of Masonic combinations which exist at the north-end of the "good old town." Business on New Year's Day commenced! at four o'clock, when the lodge was duly opened by Bro. G. J. Townsend, W.M., who was supported by the following principal brethren: Bros. G. E. Hanmer, I.P.M.; J. Lunt, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; R. Abrahams, P.M.; W. Sephton, P.M.; J. Ellis, P.M.; W. Walker, S.W.; the Rev. Dr. Hyde, J.W.; W. Archer, P.M., Treasurer, P.G.J.D.; J. Leese, Secretary; G. Ryley, J.D.; R. Beckett, I.G.; H. Gee, S.S.; W. G. Veale, Hon. Org.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. The private members present included Bros. J. J. Savage, W. Wilkinson, H. Walker, H. Spencer, J. Macbeth, W. J. West, R. E. Roberts, J. H. Sterling, C. E. Laington, E. Outessell, H. Worthington, J.W. 1570; G. W. Baron, H. Woodend, W.W. Thomas, J. D. Reader, F. S. Halpin, Dr. Parry, J. Parry, W. Roberts, W. Smith, J. E. Beer, W. P. Vines, R. Parry, G. Smith, and others. The Tyler's Book showed the following visitors as being present:—Bros. G. Read, 673; Rev. R. T. Leslie, J.W. 1713; J. Wells, P.G.D.C.; J. W. Burgess, P.M. Treasurer 1325; J. W. McWan, S.W. 1035; W. Lawson, 1035; J. H. Seales, 1756; W. S. Vines, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 220 and 1209; J. Latta, S.D. 241; T. Chesworth, P.G.D.C. (Cheshire), P.M. and Treasurer 724. J. C. Corris, 823; R. Williams, 1350; H. H. Smith, S.D. 1505; Dr. Wallace Smith, S.W. 1713; T. C. Fish, 1264; J. McKenzie, S.W. 1609; and Henry Alexander, 203, I.G. 1756. After the transaction of the usual introductory business, the chair was taken by Bro. W. Archer, P.G.J.D., Treas., who proceeded to install Bro. G. J. Townsend, P.M., as the W.M. for the second consecutive year—an honour which is secured very rarely indeed in the Masonic world. The latter portion of the ceremony was performed by Bro. John Lunt, P.P.G.D.C., and the following were the other officers invested for 1879:—Bro. G. E. Hanmer, I.P.M.; the Rev. Dr. Hyde, Chaplain; Isaac Leese, S.W.; James Casey, J.W.; W. Archer, P.G.J.D., Treasurer; Hugh Spencer, Secretary; John Lunt, P.P.G.D.C., Dir. Cer.; G. Ryley, S.D.; Richard Beckett, J.D.; J. J. Savage, I.G.; J. D. Reader, S.S.; Dr. D. L. Parry, J.S.; W. G. Veale, Hon. Org.; and M. Williamson, Tyler. At the conclusion of the business the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where a splendid dinner was served most admirably by Bro. J. Casey, J.W. After the usual loyal and principal Masonic

toasts, the W.M. gave the toast of "Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M. of Eng., P.G.M. of W.L.; Bro. the Right Hon. Col. Stanley, D.P.G.M. W.L., and the P.G.L. Officers, Past and Present," the toast being acknowledged in felicitous and well chosen terms by Bro. W. Archer, P.G.J.D., Treas.; Bro. J. Lunt, P.P.G.D.C.; and Bro. W. S. Vines, P.P.G.D.C., who referred to the enthusiasm which Lord Skelmersdale had shown in connection with the Craft. Many would recollect that at Southport, about two years ago, his lordship said there had been some talk of dividing the province, as it then contained seventy-six lodges and was, therefore, too large; but he rightly answered this by saying that he could rule the province even with seventy-six more so long as they were worked so harmoniously and well. That was good evidence of the true fellowship which existed amongst the brethren, and at which he (Bro. Vines) thought they should all greatly rejoice. The toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," was given by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Hyde, Chaplain, who said it was to him a source of real enjoyment to have the privilege of proposing that toast, which embodied a sincere wish for the health and happiness of Bro. Townsend during the coming year. The Walton Lodge had been particularly fortunate in its P.M.'s, from the beginning, and he was sure their present Master, who had been elected for the second time, would add lustre to the long list. He could assure the brethren that the re-election was not of Bro. Townsend's seeking, but was the result of certain circumstances which need not then be explained. The past year had been one of considerable difficulty, and of an uphill nature in connection with the lodge, as they had had to open and inaugurate their new hall, but by the W.M.'s guidance they found themselves in a good position at the close of the year. After speaking of the many excellent qualities of the W.M., Bro. Dr. Hyde went on to speak at considerable length of the silly and contemptible article which had recently appeared in what is styled a "leading local journal," but only by courtesy, and said as Masons they could afford to laugh at such vile vituperation, and strive to walk with that caution and circumspection which would be the best answer to such an unprovoked and unwarranted attack. What, after all, was Freemasonry? Our so-called secrets were but of small value when compared with the grand object of their institution—to try to do good to their fellow-men; to succour the widow and the fatherless; and to assist a distressed brother in the hour of his need. It would not do for them to throw their meetings open to the world, because they would then have all kinds of men mixing in their society, and weakening its influences for good. He commended caution in the admission of members and the appointment of officers, and concluded by presenting Bro. Townsend, W.M., with an exquisitely designed P.M.'s jewel, in token of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren. The W.M., in reply, said that when he was first elected to the chair of the Walton Lodge he considered it the highest honour which he could receive at the hands of his brethren; but having been elected a second time to the distinguished position, he could hardly find words to express how deeply he felt and realised the honour. He had had a most happy year in the chair, thanks to the help and kindness of every member of the lodge, particularly the P.M.'s and officers. He thanked the brethren for the very handsome P.M.'s jewel, with which he had been presented, and assured them it would be an incentive to him to endeavour to secure even greater prosperity to the Walton Lodge. Other toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Bro. H. Gill, 1086 (who had the distinguished honour last year of playing before Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., when on a visit to Lord Sefton) again charmed every one by the lovely music of his "Fairy Bells," and capital songs, recitations, &c., were given by Bros. W. G. Veale, Hon. Org.; John Latto (whose "Bellman" was as humorous as ever) and various other brethren.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday, the 13th ult., at the Masonic Hall, adjoining the Sir Robert Peel, Anglesea Hill, Bro. Garbett's house, a large number of the brethren and visitors assembling to witness the generally plentiful and admirable working of this excellent lodge. Bro. Hay Grieve Picken, W.M., presided, supported by the following officers:—Bros. Past Masters G. Spinks, I.P.M., and W. Weston; H. Shaw, S.W.; D. Deeves, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; G. Kennedy, Sec.; W. Holliman, I.G.; H. Harding, Org.; C. Buckland, D.C.; and J. Lackland, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bro. Major G. Hare, 706; H. De Gray, 706; J. Holloway, 706; W. Robinson, 1434; W. A. Tucker, 913; C. Clarke, 184; R. Goddin, 273; C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*), and others. The work done by the lodge was the initiation of Sergt. R. Anderson, of the mounted R.A. band, and the raising of Bros. Hickey and Griffin. Bros. A. Penfold and C. Jolly then severally returned thanks for the great honour paid them by unanimously electing them honorary members of the lodge. After Bro. Weston had spoken for the widow of Bro. Benn, who died at his duty in India, and her petition to Grand Lodge had been signed for presentation, the lodge closed, and the brethren sat down to refreshment. In giving the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. said that, perhaps, at no time of late had their hearts been drawn to their beloved Queen more than now—when her life had been threatened by a madman (no sane man would ever think of such a thing), and her heart torn with the loss of one of her family, one who was especially and affectionately held in the hearts of every Englishman and Englishwoman wherever the language was spoken—he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would comfort her in her great affliction, and grant her long to live and reign over them. The other loyal and Masonic toasts followed in due course. In giving that of "The Grand

Officers of the Province of Kent," the name of Bro. Col. King, R.A., G.S.W., and who is a member of the lodge, was most enthusiastically cheered. The W.M. trusted soon to have that distinguished brother as a visitor to the lodge. Bro. P.M. Spinks then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and pointed out how he kept to the course laid down by his predecessors, and worked the degree well; nothing but that would satisfy them in their W.M.'s. Bro. Picken briefly replied. The Initiate responded to the toast of his name. Bro. Major Hare, in replying for "The Visitors," said he had been a Mason twenty years, and had never seen the ceremonies better carried out than he had that night. He thanked them as well for the gratifying reception the lodge had that night given its visitors. He certainly should do himself the honour of visiting them again. Bro. De Grey said he had been twenty-three years a Mason, and remembered with pride the consecration of that lodge. From that day to now he believed it had been one of the most successful lodges in the district. Its working was always admirable. It gave both pleasure and satisfaction to old Masons to see the young ones doing so well, and while thanking them for the toast he wished them every success. Bros. Holloway, Hassell, and Gooding as well responded. To the toast of "The Past Masters," Bro. Spinks, in reply, said it was now about four years ago since he first stood up in that lodge to respond to the toast of his health, and up to the present time it had continued, and he wanted to know when he should have finished doing so. The Past Masters always had done, and always would do their best for the prosperity of the lodge, and the support of the W.M. in carrying out the duties of its affairs. He wished them all "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." Bro. Weston as well replied. Bro. Penfold expressed the pride he felt in having his name enrolled among the Past Masters of the United Military Lodge, it was one of the greatest honours ever paid him, and he was proud of it. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the meeting. The proceeds of the charity box, amounting to £2 5s., was devoted to the temporary needs of Mrs. Benn, the widow of a military Mason, although not a member of the lodge; that, with £2 8s. collected in the Excelsior Mark Lodge, has since been placed at the disposal of Bro. Weston, P.M.

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge of Prudence, (No. 1550).—The fourth annual winter meeting of the Masonic Craft was held on Saturday, 4th inst., at the Huyshe Temple, Princess-place. Among the officers present were:—W. Bros. J. G. Keverne, W.M.; J. Y. Avery, P.M. and Treasurer; L. D. Westcot, P.P.G.S. Wks.; E. Aiken-Davies, P.P.G.S. Wks.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. W. Dymond, P.P.G.O., Cornwall; J. T. Browning, W.M. 105; W. Marsh, W.M.; E. Manley, P.M., 150; T. Goodall, P.M., 954; T. Searle, W.M., 1091; G. J. Firks, W.M.; James Rendle, P.M., 1247; T. J. Smith, W.M.; John Pearce, P.M., 1255; Bros. R. G. Tippitt, Dr. Pearce, of Holsworthy, and Burden, of Callington. The working of this new lodge was found to have proved very satisfactory under the new arrangements adopted. The news of the suspension of Messrs. Tweedy's bank at Truro caused much regret, and warm sympathy was expressed for Bros. Tweedy, of whom W. Bro. William Tweedy has been the active P.G. Treas. of the Province of Cornwall for several years, also Treas. for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, Treas. for the Committee of Relief, and a member of the Masonic Hall Board, Truro. In the evening the members of the lodge and visiting brethren supped together at Chubb's Commercial Hotel, where they passed a pleasant evening.

LIVERPOOL.—Dramatic Lodge (No. 1609).—Although the usual monthly meeting of this most prosperous lodge was held on Christmas Eve, when the majority of the professional brethren were otherwise busy with pantomimic and other specialities for the festive season, there was a good attendance of members and visitors at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the above date, to assist in the ordinary business transactions of the day. Bro. Lindo Courtenay, W.M., presided, and he was supported by Bros. W. J. Chapman, I.P.M.; J. McKenzie, S.W.; W. W. Sandbrook, J.W.; A. Woolrich, Treasurer; John Atkinson, Secretary; J. Pyer, I.G.; R. Burgess and J. Skeaf, P.G.O., Organists; W. Savage, S.S.; H. P. Squire, J.S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. Amongst the members present were Bros. H. Leslie, C. Courtenay, H. Round, A. Duncanson, W. Annand, J. S. Macbeth, Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, M. P. Tueski, C. Campion, J. G. Gough, Boyd, Shrapnell, P. Lowndes, Heap, Keet, W. Martin, &c. Amongst the visitors were Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec.; Bro. Captain W. J. Newman, P.M. 786, P.G.S.; Bro. Captain D. W. Winstanley, P.M. 1094, and others. After the minutes of the preceding meeting had been read and confirmed, the ballot, which proved unanimous, was taken for Mr. John Wainwright, comedian, Prince's Theatre, Manchester; Mr. Hemming, comedian and pantomimist, Prince of Wales Theatre, Liverpool; and Mr. Charles Burby, of the Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool. Singularly enough, however, since their proposition a month before, Messrs. Wainwright and Hemming had each sustained a severe domestic affliction—the one having lost his mother, and the other a charming child—and their initiation was therefore, delayed till the February meeting. Mr. C. Burby being in attendance he was initiated into the mysteries of the Order, and Bros. J. A. Mercer and Charneck (the latter coming with a note from the W.M. of 1356) were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M.'s. The work in both degrees was done faultlessly and with remarkable impressiveness by the W.M. (Bro. Courtenay). On the motion of Bro. M. P. Tueski, seconded by Bro. Dr. Johnson, it was unanimously, and by acclamation, resolved, "That a most cordial vote of thanks should be passed and recorded on the minutes to Bros. Leslie and Courtenay, lessees of

the Royal Amphitheatre, for granting the use of that place on the occasion of the recent performance by the members of the Dramatic Lodge for the purpose of raising funds to decorate the Masonic Hall, and to Miss Rachel Sanger, Mrs. L. Courtenay, Bro. John Dewhurst, and the other artists who had so kindly given their valuable services on the occasion." Bro. Lindo Courtenay acknowledged the vote of thanks in an excellent speech, expressing the great pleasure which it had given Bro. Leslie and himself to afford assistance in connection with so interesting an event. The brethren, after several propositions for initiation had been made, adjourned to the old lodge room for substantial refreshments, and during the evening the mirth was unconfined, toasts, jokes, and songs following each other in rapid succession. Bro. Alpass, in responding for "The P.G.M. and his Officers," referred to the pleasure which it afforded him to find the Dramatic Lodge so prosperous; and Bro. Captain D. W. Winstanley, P.M., replying for "The Visitors," also spoke of the intellectual treat which he had experienced that afternoon in witnessing the admirable working of the W.M. and all his officers. Great pleasure was also derived from the vocal and histrionic efforts of Bros. H. Leslie, Dr. Johnson, M. P. Tueski, A. Woolrich, and others.

Royal Arch.

SUNDERLAND.—St. John's Chapter (No. 80).—A general convocation of this chapter was held on the 17th ult. at Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, Sunderland, when the following companions were duly installed officers for the ensuing year in an able and efficient manner by Past Ex. Comp. R. Hudson, P.G.D. of C. &c., viz.: Ex. Comps. F. Maddison, Z.; M. Douglas, H.; H. J. Turnbull, J.; Comps. J. Mitchinson, E.; J. S. Nicholson, N.; R. Kinmond, P.S.; W. H. Craven, Treas.; Curry and J. Brown, Asst. Secs.; J. Thompson, Janitor; after which the companions voted several sums of money to the charities, including the Soup Kitchen, the Local Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Shipwrecked Mariners, &c. The companions then adjourned to the banquetting room, and partook of an excellent dinner, and after the usual Masonic toasts, Ex. Comp. Maddison, in a neat and feeling speech, referring to the many excellent qualities of Comp. W. H. Craven, proposed his health in the loving cup, which was passed round, and presented him on behalf of the companions with a pair of beautiful gold spectacles and a silver case, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Companion W. H. Craven by the members of St. John's Chapter, No. 80, in recognition of his valuable services as Treasurer since the formation of the chapter in 1867, 17th December, 1878." Comp. Craven responded in a feeling manner, thanking the companions for their kind appreciation of his services.

EZRA CHAPTER (No. 1489).—A regular convocation of this chapter was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Metropolitan Hall, Balls Pond-road, Dalston, Present: Comps. J. E. Walford, C.C., M.E.Z.; William, Stephens, H.; Thos. H. Miller, J.; Jno. High, N.; Jas. Glaskin, P. Soj. After the confirmation of the minutes, a ballot was taken for Bro. Elam, of the Fitzroy Lodge, and Bro. Marsh, of the Lebanon Lodge, which being unanimous in their favour, they were, with due and proper solemnity, exalted to this degree. Comp. Dr. Jno. Symons was admitted a joining member. This being the regular meeting for election of Principals and officers, they were selected as follows: Comp. W. Stephens, P.Z., 1st Principal; T. Hastings Miller, 2nd Principal; John Dixon, 3rd Principal; John High, Scribe E.; Jas. Glaskin, Scribe N.; William Grist, P. Soj.; Gilchrist, Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the retiring M.E.Z., and three Auditors appointed at the dinner which followed. The usual toasts were honoured. Comp. Elam returned thanks to the companions for exalting him and his colleague to this Sublime Degree, the very essence of Freemasonry. Comps. Goddard and Soper responded for "The Visitors," and the Janitor's toast concluded the business at ten o'clock.

The establishment in Fleet-street which has been so long known to the general public as "Prosser's," has recently undergone some important alterations and improvements, the proprietors being desirous of adapting their business to the growing requirements of the neighbourhood, where presumably the New Law Courts will some day draw together crowds of human beings whose appetites will require to be appeased by something more substantial than legal uncertainties. To this end "Prosser's" has been enlarged and fitted up, so that while the familiar luncheon department remains untouched, accommodation is afforded in the elegantly-appointed dining-room for about fifty persons at a time.

We are asked to state that the Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction, and the Finsbury Park Master Masons' Lodge of Instruction, No. 1288, will in future hold their lodge meetings at the "Earl Russell" Tavern, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8 o'clock p.m., the first named on Wednesdays, the latter on Fridays, every week throughout the year.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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Answers to Correspondents.

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED,

"Hull Packet;" "Brief;" "La Chaine D' Union;" "Hackney and Kingsland Gazette;" "Bundes Presse;" "Risorgimento;" "New York Dispatch;" "Pictorial World;" "The Builder;" "The Scottish Freemason;" "Bo'tim do Grande Orient Unido e Supremo Conselho do Brazil;" "Quadro Geral do Grande Oriente Unido e Supremo Conselho do Brazil;" "Broad Arrow;" "Citizen;" "The Westminster Papers;" "Touchstone;" (New Years' number); "The Public Ledger;" "Hebrew Leader;" "The Liverpool Weekly Albion;" "Jersey Express;" "Our Home;" "The Christian Era;" "The Freemasons' Repository;" "The Boys' Own Paper;" "Derby Advertiser and Journal;" "Western Morning News;" "The Eboracum Masonic Calendar for 1879."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BARNETT.—On the 3rd inst., at Hoddesdon, Herts, the wife of E. M. Barnett, of a daughter.

WILKINSON.—On the 2nd inst., at Ashford, Kent, the wife of J. C. Wilkinson, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

SMITHS—BUCKSTONE.—On the 6th inst., at St. James's Piccadilly, by the Rev. T. Dyer Tovey, Henry Edward Smiths, Esq., to Lucy Isabella, daughter of John Baldwin Buckstone, Esq., of Bell-green Lodge, Sydenham, Kent.

DEATHS.

BUSH.—On the 3rd inst., at 10, Danvers-street, Chelsea, Mr. Thomas Bush, aged 37, butcher, of 1, Fernlea terrace, Bedford-hill, Balham.

MARSHALL.—On the 1st., at Barrowstounness, Scotland, John Marshall, J.P.

PHILBRICK.—On the 1st inst., at Bournemouth, Minnie Caroline, wife of F. A. Philbrick, Esq., Q.C., of Avenue-road, Regent's-park.

SERGEANT.—On the 2nd inst., at his residence, Apsley Villa, 320, Camden-road, N., Concilius Serjeant, of the firm of C. Serjeant and Co., aged 61 years. New Zealand papers please copy.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, JANUARY II, 1879.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES IN 1878.

Our contemporary, the Times, has called attention to the results of Masonic benevolence for the year of light and grace, 1878, and very striking are the figures which it sets before its readers. It gives us as one result of Masonic benevolence in 1878, namely, £40,312 4s. 3d., collected by our three great Metropolitan Charities. But even this statement, startling and remarkable as it is, and most creditable to Freemasons, does not exhaust the subject, and we refer to it in a subsequent leader. By the kind aid of our brethren, the Secretaries of the Institutions, we are enabled to set before our readers the following detailed items, which are, in truth, most gratifying and most creditable to our Masonic Fraternity. The Girls' School has received up to December 31st, 1878, £12,866 1s. 8d.; which sum is composed of the following items—

Subscriptions and Donations	£ 11,033 9 8
Donation by Grand Lodge	150 0 0
" " Chapter	10 10 0
Dividends...	1170 0 0
Purchased into the School	357 0 0
Miscellaneous	145 2 0
In all	£ 12,866 1 8

Grand Chapter also voted £500 to the Girls' School last year. It may be well to remember here that the amount capitalized for the Girls' School reaches to £39,000, and that so skilful has been its management, and so large its receipts in 1878, that it will be enabled to pay off its building debts, we believe, without further recourse to its capital. This is a most satisfactory state of things, and reflects the highest credit on the Committee and Bro. Hedges. The receipts for 1878 are considerably in excess of 1877, for whereas in the latter case they reached £11,854 10s. 5d. in the former they amount, as we have said before, to £12,866 1s. 8d., a difference of over £1000. We doubt not, nay, we feel sure, that the festival of the Girls' School in 1879 will be a great success, and remembering that it requires at least £10,000 per annum to keep it in full efficiency and educate its 200 happy inmates, we leave the support of so needful and admirable an institution confidently in the hands of the Craft. The Boys' School has also a very good financial statement to make for 1878. It has received—

For Subscriptions and Donations	£ 11,100 0 0
Dividends	296 0 0
Purchased Admissions	535 0 0
Life Presentations	525 0 0
Musical Fees	85 0 0
In all	£ 12,541 0 0

in round numbers, and by approximate calculation. It will be remarked that the capital of the Boys' School, owing to its large and prolonged building expenditure, is reduced to a comparatively small amount, and we feel that we shall only be doing our duty to this much needed and important Institution, if we press upon our readers the advisability of giving to it a large and a liberal support in 1879. The good work so laudably began must be carried on, and the Boys' School has every claim upon us as a great and useful Educational Institution for the orphan sons of our deceased brethren. The Boys' School will soon be educating 211 boys, and its financial requirements cannot possibly be rated at less than £10,000. We feel sure that this sum will be forthcoming, and an effort made to increase its capital. The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution supplies us with a most satisfactory balance-sheet. The receipts, up to the close of 1878, amount to the large sum of £14,824 17s. 7d. Its approximate expenditure, including a purchase of £3000 consols, is £12,281 8s. 11d., so that the balance will be comparatively small to bring forward. It has now 145 male annuitants receiving £40 each,

and 134 widows receiving £32 each, and twelve widows receiving £20 each. Thus we see it has a pledged expenditure of £10,360. There are between sixty and seventy candidates for the male and female annuitants in May. We need hardly, we think, commend this excellent and true charity of which, as English Masons, we may well be proud, to the sympathy and patronage of our brethren, though we feel bound to point out in simple words its undeniable claims for support and aid. Its indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Terry, has already announced 200 Stewards for its festival in February, and we have no doubt but that the gathering will be a complete success in every sense. We feel sure that there will be no difficulty either in raising for it its needful annual return of £11,000. Thus it will be seen that the returns are as follows:—

The Boys' School	£ 12,541 0 0
The Girls' School	12,866 1 8
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	14,824 17 7
In all	£ 40,231 19 3

We leave these figures to-day to tell their own tale, merely premising that we shall next week call the attention of our readers to one or two points in which, we venture to think, we can make our support of our great Charities more universal and more effective.

WHAT IS MASONIC CHARITY?

We are often asked what is Masonic charity, and wherein it consists? and as we gather from conversation, and note from correspondence, that very different and fallacious views exist respecting it, we think it well to point out in these pages, both what, in our opinion, is charity and what is not. In the first place, there is a special paradox growing up amongst us, and often vehemently insisted on in postprandial orations, neither the most lucid, nor the most logical, which seems to confound, by some obliquity of the mental vision, all Masonic charity, with giving simply to the Metropolitan Charities. Now, this is a grave fallacy, and may do a great deal of harm to the Charities themselves, unless met and confuted. Masonic charity is alike multifarious and diversified in its operations and outcome. It begins with the old lodge "pedestal" in the provinces, it goes on in the Provincial Grand Lodge, it continues in the Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence, and, often diverting to Provincial Educational, or Benevolent Institutions, culminating in the Metropolitan Masonic Charities. In the metropolis Masonic charity is simply threefold—beginning in the lodge, continuing in the Grand Lodge, and developed in the support of our great central institutions. It is impossible to give the figures here of what is voted in lodges, or by Provincial Grand Lodges for charity; but we know that the Grand Lodge has voted in round numbers £5,000, the highest amount in any one monthly Lodge of Benevolence being £765, the lowest being £203. If we could put together the whole amount given from all these sources of benevolence in 1878, the total would sum up to large figures; and as Freemasons, we should always seek to extend, as far as we can, the benevolent tendency and work of our excellent fraternity. It is undoubtedly true that too many lodges do but little for charity, and care too much for number one, but let us hope that we shall see a great improvement in this respect in 1879, and that many of our lodges and chapters may be awakened up, both to the sense of their own duty and the "excelling claims of charity." But having said this we think it well to put in a word of warning. We must not forget to say that any claim by any to concentrate Masonic charity on our Metropolitan charities, must end in a regrettable reaction, inasmuch as our Provincial brethren have several very useful educational and benevolent institutions that are now accumulating considerable sums, and if they are told that they ought to devote all their efforts to the London charities alone, they may be induced to become still more local and provincial in their support of their own special institutions. The central charities have such real and lasting claims on all thinking Masons, that they need neither "high falutin" nor "fantastic theories," nor "sentimental treatment," nor "exaggerated claims," to commend them to the support and

sympathy of the Craft, to attract admiration, or to invoke the "fostering hand." They are bound up with the truest principles and most living practice of Freemasonry. They constitute the best of answers to the gainsayer or the scoffer; they exemplify in a remarkable degree the warm hearts and unselfish aims of English Masonry and they form a valid defence against rabid assailants, petulant objectors, and ignorant calumniators. What can fairly be said by way of complaint of an Order, which on the lowest calculation spends £50,000 annually in benevolence and charity? As Bro. Terry has put it, we may safely leave the value of Freemasonry to be tested by its many deeds of munificent and yet unostentatious charity. Avoiding any unreasonable positions or "hyperbolic arguments," let us endeavour to develop a true spirit of Masonic Charity in our well meaning and kindly Order, in all our lodges and chapters especially, and let it ever be distinguished by those characteristics which alone safely mark, in our humble opinion, true charity, namely, spontaneous gifts, sympathetic labours, cheerful almsgiving, and unostentatious doing good.

LITERARY PROGRESS.

We call attention to the announcement made in our columns last week, that Bro. W. J. Hughan, well known to us all, is just about to produce a valuable work called "Numismatical and Numerical Register of the United Grand Lodge of England." We heartily welcome this fresh addition to our Masonic literature, from the correct and able pen of Bro. Hughan, and we desiderate for it, and we feel sure it will receive, large patronage and universal support. Masonic History and Archæology, and above all "Lodge Life" in England past and present, owe a great deal to Bro. Hughan. He began his labours at a time when, in common with a small band of zealous students, (some now silent in their graves), the pathway of Masonic research and criticism was alike dim and dubious. He has laboured untiringly with others we could name, and "other men have entered" into his "labours," not always acknowledging the source from whence their "original facts" were derived! We who claim to be of the number of Bro. Hughan's fellow students, have better reason than most, nay, better opportunities certainly than any, to know his correctness of detail, his accuracy of research, and we admire sincerely both his remarkable clearness and his unselfish desire to communicate his knowledge to others. We shall await his promised work with interest, for we know we shall read it with pleasure and profit to ourselves.

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.]

A GRAND LODGE FOR NEW ZEALAND.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
Under this head I notice a paragraph in your paper from your "Special Correspondent," stating that "some brethren hailing from New Zealand lodges, who are now in Sydney, having made every inquiry, are fully enlightened as to the correct modus operandi to be pursued, and so have decided to use every endeavour to ensure the erection of a Grand Lodge in New Zealand." I have no wish to throw any doubt upon the reliable character of your correspondent's information, but in the latter portion of the paragraph in question, he says, "the brethren throughout that Colony are unanimous in their desire for a Grand Lodge for New Zealand;" and this, I think, can hardly be the case, seeing that within the last two months two Past Masters of English lodges in New Zealand, have in writing to me, expressed a decided opinion against such a step being taken, one urging that it would be premature, and the other that the condition of the Craft would thereby be lowered in character. When I left New Zealand five years ago, the question of a Grand Lodge for that colony was being very generally discussed, and opinions were much divided; and I scarcely can think things have very much altered, from what I have heard, and I am in constant communication with several experienced Masons, resident in New Zealand. The statement that the movers in this matter have obtained their enlightenment in Sydney is, I submit, at this time, somewhat suspicious, and I can only express a hope that our New Zealand friends do not regard the "modus operandi" now being pursued by some of the New South Wales brethren as "correct." I take it that

the great difficulty in the establishment of a Grand Lodge for New Zealand would be the selection of a Grand Master, and from what I know of the Craft there, I fear that this question alone would prove a stumbling-block at the outset. If our Bro. Sir George Grey (the present Premier), could be induced to accept the office he would probably be the best man available, and he is just now so popular in the colony that, perhaps, he might be acceptable to an immense majority of the brethren there; but every one acquainted with New Zealand is well aware of the rivalry existing between North and South, and between the various cities and settlements, and knows the almost insuperable difficulties at present standing in the way of any unanimous movement in the direction indicated. For my own part, as an individual Mason, I believe that the successful formation of a Grand Lodge of New Zealand, could it be successfully achieved, would have a very beneficial effect on Masonry in that colony.

I am, yours fraternally,
T. B. WHYTEHEAD, P.M. 1611,
Prince of Wales, 1338, Auckland, N.Z.
York, Jan. 7, 1879.

Reviews.

VANITY FAIR (Christmas Number.) Tavistock-street, Covent-garden.

We have read the Winter Number of "Vanity Fair" with considerable interest, as not only a new "phasis" in our hebdomadal and Christmas literature, but as alike calling for some notice from its many special characteristics. On the whole we confess to a feeling of disappointment, though some of the papers are sure to find readers, and, we think, justly so. One great mistake in policy we feel will strike all critical readers, namely, the error of allowing both those well-known writers, Bret Harte and Lord Desart, to make their stories turn upon a nightmare, or "siesta-scare." And if, in one case, this uncomfortable state of things is brought about by the "Pork Chops" of a T.G., in the other it is equally caused by the "qualifying liqueur" of a "Free Vintner." In neither case do we find, we hope we shall be pardoned for saying so, the element of the "high or heroic," the "sympathetic or pathetic." Indeed, both dreams are as prosy and pointless as dreams can be. Bret Harte amusingly describes, however, the sacred laws of German "Mittagessen." Jehu Junior, writes "selon nous" a very rapid and foolish tirade, and puts us in mind of an older "Jehu," with this difference, that whereas Jehu Senior drove, Jehu Junior writeth "furiously." We think his remarks neither connected nor patriotic. How true it is, still as ever, "Scrilimus docti, indoctique." "Li Jingolletti" appears to be marked by simple "bathos," and to be a piece of unmitigated "trash" from beginning to end. Who could have taken the trouble to put together such rapid nonsense and such pretentious childishness? The writer, to parody a famous dictum of Lord Beaconsfield in the greater style of old, "mistakes personality for wit, and puerility for point." We like Lord Londonderry's honest and artless narrative, and the Meltonian reminiscences of Lady Florence Dixie, as well as the "Famous Runs" of the Duke of Beaufort. Lord Ronald Gower's paper is very true and affecting, and we venture to think useful even in the horrors it evokes, and the lessons it proclaims.

The Duke of Manchester might well give us a longer article on so interesting a subject, and Lady Stradbroke, and Countess Bathany's suggestions are worth reading. We wish Lord Winchelsea would turn his happy gift of verse to a better purpose and another subject. We always remember gratefully his verses on the Duke of Wellington at Oxford, and sigh over a promise of high power and merit, so far not realized. Let us soon welcome something better from his "facile pen." We cannot profess to admire the special portrait of our Royal Grand Master.

SUTTON'S AMATEUR GUIDE.—Sutton and Sons, Reading.

We have been much struck with this goodly "Guide" and with its noble illustrations. It reflects great credit on Messrs. Sutton, alike for lucidity of detail and artistic excellence. We have turned over its pages with pleasure and astonishment and can only call the attention of all our readers to this last "deliverance" of a well-known firm, whose seeds and fame go everywhere. To all who interest themselves in gardens this Guide and Catalogue are simply invaluable.

THE GARDEN ORACLE. Edited by Shirley Hibberd, 11, Ave Maria Lane.

We have received and read with pleasure an old and valued friend. It is a "Vade mecum" for professional and amateur gardeners, and few there are who cannot profit by its contents or learn a lesson from its lore. We commend it confidently and conscientiously to the notice of all our Craft.

LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Committee of this Association took place at 1, Clifford's Inn, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., when several new members were elected, and other business was transacted. It was decided to hold a special general meeting of members at Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, January 21st, at 4.15.

Any brother, having been previously elected a member of the Association, (the Committee meets at four for that purpose), can recommend the case of any London candidate.

Bro. Viscount Mandeville was installed W.M. of the Union Lodge, No. 105, Tandaragee on Friday the 27th ult.

TWELFTH NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Twelfth Night Entertainment given annually by the House Committee of this Institution to the children who do not go home for the Christmas holidays was given on Monday evening, the old-fashioned Christmas; when snow was on the ground, and hard-pinched poverty felt none of the enjoyments that tale and legend rejoice in relating to have been the accompaniments of the season being revived again. Twelfth Night followed on the same tack, and a severe white frost taking the place of snow brought out all the furs and warm wraps which were necessary to shield the visitors against the ill effects of a keen northerly wind. A heavy black fog all day got frozen as it hung over the metropolis, and covered everything out of doors with a thick coating of white which had all the appearance of a snow fall. The common in front of the Masonic Girls' School, at St. John's Hill, as well as the gardens in front of the establishment recalled the memory of the before-mentioned old-fashioned Christmases, and the building itself might very well have been mistaken for one of the old baronial halls where warm fires and seasonable cheer gave a hearty greeting to all who entered the doors. The building was lighted up early, and the fires were all aglow, and it was plain long before visitors entered the vestibule that a very pleasant evening was before them. The impression was strengthened on entering when the first objects to meet the eye were "Welcome," "A Merry Christmas," and "A Happy New Year," arranged amongst festoons of holly and other evergreens, and some forty little girls with as bright and sunny faces as any Mason who had assisted in placing them there could wish to see. The Matron, Governesses, and domestics were also looking as well as they themselves could have desired to be, and if any visitor had chanced not to be in the best of health, his ailments must speedily have taken wing when confronted with such universal signs of vigour and happiness. No visitor, however, appeared to be suffering from any bodily or mental malady, and every one seemed to have resolved to realise all the historical pleasures of Christmas and Twelfth Night. Bro. Joshua Nunn was the leading spirit among the hosts, and was exceedingly active in seeing that nothing was wanting that could add to the pleasure of the company. In the performance of his functions he was ably assisted by the other members of the House Committee, and it is due also to the Misses Chancellor, the daughters of Bro. J. G. Chancellor, to say that they most cheerfully rendered material aid by giving musical performances, and making every one feel perfectly at home. One little occurrence which happened was very amusing, and the more amusing because it was spontaneous and unstudied. Bro. Joshua Nunn, who is well known to all London Masons as the possessor of a long white beard and a healthy, cheerful face, was receiving visitors in the hall, when among one of the incoming parties of visitors was a very little child, who immediately she saw him exclaimed, "Oh, here's Old Father Christmas!" The little lady was more truthful than polite, for though Bro. Nunn's beard is grey, like the beards in the pictures of Old Father Christmas, Bro. Nunn, does not happen to be old. If the little lady had been older than she was she would have seen that at the beard and the cheerfulness of the countenance the resemblance stopped. We may add that though several brethren heard and enjoyed the joke, no one enjoyed it more than Bro. Nunn himself.

The entertainments of the evening commenced with tea at five o'clock, after which there was dancing, and then at seven o'clock the excellent dramatic performances of the Pickwick Histrionic Club, who performed the previous Wednesday with so much talent at the New Year's entertainment at the Benevolent Institution at Croydon. The following is the programme:—Pianoforte selection by Mr. G. S. Graham; this was followed by Craven's domestic drama, "The Chimney Corner," in which the characters were sustained as follows, Solomon Probity, Mr. E. Johnson; Peter Probity, Mr. Dupree; John Probity, Mr. E. Baker; Mr. Charles Chetty, Jun., Mr. Upton; Sitter, Mr. G. J. King; Grace Emery, Miss Fanny Perfit; Patty, Miss Lizzie Henderson. When this piece, which was thoroughly enjoyed both by the children and the visitors, was concluded, the children had their twelfth cake and other refreshments, together with bon-bons, in the centre, (annually presented by Bro. and Mrs. Hirsch) which is always a marked feature of this entertainment. A good half-hour having been devoted to this portion of the treat, the company again assembled in the schoolroom for the second part of the dramatic performance.

Mr. G. S. Graham then presented his "Musical Olio," Song, "Give me the Man of Honest Heart;" "The Muddle-Puddle Porter;" Organophonic Piccolo Solo (Selection), "Lucretia Borgia" (natural whistle and pianoforte accompaniment); "Adventures of Little Mr. Binks."

The performances concluded with Morton's farce, "Whitebait at Greenwich," Mr. Benjamin Buzzard, Mr. E. Johnson; Mr. Glimmer, Mr. Dupree; John Small, Mr. G. J. King; Miss Lucretia Buzzard, Miss Lizzie Henderson; Sally, Miss Fanny Perfit.

Supper and dancing wound up the evening, which from beginning to end was a complete success.

Among the company present were Bros. A. H. Tattershall, Mrs. Tattershall, Geo. Everett, Mrs. and Miss Everett, Thos. Cubitt, Mrs. and Miss Massey, Col. Burdett, F. R. W. Hedges (Sec.); H. C. Levander, Thos. W. White, and Miss White, Thomas Kingston, John A. Rucker, Henry Muggerridge, Miss Muggerridge, Mrs. Sack, Master Charlie Sack, R. B. Webster, J. G. Chancellor, Joshua Nunn, Miss Nunn, Miss Bennyfield, Frederick G. Rucker, John A. Rucker, jun., W. J. Weber, Col. Peters, Herbert Dicketts

and family, Louis Hirsch and Mrs. Hirsch, H. A. Dubois, two Masters and two Misses Dubois, John Faulkner, E. Letchworth, Mrs. Levander, the Misses Levander, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton presided, and there were also present Bros. C. J. Perceval, C. A. Cottebrune, John M. Stedwell, Wm. Hale, Hyde Pullen, Wm. Hilton, James Brett, John G. Stevens, W. Clarke, Thomas Cubitt, James Willing, jun., G. Ward Verry, Dr. Jabez Hogg, L. Stean, S. Rawson, Erasmus Wilson, Raynham W. Stewart and James Terry (Secretary).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the December meeting Bro. Terry reported the death of Bro. Benjamin Head, on the 24th of December.

The brethren then passed a vote of condolence with the family of the deceased, and a copy with a letter was directed to be forwarded by the Secretary.

Bro. Terry also reported the death of Bro. Quelch, (annuitant in the Asylum at Croydon, on the 4th inst.), Bro. J. H. Snell, (annuitant, Paignton, on the 22nd Decr. 1878), and Mrs. Emily Sturges, (annuitant, London, on the 12th Dec. 1878).

The Report of the Warden, and of the Finance Committee, were then read, and the Chairman was authorised to sign cheques.

The Committee then examined the petitions of 12 poor brethren and 11 widows, seeking election in May next, all of which petitions were found to be in order, and the petitions were placed on the list.

In consequence of the next meeting day of the Committee falling on the 12th of February, the day set apart for the festival of the Institution, the next meeting was fixed for Thursday, the 13th prox.

The list of candidates for next election was settled, when it appeared that there will then be 35 widows and 43 brethren seeking the benefits of the Institution.

The Committee then adjourned till the 13th of February.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last at Freemasons' Hall: Bro. W. Roebuck presided. There were likewise present Bros. Don. M. Dewar, Henry Dearsley, H. Mugeridge, A. Tisley, Rev. Richard Morris, Lt. D., (Head Master) F. Adlard, D. R. Still, W. Mann, C. F. Matier, J. M. Dosell, S. Rosenthal, H. W. Hunt, W. F. C. Moutrie, H. Young, H. T. Thompson, J. H. Cox, J. G. Chancellor, F. Binckes (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

A letter was read by the Secretary, which he had received from Bro. John Symonds, acknowledging the vote of thanks to him, passed at the last Quarterly Court, on his resignation of the office of Trustee, for his numerous past services to the Institution, and his able discharge of the duties of Trustee. The letter assured the brethren of the deep interest he still took in the welfare of the institution.

A very long list of petitions to be placed on the list of candidates for the April election were then examined, and by the close of the meeting fourteen were accepted. The list approved was as follows:—46 brought forward from last election, 8 new cases accepted at subsequent general committees, 14 accepted at this meeting, making 68; but to this number may have to be added three others which are accepted on the performance of some uncompleted-conditions. There will be sixteen to be elected.

The Committee, after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Laws, as amended by Special Joint Committee appointed at the Quarterly Courts respectively, Saturday, 12th, and Monday, 14th October, 1878, at meetings held on Monday, 11th and 25th November, and 9th December, to be submitted for consideration to the Quarterly General Courts on Saturday, 11th, and Monday, 13th January, 1879, at the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, after the transaction of the ordinary business of the Courts.

The chair at each Court will be taken at twelve o'clock, at noon, precisely.

FREDERICK BINCKES,
Secretary, R.M.I. Boys.
F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary, R.M.I. Girls.

VERBAL ALTERATIONS, OR RE-ARRANGEMENT.
Laws 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 53, 72 to 75.

SUBSTANTIAL ALTERATIONS: ADDITIONS: OMISSIONS.
Law 8, sect. 2. After "a Lady," add "or a Lewis, being a Minor."

- " 12, Ditto ditto.
- " 13, line 1. After "Ten Guineas," insert "in one sum, or in two payments of not less than Five Guineas each."
- " 20, sect. 3. In lines 3, 5, 7, erase "Fifty," and insert "Twenty-five."
- " 24, " 3. In lines 3, 6, erase "Fifty," and insert "Twenty-five."

- Law 30, line 2. After "Patrons," insert "Vice-Patrons."
 - " 4. Before "Vice-Presidents," insert "Vice-Patrons."
 - " 31, " 4. After "Three," insert "Vice-Patrons, or."
 - " 34, " 2. After "grant of money," insert "or for an expenditure exceeding £500."
 - " 8. After "Provincial Grand Secretary," insert "the minutes of such proceedings as are specified in this Law shall not take effect unless confirmed at a subsequent General Court."
 - " 35, " 3. After "Governors," insert "not being Minors."
 - " 4. After "Annual Subscribers," insert "being Freemasons."
 - " 14. After "elect," insert "suspend."
 - " 36, " 3. After "Chairman," insert "being a Freemason."
 - " 37, " 2. After "Life Governors," insert "being Freemasons."
 - " 47, " 2. After "Life Governors," insert "being Freemasons and;" after "not," erase "more than two of whom shall be."
 - " 48, " 2. After "October," insert "at the Office of the Institution;" after "at such hour," erase "and place."
 - " 55, " 3. Before "consecutive," erase "five," and insert "seven;" after "consecutive years," insert "and have been a subscriber to at least one of the Masonic Institutions."
 - " 60, sect. 2, line 3. After "must be made," insert "in writing."
 - " 64, line 3. Erase "fifteen," "sixteen," insert "fourteen," "fifteen."
 - " 66, " 2. Erase "sixteen," insert "fifteen."
- NEW LAWS.**
- Law 48. "No Member of this Committee shall supply the Institution with any commodity in the way of business."
 - " 55. "No petition shall be received on behalf of any Boy who has a Brother in the Institution, unless the number of Vacancies is in excess of the number of Candidates."

N.B.—The Alterations as above apply to the Girls School also, with the exception of those as to age in Laws 63 and 65, which extend to Boys only.

ALTERATIONS OF DAYS OF MEETINGS.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL COURTS ... FROM MONDAY.
FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE ... FROM SATURDAY.
TO FRIDAY IN EACH CASE.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

QUARTERLY GENERAL COURTS, FROM SATURDAY TO THURSDAY.

Obituary.

FUNERAL OF BRO. JOHN BOYD, P.G.P.

The remains of Bro. John Boyd (1 notice of whose sudden death appeared in the *Freemason* last week), were interred on Saturday last, at Brompton Cemetery. Following the hearse were five mourning coaches and several carriages. The brethren in the mourning coaches were arranged as follows: First coach, Jernyn Boyd, Esq., William Boyd, Esq., — Lecuty, Esq., and A. Glendinning, Esq.; second coach, Bros. H. Dickkitts, J. Hervey, Col. Peters, and H. Venn; third coach, Bros. H. Dawson, C. A. Long, Thos. Bull, and Robt. Douglas; fourth coach, Bros. Hyde Pullen, D. Haslett, and Rev. W. H. Frazer; fifth coach, Bros. J. Cox, G. States, and William Gelder.

Among the other brethren who attended were Bros. Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middlesex; S. Rawson, Past Dist. G.M. China; T. Cubitt, P.G.P.; W. Paas, W. F. C. Moutrie, J. M. Stedwell, W. Platt, H. Norman, F. R. W. Hedges (Sec. Girls' School); Jas. Brett, P.G.P.; M. Haydon, H. Massey (*Freemason*), T. Murlis, C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; B. H. Swallow, J. Hervey, George Kenning, H. Reed, 733; Robinson, 201; C. F. Hogard, C. Woods, E. Moody, 145, Chapter; J. C. Cox, E. J. Scott, C. Hunt, 194; W. Stephens, J. Hughes, 1257; F. De Leliva, 1426; R. J. Brand, 25; E. Stearnowitz, P.M. 435; J. G. Marsh, Elliott, Ireton, J. Coutts, P.G.P.; Gulliford, Limebeer, 1446; W. Mann, G. R. Sherrill, W. Ough, P.G.P.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G. Secretary; A. A. Pendlebury, H. A. Dubois, George Clarke, jun., H. C. Levander, W. W. Morgan, Charles Lacey, J. W. M. Dosell, George Newman, and D. W. Pearse.

The Rev. W. H. Frazer, St. Jude's, Gray's Inn, read the service in the chapel most impressively, after which the brethren re-formed, and followed the funeral cortege to the grave. On the coffin were placed several immortelles, among which was one brought by Bro. Scott, formed into the Royal Arch emblem, the Royal Arch in Freemasonry being Bro. Boyd's strong feature. At the grave, after the body had been lowered and the sprig of acacia reverently dropped upon it, the Rev. W. H. Frazer completed the service in the same feeling and impressive way in which he had read the portions in the chapel, and the mourners heartily echoing the "sure and certain hope of a resurrection to eternal life" for their dear Bro. Boyd, "drew a long, long sigh, and wept a last adieu."

The London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post*, telegraphing his letter on Sunday evening, says:—
"There was buried on Saturday at Brompton Cemetery a Freemason whose name, face, and figure have long been familiar to Yorkshire brethren. Their acquaintance with him has been made by their frequent attendance at the Masonic charity festivals and elections, at all of which he was a regular visitor. Leeds, particularly, may claim this

acquaintance, as nothing takes place in London at the large Masonic meetings when Captain J. Wordsworth and Mr. Henry Smith, the provincial Grand Secretary of West Yorkshire, are not among the brethren. To mention the name of John Boyd, Past Grand Pursuivant, will be only to mention the name of an intimate friend. This brother died suddenly on Monday last of heart disease, at the age of 69, and the deepest sorrow is felt by his brother Masons for his loss. The respect in which he was held was manifested by the largest gathering I have ever witnessed at the grave of a Freemason. The service was read by a brother Mason, the Rev. W. H. Frazer, of St. Jude's, Gray's Inn."

The London correspondent of the *Liverpool Courier* on the same night also telegraphed.

"A distinguished Freemason was buried at Brompton Cemetery yesterday. Mr. John Boyd, Past Grand Pursuivant of England, who died suddenly on Monday last, was laid to his rest amidst the largest assemblage of Freemasons I have ever witnessed at the funeral of a brother. The Grand Secretary and Assistant Grand Secretary, the Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex, a Past District Grand Master of China, and other Masonic notabilities followed the deceased brother's remains. But knowing the man's character well after an acquaintanceship of many years, I can honestly say that no respect paid to his memory could be too great. The Masons of Liverpool knew him well, and they know what little volumes to hold up when speaking of John Boyd, they may say, 'Si monumentum quaeris circumspice.'"

The *Daily Chronicle* (London), on Monday, speaking on the same theme, says:—

"The remains of Mr. John Boyd, a Past Grand Pursuivant of the Grand Lodge of English Freemasons, were interred on Saturday in Brompton Cemetery. The deceased gentleman, who had for many years belonged to the brotherhood, took a leading part in all Masonic affairs, was a strong supporter of the Charities of the Order, and a highly skilled interpreter of the Masonic ceremonies, more especially those of the Holy Royal Arch. His great services to Freemasonry obtained for him at the hands of the Grand Master what is known in the Craft as the 'purple,' or, in other words, the distinguishing badges and insignia of a Grand Officer. Mr. Boyd, who was sixty-nine years of age, expired suddenly on Monday, the 30th ult., from heart disease. The funeral was attended by a very large number of Freemasons, and some beautiful Royal Arch emblems were deposited on the coffin.

BRO. P. W. BENHAM.

The Masonic fraternity has again suffered a severe loss by the death of Bro. P. W. Benham, who expired on Thursday, the 2nd inst., from an incurable malady, in the presence of an attached circle of friends. Deceased was one of the most active members of the Masonic Craft in Jersey, and until lately had carried on the business of a wine merchant, in which capacity he was also well-known. The mortal remains of deceased, who was a Past Master, laid in state at the Masonic Temple, Stopford-road, on Monday last, and the public were admitted to view the body from 3 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and from 7 to 9 o'clock in the evening. The funeral took place on Tuesday, Jan. 7, with full Masonic honours, and the following was the order of procession:—

- Two Tylers with drawn swords.
- Band.
- Brethren who are not members of Jersey Lodges
- Banner of St. Aubin's Lodge, 958.
- Members in pairs.
- Tyler with drawn sword.
- Senior and Junior Deacons.
- Treasurer and Secretary.
- Senior and Junior Wardens.
- Past Master.
- Immediate Past Master.
- Worshipful Master.
- Banner of Royal Alfred Lodge, 877.
- Members in pairs.
- Banner of La Césarée Lodge, 590.
- Members in pairs.
- Banner of Royal Sussex Lodge, 491.
- Members in pairs.
- Banner of Mechanics' Lodge, 245.
- Members in pairs.
- Banner of Yarborough Lodge, 244, covered with Black Crape.
- Members in pairs bearing wands and sprigs of acacia.
- Banner of Prince of Wales' Lodge, 1003, covered with Black Crape.
- Members in pairs bearing sprigs of acacia; the Officers bearing bouquets of flowers instead of acacia.
- Corinthian Light borne by a Master Mason.
- Junior Warden's Column.
- Junior Warden, bearing Plumb Rule.
- Doric Light, borne by a Master Mason.
- Senior Warden's Column.
- Senior Warden, bearing Lev. 1.
- Ionic Light, borne by a Master Mason.
- Terrestrial and Celestial Globes, borne by two Master Masons.
- Past Masters.
- Immediate Past Master.
- Senior Deacon. Master. Junior Deacon.
- Banner of the Provincial Grand Lodge.
- Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Col. E. C. Malet De Cartret.
- Grand Pursuivant.
- Grand Organist.
- Grand Superintendent of Works.
- Grand Director of Ceremonies.
- Grand Deacons.

Steward.	Grand Past Junior Wardens. Grand Junior Warden bearing Plumb Rule.	Steward.
Steward.	Grand Past Senior Warden Grand Senior Warden bearing Level.	Steward.
Director of Ceremonies.	The Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master.	Director of Ceremonies.
Steward.	An Installed Master, bearing Jewels of Deceased.	Steward.
Holy Bible, covered with crape, and borne by an Installed Master.		
The Right Worshipful the Rev. R. S. Paterson, Past Pro- vincial Grand Master of Manitoba, acting as Grand Chaplain.		
Bro. Dr. E. A. Briggs.		
Bearers :	BODY,	Bearers :
Bro. J. T. Du Jardin.	with Jewels of Deceased, Bouquets of Flowers, and two Cross Swords.	Bro. Adams. Bro. C. Kings- north. Bro. J. Oatley.
Bro. Binet. Bro. Jewell		
Mourners and Friends of Deceased. Grand Provincial Tyler.		

The cortege left the Temple at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, passing through Stopford-road, David-place, Bath-street, Beresford-street, Halkett-place, Morier-lane, Royal Square, thence to the Town Church. The procession was reformed in Bond-street, and then proceeded through Broad-street, Charing Cross, York-street, Parade, Cheap-side, St. John's-road, to the Cemetery. The return was made by way of St. John's-road, Rouge Bouillon, Midvale-road, David-place, Stopford-road, to the Temple.

BRO. W. JENKIN THOMAS.

The funeral of W. Bro. Jenkin Thomas, P.P.G.S.W., took place on Saturday last at the Plymouth Cemetery. Several of the P.M.'s of the lodges St. John and Charity, of which he had been a member, attended; also several brother tradesmen of his craft, of which he was the senior in the town, who had known him as a prominent tradesman when they were serving their apprenticeships.

Ireland.

TANDARAGEE.—Union Lodge (No. 105).—This lodge met at the Union Masonic Hall upon St. John's Day, 27th December, for the purpose of installing officers for the ensuing year, and conferring degrees in the Royal Arch Chapter. The attendance was unusually large, including visiting brethren from Belfast, Portadown, Lurgan, Banbridge, and Newry. Bro. Viscount Mandeville, who had been unanimously elected Worshipful Master at a previous communication, was installed in the presence of Bro. M. C. Close, M.P., Provincial Grand Master. The other officers elected were Bro. Dr. James Taylor, S.W.; R. A. Johnston, J.W. and Sec.; Thomas Cousins, S.D.; Joseph J. Shannon, J.D.; James S. Burnett, P.M., J.G.; and J. Hardy, Treas. The degrees of the Royal Arch Chapter were conferred upon Bro. Taylor, Johnston, Burnett, and Gilpin in a most impressive manner by Bro. Luton, Falloon, and Darragh. The business of the lodge being completed, the brethren repaired to the Manchester Hall, where they partook of a most sumptuous dinner—Bro. Viscount Mandeville, M.P., occupying the chair. Amongst the visiting brethren present were—Bro. M. C. Close, M.P., P.G.M. for Armagh; Colonel M'Donald, Rothesy Castle; F. C. Crossle, M.D., Newry; Dr. S. Herron, W. J. Guy, Robert M'Clatchie, Robert Darragh, William Kilpatrick, Hugh Wallace, James Fordyce and Matthew Wilson, Portadown; William MacCormac and Joseph Anderson, Banbridge; Falloon and Maxwell, Lurgan; John Moody, Poyntzpass; Joseph Abbott, Tandaragee; and Alex. A. Luton, Belfast. Ample justice having been done to the dinner, Bro. Macaulay made a most eloquent appeal on behalf of destitute brethren and their families, which was heartily responded to. After the toasts, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Masters," and "The Provincial Grand Master" had been duly honoured, Bro. Close rose, and having thanked the brethren for the manner in which they had received his health in the latter capacity, proceeded to propose the health of Bro. Viscount Mandeville, the W.M. of 105, which was received most enthusiastically, and who, having thanked the brethren of 105 for the cordial manner in which they had welcomed him amongst them and received his health, asked them to join with him in toasting "The Visiting Brethren." Bro. Colonel M'Donald responded on behalf of the visitors in an appropriate speech. The Chairman next proposed "Prosperity to the Northern Masonic Mutual Benevolent Assurance Association," and expressed his satisfaction with its principles. In responding to this toast, Bro. Anderson explained very clearly the working of the society and the benefits which had resulted from similar institutions in America, and which he hoped would follow here. He expressed his conviction that the principles of this organisation would reach the entire Masonic system of Great Britain and Ireland, as it had in the U.S. of America; the plan was simple, cheap, and safe, and would infuse new life and energy into Masonry in these lands. The last toast of the evening was "The Health of the Dinner Committee," coupled with the names of Bro. Hardy, Macaulay, and Taylor, which was responded to by Bro. Macaulay in a concise, but graceful, manner. Upon the motion of Bro. Dr. Taylor, the second chair was taken by Bro. J. Hardy, who thanked Bro. Lord Mandeville for the manner in which he had conducted the meeting, after which the proceedings of the evening were brought to a close. At the conclusion, Bro. Viscount Mandeville asked Bro. Anderson to accept him as a member of the Northern Masonic Mutual Benevolent Association; subsequently his lordship expressed the pleasure it

would give him to become one of its patrons. The headquarters of the Northern Masonic Mutual Benevolent Association is at Banbridge; the Secretary is Bro. Wm. MacCormac, Banbridge.

Masonic and General Tidings.

OLD, BLIND, AND IN WANT.—Bro. J. B. Monckton, President Bd. G.P., in announcing his intention to close the subscription for the above benevolent object, and publishing a statement of the amount received in our next issue, asks for a few additions to the list of donations, "which, though liberal and most serviceable, is capable of a little extension without exceeding the object in view." Bro. Monckton's letter reached us unfortunately too late for insertion.

We have received, and we acknowledge with fraternal regards and good wishes, felicitations for the New Year from Bro. Hubert, of Paris; Merkel, of Nurnberg; R. Mucklé, of Philadelphia; and the Grand Orient of Spain.

Her Majesty the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh have graciously accepted copies of "In Memoriam," written by Bro. John Saffery.

We are informed that Bro. Emra Holmes's new book, "Amabel Vaughan," is now nearly complete. The publishers state that in consequence of there being so much more "copy" than was originally agreed upon, the publication will be necessarily delayed at least a fortnight—Bro. Holmes is anxious that the subscribers shall have their money's worth—and will contain his tales and poems contributed to the "Masonic Magazine;" "Penny Post;" "South Wilts Express;" "South Durham and Cleveland Mercury;" "Sunderland Times;" "Western Daily Mercury;" "Royal Cornwall Gazette;" "Civil Service Review;" "West Briton;" "Lincolnshire Herald," and others, as well as Masonic Papers originally appearing in our own columns. Subscribers names may still be received at the office of this journal, and when we add that the object of the publication is not gain, but simply to benefit a well-known literary brother Mason who needs assistance, we think we have said enough to induce the charitably disposed in our fraternity to invest a half-crown in the little work and so help the unfortunate.

The installation meeting of the Eclectic Lodge was held on Friday. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

R. W. Baxter and Co., of Australian-avenue, Barbican, E.C., announce that they are opening up a branch house, in Cape Town, South Africa, and will be pleased to receive orders for Masonic Jewellery, Masonic Stationery, and Masonic Literature. Messrs. Baxter and Co., are the special agents for the *Freemason*, the "Masonic Magazine," the "Rosicrucian," and Masonic Record," and the "Cosmopolitan Masonic Pocket-Book."

The election of Professor Charles Darwin and Richard Owen, as foreign members of the Berlin Academy of Science have been confirmed by the Emperor of Germany.

A morning performance of Rossini's "Moses in Egypt," conducted by Bro. Sir Michael Costa, will be given by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, this (Saturday) afternoon.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 225, IPSWICH.—The following reply to a vote of condolence to the Queen, on the death of the Princess Alice, forwarded to the Home Secretary, on behalf of the above lodge, by Bro. T. J. Wentworth, W.M., a few days ago, has just been received.—"Whitehall, January 3rd, 1879. To T. Wentworth, Esq., Sir,—I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the St. Luke's Lodge of Freemasons, 225, on the occasion of the death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice of Great Britain and Ireland, and Grand Duchess of Hesse. I have the satisfaction to inform you that her Majesty was pleased to receive the same very graciously. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, R. ASSHETON CROSS."

Bro. R. R. Morris, formerly of Norwich, Norfolk, England, has been re-elected Master of Webb Lodge, No. 24, Richmond, Indiana, U.S. Bro. Morris is Assistant Auditor of the P.C. and St. L.R.R. (Pan Handle), and by strict attention to business, and his genial manners, has won a host of friends, both in and out of the Order, in the land of his adoption.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE, No. 1642.—A report of the meeting of this lodge, which was held on Thursday last, will appear in our next.

ORDER OF ST. LAWRENCE THE MARTYR. At a meeting of the Ebor Lodge, held at York on Thursday, the 2nd inst., Bro. C. Simpson, J.W., was unanimously elected W.M. The Installation has been fixed for the 15th inst.

CHRISTMAS AT THE POST OFFICE.—"So great," says the *City Press*, "was the pressure caused by the dispatch of the seasonable missives which passed through the Post Office at Christmas, that the whole of the sorting staff were engaged on the duty, and most, if not all, were at their posts from three o'clock on Monday afternoon until nine the next morning, and even then letter bags came in so fast that it was found necessary to leave quantities of letters over for later forwarding. The cheap registration system seems to have been largely taken advantage of, as on the morning of the day before Christmas 40,000 more packets passed through the office than usual."

The Lord Mayor, with Bro. Sheriff Burt and Bro. Sheriff Bevan, will attend in state on Sunday, the 19th January next, at the church of St. Pancras. The Rev. Canon Spence is to preach a sermon on behalf of the parish Scripture readers.

MAILS BETWEEN QUEENSTOWN AND HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.—The following notification has been issued by the Post Office:—"The line of packets hitherto employed in conveying mails between Queenstown and Halifax having been withdrawn for the winter, the mails for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c., will, in future, be made up in London every Thursday evening for conveyance by Canadian packet for Londonderry."

On Tuesday evening last, in the presence of the Duke of Saxony and Prince William of Wurtemberg as witnesses, the marriage of the King of Holland with the Princess Emma of Waldeck-Prymont was celebrated with great solemnity at Arolsen.

The annual ball in aid of the funds of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, will take place at St. James's Hall on Thursday next.

"The Marquis of Lorne and H.R.H. the Princess Louise have decided to remain at Ottawa until the spring, when they contemplate a visit to Western Ontario. The statement that the Marquis intends to visit Quebec shortly is without foundation. Lord Lorne and the Princess will doubtless accept the hospitality of the citizens of Quebec during the summer, but not before."—*Whitehall Review*.

CAUSING A "RUN" UPON A BANK.—The *Daily Chronicle* states that it is understood that the directors of an important banking company of London and the provinces are about to try a very interesting case at law. A newly-appointed manager to one of their branches quite unintentionally hurt the feelings of a customer who was a brewer, and who as such received from dozens of public-houses in the surrounding country cheques and other means of making payments which are well-known to accumulate in the publican's till. With the view of punishing the offending bank manager, the brewer is represented to have sent a circular to all publicans concerned with him in business, cautioning them against taking the cheques on the bank concerned. The communication soon got known to the customers of the bank. A "run" ensued, and not much less than a quarter of a million of money was withdrawn at that one branch in consequence. The bank was prepared, and had nothing to fear; but the injury is very clear, and the directors are said to be resolved to see if they can get damages out of their mischievous enemy. The amount is placed at £10,000.

The Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 504, at its installation meeting on Wednesday, voted ten guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Bro. W. C. Maddever, W.M., Steward for the next festival of 12th February.

The Thirtieth Annual Grand Masonic Ball, to which the public will be admitted, takes place at the Town Hall, Liverpool, on Friday next, the 14th inst. Tickets may be obtained at the Masonic Depot, 2, Monument-place, Liverpool.

A Grand Masonic Ball will be held in the Town Hall, Congleton, on Wednesday, the 29th inst., under the banner of the Eaton Lodge (No. 533).

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. It should be read by everyone who has a garden, and may be had post free from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, the Queen's Seedsmen, Reading, for 15 stamps, or for 1s. at all Railway Bookstalls.

A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday next, for the transaction of the business of the Institution. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock.

THE COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR.—We rejoice to have to announce the publication for 1879, of the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar*, edited, &c., by George Kenning. We have already had occasion in preceding years to offer our best compliments, and to express our best thanks both to Author and Editor, for presenting Freemasonry such a *Vade-mecum*, which unites with its convenience the greatest utility! It is almost marvellous to be able to include in so few pages, of such a size and with typographic characters so correct and readable, so much and such universal information on the Masonic jurisdictions of the world, their rites, their dignitaries, their lodges, and other supplementary details! The *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* is a book which ought to be found in all Masonic Libraries, and which all Masons, especially those who travel, should have in their pocket. The *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* is in English, but if even everybody only reads their own language, and though there may be some lines which are embarrassing, a brother is always to be found who will translate them. Therefore, it is not absolutely necessary to understand the English language, to furnish oneself with a *Vade-mecum*, which gives you the names of all existing Masonic Lodges and their respective Grand Lodges, points out to you the various Masonic "Obediences," known and regular, and their dignitaries, &c. We often receive letters asking us to name a Masonic Annual which can tell him who needs or desires to know it, in what town he is certain to find a working lodge; in what county he is sure of finding brethren. Dear brethren who thus write to me, obtain the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* of Bro. George Kenning, and you will have always under your hand every facility for such information.—*Translated from the "Chaine D'Union" for January, 1879.—See page 24.*

The following stand over:—"Lodges and Charity," by P.M. 163; "Old Lodges" by T.W.F.; Reports of Lodges, 57, 164, 417, 1550; Chapter 1507; Mark Lodge, 69.

