

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—  
 Craft Masonry ..... 21  
 Royal Arch ..... 25  
 Mark Masonry ..... 25  
 Rosicrucian Society ..... 25  
 The Quarterly Court of the Girls' School ..... 26  
 The Quarterly Court of the Boys' School ..... 26  
 Antagonism to Freemasonry ..... 26  
 CORRESPONDENCE :—  
 Lodges and Charity ..... 27  
 Particulars of Donations and Votes of the Lodge of Integrity, 163 ..... 27  
 Old Lodges ..... 27  
 Our Late Bro. P. W. Benham, of Jersey ..... 27  
 Old, Blind, and in Want ..... 27  
 Supreme Council of Scotland, &c. .... 27  
 Reviews ..... 27  
 First Report of the London Masonic Charity Association, 1878 ..... 28  
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys ..... 28  
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls ..... 28  
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Somersetshire ..... 28  
 The Princess Alice and the Irish Freemasons ..... 29  
 The Wentworth Little Memorial ..... 29  
 Masonic and General Tidings ..... 29  
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week ..... 30  
 Advertisements ..... i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, 30

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.

ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE (72).—The installation meeting of this old and flourishing lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, on Monday 6th inst. There were present Bros. W. Carr W.M.; F. Dunn, S.W.; J. Dann, P.M., as J.W.; C. Chesterton, S.D.; A. Darch, J.D.; F. Thurston, I.G.; H. Webb, P.M.; Treasurer, J. Nunn, P.M. Sec.; E. Dodson, P.M.D.C.; J. N. Bate, W.S.; C. Rhodes, P.M.; J. Laskey, P.M.; T. Durkin, P.M.; T. Hines, P.M.; also a large gathering of the members. The lodge being opened the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. W. Chalk, J.W.; 1558, was elected a rejoining member. There were five gentlemen for initiation viz :—Messrs. J. Morris, J. James, J. Shephard, J. Brand, and D. Woolf. The ceremony which was very ably performed by the W.M., was rendered still more effective by solemn and appropriate music. The lodge was opened in the second degree by the installing Master Bro. J. Nunn, P.M.; and Bro. F. Dunn, S.W.; W.M.; elect was presented, and the ceremony of installation was performed. The brethren below the degree of installed Master having been requested to withdraw, a board consisting of twenty-six installed Masters was formed, when Bro. F. Dunn was duly, and solemnly placed in the chair of K.S. Having been saluted and most cordially greeted by the Past Masters, the brethren were then admitted and saluted the W.M. in the several degrees. The installing Master then delivered the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren, in a masterly and feeling manner which the brethren acknowledged with applause. The officers were then appointed for the ensuing year. The W.M., in a few appropriate sentences addressed each officer as he was invested as follows,—Bros. W. Carr, I.P.M.; C. Chesterton, S.W.; A. Darch, J.W.; F. Thurston, S.D.; J. N. Bate, J.D.; T. Brevort, I.G.; E. Dodson, P.M.; D. C. W. Murrell, A.D.C.; H. Webb, P.M.; W. S. and Treasurer; E. Walker, A.W.S. and J. Nunn P.M., Sec. There were over forty visitors present, among whom we observed Bros. J. B. Atkinson, P.M. and Sec., Hengist, 195, P.P.G.S.D. Hants; D. Forbes, 948, P.M. 65; J. W. Cobham, P.M. 141; W. Dunn, 195; P. Vickery, J.W. 1475; J. Ebblewhite, 11; H. Hammond, P.M. 1216; J. S. Lean, 1119; J. Ellis, S.D. 917; G. W. Wigglesworth, W.M. 975; J. Close, 463, and P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; W. Canton, P.M. 1269, 1475; J. Bourdelaine, 624; A. P. Fabian, P.M. 487, P.P.G.S.W. Hants; J. Greenway, 174; W. S. Larham, P.M. 1216; J. Garner, I.P.M. 1622; J. Biddle, W.M. 193; T. Foxall, P.M. 742, 1349; W. S. Cackett, P.M. 1558; C. Hampton, P.M. 179. The lodge being closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, presided over by the W.M. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and enthusiastically received, the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," wishing him a prosperous and harmonious year of office, to which the W.M. replied in a few appropriate remarks, at the conclusion of which he gave "The Health of I.P.M.," and in a feeling manner said what pleasure it give him to place the splendid jewel on his breast, which the lodge had presented to him in recognition of his services. Bro. Carr briefly returned thanks. The W.M. then gave "The Initiates," which was responded to by each of the initiates. "The Health of the Visitors" was responded to by Bros. J. B. Atkinson, P.M. 195, P.P.G.S.D. Hants, D. Forbes, 948, P.M. 65, and several other brethren. The enjoyment of the evening was greatly enhanced by some excellent songs by various brethren of the lodge, accompanied by a professional brother.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th inst. at Anderson's Hotel. Bro. Isaac Buscall, W.M., opened the lodge, and raised Bros. Barker, Johnson, and Moseley; and passed Bro. Edwards. The Past Masters who attended were Bros. Ferguson, Foulger, Walford, Haydon, Elmes, and Everett. Bro. Ferguson, P.M., at the W.M.'s request, installed Bro. E. White, S.W. and W.M. elect, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. H. B. Spink, S.W.; Capt. Harris, J.W.;

George Everett, P.M., Treas.; Morris, Sec.; McLean, S.D.; Herbage, J.D.; Kent, jun., I.G.; Pierpoint, W.S.; Foxcraft, D.C.; and John Daly, Tyler. When the ceremony of installation had been completed, a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Ferguson for his kindness. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren, to the number of ninety, sat down to an excellent banquet. The usual toasts followed. After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," "The Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, and the rest of the Grand Officers," Bro. Buscall, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." In doing so, he said he congratulated the brethren on their having placed in the chair that evening Bro. Edward White, as W.M. of the lodge. The brethren who had attended the lodge regularly had seen the way in which Bro. White had done his work in the various offices he had filled. He had now attained the highest position they could give him, and he was sure the brethren would join with him (Bro. Buscall) in congratulating Bro. White on having reached the chair. Bro. White was a child of the Domatic; he was initiated, passed, and raised in that lodge, and it was with peculiar pride and pleasure that he would occupy the chair. These were the sentiments which he (Bro. Buscall) felt, and the brethren would reciprocate what he expressed when he said he wished Bro. White a happy and successful year of office. When Bro. White left the chair in a twelve month's time he hoped he would succeed to the brethren's good wishes. The W.M., in reply, said these flattering terms were more than he deserved; but Bro. Buscall had said one thing which was perfectly true, and that was that the Domatic was his (the W.M.'s) mother lodge. He was initiated and passed in it, and raised that very night seven years ago. He had, therefore, served his apprenticeship before getting to the chair. He was very proud to be in that position, for the Domatic was one of the largest lodges in the Craft. It was a responsible position to hold, but he hoped with the brethren's assistance to be able to get through his work satisfactorily to the lodge and with credit to himself. The Domatic Lodge had a long and noble history, and he hoped he should do nothing to tarnish it. But in order to do the work with satisfaction all round he must have the brethren's assistance. He must look to the officers to attend to do their work and assist in keeping order in the lodge and at the banquet table. Bro. W. Stephens replied to the toast of "The Visitors," and in the course of his remarks, which were but brief, he said he had frequently enjoyed the hospitality of the Domatic Lodge. He wished the W.M. every success during his year, and he hoped the lodge would always have the repute of being one of the most hospitable lodges in the City of London. Bro. Draper also replied, and complimented Bro. Ferguson on the admirable manner in which he had delivered the addresses. He had never heard them delivered much better, for they were delivered in that kind tone and with that good feeling which made every word valuable. He had known Bro. White for some years. They belonged to the lodge which he (Bro. Draper) was now Master of, and he was indebted to Bro. White for bringing him to the Domatic, for he could not disguise the fact that it was an excellent lodge, not only numerous but distinguished. The brethren might congratulate themselves on having elected Bro. White as their W.M.; he was thoroughly proficient in the duties of a W.M., and there was nothing in Freemasonry that he was not acquainted with. He had the energy and ability to carry out the work, and he would do it to the brethren's satisfaction. The officers who had been appointed to serve under Bro. White were excellent officers, and there was a good prospect of the lodge having excellent Masters for several years to come. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of Bro. Ferguson, the Installing Master," and complimented him on the performance of the ceremony. Bro. Ferguson replied, and said the complimentary remarks the W.M. had been pleased to make about him were rather more than he deserved, though he could not say the W.M. had said anything that was not correct. The duty of a P.M. was to fill any vacancy that might occur in a lodge, from Inner Guard to Installing Master. Even if necessary to take the post of Outer Guard; and the duty of Deacons or Wardens he should always be ready to take on himself, and feel honoured by being asked to take them. It was, no doubt, a great honour to be called upon to instal the W.M. If he had performed that duty to the satisfaction of the brethren, even if it had been in a humble, halting way, it showed that he had tried to do credit to his position as a P.M. of the Domatic Lodge. He trusted that whenever he might be called upon to fill any vacant office he should do so, and whenever he was so called upon he would discharge his duty to the best of his ability. He took no credit to himself for what he had done, but he felt proud to find that the brethren were pleased, and he sincerely thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon him, by passing the vote of thanks to him for his humble efforts. In conclusion, he said he should always be pleased to be a member of the Domatic Lodge. The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the P.M.'s of the Domatic Lodge," The P.M.'s, he said, were a very useful body in any lodge, and they were always willing, as Bro. Ferguson had proved, to do anything that was required of them. They had been very useful that evening, and had assisted to do the work of the Deacons. The I.P.M. had given entire satisfaction during his year of year of office, and had brought great credit on the Domatic Lodge. At the last meeting the brethren were pleased to testify their appreciation of his services by voting to him a Past Master's jewel. It was a very handsome jewel, and he (the W.M.) had great pleasure in decorating Bro. Buscall with it. He hoped that Bro. Buscall would long be spared to appear in the lodge with that jewel on his breast. (The W.M. here fastened a very handsome Past Masters' jewel on Bro. Buscall's left breast). Bro. Buscall, I.P.M., in replying said

that many persons had before that evening spoken of certain periods of their existence as the happiest moments of their lives, but he had never experienced what it was to have that feeling till now. The jewel which the brethren had voted, and the W.M. had presented to him was a very handsome jewel, and for that mark of the brethren's esteem he thanked the brethren most cordially. He should ever consider that gift as the greatest honour he had ever had conferred on him. As Bro. Ferguson had indicated what the duties of a P.M. were, he should have the greatest pleasure in carrying them out in his own person. His best endeavours would be used in promoting the interest of the lodge, and in contributing to its good working. He sincerely thanked the brethren for the hearty good way in which they had received the toast proposed by the W.M. and he also felt very grateful to the W.M. for the very complimentary terms he had employed in proposing the toast. As it was customary in the Domatic Lodge for all the Past Masters to reply to the toast he should leave it to those very able colleagues of his to add any observations which might supply deficiencies that might have occurred in the few remarks he had made. Bro. J. E. Walford, P.M., also replied. He observed that while the Past Masters were always ready to perform any duties in the lodge, the brethren at all times appreciated them, and were ever ready to acknowledge them. The brethren in a true Masonic spirit rallied round the Past Masters, and looked upon them as a body of brethren who having performed their duties in the chair, were not, when they had passed the chair tired of their work, but were ready again to enter the lists and work for the true interests of the lodge. Bro. George Everett, P.M., and Treasurer, said that having been promoted to a distinguished office in the lodge by the kindness of the brethren, he should reserve his observations for the time when his health in that capacity would be proposed. Bro. Frederick Smith, P.M., reiterated all that had been said by Bro. Walford, whose remarks he considered as a full and ample reply to the toast. He hoped that the Past Masters would continue to perform their duties to the lodge as they had performed them hitherto. Bro. Foulger, P.M., thought that if all the Past Masters replied it was a waste of time; but as a Past Master of the Domatic Lodge he felt it a great kindness for the brethren to remember the Past Masters. As a P.M., who felt very desirous for the prosperity of the lodge, it was a great gratification at any time to be called upon to perform the duties of any office which, from unavoidable circumstances might be vacant. Bro. M. Haydon, P.M. would simply say "ditto" to the observations made by the preceding P.M.s. Bro. Ferguson, P.M. congratulated Bro. White on being the first W.M. at whose installation Bro. Haydon had made a speech. (Laughter.) This must be a red letter day for the Domatic Lodge, as it was the only day on which such a distinguished Past Master as Bro. Haydon had favoured the brethren with any elocution. (Cheers.) If the brethren appreciated the qualifications of the P.M.s., any officer, however low down on the rounds of the ladder, should endeavour so to discharge his duties that he might afterwards say to himself, when he arrived at that happy, quiet oasis in the desert, he had done his duty in every office he had filled. The brethren had complimented him very much that evening. He scarcely knew how any officer could conscientiously pass through the chair without having performed his duties properly and sit down among the Past Masters who had. He, therefore, thought it incumbent on every Master to perform his duties properly, and not only so, but to pass through all the previous grades with credit and honour. It was his great pride to act as a true and trusty Master, and he hoped that all the brethren who aspired to that high office would endeavour to acquit himself as a Mason should who reigned over such a lodge as the Domatic. The brethren who had been put into office might not care much for their positions, but might say that when they became Master they would do their work properly. That was not the proper feeling. When they obtained any position they were bound to do their duty in that position, and when they did so they were in a fair way to rival their predecessors in the chair. If they could surpass them, so much the better for the lodge, and all the Past Masters would be glad to find a meteor among them. The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed, and the W.M., in giving it, said that Bro. George Everett was the first to discover any merit in him. Bro. Everett, as one of the respondents to the toast, said that he was happy to find that in discovering merit in the W.M. he had not made a mistake, and he was sure now that the W.M. would do honour to the position he filled. As Treasurer he assured the brethren he should not shirk his duty, and he hoped when the first year of his office came to an end he should have the approval of the brethren. Bro. Morris also replied as Secretary. Bro. J. Terry, Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, responded for "The Masonic Charities," and reminded the brethren of the great success those Institutions have had during the last year, notwithstanding the great commercial depression. Wishing for even a brighter year in 1879 he trusted that the Domatic Lodge would support the Charities again as they had in the past. Referring to the number of members of the Domatic Lodge, he said that if each member gave 15s. to the Charities it would make an amount of £150. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were most enjoyable throughout.

LODGE OF JOPPA (No. 188).—The Committee of the Benevolent Fund attached to this lodge, met on the 13th inst., at the Blue Post Tavern, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, for the purpose of electing a President for the ensuing year. There was an unusually large number of Vice-Presidents as well as elected Committee in attendance,

Bro. E. P. Albert, P.G.P.V.P., proposed, and Bro. S. L. Hickman, V.P., seconded, that Bro. Lewis Alexander, who had presided over them for some years past, be re-elected, Bro. Hickman in addressing the meeting spoke in very complimentary terms of Bro. L. Alexander, when the proposition was put to the meeting, by Bro. Spiegel, W.M. and Sen. V.P., which was carried unanimously.

**ECLECTIC LODGE (No. 1201).**—At Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the Eclectic Lodge held its installation meeting on Friday last, Bro. Arthur E. Taylor, W.M., presiding and being well supported by his officers and a large attendance of lay members of the lodge. There were also a great many visitors present, among others Bros. Thos. Fenn, P.G.D.; W. H. Perryman, P.M. Fidelity, 3; Arthur Rule, P.M. Sphinx, 263; P. Dickinson, P.M. Royal Standard, 1298; T. Burham, P.M. Fidelity, 3; G. Brickland, W.M. Asaph, 1319; H. P. Reed, P.M.; and Lamer, Westbourne, 733; T. D. Berry, P.M. Manchester, 179; and Bro. Massey, W.M. West Kent, 1297, (*Freemason*). Previous to the installation Mr. Wm. Howard Paddle, having been balloted for and approved was initiated by the W.M. who performed the ceremony with his customary ability. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree and Bro. George William Saul, S.W. and W.M. elect was presented for installation and duly obligated; and a Board of Installed Masters having been formed he was installed in the chair of K.S. with the customary solemnity, and on the return of the brethren was proclaimed and saluted in the usual form, and then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Lee, S.W.; Moss, J.W.; Mander, Treas.; Watts, P.M. Sec.; Higgs, Organist; Bochinn, S.D.; Dr. Lloyd, J.D.; Bro. Baylis, I.G., Bro. Hart, P.M.' D.C., Bro. Bowley, Asst., D.C., Bro. Paice, W.S., Banns, Asst., W.S., Tyler, Bro. Grant. The entire ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Taylor I.P.M., with the greatest precision, and the beautiful addresses which close the ceremony were rendered more impressive by the quiet earnestness of his delivery. At the close of the ceremony the W.M., presented Bro. Taylor with a handsome P.M. jewel with a few appropriate words, and Bro. Taylor in returning thanks said that he appreciated the very kind manner in which the jewel had been presented to him, that it had been his aim during his year of mastership to promote as far as he was able the prosperity of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren. If he had succeeded in doing that in addition to carrying out the ancient ceremonies he was thankful, and he should feel proud to wear the honor-badge just presented to him, not only in his own lodge but in all lodges which he might have the honour to visit. The lodge was then closed and the brethren nearly ninety in number adjourned to the tavern to partake of an excellent banquet. On the removal of the cloth the customary loyal pan masonic toasts were proposed from the chair and heartily responded to by the brethren. In reply to the toast of the Grand Officers,—Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D. rose and said, Worshipful Master, I beg to thank you on the part of the many distinguished names you have mentioned, as well as for the other Grand Officers and in my own behalf, for the honour you have done us in proposing this toast. Since I last had the honour of being your guest the Grand Officers have to regret the loss of many useful and much respected members of their body. I will mention two as representing the two different vocations in which their masonic usefulness was the most conspicuous. First our amiable and universally respected Bro. Benjamin Head. His naturally beneficent character disposed him to devote his time and attention and his purse to the administration and support of the Masonic charities. For many years he was a member of the House Committees (I believe I am right in saying) of all the charities. Having no family of his own Bro. Head came to regard the little inmates of the schools almost as his own children, and for them he had always ready a kind word or a smile of encouragement. Doubtless many a silent tear was shed by those little ones when they heard that the grave had closed over their old friend's kindly face. Bro. Head will be long remembered and his death lamented by his brother Grand Officers. The second brother whose recent loss we have to deplore was one whose life of usefulness lay, for the most part in another direction. Bro. John Boyd although actively connected with the charities was principally conspicuous in the teaching of our rituals and lectures, particularly those in connection with the Royal Arch Degree. Brethren, subscription to the Charities is so constantly forced on our notice as a paramount duty that we might think Masonic Charity consisted of nothing else than giving away money to these Institutions, that this duty was the sole aim, the beginning and the end of Freemasonry, and to such an extent is importunity for subscriptions carried that at last we have descended (I suppose on the principle that the end justifies the means) to the lowest and in the opinion of many others as well as myself, the most degrading form of solicitation—the shilling lottery. No doubt these excellent Institutions ought to be well and liberally supported, whatever may be our individual opinion upon minor matters in connection with the management, but there are many amongst us who sincerely wish that this could be accomplished with less ostentation and obtrusiveness. Bro. Terry I hear has made a suggestion, which I cannot help thinking might in some form be one day adopted and might perhaps lead to this “consummation devoutly to be wished.” His suggestion I believe was that a subscription of five shillings per annum to each of the Charities should be paid by every subscribing member of a lodge, and that in this way the Charities might be supplied with funds sufficient to render festivals and even elections unnecessary. Now, every member of a London lodge is obliged by the *Constitutions* to contribute 4s., and country lodges 2s., yearly

to the Fund of Benevolence. This contribution being paid by lodges out of each member's yearly subscription is so little felt that Masons are not aware that they are contributors to this fund. Now, does it not seem possible (although, no doubt, there are difficulties in the way) that this mode of subscription might, with certain conditions and guarantees, be extended to the other charities? In round numbers this subscription to the Fund of Benevolence amounts to £8000 a year, namely, £2300 from the London lodges, and £5700 from the country lodges. If the contribution were uniformly 4s. this sum would be increased to £14,000, thus, 5s. would produce £17,500 for each of the Charities, or £52,606 for the three, which is £12,500 more than the amount subscribed last year. To this, however, might fairly be added, those really voluntary contributions which would, I believe, be forthcoming without solicitation, so that we see the figures go far to confirm Bro. Terry's theory. In the present competition for subscriptions, the Stewards of the Charities are held up so persistently before our eyes, that such humble labours as those of our Bro. Boyd are apt to be overlooked. Yet the labours of the Masonic teacher are surely not without their usefulness? I can bear testimony from my long experience in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, of the beneficial effects of a careful teaching of the ritual. The teaching of this lodge has undoubtedly been the cause, both directly and indirectly, of a marked improvement in the manner in which the work of the lodge is performed. Carelessness and irreverence, which were rife twenty years ago, are now quite the exception, and Masters now emulate each other in their endeavours to impress their candidates by a serious and earnest delivery of the ritual. Bro. Boyd's labours were, as I have already said, particularly directed to the beautiful ceremonies of the Royal Arch, which he invariably taught with that peculiar care and seriousness which their solemn and sacred language demands. His labours in this direction have not been without their effect, and in Bro. Boyd's death I consider we have lost one of our most useful and earnest workers. So shall we all pass away from our Masonic labours when the time shall come for our eternal rest, but we may feel assured—such is the internal vitality of Masonry—that there will never be wanting, brethren equally zealous, and with equal ability to fill the vacant places of those that are gone. The brethren having met at the banquet table much later than was intended, the various toasts were proposed in very brief speeches, which were responded to as briefly. There was nothing of interest to the general body of Freemasons. The W.M., returned thanks when his health, which was proposed by Bro. Taylor I.P.M. was drunk, with acclamation, but the only additional remarks he made referred merely to Lodge matters which would not interest our readers. In the intervals between the toasts and the replies the company were entertained with vocal and instrumental music. Bro. G. S. Graham, the popular buffo vocalist and organophonist (which being interpreted means whistler) amused his audience with some good songs, and whistling with a pianoforte accompaniment.

**EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).**—This lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 9th inst., in the Ladbrooke Hall, Notting-hill, Bro. Samuel H. Parkhouse presiding, supported by his officers, Bros. G. M. Lander, S.W.; Samuel Smout, J.W.; G. Penn, P.M. Treas.; J. W. Murliss, P.M., Sec.; C. Darby Reade, S.D.; Samuel Smout, jun., J.D.; F. Delevanti, Org.; John Woodmason, Steward; Frederick C. Frye, I.G.; Robert Schofield, P.M., Tyler; and Wm. Stephens, P.M. The following is a list of members present:—W. M. Buckland, F. E. Pocock, J. H. Wood, Wm. Oldrey, W. F. French, E. Rogers, J. T. Newlana, R. E. Green, C. Rowlands, W. R. Bushman, G. A. Williams, T. W. Heath, R. H. Pearson, J. Linscott, J. Whittlesea, J. Rutherglen, John R. Roberts, J. Hempson, R. Reid, W. V. Hook, H. T. Rule, and Caleb Manchester. The visitors present were Bros. J. P. Manchester, 1214; E. P. Albert, P.G.P., 188, 1017; Charles Bates 901; Alfred Ginger, J.W. 901; W. H. Beauchamp, 167; Henry Whitretti, P.M. 511; Alfred B. Griffiths, 420 (New Zealand); James Hood, 201; W. F. Savage, P.M. 1425; E. P. Van Norden, 188; and A. H. Chisholm, 154 (*Freemason*). The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Murliss then referred, in feeling terms, to the death of Bro. J. Boyd, remarking that this was the first death that had occurred in the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bros. Bushman and French having been duly examined and found qualified for raising, it was opened in the Third Degree, and those brethren were formally raised. The next business before the meeting being to pass Bro. G. F. Rule, the lodge was closed in the Third Degree, and after Bro. Rule had satisfactorily undergone the usual preliminary examination he was duly passed. The lodge being closed in the Second Degree, Mr. M. E. Russell Lochner, proposed by Bro. Rutherglen, and seconded by Bro. Murliss, was balloted for, and having been unanimously elected, was initiated in the usual form. This constituting the business of the lodge, it was closed in the customary form, and it is only right to add that Bro. Parkhouse, for the first time acting as W.M., conducted the ceremonies with unflinching accuracy and ability. The brethren then retired to the banquetting room adjoining the lodge which was tastefully decorated with flowers, and partook of a sumptuous repast, presided over by the W.M. The arrangements for the banquet were carried out by Bro. Linscott, in a praiseworthy manner, everything being of the most recherché description. In proposing “The Health of the Queen and the Craft,” Bro. Parkhouse alluded in touching terms to the death of the Princess Alice, observing that there were none of Her Majesty's subjects who more heartily sympathised with her in her bereavement than

Freemasons. The toast was duly honoured, the brethren remaining standing while they sang “God Save the Queen.” The W.M. next proposed “The Health of the Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M.” remarking that His Royal Highness was a great credit to the country in general and to Freemasonry in particular; whether at home or abroad he was always received with the greatest enthusiasm. The toast of “The Health of the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W.P.G.M.” was then drunk and was followed by that of “The Health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Skelmersdale, R.W.D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers.” Bro. E. P. Albert, P.G.P. suitably replied. Bro. Penn, P.M., then said it was his pleasing duty to propose “The Health of the W.M.” He could not speak to highly of the way in which the W.M. had done his duties that evening, bearing in mind the fact that two years ago he was ignorant of Freemasonry as he (the speaker) was, and that was bad enough. The W.M. had done all he could to promote the interests of the lodge, and he (the speaker) was sure that it would prosper under his tenure of office. The W.M. having very suitably replied, said that he had very great pleasure in proposing “The Health of Bro. M. Russell Lochner, the newly-initiated Brother.” The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, and in the absence of Bro. Lochner, who was obliged to go away on professional business, Bro. Rutherglen replied for him. In proposing the toast of “The Visitors,” the W.M. said the brethren of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge were always very glad to see a number of visitors among them, and always endeavoured as far as possible to provide for their comfort. The visitors were not, however, so numerous on that occasion as they generally were, but what they wanted in number they made up in quality. Bros. Griffiths, Hood, and Albert replied, the former of whom remarking that he might never have the pleasure of meeting any of the brethren in New Zealand, but if any of them ever were there, he could assure them of receiving a hearty welcome, for Freemasonry was as well represented in New Zealand as it was in any other country. The toast of “The Health of the Past Masters” was next proposed, immediately after which Bros. W. Gordon and Locock Webb, P.G.D., whom the pressure of professional engagements had prevented from attending the banquet at an earlier period of the evening entered the room amid loud cheers. Bros. Penn, Murliss, and Stephens then briefly acknowledged the toast, the latter observing that Bro. Penn, the Immediate Past Master, said he intended to surpass him (the speaker) in the amount he would raise for the Charities. Well, he should endeavour to do all that he possibly could for Bro. Penn in this laudable object, so that he might eclipse him (the speaker) altogether. He, himself, took £270 for the girls; and if Bro. Penn did not succeed in getting 300 guineas for the boys, he was much mistaken. The lodge had entered into the spirit of Freemasonry to the fullest extent as far as Charities went, and he was sure that Bro. Penn would find very little difficulty in making up that sum. He concluded by announcing that he would give ten pounds towards this object. The W.M. next proposed “The Health of Bro. Locock Webb,” who, in responding, said that he valued very highly the way in which they had been good enough to receive his humble name. He had listened with very great pleasure to the remarks that had fallen from the preceding speaker with reference to the success of the lodge. The W.M. had referred to the interest he had taken from the first in the success of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge. Well, he might say that he was present at its foundation, and he had little doubt then, when he knew the character and determination of those who took the leading part in its formation, that it would soon secure success. But he was surprised at the great advance it had made. As far as he knew it was almost unprecedented, that a lodge in so short a time should have accumulated so largely in numbers, and more than that, have been able to assist so much the excellent Charities, which it was the duty of the Craft to do. The charitable objects of Freemasonry, not merely in this country but abroad, had done more than anything else to raise Freemasons highly in the estimation of the world. He had on several occasions had the pleasure of witnessing their working, and he must congratulate the brethren on the excellent way in which the working of the lodge had been carried out. In concluding, Bro. Webb trusted the W.M. would preside over the lodge in high credit to himself and advantage to the brethren, setting a bright example to those who followed him, and that those who succeeded him might, like him, hold the office for the benefit of the lodge. “The Officers of the Lodge” was next proposed and suitably replied to by Bros. Lander and Samuel Mont. In replying to “The Health of the Lay Members” Bro. Gordon said it was only from a strict sense of duty that he withdrew from office in the lodge, and solely for this reason that he thought that it was of the highest importance that those who undertook duties in this or any other lodge should have time to give proper attention to them. He found it absolutely impossible to do so, and he felt he was not doing his duty to the lodge if he accepted an office in it which he could not properly discharge. He thought it was not right of any one to stand in the way of those who had greater opportunities of giving more attention to their work. Yet he would say this, that there was not a member who took a greater interest in the prosperity of the lodge than he did, and in the elevation of the present W.M. to his post he was sure they would have one who would discharge his duties with great energy and zeal, and a desire to further the welfare of the lodge, and he would have a great task before him to beat in these respects his admirable predecessor. The next toast was “The Masonic Charities” to which Bro. Penn replied. He regretted that the charities had not an able member to represent them during the forthcoming season. Yet he did not think he would experience much difficulty in making up the sum of which Bro. Stephens had spoken. At

the present time he had something like £195 on his list, which included fifty guineas from the lodge itself, and they had a ball coming on directly, from which he expected fifty guineas more, and that would bring the sum up to almost within fifty guineas of Bro. Stephens' anticipated £300. The brethren all knew how much the Charities deserved support, and he was quite sure that they would not allow him, their immediate Past Master, to come off disappointed, which he would do if he did not take 300 guineas. During the evening Bro. Delevanti played some excellent music on the organ; Bro. Heath contributed a solo on the cornet; and Bros. Rowlands, Van Norden, and Smout, jun., sang several songs. The Tyler's toast was then duly honoured, and the brethren separated.

**SOUTHAMPTON.—Medina Lodge (No. 35).**—The new W.M. of this lodge Bro. Asher Barfield, the S.W. of the past year, was on Thursday installed by Bro. T. W. Faulkner, P.M., in the presence of a good attendance of brethren. The Master invested the following brethren as his officers for the year:—Bros. Wyatt, I.P.M.; Penton, S.W.; Mursell, J.W.; H. H. Wheeler, S.D.; Patch, J.D.; Mannall, I.G.; Munt, Tyler; J. G. Wheeler, Treas.; Giles, Sec.; J. G. Jones, Org.; and Rev. W. Barker, Chaplain. The brethren afterwards sat down to a very elegant dinner at the Gloster Hotel, and the evening was spent in that harmony which at all times characterises such gatherings.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (No. 41).**—A regular meeting was held on the 2nd inst. at the Masonic Hall, at which the following brethren were present:—Bros. F. Wilkinson, W.M., in the chair; F. J. Brown, I.P.M., P.G.S.W. Somerset; Rubie, P.M., acting S.W.; P. Braham, J.W.; Wm. Hunt, Sec., pro tem.; T. P. Ashley, P.M., Treas.; Thos. Ames, acting S.D.; C. W. Radway, J.D.; J. J. Robinson, I.G.; W. L. Baldwin, Org.; Bigwood, Tyler; Mercer and Holmes, Stewards. In the absence of Bro. Wilton, D.C., Bro. Ashley kindly undertook the duties; there were also present Bros. Wilton, jun., Cater, C. Wilkinson, T. B. Moutrie, and visitors, J. Innes, 369, E.C.; Gen. Doherty, C.B., P.P.G.S.W. Somerset, P.M. 906. The lodge was opened at 7.45 and the minutes were read and confirmed. Letters read from Bro. Dr. Hopkins, apologising for absence on account of illness, and others of minor importance, which the Secretary was instructed to attend to. The W.M., Bro. F. Wilkinson, announced he had a present to make to the lodge, viz., a handsome silk embroidered banner, which had been especially worked by his wife, Mrs. Wilkinson, in whose name he duly presented it. Bro. F. J. Brown proposed, and Bro. Ashley seconded, a cordial vote of thanks for the very handsome gift, which was carried by acclamation. The W.M. replied in suitable terms. A letter was read from the Prov. Grand Lodge, announcing a lodge of emergency to be held at Taunton, on January 13th, for the dedication of a Masonic Hall, at which Lord Carnarvon intended to be present. The brethren were invited to attend. The Prov. Grand Lodge accounts were also received. Bro. Willis was then carefully examined, and duly passed to the Second Degree, and entrusted with the secrets, &c., by the W.M. After a few remarks from the W.M., eulogising the careful manner in which Bro. P. Braham, J.W., had performed his duties, and a kindly introduction by Bro. Moutrie, of Bro. Braham, as Master elect, ballot was taken, which proved unanimous. Bro. Braham returned thanks, and appointed Stewards to conduct the banquet to be held at Bro. Rubie's, Castle Hotel, on the night of the installation. Bro. Moutrie proposed, and Bro. Cater, seconded, the election of Bro. T. B. Ashley, P.M., as Treasurer, which was carried unanimously by acclamation. Bro. Ashley returned thanks in most happy terms, he having filled the office for many years. Bro. Rubie then addressed the lodge in the most earnest and feeling manner, as to presenting to Bro. Wilkinson, the W.M., a suitable recognition of his valuable services, as Master of the lodge, during two years of his office, and proposed that a small committee be formed to consider a suitable manner of carrying out the same. The motion was heartily seconded by Bro. Ashley. Bro. Wilton, jun., addressed the lodge on the same, conveying a special message from his father, D.C., who was unavoidably absent, entirely concurring in the motion. Bro. Radway made a few suitable remarks on the same, and a committee was appointed. Bro. Radway proposed, and Bro. Brown seconded, that a sum not exceeding ten guineas be placed at the disposal of the Committee for the purchase of the testimonial. Bro. Moutrie proposed, and Bro. C. Wilkinson seconded, that a suitable staff and mounting for the banner be provided, and that the banner be placed behind the Master's chair at each lodge meeting. Bro. Rubie proposed, and Bro. Braham seconded, that Bro. Bigwood be elected Tyler for the ensuing year. The usual grant was made to the Stewards of the banquet. Bro. Gen. Doherty, P.M., &c., announced he intended visiting the Masonic School for Girls in May next, to represent the province. The question of amount to be voted was postponed till next lodge. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony and solemn prayer at 9.30 p.m.

**YORK.—Humber Lodge (No. 57).**—Recently the annual installation of officers of this lodge took place, Bro. Henry Toozer being installed W.M. for the ensuing year by the Worshipful Bro. J. P. Bell, D.P.G.M., assisted by Bro. G. Hardy, P.M. No. 250, and Bro. W. Reynolds, P.M. No. 250. Bro. Toozes then appointed and invested the following brethren his officers:—Bros. Thos. Thompson, I.P.M.; F. D. Wing, S.W.; R. Beevers, J.W.; W. Tesseymann, P.M., Chaplain and Charity Steward; John Fountain, Treas.; W. B. Hay, P.M., M.D., Treasurer of the B. and P. Fund and Sinking Fund; W. D. Keyworth, P.M., Treasurer and Almoner of the Poor Fund; Joseph Hindson, Sec.; M. Haberland, L.M.; Thos. Proc-

tor, S.D.; R. Pexton, J.D.; W. W. Thachrah, D.C.; G. D. Storry, Org.; W. D. North, I.G.; E. Kidd, Steward. E. Lancaster, W. B. Wilkinson, James Matthews, W. H. Sumner, M. J. Martensen, James Fox, and Chas. Borrill, Assistant Stewards; Crier, Tyler; and Lowe, Assistant Tyler. After the installation ceremony a banquet, provided by Bro. W. Shepherdson, was held in the banqueting hall of the lodge, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly acknowledged, several brethren being present from the sister and distant lodges.

**SOUTHAMPTON.—Royal Gloucester Lodge (No. 130).**—This old lodge which claims to be the mother lodge in unbroken succession for more than half a century past of the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Prov. Grand Secretary of Hampshire, and for a long portion of that time, as at present, both the two last named Prov. Grand Officers, celebrated the festival of St. John, (which it formerly observed twice a year), at the installation of its W.M. last Thursday. The attendance included the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. Hickman), and Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Prov. Grand Secretary, (both Past Masters of the lodge), with Bros. G. Danlop, (the senior P.M.), E. Booth, the W.M's. of the Peace and Harmony, Southampton and Shirley Lodges, and other leading brethren of the lodge and the Craft in the town. The retiring W.M., Bro. C. John Poillips, after a passing and a raising, installed his successor, Bro. C. W. A. Jellicoe, the retiring S.W. of the lodge and Treasurer of the borough of Southampton, the retiring I.P.M., Bro. R. Sharpe, assisting by giving the charges. The newly-installed W.M. subsequently invested the officers for the year as follows:—Bros. James Cole, S.W.; Sydney Myer, J.W.; Rev. A. A. Dupont, Chaplain; Robert Sharpe, P.M., Treas.; J. R. Weston, P.M., Sec.; Pike, Org.; Geo. Davies, S.D.; James Robertson, J.D.; F. Obree, I.G.; C. A. Dyer, P.M., D.C.; C. Marshall and Baird, Stewards; Biggs, Tyler; and Vane, assistant Tyler. Before the lodge closed a vote of thanks and a Past Master's jewel were awarded to the retiring Master in recognition of his discharge of the duties during his year of office. These included two degrees on seven out of the twelve monthly meetings, one of these embracing five passings, and another four raisings, besides three initiations on one night, two on another, &c. Thirty brethren afterwards partook of the installation banquet, provided by Bro. Dartnall, of the High-street, and during the subsequent proceedings many congratulations were tendered to this old lodge and its new W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and advantage was taken by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master of the presence of the Mayor of Southampton, as one of the Past Masters of the lodge, of proposing his health, both in recognition of the loyalty of Masons towards the powers that be, and by way of congratulating the lodge on so many of its members having from time to time occupied the civic chair in Southampton. A charming selection of music on the harmonium by Bro. R. Sharpe, with several songs by various brethren gave a pleasing variety to one of the most genial of annual Masonic gatherings.

**RINGWOOD.—Unity Lodge (No. 132).**—This old Hampshire Lodge held its annual installation of W.M. on the 7th inst., when Bro. A. W. Ward, the retiring S.W., was placed in that position by his brother, P. M. Horatio Ward, now of Canterbury, a Past Prov. J.W., of Wiltshire, there being present some half-a-dozen Past Masters of the Ringwood and other lodges. In due course the following were invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. the Rev. G. C. Brown, I.P.M.; Stephen Masters, S.W.; G. S. Stock, J.W.; E. Low, Treas.; W. E. Alexander, Sec.; Geo. Palmer, S.D.; C. Heddon, J.D.; Albert Taylor, I.G.; and C. Elliott (for 39 years Tyler of the Lodge, which has passed its centenary) Tyler. Before the closing of the lodge, on the proposition of Bro. Brouncker, P.M., seconded by P. M. Hicks, acting I.P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was awarded Bro. H. Ward for his very satisfactory and impressive installation. Following an excellent dinner, supplied by Host Low, and which gave every satisfaction to about twenty brethren, the newly-elected W.M. embraced the opportunity, in proposing the Prov. Grand Lodge, of congratulating the Lodge on the fact that during the past two years, after remaining for a very long period without provincial honours, two of their brethren had secured the purple—Bros. Dr. Dyer, the retiring I.P.M., and E. Low, an influence which he trusted might continue to be experienced by one of the oldest lodges in the province. The toast was acknowledged by both the brethren named. The health of the new master was very cordially received, and acknowledged in an excellent speech, full of good feeling and Masonic spirit. "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Bro. C. John Phillips, W.M. of the Royal Gloucester Lodge, 130, Southampton, and Bro. Wyndham, of Wimborne, representing several neighbouring lodges. Bro. H. Ward took advantage of the opportunity of speaking to say that although a native of Ringwood, from which, however, he had been absent five-and-twenty years, his present was his first appearance in the lodge, and he naturally experienced more than ordinary pleasure in attending to instal his brother. Several very pleasant hours were spent by the brethren in social intercourse before separating, after one of the most successful installation meetings for some years.

**SIDMOUTH.—Perseverance Lodge (No. 164).**—The annual meeting of the members of this lodge took place at the London Hotel, for the purpose of appointing the officers for the ensuing year. Bro. F. H. H. Orchard, the W.M. elect, was installed by V.W. Bro. B. J. Hodge. The following officers were then duly appointed and invested:—Bros. R. Thornton Thornton, I.P.M.; W. T. Orchard, S.W.; Edgar, J.W.; Rev. R. Beebe, Chap.; J. Yelverton, Sec.; G. Beard, S.D.; W. Chatworthy, J.D.; B. T. Hodge, Org.; J. A. Orchard, D.C.; G. King, S.S.;

J. Perriman, I.G.; H. Paull, Tyler. The banquet was held in the large room of the Hotel, and the brethren could not too highly express their appreciation of the catering of Mr. W. Coulson. The visiting brethren also spoke in eulogistic terms of the banquet, and its moderate cost, and compared it most favourably with the expensive spreads which induces the brethren to forego what ought to be a pleasant and general gathering, instead of an uncomfortable and costly dinner.

**GUERNSEY.—Mariners Lodge (No. 168).**—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 1st inst., a goodly number of brethren being present. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for three candidates for Freemasonry, which being favourable, Mr. Wright, one of the candidates, was duly admitted and initiated, according to ancient custom, by the W.M., Bro. R. Smythson. Bro. Reed, being questioned, was entrusted and passed out. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Reed was admitted and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, when the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Gallieinne, P.D.P.G.M. and P.M. 84, having solemnly renewed his obligation, taken when previously installed, was duly invested and installed by a Board of Installed Masters. The brethren below the rank of Installed Masters, who had retired, were then recalled, and the usual salutations, &c., given in the Three Degrees, under the able direction of the Installing Master, Bro. R. Smythson, after which the W.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. R. Smythson, I.P.M.; F. Clarke, P.M., S.W.; H. Dunn, J.W.; H. Watkins, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); W. De Jersey, P.M., Sec.; H. Quick, S.D.; W. Courtenay, J.D.; H. Saunders, I.G.; and S. Baker, Tyler. The Treasurer having given a flourishing account of the funds, proposed that the sum of ten guineas be given as a donation to the Aged Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, and two guineas each to the Boys' and Girls' Schools. This was ably seconded by the J.W., Bro. H. Dunn, and unanimously carried by the lodge. A joining member being proposed, and "Hearty good wishes" given from Lodges 570 (I.C.), and 1023, the lodge was closed in form. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting room, where justice was done to an excellent spread, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M.; the Tyler's toast, at 11 o'clock, bringing a pleasant evening to a conclusion.

**LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).**—There was on Wednesday, the 8th inst., a large muster of the Masonic brethren at the Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, to witness the ceremony of the installation of the W.M. elect of this lodge, the attendance, which included at least twelve P.M's., being testimony alike to the harmony and cordiality with which the old lodge is always conducted, and of the high esteem in which the W.M. elect, Bro. Councillor S. Cleaver, is held by the brethren. Amongst those present were Wor. Bros. W. Kelly, P.M., P.P.G.M.; Bros. S. S. Partridge, Prov. G. Sec.; Thos. Worthington, P.M. 50; H. Hitchman, P.M. 455, P.G.J.W.; G. W. Statham, W.M. St. John's; Clement E. Stretton, I.P.M.; J. W. Smith, P.M.; J. M'Allister, P.M.; J. Baines, P.M. 523; R. A. Barber, P.M.; S. Cleaver, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Farndale, J.W.; the Rev. J. H. Smith, Chaplain; Cornelius Gurden, Treasurer; Councillor J. Jessop, S.D.; Thos. Coltman, J.D.; T. H. Scott, Organist; J. B. Ashby, I.G. 50; Jos. Cleming, 163; Richard Taylor, W.M. 523; W. H. Chamberlain, 523; C. P. Chamberlain, 523; Joseph Young, J.W. 523; A. Ross, 523; G. B. Atkins, 523; W. L. Emmerson, 523; J. H. Hale, W.M. 737; W. Beaumont Smith, Thos. P. Pickering, W. E. Jefferson, Fredk. Crick, W. H. Bastick, M. A. Cook, R. Michie, S. A. Marris, John Young, Francis Dawson, Robt. Dudgeon, John Clifton, J. Roadknight, Edward Newton, jun., W. Tomlin, Chas. Stevens, W. Faire, Jas. Tanser, and Thomas Dunn, Tylers. The lodge was opened by Bro. Statham, the retiring W.M., all the officers being in their respective places, except two, who were unavoidably absent. After the transaction of the ordinary business, Wor. Bro. Kelly, who has for so very many years ably officiated as the Installing Master at St. John's, as well as at a good number of other lodges in the provinces, and who had kindly consented again to discharge the important duty on this occasion, took the chair, and proceeded to instal the W.M. elect in the most impressive manner. This done, Bro. Cleaver appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year, Bros. Statham, I.P.M.; Farndale, S.W.; the Rev. J. H. Smith, Headmaster of Dulwich College, J.W. and Chaplain; Gurden, Treas. (re-elected); Orlando Law (unavoidably absent), Sec.; Thos. Coltman, S.D.; L. P. Chamberlain, J.D.; Newton, D.C.; Faire, I.G.; H. Scott, Org. (re-appointed); M. A. Cooke and Fredk. Crick, Stewards. On the motion of Bro. M'Allister, P.M., seconded by Bro. Clement E. Stretton, P.M., it was unanimously resolved that a P.M's. jewel should be presented to Bro. C. W. Statham, as a mark of esteem and appreciation of his services in the chair during the past year. The remaining business of the lodge having been transacted, the brethren sat down to a grand banquet under the presidency of the newly installed W.M., who was supported by Wor. Bro. Kelly, P.P. G.M., his worship the Mayor (Wor. Bro. Ald. Stretton, P.M., P.G.S.W.), and all the brethren who had attended the lodge, as well as numerous others who were unable to be present earlier. The usual Masonic and loyal toasts were duly honoured, and a most enjoyable evening was spent, several of the brethren at intervals singing capital songs, in which they were accompanied on the piano by Bro. T. H. Scott, who also favoured the company by one of his masterly performances of a solo on the pianoforte.

**LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (281).**—The annual meeting for the installation of W.M., and investiture of officers of the Lodge of Fortitude of Free and

Accepted Masons was held on the 27th ult., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, St. Leonard-gate. Bro. J. Jowett, the retiring W.M., presided and there was a good attendance of members. The W.M. elect (Bro. E. Cardell) was duly presented by Bro. Whimpray, P.M., and Bro. Simpson P.M., and installed by Bro. Jowett, who officiated as installing master, and went through the ceremony in a highly impressive and efficient manner. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: I.P.M., Bro. Jowett; S.W., Bro. W. Warbrick; J.W., Bro. J. J. Crokell; Treas., Bro. James Hatch; Sec., Bro. John Hatch; S.D., Bro. John Atkinson; J.D., Bro. John Pilkington; I.G., Bro. B. Gregson; Org., Bro. Aldous; S.S., Bro. E. Johnson; J.S., Bro. Bayley; D. of C., Bro. R. Stanton. —The brethren afterwards adjourned to the King's Arms hotel, where the installation banquet was held, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M. After the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, amongst the latter being that of Bro. Dr. Moore, regret being expressed that the state of his health prevented his being present amongst them. The toasts were interspersed with songs, and a very pleasant evening was spent.—The monthly meeting of the above Lodge was held on the 8th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Cardwell. There was not a very large attendance. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, and several communications read. Bro. Jowett I.P.M., then gave a lecture on "The Symbolism of the Masonic Apron." The lecture an original one, was very interesting, and did great credit to Bro. Jowett's knowledge of Masonic lore. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him. The usual proclamations were then made, and the lodge closed in peace, love, and harmony and silent prayer.

**YORK.—St. Patrick's Lodge (No. 295) (I.C.)**—The annual installation meeting of this military lodge, which is attached to the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, at present lying in York Barracks, was held at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday evening. There was a good attendance of visitors, consisting chiefly of brethren from the local lodges. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M. (Bro. Major T. B. Shaw-Hellier), Bro. J. Todd, P.M. and Treas. 236, Prov. G. Reg., presided, amongst others present being Bros. J. S. Cumberland, W.M. 1611; G. Bainford, P.M. 236, P.P.G.O.; W. C. Lukis, W.M. De Grey and Ripon, 837; F. B. Whytehead, P.M. 1611, Prov. G.D.C.; and others. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. J. Todd, assisted by Bro. T. B. Whytehead, and the W.M. (Bro. J. Hanly) appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. I. Murphy, S.W.; M. C. S. Tynte, J.W.; Wm. Harris, Sec.; James Pedley, Treas.; J. Somerset, S.D.; Walter Flint, J.D.; Hy. Lewis, I.G.; J. Gladman, Tyler. An excellent supper, supplied by Bro. J. Toes, followed the closing of the lodge, at which the W.M. presided, and proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. "Prosperity to the St. Patrick's Lodge," "The Health of the W.M.," "Prosperity to the York and Eboracum Lodges," "The Visitors," and other toasts followed, and a pleasant evening was passed.

**MALTA.—Lodge of St. John and St. Paul (No. 349)**—The brethren belonging to this influential and admirably conducted lodge, and a number of visitors, mustered in strong force in the Masonic Hall, Stra'ta Streeta, on St. John's Day, December 27th, for the purpose of assisting at the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Lieut. Coffery, R.A. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Walton, the retiring W.M., vacated the chair, thus closing his useful and prosperous year of office. The chair was then taken by Bro. Kingston, the W. D.G.M., and the W.M. elect having been presented to him by Bros. P.M.'s Rotherham and Doherty, he proceeded with the ceremony of installation, which he performed in the able, impressive, and effective style which characterises all his Masonic working, and which never fails to elicit the sympathy and approbation of those present. The following brethren were subsequently invested as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. Watson, I.P.M.; E. Rosenbusch, D.D.G.M., Treas. (for the fourteenth time); Jones, S.W.; Littledale, J.W.; J. W. Starkey, Sec.; L. Schaefer, S.D.; Godwin, J.D.; Saviles, I.G.; Beck, Tyler. Three candidates were proposed for initiation at the next regular meeting, and the lodge was then closed in ancient form, and with solemn prayer. The brethren retired to the adjoining refreshment room, where they sat down to an excellent collation, provided by the active and able Tyler, Bro. Beck. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed in appropriate terms, by the W.M., and met with the hearty reception and response which they always call forth in Masonic assemblies. "The Health of the W. D.G.M., Bro. Kingston," followed, and was responded to with the manifest pleasure, fervour, and *empressement* which his popular personal qualities, impartial and conciliatory manners, as well as his long, useful, and successful Masonic career, never fail to elicit from every lodge and every member under his jurisdiction. In acknowledging the toast, Bro. Kingston thanked the officers and brethren present for their continued kindness, and the manifestations of their good-will and approbation. It had been his constant aim and earnest study to fulfil the important duties appertaining to his high and responsible position honestly, impartially, and to the best of his ability; and if the expressions of kindness and approval which were so constantly accorded him by the brethren in his district, might be taken as indications of success, certainly he might reasonably conclude that his endeavours had been, so far, tolerably effective. His aims and aspirations in the past would, he could assure them, be those of the future and he would continue, as far as he was able, to disseminate and carry out the great principles

of masonry, promote its benevolent purposes, and so perform his responsible duties as to merit and secure a continuance of their esteem and approbation, as well as the satisfaction and approval of Grand Lodge. The health of the W.M. was then given, and was greeted with evident and hearty marks of pleasure and approbation. In responding, Bro. Coffery said that he most heartily thanked the brethren for the honour they had conferred upon him by placing him in the most honorable position to which a mason could aspire. He felt the honour more intensely because he was, comparatively, a very young mason and very little right to expect such a result. He could only assure them, that his constant and undeviating purpose and endeavour would be to do honour to their choice by conscientiously performing the agenda, and promoting the interests of the lodge over which they had so kindly selected him to preside. There might be many shortcomings in his working but these would, certainly, not be the results of either inattention or the want of an earnest desire to perform his duties efficiently. The health of the I.P.M. Bro. Watson, was subsequently proposed and was received and responded to with tokens of pleasure and hearty enthusiasm. Bro. Watson, in acknowledging the toast, said that he felt greatly affected and gratified by the complimentary terms in which his health had been proposed, and by the hearty manner in which it had been received. These appreciative expressions and indications were especially pleasing and gratifying on the present occasion, because they might, he hoped, be taken as proofs that he had succeeded in executing the duties of W.M. in such a manner as to gain their esteem and approval. When they did him the great and unexpected honour of electing him W.M. of the Lodge of St. John and St. Paul he was, comparatively a stranger to many of them. But the brotherly greeting, hearty welcome, and able assistance they so readily accorded him, greatly pleased and encouraged him; and made him anxious and determined to do all in his power to carry on the duties of his important and honourable office as efficiently as possible and maintain the prestige of the lodge and leave this chair as unsullied as he found it. At first, he certainly looked forward with a considerable amount of diffidence and fear, and saw many shortcomings and defects looming in the distance, but by their kind forbearance and sympathy, and the able co-operation and assistance of his officers the agenda of the lodge had in his thinking been performed effectively and in harmony. He was proud to say that his year of office had not only been a pleasing and harmonious one, but also a successful and prosperous. They had not held fewer than thirty meetings and worked thirty-eight degrees. Eighteen candidates had been initiated, nineteen passed, and fourteen raised, and eight admitted as joining members. He was sorry, in one sense, that the departure of some of Her Majesty's ships and removal of certain regiments had prevented five of the brethren completing their degrees, but he hoped that some of them would return and have the pleasure of being raised by the present able and efficient W.M. He confessed that neither the character nor the prosperity of a lodge could be justly estimated by the number of initiations and members. Quality as well as quantity must be taken into account. But he believed that in the past year they had been fortunate in those admitted, for, in his thinking, they were such as would do honour to that lodge in particular, and the Craft in general. He again, most emphatically, thanked the officers and brethren for their continued indulgence, kindness, and support, and congratulated them on having made such a wise and prudent choice in selecting for their W.M. Bro. Coffery, who, as they all knew, had worked so diligently and well as S.W. "The Health of the Visiting Brethren" and Tyler's toast terminated a pleasant and successful evening.

**SANDBACK.—Samaritan Lodge (No. 368)**—The annual meeting of this old Lodge was held on Wednesday, January 8th at the Masonic Rooms at three o'clock. The lodge was opened by the D.M., Bro. L. R. Jones, assisted by Bros. Rev. Thomas Lunt, S.W., W.M. Elect.; E. Furnival, J.W.; T. Dalton, S.D.; R. Finlow, J.D.; J. Wakefield Jun., I.G.; J. C. Hilditch, Sec.; J. W. McGill, P.M., P. Prov. J.A.D. Cer.; Markin, P.M., Prov. G.D.; George W. Latham, Past Grand Deacon of England; J. Tomlinson, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.D.; J. Hulme, P.M.; J. Arden, P.M.; S. Carter, P.M.; P. Jackson, P.W.; F. Leach, P. Hancock, R. Bebbington, J. Furner, J. Wakefield, Stewds.; S. Dickinson, Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. John Bowes, P.M., P.P.G.; J. W. Cumberland and Westmoreland; T. Buxton, P.M. 1345. The Lodge was opened in due form with prayer when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge being opened in the second degree the W.M. in the name of the lodge asked Bro. John Bowes to take the chair as Installing Master. The W.M. Elect, the Rev. Thos. Lunt was then presented for the benefit of installation and the first part of the ceremony being completed the lodge was opened in the third degree. The Installing Master then requested Bros. McGill and Makin to take the Wardens' chairs, and the collars and jewels being collected, all below the degree of Installed Masters, except the W.M. Elect, retired. Bro. Rev. Thos. Lunt being entrusted, retired, and a Board of Installed Masters was opened in ample form, the W. M. Elect admitted and installed in the chair of K. S. according to ancient custom. After the usual greeting, salutation, and proclamation by the W. brethren, the lodge was called off and the cement applied. Labour resumed, the Board was closed, and the brethren of the several degrees re-admitted, and the usual greetings, salutations, proclamations, and presentations made. The W.M. then nominated and invested his officers for the ensuing year, each of whom was addressed by the Installing Master, and subsequently the ancient charges to the Master, Wardens, and brethren were delivered by the same brother. The ceremony being com-

pleted, Bro. J. W. Latham said they were indebted to Bro. Bowes for the able manner in which he had worked the ceremony and the earnest impressiveness in which he had conveyed the great Masonic truths of their ritual. He proposed that the thanks of the lodge be accorded to him and begged him to believe that he suggested no empty compliment. The vote was carried by acclamation, and Bro. having suitably responded the remainder of the business was completed, the lodge closed and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where an abundance of good things awaited them. Grace after meat being said the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. We were much impressed by the earnest dignity with which the W.M. conducted the proceedings and the clear and intelligent exposition he gave of Masonic principles. In proposing the Installing Master's health, he acknowledged his deep obligations to Bro. Bowes and paid a high compliment to that brother with respect to his rendering of the beautiful ceremony of installation. In responding to the toast of "The Visitors" Bro. Buxton said he did not remember spending a more pleasant day than he had on this occasion. He did not know which most pleased him—the installation ceremony or the utterances of the W.M. With both he had been delighted and felt greatly indebted to Bro. Gilbert for inviting him. The Tyler's toast was proposed about nine and the brethren separated in harmony, well pleased with the day's proceedings.

**DORCHESTER.—Faith and Unanimity Lodge (No. 417)**—The installation of the W.M. elect of this lodge, Bro. W. E. Brymer, took place on the 1st of January. It was a most successful meeting in every way, an unusually large number of the brethren being present on the occasion, besides numerous visitors from other lodges. Among the latter were Bro. Montague J. Guest, P.G. Master for Dorset, Bros. G. Burt and G. R. Crickmay, P.P.S.G. Wardens, Dorset. The Installing-Master was the retiring W.M., Bro. W. H. Dean, who performed the whole of the ceremony in the most efficient manner, and to whose eloquence a high, but pre-eminently deserved tribute was paid by the P.G.M. The brethren were greatly edified by W. Bro. Dean's discharge of this important duty, and, without exception, they regarded with admiration the facility with which the work was done. Bro. W. E. Brymer, W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. W. H. Dean, I.P.M.; J. Rowe, S.W.; T. M. Dron, J.W.; H. Everett, Chap.; A. H. Lock, Sec.; R. D. Thornton, S.D.; J. Robinson, Junior, J.D.; J. Robinson, P.M., D.C.; H. P. Ratkas, Org.; J. E. Stroud, I.G.; C. Parsons, P.M., and W. Osmond, P.M., Stewards; W. Talbot, Tyler. After the closing of the lodge, the brethren assembled round the banqueting-table, where the usual Masonic toasts were honoured; and a very happy evening was spent.

**SALFORD.—Zetland Lodge (No. 852)**—On Wednesday, the 8th inst., the usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Albert Hotel, the W.M., Bro. John Thos. Watts, in the chair. The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. John Barnes was then initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M. Bro. T. Alcock having given the necessary proofs of his proficiency in the First Degree, he was passed to the Fellow Craft by Bro. Samuel Heathcote, P.M., in a very impressive manner. Bro. Heathcote then presented Bro. Robert Holland, the W.M. elect, to hear the ancient charges and regulations, read by Bro. Wm. Naylor, the Secretary, after which all the brethren below the chair retired, and a Board of Installed Masters was declared. Bro. Robert Holland was then duly installed as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing twelve months in a very efficient and impressive manner by Bro. J. T. Watts, I.P.M. The brethren were then admitted, and the W.M. appointed his officers—Bros. J. Hardy, S.W.; T. Heyworth, J.W.; J. G. Edge, Treas.; W. Wheeler, Sec.; T. Conroy, S.D.; G. Bingham, J.D.; W. Young, Chap.; Thos. Batty, Org.; W. Naylor, I.G.; W. Hill, Tyler; who were invested with the collars and jewels of their respective offices by Bro. Uriah Nicholls, P.P.G.P. The lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer at 6 o'clock, p.m. The brethren (upwards of forty) then prepared to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist with a most sumptuous banquet, served by the worthy host in an excellent manner. The W.M., Bro. Holland, presiding, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. The toast of "The W.M." having been received with great approbation, and replied to in a neat and effective speech, Bro. W. Riddell, P.M., then proposed "The Health of Bro. John Thos. Watts, I.P.M.," referring to the admirable way in which he had performed his duties during the past year, also the efficient manner he had done the installation ceremony. Bro. Holland, W.M., then presented a Past Master's jewel to him in the name of the brethren of his lodge, as a token of their appreciation of his zealous services on behalf of Freemasonry, which was received and acknowledged in suitable terms. The remaining toasts were "The P.M.'s," "The Visiting Brethren," "All Poor and Distressed Masons," &c., all of which were cordially received and duly honoured. The proceedings were enlivened by songs, recitations, &c., given by several of the brethren, and terminated about 11 o'clock.

**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000)**—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Middleton Hotel, under the presidency of Bro. A. Lucking, P.M. and P.Z., Prov. C.D.C. in the unavoidable absence through illness of the V.W. Bro. Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.M. and P.Z., P.G. Chap. of England. Among a large attendance of members and visitors there were present:—Bros. A. Lucking, as W.M.; W. D. Merritt acting S.W.; J. C. Johnstone,

P.M. 20 (I.C.), J.W., W.M. elect; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. and M.E.Z., P.P.G.D., Sec.; G. F. Jones, S.D.; G. Berry, J.D.; T. Barrett, I.G.; F. D. Grayson, D.C.; A. Martin, Tyler. H. Rowley, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.P.G.D.; E. E. Phillips, P.M. and P.Z., P.P.G.D. Essex, and P.J.G.W. Somerset; W. G. Brighton, P.M. and P.Z.; C. Eltham, W. Waterhouse, H. Beecher, S. M'Call Walker, Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.M. 160, P.P.G. Chap.; H. Hicks, O. Bentall, W. Allen, jun., W.M. 160; W. Hassell, B. M. Johnstone, H. Luker, C. Palmer, H. Hassell, F. Cantor, J. Reeve, P.M. 160; and others. Visitors:—Bros. F. Binckes, P.M., Grand Stewards Lodge, Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; Sir R. Gethier, and A. D. Johnstone, 20 Sligo (I.C.), Hon. Major Lambert, 1460; W. Pissey, P.P.G.W., W.M.; and J. Allen, S.W. Trinity, 1734; E. Hennenyner, W.M. Angel, 51; E. Bonner, S.W. and W.M. elect; and J. W. Wardell, I.G. Eastern Star, 95; A. R. Foster, Henry Muggeridge, 1676; J. S. Lewin, Good Fellowship, 276. The usual preliminary business having been gone through, the acting W.M. raised Bro. M'Call Walker, to the Third Degree, and afterwards installed Bro. J. C. Johnstone, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The officers appointed and invested were as follows:—Bros. G. F. Jones, S.W.; G. Berry, J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. (re-elected for the 14th time) Treas.; J. A. Wardell, P.M. and M.E.Z., P.P.G.D. (re-appointed for the 6th time) Sec.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.M., P.P.G. Chap., Chap.; T. Barrett, S.D.; W. D. Merritt, J.D.; F. D. Grayson, I.G.; W. J. Brighton, P.M. and P.Z., D.C.; W. Waterhouse and H. Hicks, Stewards; A. Martin, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony of installation, the W.M. in a very able manner initiated Mr. Pooley into the mysteries of the Craft. A petition was presented for the formation of a new lodge at Shoeburyness, which was recommended by the lodge. After a vote of thanks to Bro. A. Lucking for his able services as Installing Master, the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, which, with the handsome decorations of the room, reflected great credit on the host of the Middleton Hotel, Bro. B. M. Johnstone. On the cloth being withdrawn the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to. In response to Bro. Binckes earnest appeal on behalf of the Masonic Charities, the W.M. expressed his intention to serve as Steward at the next festival of the Boys' School. Three Life-Governorships were balloted for at the table and the amount thirty guineas will be placed on the Worshipful Masters list, three Life-Governorships of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution were also balloted for. The proceedings were enlivened with some excellent vocal music by Bros. Rev. H. J. Hutch, E. Bonner, A. S. Lewin, W. D. Merritt, A. R. Foster, J. Allen, T. Barrett, and others.

**LANCASTER.**—Rowley Lodge (No. 1051).—The installation meeting of the members of this lodge was held on the 6th inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum. Bro. A. Sheriff, W.M., presided. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees by Bro. John Hatch, P.M. and Sec. 281, officiating as Installing Master, in the absence of Bro. Moore, P.G.S.B. of L., through indisposition. Bro. N. Helme, the W.M. elect, was then presented for installation, and made the necessary declaration. The brethren below the degree of P.M. then retired from the lodge room, and a lodge of Past Masters having been formed, Bro. Helme was duly installed into the high and honoured office of W.M. The brethren were then re-admitted, and the newly-installed W.M. was proclaimed according to ancient rights and custom, and with the usual formalities. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Sheriff, I.P.M.; George Taylor, S.W.; J. T. Jackson, J.W.; W. J. Sly, Treas.; H. Longman, Sec.; James Aldous, S.D.; James Vince, J.D.; H. Robinson, I.G.; A. K. Allinson, Tyler; and Shepherd, Serving Brother. The brethren having been duly installed into their respective offices, the lodge was closed down with the usual formalities. The brethren subsequently adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel, where the installation banquet was spread, the newly-installed W.M. occupying the seat of honour at the head of the table. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, the post-prandial proceedings being enlivened by the harmony of some of the brethren.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**—Shirly Lodge (No. 1112).—Bro. F. H. McCalmont, the S.W. for the past year, Past Prov. Grand Registrar Oxon, was last week installed as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master Bro. W. Hickman, one of the Past Masters of the lodge, amidst a good attendance of brethren, the installed Masters among them numbering a dozen. The W.M. subsequently invested the following officers, the clothing and silver jewels being a new set, supplied principally at the expense of the new Master, who also presented the lodge with a supply of charge glasses:—Bros. Parkinson, S.W. and Steward; R. Harfield, P.M. 130, J.W.; C. Crew, (re-elected) Treas.; J. T. Fletcher, Sec.; Venables, S.D.; Mayoss, J.D.; R. Sharpe, P.M. 130, D.C.; Martin, sen., I.G.; and Vare, Tyler. Before the lodge adjourned to refreshment thanks were voted to the retiring Master, Bro. J. E. Tucker, acchis services during the past year, and a satisfactory report was given as to the future prospects of the lodge.

**NORTH WOOLWICH.**—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—If the above young but vigorous lodge goes on increasing at the same ratio as it has during the last twelve months under the judicious and courteous rule of Bro. Manning, the W.M., Bro. West, the worthy and esteemed host of the lodge house, the Three Crowns, will

have to enlarge, not only the lodge room itself but the neat little supper cosy, where his friends love to gather round his comfortable and hospitable board, for on Tuesday, the 7th inst., the lodge was crowded, perhaps, not inconveniently, but, nevertheless, crowded by the members and visitors who gathered to see the excellent and careful working of the W.M. and his officers. "There is a tide in the affairs of man, &c.," and there can be no doubt that this especially applies to communities. The Henley Lodge has been up and down rather severely during its short but eventful career, but like the noble hearted man whose name it bears, whose gigantic establishment at North Woolwich, once the field from which many a store was garnered, but which now lies silent and deserted, still struggles on toiling and hoping, and climbing up higher and higher each day. It has felt the cold breath of inanition fanning, chilling its very life, but the heart of it has never despaired. Aided by firm and faithful hands it has surmounted all difficulties, and now both in strength and talent, takes its position, and worthily too, among the first lodges of the metropolis. Upon the occasion under notice, Bro. Manning was supported by the following officers and Past Masters, Bros. W. T. Turner, S.W.; J. Ives, Sec. and P.M.; Dr. Vance, S.D.; E. Lloyd, J.D.; C. S. Boardman, Org.; J. A. Elder, I.G.; Jas. Palmer, Steward; A. W. Page, P.M. 1076, Tyler; and Past Masters E. West and W. Graham. The visitors included Bros. W. Gilbert, P.M. 1327, and P.P.G.J.W. Herefordshire; J. Paul, 1287; H. White, 405; Thos. Budgett, 405; C. R. Adam, 212; W. J. Burgess, 1664; Wood, 700; Hawkins, 700; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The work before the lodge consisted of the raising of Bros. Lewis and Cash. The passing of Bros. Ball and Young, and the initiation of Mr. T. Feast. The whole of this heavy list of work was admirably performed by the W.M., nor must we forget to render praise to merit where it is due, and Bro. Lloyd filled the J.W.'s chair at a moment's notice admirably. A high compliment was then paid to Bro. Jolly, he being unanimously elected an honorary member for services rendered to the lodge through the *Freemason*, and Bro. Jolly returned his sincere thanks for the great honour paid him. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the "snuggery," where a prettily arranged tempting collation awaited them. Having settled that important question, a move was made to the social board, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and received right Masonically. The speeches were much as per usual. The W.M., in responding to the toast of his health, proposed by Bro. Graham, spoke sadly of the inevitable hour that was fast arriving when he should have to resign into the hands of one well worthy of it, the symbol of his office, but pleasurable of the year and its results. He said that harmony in its fullest attributes had reigned in the lodge. Its strength had increased, and his earnest wish was for its continued prosperity under his successor. The evident feeling of the W.M. was understood and appreciated, and truly he has deserved well of the lodge. "The Initiate," "The Visitors," and "The Officers," were the other toasts, and then a most enjoyable meeting was concluded.

**MANCHESTER.**—Avon Lodge (No. 1633).—This new and rising lodge held its second installation meeting on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Lodge Rooms, Denmark Hotel, Greenleys. At 3 o'clock the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. Leigh. There were about 50 brethren present, including several visitors of distinction. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree when Bro. W. Bostock, P.M., assumed the office of Installing Master, and ably and impressively placed Bro. J. D. Brickles, the W.M. elect, in the chair of K.S. When the brethren had greeted the newly-installed W.M. in the various degrees, the following officers were invested by the W.M. assisted by Bro. T. J. Hooper, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., viz.:—Bros. A. Painter, S.W.; A. B. Whittaker, J.W.; W. Bostock, P.M., Treas.; H. Bracewell, Sec.; G. Macfarlane, S.D.; S. McKellen, J.D.; W. Brown, I.G.; T. J. Hooper, P.M., D.C.; B. Smith, Org.; G. Yates, Steward. A vote was proposed and unanimously carried for a grant to the Masonic Charities, and the lodge was closed, after which the brethren adjourned to a banquet, which was presided over by Bro. Brickles, W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and "The Health of the W.M." was ably proposed and enthusiastically received. Bro. Brickles, in reply, assured the brethren that nothing should be wanting on his part to promote the prosperity of the Avon Lodge. Bro. Painter, S.W., proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Leigh," and presented him with a P.M.'s jewel, as a mark of esteem from the members of the lodge. The toast of "The Installing Master," "The Masonic Charities," and "The Officers," were proposed and suitably responded to, and the proceedings of the evening were enlivened with songs, glees, and recitations, contributed by members of the lodge.

Royal Arch.

**LION AND LAMB CHAPTER** (No. 192).—The January meeting of the above chapter was held on Wednesday last. Present, Comps. Henry Birdseye, M.E.Z.; F. D. R. Copestick, H.; Henry Muggeridge, J.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Charles Arkell, S.E.; George Phythian, S.N.; Storr, P.S.; Larkin, Chapman, C. Cann, J. Kent, George Newman, P.Z.; S. D. Ewins, C. B. Cheese, Medwin, Brand and Walker. The visitors were:—Comps. George Everett, T. B. White, Forsyth, and several other companions. The minutes of last convocation were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bro. Henry Edmonds, Henry Muggeridge Lodge, 1579, Bros. Walter Solomon and Whittaker, Carnarvon Lodge, 1572, the result being unanimously in their favour. Bro. Edmonds was exalted to the degree of Royal Arch, Bro. Henry

Muggeridge then installed Comps. J. C. Chapman, M.E.Z. George Phythian, J.; Comp. Chapman invested Comp. George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; Charles Arkell, S.E.; E. F. Storr, S.N.; C. B. Cheese, P.S.; Comp. Cheese then appointed Comps. Lorkin, 1st Asst.; Cohu, 2nd Asst.; The newly appointed M.E.Z. presented to Comp. Henry Birdseye, a gold jewel in recognition of the services rendered to Royal Arch Masonry in general and the Lion and Lamb Chapter in particular. The companions dined together.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER (No. 1507).

A convocation of this chapter was held on the 2nd inst., at Metropolitan Club, Pentonville-road, King's Cross. Present:—Comps. Willing, M.E.Z.; J. R. Stacey, (*Morning Advertiser*), H.; W. J. Ferguson, J.; W. M. Stiles, S.E.; Hudson, S.N.; John Douglass (Standard and Park Theatres), P.S.; also Comps. Cook, Hyland, Beattie, Edmunds, Gilbert, jun., Sillis, and several other members; also Comps. G. Everett, M.E.Z. Kennington Chapter; Ambrose, Kennington Chapter; Lovegrove, Jubilee Chapter; and Sherrington. The minutes of last convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. exalted Bro. J. G. Humphreys, No. 157, in an impressive and earnest manner, Bros. Holt, (*Daily Telegraph*), and Side, who were to have been exalted at this convocation, were absent through illness. Numerous propositions for joining having been given in, the companions adjourned to the banquet, which was served in a very creditable manner by Bro. C. Cox the spirited proprietor of the club. In the course of the evening, which was enlivened by some beautiful and appropriate singing, notably a comic song by the Scribe E. Comp. Stiles, the M.E.Z. alluded to the satisfaction of the members at seeing the M.E.Z. of the Kennington Chapter present. Comp. Everett, whose genial eloquence is universally admired, bore witness, in his reply, to the excellent working by the officers of the chapter, from the M.E.Z. downwards, and said that the present meeting was one of the happiest he had ever spent, and hoped to be again invited. The M.E.Z. congratulated the companions upon the financial state of the chapter, and expressed his conviction that the next two meetings would see the chapter with their magnificent paraphernalia entirely paid for, there being no other liability, and he further stated that if the companions continued to act together in harmony as at present the chapter would prove not only one of the best appointed, but one of the happiest in London. The companions separated at a late hour expressing themselves very pleased at the meeting, and adjourning until the first Thursday in February.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 975).

The usual convocation of this chapter of improvement, which meets at the Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, every Tuesday at half-past six, to the end of May, was held on the 7th inst., when the following companions were present:—Comps. G. J. Rowe, M.E.Z.; W. J. Messenger, H.; F. Brown, J.; Comp. Thomas W. White, S.E.; E. L. Walker, S.N.; J. Pakes, P.S.; Thomas Massa, and R. I. Loveland. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed. Before the chapter was closed and adjourned, a vote of condolence with Comp. J. Jermyn Boyd, on the death of his father, Comp. John Boyd, P.Z., was unanimously carried.

Mark Masonry.

**UNITED SERVICE LODGE** (No. 69).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Assembly room, Old Brompton, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. There were present Bros. C. Burley, P.P.G.M., J.D., W.M.; W. Challenger, S.W.; E. Gorham, P.P.G.M., D.C., J.W.; W. A. Rudd, P.P.G.M., S.D., M.O.; J. Harden, S.O.; Nutt, J.O.; Walker, J.D.; Nutt, Sec.; Jarvis, I.G., and other brethren. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., the minutes confirmed, and the ballot taken for Bro. Black, St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, which proved unanimous, and he and Bro. Maytum, 184, who had been approved, were advanced to the degree of M.M.M. The ceremony was impressively performed by the W.M., ably assisted by his officers, and great praise is due to one and all for the manner in which they discharged their duties. Other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed in harmony.

Rosicrucian Society.

METROPOLITAN COLLEGE CHAPTER.

The above chapter met at Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, 9th inst. Present:—M.W. Fraters W. R. Woodman, S.M. and P.M.G.; H. C. Levauder, S.S.M. and P.M.G.; R.W. Fraters F. W. White, M. of T.; S. Rosenthal, D.M. of T.; J. Mason, Sec. Gen.; V.W. Fraters T. Cubitt, 1° A.; J. L. Thomas, 2° A.; W. J. Ferguson, 3° A.; Don. M. Dewar, 6° A.; W. Frater E. H. Thiellay, T.B.; M.W. Frater W. H. Hubbard, P.S.S.M.; Fraters Robt. Berridge, John C. Cox, Thos. C. Walls, J. Smith, Dep. Acolyte. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, and letters of apology from several fraters who were unavoidably absent, when the ballot was taken for Bro. T. C. Walls, which proving in his favour he was admitted to the degree, the ceremony being ably performed by the M. of T. Frater F. W. White, assisted by the Supreme Magis M.W. Frater W. R. Woodman. The draft of the new certificate of the Order was presented for inspection by M.W. Frater H. C. Levauder, the design of which was greatly appreciated by the fraters present. The M.C. being closed, the fraters sat down to an excellent banquet provided by Bro. Best of the Freemasons' Tavern, which did him great credit.

## TO OUR READERS.

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

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

## TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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## Answers to Correspondents.

ERRATA.—In the account of the meeting of the Lodge of Joppa, which appeared in our impression last week, the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Maurice Alexander, P.M. 188, and not Bro. L. Alexander, P.M., as stated.

The following reports of lodge meetings have been received, but stand over until next week for want of space:—Skiddaw Lodge, No. 1002; Lodge of Sincerity, No. 217; Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611; Aldershot Camp Lodge, No. 1331; Lodge of Antiquity, No. 146, Bolton; Mersey Lodge, No. 477; Elias de Derham Lodge, No. 586; United Military Lodge, No. 1536; Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158. Mount Calvary Preceptory—Knights Templar. Gosport Royal Arch Chapter, No. 903; Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, No. 1044.

## BOOKS &amp;c., RECEIVED.

"Touchstone;" "Hull Packet;" "Kelet Orient;" "The Alliance News;" "The Broad Arrow;" "Jersey Express;" "Die Bauhutte;" "The Free Press;" "The London Express;" "The Buffalo;" "Courier de Bruxelles;" "The Macclesfield Courier and Herald;" "Masonic Advocate;" "The Masonic Newspaper;" "The Keystone;" "Bundes Presse;" "Young Folks Weekly Budget;" "New York Dispatch;" "Galloway Gazette;" "Spalding Free Press;" "Risorgimento;" "Irish Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for the year 1879."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTHS.

HOLBROOK.—On the 12th inst., at Poitsea, the wife of A. H. Holbrook, of a daughter.

ODELL.—On the 10th inst., at Acre Lane, Brixton, the wife of E. T. Odell, of a son.

SHAW.—On the 10th inst., the wife of Rev. J. Shaw, vicar of St. John's, Chelsea, of a daughter.

## DEATHS.

FILDEN.—On the 12th inst., at Scarborough, Sir Wm. Henry Fielden, Bart., of Feniscoules Hall, Lancashire, late Captain 17th Lancers, in his 67th year. Copy of Good Hope papers please copy.

SCOTT.—On the 9th inst., very suddenly, at Strathroy, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, Commander Chas. Scott, R.N., J.P., aged 48.

STUART.—On the 2nd inst., Wm. Stuart, at Lagan Villa, Hounslow, aged 72.

VIGNE.—On the 9th inst., at Westfield, Bath, Lucy widow of the late Bro. Charles John Vigne, aged 70

## THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1879.

## THE QUARTERLY COURT OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The Quarterly Court of the Girls' School on Saturday last was a most important one, and resulted in some great changes in the laws of the Institution, which had been previously submitted to the careful consideration of a joint committee representing the two Institutions. The main changes in the laws are the substitution of seven years for five years of lodge subscription, and the refusal to allow a second orphan of the same family to be educated at the same time, except the "number of vacancies be in excess of the number of candidates." It was originally proposed to make the seven years "consecutive," but the word "consecutive" was expunged, and Bro. Rawson proposed, though we could not see the cogency of his remarks, not to allow a female orphan to have a brother at the same time educated in the Boys' School. It was quite proper, we think, to discourage two orphans from the same family, while so many applicants seek admission into the school, but we entirely dissent from Bro. Rawson's proposal, as we think all our readers will do. The proposal to make it a "sine qua non," that the father of an orphan should have been a "subscriber to one of the Institutions," was very properly rejected by an overwhelming majority, and we cannot profess to realize any proposition more unwise or inexpedient in itself, or more utterly unworthy of Freemasonry. If it be true that the children of brethren who do nothing for Freemasonry are recipients of its benefits, as no doubt it is—if such be an abuse of a great charity, which we are not altogether prepared to admit, if the Girls' School be a charity, it must be specifically dealt with; but as "two blacks do not make one white," so we are not to do "evil that good may come," and by a dereliction of Masonic duty, and a failure from all Masonic principle, endorse the theory of a "benefit society," and seek to gain a desired end by undesirable means. The meeting very properly adhered to the obvious distinction between Freemasonry and all benefit societies, and we feel sure that its decision will be approved of and supported by the great bulk of our warm-hearted Craft who subscribe to our Educational Institutions. We will only add, that that must be a peculiar mind, Masonically speaking, which seeks to put forward, in respect of a Masonic charity, the principle of utter selfishness both in the abstract and concrete. No orphan society in existence makes it a necessity of admission that the poor child's father must have previously subscribed to the Institution. We are happy to think that our Order is saved from such a reproach, and we will add such a scandal. Let us all beware of peddling and un-masonic changes in those leading principles which have governed the administration of our Educational Charities. The other alterations were mostly verbal, but none of any material importance.

## THE QUARTERLY COURT OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

This meeting, which took place on Monday, as before, under the able presidency of our distinguished Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, resulted in an agreement with the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School, on Saturday, on all important points but one, namely, seven years' "consecutive" subscription. Whereas in the meeting on Saturday it was resolved to enforce seven years' subscription simply, on the part of the brethren, as a qualifying condition for their orphan daughters to receive the benefits of the Girls' School, on Monday, the meeting resolved by a small majority to uphold the seven years' "consecutive" subscription, as recommended by the Joint Committee. On the "confirmation," a proposal will, we understand, be made to make the term ten years, but not consecutive. It seems to be

conceded on all hands that five years is too short, and the question remains which is the better amendment, seven years or ten years. We think that under any case power should be reserved to the Committee to place on the list of candidates the children of brethren whose services to the Craft and the Charities have been distinguished, and who have become reduced in circumstances before such term of needful subscription has naturally expired. On the whole we congratulate the Craft on these needful changes, and are very glad to note that the "Benefit Society" theory has been wisely given up, as any attempt to re-introduce it would only have a more crushing defeat. Our worthy Bro. S. Rawson, re-introduced his proposal not to allow a boy educated in our School to have a sister educated in the Girls' School at the same time, but such was really the inadvisability of the proposal, that he did not hold up his hand for it himself against a host of hands held up on the "contrary."

## ANTAGONISM TO FREEMASONRY.

Our contemporary, the "Freemasons' Repository," calls attention to a violent movement against Freemasonry in the United States, led on by a Rev. Mr. Blanchard, and others, which has culminated in an anti-masonic convention held at Worcester, Massachusetts. Bro. the Rev. T. E. St. John, of Worcester, it seems, was tempted to enter into the lists with these reverend assailants, and irrev-ent libellers of our Benevolent Order, and we are glad to call attention to his words, which are both able and practical, moral and suggestive. St. John, we may remark, according to the "Repository," lived in Worcester for a long term of years and had a deservedly high reputation as a Christian minister and a citizen. The great objection, apparently, was the fact of secrecy, and Bro. St. John dealt with the objection in this way: "He claimed that Masonry is not a secret organization in any unworthy sense. Its objects are announced to all the world; its meetings and work are advertized; and the proceedings of its most important gatherings are published and laid open to the scrutiny of all who are interested. There are plenty of books which show the aims and character of Masonry; and to these, and to the friends of the Institution, the enquirer had better go for knowledge rather than to those who are its enemies. The positive, well understood benefits of secret societies were next commented upon, and their helps to life socially, intellectually, and morally were shown. It was affirmed that these societies teach brotherly love and charity in a most impressive way, and that they make practical illustration of many of the Christian virtues. They do a work of philanthropy which of itself is their sufficient commendation. The world has the benefit of these works of charity and love, though they may not be performed in precisely such ways, or according to such formulas, as some would choose." The "Freemasons' Repository" goes on to observe:—"The extracts above given only faintly indicate the character of the discourse which we are told was attentively listened to by a large and interested audience. As stated at the outset, public defences of Masonry do not seem to be often called for, nor is it generally worth the while to reply to those whose ignorance or malice leads them to misrepresent the Institution that has done so much to shed the light of a blessed charity over the world. If, occasionally, such work of defence needs to be done, we are glad to see it taken hold of by competent hands; and we know of none more competent than our stalwart minded brother in Worcester who has had a membership, long and conspicuous, in the Fraternity for which he speaks." We quite agree with our contemporary, but think it well to call attention to the subject, as it interests us as much in England as it does in the United States. We, too, have our Blanchard's "Et hoc genus omne," equally perverse, illogical, unfair, and fanatical. Freemasonry heeds them not, but still it is always well in this mundane existence, to know both the amiable conclusions of kind friends and the angry tirades of irreconcilable enemies.

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.]

LODGES AND CHARITY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Several letters have appeared in your columns in reference to the above subject. Perhaps the subjoined statement, which was annexed to the balance sheet of Lodge No. 163, may be of interest.

I am, yours very fraternally, P.M.

PARTICULARS OF DONATIONS AND STATEMENT OF VOTES, POSSESSED BY THE LODGE OF INTEGRITY, NO. 163.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Donations to date, to the General Fund £168, giving 42 Votes every year in perpetuity.  
Donations to date, to the Building Fund 84, giving 32 Votes every year in perpetuity.

£252 74

The Votes are divided as follows:

The W.M. is a Vice-Patron and has 40 Votes.

The I.P.M. is a Vice-President,, 14 "

The S.W. " " 10 "

The Treasurer " " 10 "

And 4 " for Annual

Subscription of Two Guineas

Total, 78 Votes.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Donations to date ... .. £189 0 0  
This gives 33 Votes in perpetuity. Divided as follows:

The W.M. is a Vice-Patron with 23 Votes.

The I.P.M. is a Vice-President with 10 "

And 4 " for Annual

Subscription of Two Guineas.

Total 37 Votes.

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

Male Fund.

Donations to date ... .. £202 10 0

Giving 50 Votes every year in perpetuity.

The W.M. is a Vice-Patron with 30 Votes.

The I.P.M. is a Vice-President with 10 "

The S.W. " " 10 "

And 4 " for Annual

Subscription of One Guinea.

Total, 54 Votes.

Female Fund.

Donations to date... .. £202 10 0

Giving 50 Votes every year in perpetuity.

The W.M. is a Vice-Patron with 30 Votes

The J.W. is a Vice-President with 10 "

The Treasurer " " 10 "

And 4 " for Annual

Subscription of One Guinea.

Total 54 Votes.

EAST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Donations to date, £100, for which the lodge is a patron, and receives 100 Votes at every election.

MANCHESTER WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERK'S ORPHAN INSTITUTION.

Donations to date ... .. £57 15 0

For which we receive 1 Vote yearly for 20 years, from December, 1869

And 10 Votes yearly for 20 years, from

December, 1876

Total 11 votes.

SUMMARY.

We have given to the Masonic Institutions £906, for which we receive 307 Votes in perpetuity; add 16 Votes for our Annual Subscriptions, the lodge is in possession of 323 Votes for Masonic Charities, and as will be seen from the above, we also possess 11 Votes for a local institution.

WM. ROME, W.M.

J. W. P. SALMON, P.M.,

P.G.D.C., Treasurer.

14th December, 1878.

OLD LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have perused with much interest the list of lodges published in the Christmas number of the "Masonic Magazine," but in one respect, at least, Bro. Hughan seems not to have carried his researches far enough, or to have been searching in a wrong direction, for he has entirely missed my mother lodge, the present No. 35, holding its meetings here. This lodge was originally warranted on the 17th February, 1732, as No. 111, and its place of meeting, at that time, was the Theatre Tavern, Goodman's Fields. In 1756, it was No. 57, meeting at the City of Norwich, Wentworth-street, Spitalfields; and in 1761, it was removed to Cowes, how or why does not appear, for the written records, now in existence, do not go further back than 1780. In 1770, it had become No. 39, and in 1781, it was No. 33. In 1792, the number was again changed, and it became No. 31, and so remained until the Union, when it was No. 48, and has since, by the different closings up of the roll of lodges, become No. 35. The original warrant appears to have been lost or destroyed, for in 1824, H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex granted a warrant

of confirmation, under which the lodge is now working. It is one of the very few lodges which has a special centenary jewel of its own, the warrant for which was granted by the late Earl of Zetland, as G.M., and the right to wear which is confined to actual subscribing members.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

T. W. FAULKNER, P.M.

Cowes, 8th January, 1879.

OUR LATE BRO. P. W. BENHAM, OF JERSEY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It affords me much pleasure to have perused, through the medium of your valuable paper, so full and able an account of the funeral arrangements of our late respected brother. It too affords me the greatest possible pleasure and delight to be able to inform you that our late brother was a prudent, as well as a thoughtful member of our Order; his life being assured in the office of which I am managing director. Immediately on receipt of the sad intelligence of the death, communicated to me by one so much esteemed and regarded as our Bro. Binet, the company's representative in Jersey, I acknowledged the communication in question and, on behalf of the company, offered at once to pay the claim.

Yours fraternally, A. TORKINGTON.

OLD, BLIND, AND IN WANT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

May I just say that I propose to close the list of kind subscriptions this day week, and to then send to you a statement, both of the amounts received since my last publication, and also of the total contributions. If a few more kindly brethren on reading this would be inclined to join the charitable rank of donors to a most worthy object, it will give me real pleasure to add their names to my list, which, though liberal and most serviceable, is capable of a little extension, without exceeding the object in view.

I am faithfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN B. MONCKTON,

Prest. Bd. G.P.

Queen Anne's Mansion, S.W.,

January 10th, 1879.

SUPREME COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND, &c.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am a constant reader of the *Freemason*, and was much interested in the correspondence which has appeared in it in reference to the genuineness of the Supreme Councils of Scotland and of that of Charlestown, U.S. In the absence of any contradiction by General Pike or others, of the facts stated by your correspondents, would you kindly say whether your readers may now look on the Councils of Scotland and Charlestown as of spurious formation?

Yours fraternally,

A PRINCE OF THE ROYAL SECRET.

Reviews.

EBORACUM MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1879.

Presented by Bro. T. B. Whythead, P.M., Prov. G.D. of Ceremonies.

We have received this neat and handy little Calendar, and which contains a "photo" of these interesting relics, the Bible which belonged to the Freemason's Lodge, "at Mr. Howard's, at York, 1761," the "guage," which bears the names "John Drake, William Baron of York; and John Baron, with the date 1663," and two emblems, interlaced triangles, and the silver loving cup, now belonging to Mrs. Newstead Solby, and which is said to have been the property of the Grand Lodge of York. We like this "opusculum" very much, all except the publication of the "working tools," which we think a mistake. We are quite aware that Bro. Whythead can plead the authority of Oliver, but we are of those who think that Oliver published a great deal which he had no right or authority to publish. We need hardly point out that all such publications are only "exparte," and not, in any sense, authoritative or authorized. We feel sure that Bro. Whythead will take our fraternal remarks in good part, as all are aware what a zealous and investigating Mason he is.

MONTHLY MAGAZINES:—

"Temple Bar;" "Scribner's Magazine;" "All the Year Round;" "London Society;" "The Leisure Hour;" "Sunday Magazine;" "Argosy;" "Cassell's Family Magazine;" "Golden Hours;" "Monthly Packet;" "Macmillan's Magazine;" "The Gentleman's Magazine;" "The Fortnightly;" "The Contemporary;" "The 19th Century;" "Cornhill;" "Good Words;" "Belgravia."

These various magazines come before our readers with multifarious claims, and often with great interest.

TEMPLE BAR is, we think, this month hardly up to its normal tone and temperament, though the new story "Probation," seems to open well.

There is in "Scribner" a somewhat remarkable paper on Leonardo da Vinci, and we can cordially commend this always genial magazine. In "All the Year Round" "Vixen" moves on serenely and pleasantly enough, and the number is worth reading.

"Golden Hours," "London Society," "The Leisure Hour," "The Sunday Magazine," "The Argosy," all have varied claims on a friendly circle of readers. So have "Macmillan's," "Cornhill," "The Gentleman's Magazine," and "Belgravia." "The Monthly Packet" is very interesting, under the able editing of Miss Yonge. We give a little "bit" from the "Otter's Story:"

"The rustle of a dead leaf is all that betrays that the badgers are out on the bank before their earth, sitting up like little bears as they are, to watch the bunnies feeding so innocently in the moonlight beyond the trees.

"A little squeal sooner or later tells that a bunny is gone, and for a few moments all the tall ears are pricked up to listen, and one or two of the most enterprising and intelligent of the bereaved family sit up erect; but they always take it for granted it is no matter, or if it is any matter it can't be helped, and so they drop down again on all fours, and the feeding and scampering in the moonlight go on as before.

"But for all that, a brother and a bunny is gone whence bunnies come back no more; and somewhere underneath the grassy glade where the moonlight looks so sweet and peaceful, in dark dungeon holes below, the big bears and the little bears are having rabbit for supper."

"The 19th Century," "The Fortnightly," "The Contemporary" deal for the most part with "Vexata quæstiones" which are outside our Masonic cognizance, and which touch upon that "debateable land" which is purely neutral ground for Freemasons. We can only refer our readers to them, for fear we should be supposed as Masons to lean to one side or the other in these "tangled skeins" of debate and doubt which so agitate society, so divide the "body politic," and so vex us poor mortals here below. Happily in Freemasonry, as Præd sang so generally of old of the Leamington Charity Bazaar—

"Churchman, Dissenter here for once unite,

And here at least they both are in the right,

While the hot Tory smilingly throws down

For fair Whig hands the sovereign and the crown."

MEYER'S ALMANACK (Liverpool.

A very gay and coloured almanack, which, no doubt, will be much admired.

MUSIC.

VINE LEAVES POLKA. By Bro. ARTHUR CLINTON.

Very sprightly and dance-attracting.

FIRST REPORT OF THE LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION FOR 1879.

The Committee of the London Masonic Charity Association has thought it well, at the commencement of its work for 1879, to put forward a few considerations, which it begs respectfully to commend to the serious attention of the London voters for our Metropolitan Masonic Charities.

1. It has been often said, and it is as constantly still repeated with much emphasis, that there is "no need of such an Association." The Committee would beg on the contrary, most distinctly to assert that there is, in its opinion, a very great need of such an Association, for the following reasons:—(1) The absolute friendlessness of many of the London candidates; (2) the necessity of reforming the present system of election, which rests to a great extent, at any rate, on merely personal prepossessions alone; and (3), the prevailing tendency to leave in the hands of a few select brethren, or, as American writers term them, "wire pullers," the result of our elections. Not that this view, or this fact, imply necessarily any great weakness in the existing voting system, or are put forward to justify hasty charges or inadvisable meddling with the undoubted liberty of personal selection, but the Committee thinks it right to point out that there is no uniform system of voting carried out by our London brethren, inasmuch, as owing to old connexions and prevailing individualism the votes are given as much to Provincial Charity Committees as to London cases, and the consequence is, many most deserving claimants for aid, unable to meet the provincial organization on the one hand, (quite right in itself), and the want of influential patrons on the other in London, fail altogether to secure the benefits of our great Charities, so needful to them, and intended originally for those very cases which are now too often unsuccessful.

It is a matter of fact, beyond dispute, that the opposition to the Association has come from a few influential brethren in London, who, to their honour be it said, in one sense, at any rate, spare no pains in obtaining votes from individual brethren to carry their cases, to help their clients, to whom they are such friendly and fraternal patrons.

The need of such an Association was signally shown at the last elections, when "most deserving cases were left out in the cold" completely, though it was their last chance, for want of influential support.

2. It is said again that the institution of this Association is improper and unmasonic, in that it would seek to create a difference between London and provincial cases. But as this assertion, often made, rests upon an entire fallacy, the Committee thinks it well to point out its unreal and illogical character.

If no Provincial Charity Committee existed, the Committee would admit that it might be a question whether it would be wise to constitute a specific Metropolitan Committee. But as some of the Charity Committees in the provinces are of nearly twenty years standing, and many are most powerful now, with their power of accumulated voting, it is clearly within the competency of London subscribers to the Charities to follow a good example, and carry out in fact the dictates of common sense.

The provincial brethren so far from looking askance, as was predicted confidently, on the London Masonic Charity Association, have all admitted its *raison d'être*, and fully recognized its sphere of action, and the reasonableness and seasonableness of its formation.

The Committee thinks it hardly worth while to dilate on a topic, which except in the hands of the interested or the prejudiced, has no valid importance, and no real weight.

3. It is also asserted somewhat loudly, that the London Masonic Charity Association is a dictatorial attempt to "tell the London brethren how to vote." But the truth is, the Committee begs respectfully to point out, that the Association only seeks to do what brethren "many and great," have long since been accustomed to do, and do at every election.

Why Bro. Jones, or Bro. Brown, or Bro. Robinson is to have the power to issue circulars and cards, soliciting for votes for his candidate, and a Committee of forty-five London brethren, all well known to the Craft, may not do the same, passes the comprehension of the Committee to realize. Which is more likely, "a priori," that the selection by Brown, Jones, or Robinson is a good one, than the selection by a numerous committee of brethren of candidates, to which selection they bring much Masonic experience, great accuracy, and special care?

As the entire object and actual process of work, which the London Masonic Charity Association has been established to attend to and develop, have given grounds to unfounded fears and irrational objections, the Committee thinks it well, once again, to assure its London brethren that it altogether repudiates any theory of supposed dictation, and asks for no votes from any who do not conscientiously approve of its formation and proceedings. But it does venture to press upon all London voters for the Charities, that if they wish well to the success of the friendless and helpless, if they desire to see meritorious candidates efficiently supported, if they approve of the honest effort which the London Masonic Charity Association has endeavoured to support, to elect those applicants whose cause is good, but whose friends are few, then they will give their names and votes to an Association, whose aims are the unselfish ones of aiding those who cannot help themselves, whose labours are devoted not to advance personal possessions but public claims, and whose organization and endeavours will, the Committee has every confidence, eventually commend themselves to the honest and independent support of a large majority of the voters for the Charities in the London district.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The quarterly meeting of the Subscribers and Governors was held on Monday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton presided. The other brethren who attended were Bros. S. Rawson, W. Roebuck, Dr. Ramsay, W. H. Perryman, G. Bolton, Don M. Dewar, C. F. Matier, J. Terry, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, H. A. Dubois, J. W. Baldwin, Rev. Richard Morris, J. H. Cox, Raynham W. Stewart, John Mason, Arthur E. Gladwell, F. R. W. Hedges, C. F. Hogard, W. R. Applebee, A. Tisley, L. Ruf, C. Pulman, F. Binckes (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Binckes read a letter he had received from Bro. John Symonds, who lately resigned the office of Trustee of the Institution, acknowledging the vote of thanks to him, which was passed at the last Quarterly Court on his resignation being accepted. The letter of Bro. Symonds was ordered to be entered on the minutes, on the motion of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, seconded by the Chairman.

On the motion of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, seconded by Bro. H. A. Dubois, Bro. W. H. Lovejoy was appointed Honorary Dental Surgeon to the Institution, in place of Bro. Peter Matthews, resigned on account of retiring from practice.

The list of candidates for the April election was settled at sixty-eight, and the Court declared vacancies, at that time, for sixteen boys.

The new laws, submitted to the Court by a special Sub-Committee appointed to revise the old laws, were then taken, and considered, and after a long discussion, in the course of which several alterations were made, were passed. One important variation in the old laws was made, all boys elected after the confirmation of the minutes of this Quarterly Court at the quarterly meeting in April, having to leave the School at fifteen instead of sixteen years of age. Another important alteration was rescinding the privilege of voting at any elections but those of boys for the school hitherto possessed by subscribers who are lawfully (being minors) and ladies.

The proceedings closed with the usual compliment to the Chairman.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The Quarterly Court of the Subscribers and Governors of this Institution was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton presided. Among the other brethren present were Bros. A. H. Tattershall, Arthur E. Gladwell, T. F. Peacock, R. B. Webster, Griffiths Smith, J. E. Le Feuvre, Col. James E. Peters, Herbert Dickets, W. Roebuck, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Thos. W. White, A. Tisley, A. Hopwood, C. Harcourt, Thomas Massa, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, C. J. Perceval, W. Tyrman, Dr. Ramsay, John Faulkner, C. F. Matier, Leopold Ruf, James Terry, Peter de Lande Long, D. D. Berry, H. Potter, F. Binckes, John G. Stevens, H. T. Thompson, Hugh H. Riach, G. J. Row, T. Kingston, W. Mann, Dr. Wootman, Robert Berridge, F. R. W. Hedges (Sec.), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of last court the list of candidates for the April election as settled by the last General Committee was declared. By this list it is announced that there are forty-eight candidates, and that there will be eighteen vacancies in the School to be filled up. This was passed on the motion of Bro. Raynham W. S. seconded by Col. Peters.

Bro. T. F. Peacock, for Bro. H. A. Dubois, who was en-

gaged at Tunbridge Wells, moved, and Bro. Griffiths Smith, seconded, "That Bro. John Faulkner be appointed as the Honorary Dental Surgeon to this Institution."

Bro. F. W. H. Ramsay, M.D., who had another motion for a similar appointment of Bro. W. H. Lovejoy, withdrew his motion, and Bro. Faulkner was thereupon unanimously elected.

Bro. John Faulkner returned thanks for his election, and assured the brethren that nothing should be wanting on his part to merit the confidence of the brethren.

The next business was to consider the alterations of the laws of the Institution, as framed by the Special Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose.

Bro. A. H. Tattershall thought that sufficient time had not yet been given to the members of the court for the considerations of these laws. The prints had only been in the hands of the brethren recently, and he suggested that additional time should be given and that a special court should be called at which the laws might be fully considered. Several brethren had mentioned to him that they had not had sufficient time to go carefully through the printed copies sent to them. He therefore moved that the consideration of the laws as altered be deferred to a special court.

Bro. T. F. Peacock, was of the same opinion, and seconded the motion of Bro. Tattershall.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., on the contrary thought sufficient time had been granted. He thought the proposal of Bro. Tattershall involved more than that brother thought he conveyed. The court to day was to consider alterations which had been proposed by a Sub-Committee and which had been appointed for the express purpose of deciding upon some alterations which had been printed, and a printed copy sent some time ago to every member of the court. Looking round the table he saw a large number of brethren whom he knew, and he thought a better body of brethren could not be got together for a calm, careful and dispassionate consideration of the alterations. He himself had come prepared to discuss them, having gone carefully over them, and a great many other brethren had come at great personal inconvenience with the same object. If another meeting were called he doubted very much whether so many brethren could be got together, and he was sure that a more competent body could not be found. He opposed the proposition of Bro. Tattershall on the ground that there were a great many brethren who like him (Bro. Woodford) had come perfectly prepared to consider the alteration.

Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., thought Bro. Woodford was perfectly right. He wished it also to be borne in mind that there was also a Quarterly Court of the Boys' School on the following Monday, and the result of Bro. Tattershall's motion would be that the brethren would have also to postpone on that day the consideration of the new rules as affecting that Institution. He thought all the brethren were prepared to go on now. They had all had full notice of the alterations proposed, which had been in their hands for the last fortnight.

Bro. Tattershall's motion was then put and lost, and the brethren then proceeded to consider the new rules.

Law LV., as altered, was the most important, and involved the longest discussion. This new law ran as follows:—"No boy shall be eligible for election unless the father has been a subscribing member to a lodge for seven consecutive years, and have been a subscriber to, at least, one of the Masonic Institutions, except in the case of death, fire, shipwreck, or of his having become afflicted with blindness, paralysis, or other infirmity, during such membership, permanently incapacitating him from earning a livelihood."

Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford: Bro. Chairman, I rise to object to a proposed alteration in this law, an alteration which I conceive to be likely to tend gravely to the prejudice of the Institutions, and to be most adverse to the true principles of Freemasonry. We are now proposing to introduce the principle of benefit societies into Freemasonry, deliberately and avowedly. (No, no.) If the worthy brother who says "no, no," will kindly listen to me for a few seconds, for I do not speak without much reflection and study of the subject, I think he will see reason to change his opinion. The great principle of the Girls' School since 1786 (I hold in my hands the original laws of the year of its creation) has been for Masonic charity to the orphan daughters of "indigent Freemasons."

An objection having been taken that the rule consisted of two parts, which ought to be separately considered, the motion was so divided, and the part referring to the seven years' subscription to a lodge was taken first.

Bro. Thomas W. White, P.G.S., did not think that the seven years' subscription was too long a time to be required. He suggested, however, that as people now moved about very rapidly, a brother might remove to a place at some distance from his lodge and neglect for a while to join another, and so lose a consecutive subscription by twelve months. He thought if the law should be altered by striking out the words "consecutive," and add the words, "four of which shall have been consecutive."

The amendment having been seconded, was then put and carried.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, on the second part of the proposition: Bro. Chairman, I will now resume what I was formerly contending, and to save time will condense my remarks as much as possible. I object, as I said before, to this change, because, in my humble opinion, if carried, it will obliterate that great distinction which exists between Freemasonry and all other benefit societies. What is the principle of all benefit societies but a "quid pro quo?" value given for value received. What was the original object of this Association? what the unchanging teaching of Freemasonry, but to give relief and aid to all who have a fair claim on our charity, spontaneously, gratuitously, and on the unselfish principles of true Masonic beneficence? We are

now going to say for the first time that the orphan's father must have subscribed to one of the Masonic Charities, which, however, will resolve itself into this, that you must subscribe 5s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. There is too much tendency just now to make our admirable institutions, (and not the least our excellent and useful Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution), act as a benefit club, or insurance system. I, for one, must strongly object to bringing into Freemasonry the principles of a benefit order, and I think it right once more to say, as I always shall, that Freemasonry is not, and never can be, and never was intended to be in any sense, a benefit society. For these reasons I beg to move that the words "or has been a subscriber to one of the Masonic Institutions" be expunged.

Bro. Thomas W. White seconded the motion, and said that Bro. Woodford had mentioned everything which he should have said himself on this subject. He thought that the new law, if passed, would be detrimental to the Institution. He did not wish to say anything with regard to the Benevolent Institution, but he thought that if brethren were obliged to give anything to the Institutions they would give to that the subscriptions to which were the smallest, and they would give 5s. to the Benevolent Institution.

Dr. Ramsay, as a member of the Sub-Committee, wished to say that the Sub-Committee did not make a point of this proposition, but as it was brought before them by some of the members, they thought it might be put into the law and submitted to the Quarterly Court whether the law should be so framed or not.

Bro. J. G. Stevens admitted the justness of the remarks of Bro. Woodford, that to place such a provision among the laws would be to make Freemasonry a kind of benefit society. It was thought, however, by some of the members of the Committee that some deterrent rule should be adopted to prevent many hundreds of candidates coming on for the Boys' and Girls' Schools. Take, for instance, the number of candidates admitted within the last two years, and if they examined what the fathers of these candidates had done for the Schools, he would venture to say that they would find in a very large majority of cases that the fathers had done nothing whatever for the Institutions. In justification of what the Sub-Committee had done he would inform the Court that it was upon this principle the words now under discussion were introduced. The Committee thought that the whole subject should be thoroughly ventilated by the Court. He did not conceive for one moment that the proposition would be passed, the brethren having an opinion that it would be turning the Order into a benefit society. No doubt if the parents did subscribe to the Institutions, so much the better would it be for them, and a candidate for those Institutions would deserve on that account, because it would show a disposition on the part of the fathers of the children to support the Institutions when they were able to do so. The Committee would be perfectly satisfied if the proposition was rejected, as an opportunity had been given for the subject being properly discussed.

The words "And have been a subscriber to at least one of the Masonic Institutions" were then struck out, and the law as thus altered was carried unanimously.

The other alterations were then adopted, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSETSHIRE.

The brethren of Taunton held high festival on Monday last on the occasion of the dedication of their new Masonic Hall. The meetings have hitherto been held at an hotel in the town, but recently a company was formed among members of the Craft for the purpose of purchasing a building in the Crescent, which was originally built for a Roman Catholic Chapel. This placed was found admirably suited for Masonic purposes, and the ceremony of dedication was performed on Monday. The occasion created an interest beyond local Masonic circles, and a great gathering of Freemasons took place, the interest being increased by the fact that the ceremony of dedication was to be performed by the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M.

The day's proceedings commenced with Divine service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene. The brethren, to the number of 300, met at the school-room, where they clothed themselves and then walked in procession to the church. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. T. Randell, M.A., P.P.G.C., from the text 1st Thessalonians ch. v., v. 11—"Wherefore comfort yourselves together and edify one another, even as also ye do." The discourse was in defence of Freemasonry.

The ceremony of dedication took place at the new hall, at half-past one o'clock. The brethren having taken their seats in the lodge room, received the Provincial Grand lodge in due form, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened by the Earl of Carnarvon. During the ceremony a choir, composed of the members of Lodge 261—Unanimity and Serenity—sang Wilson's Anthem in G, "Praise God in His Holiness," and two suitable hymns, also giving the responses in a very creditable manner. The ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

After the ceremony of dedication had been performed, Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M., proposed a vote of congratulation to the Earl of Carnarvon on his recent marriage, wishing him and Lady Carnarvon all the happiness this world could afford.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Payne, P.G. Treasurer, and carried by acclamation.

The Earl of Carnarvon, in responding, apologised for the inconvenience he might have caused the brethren in not attending on the date first fixed, but they had learned



what the cause of this disappointment was. He knew that the kindness and sympathy of his Somersetshire brethren, to which he had never appealed in vain, would find a better excuse for him than any words he could use. He was not surprised at the reception of the resolution, because there was nothing since he had been connected with Somersetshire which had ever occurred to him which had not their kindly feeling of sympathy. He felt completely identified with Somersetshire Masons, and appreciated most deeply this fresh evidence of their friendship and regard. When they were good enough to congratulate him, he should say he had very good cause to be congratulated. He knew that ladies could not be admitted to any participation in Masonic proceedings; still, as a humble outsider, there was no one who sympathised more with the objects of the Craft, respected the work they had set before them, and, above all, gave more hearty good wishes to the Masons of Somersetshire than did Lady Carnarvon, and he hoped he should not be committing any breach of the secrecy to which he was sworn so many years ago as a Mason, when, with every injunction for the most solemn secrecy, he informed her on his return that amongst the objects in which they were engaged that day there was one in which her happiness and welfare were bound up. (Hear, Hear).

The banquet was held in the Victoria Rooms in the evening, the Earl of Carnarvon presiding.

In responding to the toasts of his health, as Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, the noble Earl said he lived in a very peculiar stage of Masonry. Within the last few years Masonry had been passing through a period such as their Masonic forefathers knew nothing of, and such as might issue in very great good, but which had also its difficulties and its dangers. When he was initiated, Masonry was apparently very prosperous in England; but he was struck with the enormous increase of prosperity during the last ten or fifteen years. Masonry had become much larger in point of numbers, much more important in respect to the wealth which had flowed in from all sides, and it stood in a position perhaps of greater dignity and external ceremonial than it formerly did, but on the other hand there was a reverse side to the picture. All this material well-being had a tendency sometimes to lead Masonry out of the straight road and to set up idols, so to speak, of false gods unless it were very carefully watched. They must not fall into the grave error of supposing that ease and luxury and mere material welfare was all that Masonry had to look to. They were not to suppose that lodges were to become mere convivial clubs (applause). They must keep before the mind the fact that Masonry had great practical duties, and the code that Masonry laid down was one of very high and great morality. There was another temptation to guard against, viz., the danger of allowing politics to have anything to do with the craft. A departure from the rule respecting this point, in which all Masons had been educated would be one of the most fatal blows which could be struck at English Freemasonry. Lastly he referred to the exclusion of the name of the Deity by the Grand Orient of France, and said that foreign Freemasonry was distinctly contrasted with Masonry in England, inasmuch as here it was a loyal supporter of the Constitution, while on the Continent it was to be found plotting and planning against existing order.

Several other toasts followed.

THE PRINCESS ALICE AND THE IRISH FREEMASONS.

"The Grand Lodge of Ireland at its last meeting adopted the following address of sympathy to Her Most Gracious Majesty on the death of H.R.H. the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse.

"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

"May it please your Majesty,

"We, the Freemasons of Ireland, in Grand Lodge assembled, respectfully approach your Most Gracious Majesty, in this your hour of sore trial, to tender our loyal and heartfelt sympathy for the irreparable loss you have sustained.

"The universal sorrow that prevades all classes of your subjects is participated in by none more deeply than by the Masonic body. Recognising the great and noble qualities of our late Royal Princess (brought up to womanhood under the influence of your precepts and the example of your virtues) which added lustre to her high station, and endeared her alike to the countries of her birth and of her adoption. We know that these very qualities make your loss the heavier, and your grief the more poignant. We would, however, venture most respectfully to suggest to you the consolation that she was all the meritor for a better world; and that few mothers, who have been blessed with so numerous an offspring as your Majesty, have, like you, been for a period of near forty years exempt from a calamity such as that which has now fallen upon you.

"We earnestly pray that God may sanctify this trial, to you, and give you strength to bear it.

"Signed on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Ireland,  
"ABERCORN,  
"Grand Master."

"St. John's Day,  
"27th December, 1878."

To which address the following reply has been received:  
"Osborne,  
"January 8th, 1879.

"My dear Duke,—

"I have laid before the Queen the address of condolence transmitted by you. I am commanded by Her Majesty to request that you will assure the Freemasons of Ireland that the Queen heartily appreciates the kind and loyal sentiments contained in their address, and

I am to ask you to convey Her Majesty's sincere thanks to those gentlemen for their feeling expressions of sympathy.

"Yours very truly,

HENRY F. PONSONBY.

"His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G.

WENTWORTH LITTLE MEMORIAL.

The following is the copy of a letter which is being sent to the lodges in the province of Middlesex. We are happy to give it space in our columns, and trust it will meet with a ready response:—

"Ancaster House,  
"Richmond Hill,  
"December 26th, 1878.

"Dear W.M. and Brethren,—

"Knowing how fully our late Bro. Wentworth Little was esteemed and appreciated by every member of the Order, in the Province of Middlesex, and that you and almost every member of your lodge have seen and known the many and special benefits that the lodges in the province, and the province itself, have derived from his exertions, I feel that I am not asking too much from you, and the brethren of your lodge, if I ask you and them to make a special and handsome grant in support of the memorial now suggested by a committee, consisting of very influential members of the Order, towards his memory, and to be of some assistance to his widow during her life, and eventually to be invested for the benefit of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.

It was mainly through his instrumentality and with the assistance of a few others that the province was formed and a Provincial Grand Master appointed in 1869, at that time, consisting of a few lodges, but now a considerable number. For several years Bro. Little performed the duties of Prov. Grand Secretary with great advantage to the province and satisfaction to all around him, since which he has served the office of Prov. S.G. Warden, and when he died he held the office of Deputy Grand Master of Middlesex.

"Having frequently visited the different lodges in the province, and heard the opinion of the brethren as to Bro. Wentworth Little's services, I trust I am not asking too much of the brethren of the province, if they will assist the Committee with a contribution from the lodge funds, and, of course, it would be a greater compliment to his memory should private contributions from the members themselves be made.

"Believe me, W.M. and brethren, yours sincerely and fraternally,

"FRAS. BURDETT, P.G.M. Middx., P.S.G.W.  
"and P.G. Sup., and Representative from  
"the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

"To the W.M. and brethren of lodges in the province of Middlesex."

Masonic and General Tidings.

On Sunday evening last Canon Miller was appointed to preach in the Chapel Royal Savoy. At the hour of service a message was received, and read to the congregation, by the chaplain, announcing the sudden illness of the preacher. His place was filled by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past Grand Chaplain of England, the rector of St. Clement Dances.

The Queen has been pleased to confer the dignity of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath (Civil Division) upon the Marquis of Hertford.

The directors of the Bank of England met on Thursday, and reduced the rate of discount from 5 to 4 per cent.

THE DUBLIN HOSPITAL FUND.—The total sum received in Dublin for the Hospital Fund at the late collection was £4232, an improvement on the previous year.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, meeting at Ashley's Hotel, Covent Garden, on Thursday next, the 23rd inst., by the members of the La Tolerance Lodge, No. 538. Bro. E. Farwig, S.W. 180, will preside.

The New Concord Ball will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday, February 5th. Tickets and general information may be obtained of Bro. W. H. Main, 171, Kingsland-road.

Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188, has been unanimously re-elected President of the Benevolent Fund of the Joppa Lodge, No. 488.

THE MAYOR OF LEICESTER.—For the second time Bro. Ald. Stretton, P.M., P.G.S.W. Leicestershire and Rutlandshire, is again occupying the civic chair at Leicester, having been unanimously re-elected in the place of the late Alderman Grimsley, who was elected to succeed Bro. Stretton on the 9th of November last, but died suddenly, having only been in the office about a fortnight.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was held at Barnsley on Wednesday last. Bro. R. W. Sir Henry Edwards presided. A full report will appear in our next.

We regret having to record the death of Bro. Commander Charles Scott, R.N. The sad event took place suddenly on Thursday week, January 9th, at Strathroy, Omagh, Co-Tyrone. Bro. Scott was in his 48th year.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs, set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. P. Philpots M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s. 2d.—ADVT.

Brethren desirous of possessing a copy of the *Freemason Card Almanack* for 1879, with portraits of the Grand Masters of England, Ireland, and Scotland, should make an early application at the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London. The publisher will be pleased to send a copy to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of 2 penny stamps.

The *Echo*, of Thursday week, announced that a sum of £400 or £500 is likely to come into the possession of a Greenock Lodge of Freemasons, under singular circumstances. More than a hundred years ago the lodge contributed £40 towards the cost of erecting a new Town House; and in return a clause was inserted in the feu charter giving to the lodge a perpetual right to hold meetings in the house for the transaction of their ordinary business. The Town House having been recently converted into the Town Clerk's office, it is no longer practicable to use it for Masonic purposes, and the lodge has asked £500 for the renunciation of its rights. The Greenock Town Council has offered £400, which will probably be accepted by the lucky Masons.

DUKE OF LANCASTER LODGE (1353).—We announced a fortnight ago that this lodge at their last monthly meeting passed a vote of condolence to her Majesty on the death of the Princess Alice. The vote of condolence was duly forwarded, and the W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. R. Wolfenden, has since received the following reply:—

Osborne, December 24th, 1878.

Sir,—I am commanded by the Queen to assure you that her Majesty feels very grateful for the loyal and touching expressions of condolence offered to her by the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and members of the Duke of Lancaster Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY F. PONSONBY.

R. Wolfenden, Esq.

THE LIVERPOOL MASONIC BALL.—The 30th annual grand Masonic ball in aid of the funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, under distinguished patronage, took place last Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., at the Town Hall, Liverpool—a building which, through the retrograde action of the enlightened corporation, will in future be closed to the public for similar purposes, and reserved only for the special purpose of entertaining the "currant jelly" element of polite society in Liverpool. Whether the public will tamely submit to such a deprivation of legitimate privileges yet remains to be seen. Meanwhile, our report of the ball is left over, but will probably appear next week, should space permit.

The meetings of the Victoria Lodge, No. 1056, are now held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City.

The Earl of Carnarvon, as Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, presided on Monday at the dedication of a Masonic Hall at Taunton, and about 200 brethren from all parts of the country were present. Lord Carnarvon spoke of the new hall as an additional centre of masonic life in the province. At the banquet his lordship contrasted the loyalty of English Freemasons with the planning and plotting against existing order which characterised some organizations abroad. He urged on all fidelity to the principles of the craft.

We learn from the *City Press* that Bro. George Burt having a short time since spent three months in making for the sake of his health, a very pleasant trip to Egypt, Greece, and Constantinople, has written an account of the journey, which has been printed for private circulation. The incidents narrated are of an interesting character, and the attention of the reader is by no means lessened by the genial and unassuming manner in which the story is told by the author.

The *Standard*, which has outstripped its contemporaries in the length and excellence of its telegrams from Afghanistan, has accomplished this creditable feat at an outlay almost unprecedented in the annals of English journalism. A single telegram cost upwards of £600. The proprietors of the *Standard* are understood to have arranged for the use of a special wire to Paris, for which £2000 a-year is to be paid to the Post Office authorities, and the service is to extend over three hours daily.

An amateur evening concert in aid of the orphan child of Bro. G. Dawson, late of the Londesborough Lodge, No. 1681, will be given at the Langham Hall, Great Portland-street, W., on Monday week, the 27th inst.

A grand Masonic gathering took place on Wednesday afternoon at the Globe (No. 200), to give due importance and éclat to the ceremony of the installation of the Worshipful Master, Brother Charles Emmerson, who was duly installed with all Masonic honours by Brother W. H. Smyth, R.W.P.G.M. (Lincolnshire), assisted by Brother J. W. Woodall, P.M., P.P.S., G.W., and Brother G. H. Walshaw, P.M., P.P., G.D.C. After the above ceremony had been duly performed in the presence of a large gathering of the craft, the Worshipful Master nominated and invested his several officers for the ensuing year. Subsequently the whole of the brethren present, and others not able to attend the above ceremonial, dined together in the Masonic Hall of the old Globe Hotel. Amongst the numerous guests on the occasion was Sir Harcourt Johnstone, Bart., M.P., R.W.J.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of England.—*The Daily Chronicle*.

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Charges, Regulations, E.A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2s. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent post free to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—ADVT.

## METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, January 24, 1879.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Encampments, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or months of meeting.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 18.

- Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.  
 " 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge.  
 " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.  
 " 1732, King's Cross, 269, Pentonville-rd.  
 Chap. 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

## MONDAY, JANUARY 20.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, F.M.H.  
 " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
 " 58, Felicity, 101, Queen Victoria-st.  
 " 185, Tranquillity, Guildhall Tav.  
 " 862, Whittington, F.M.H.  
 " 907, Royal Albert, F.M.H.  
 " 1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, F.M.H.  
 " 1537, St. Peter Westminster, 68, Regent-st., W.  
 Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford.  
 St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 till 10.  
 Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.  
 Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.  
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.  
 Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.  
 Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.  
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.  
 Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.  
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.  
 Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.  
 Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.  
 West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.  
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.  
 Doric Chapter, 248, Globe-rd., Mile End-rd., at 8.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 21.

- Board of Gen. Purposes, at 4.  
 London Masonic Charity Association—Special Meeting.  
 Lodge 73, Mount Lebanon, Bri. Hou. Ho., London-bdg.  
 " 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.  
 " 162, Cadogan, F.M.H.  
 " 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.  
 " 435, Salisbury, F.M.H.  
 " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town.  
 " 857, St. Marks, S.M.H., Camberwell.  
 " 1420, Earl Spencer, Swan Ho. Battersea, Old-bridge.  
 Chap. 46, Old Union, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
 " 890, Hornsey, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
 " 1604, Wanderers, F.M.H.  
 Clapton Chapter of Improvement, White Hart, at 8.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.  
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
 Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.  
 Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.  
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.  
 Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.  
 Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., E.  
 Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.  
 Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.  
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
 Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.  
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.  
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22.

- Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.  
 " 2, Antiquity, F.M.H.  
 " 507, United Pilgrims, Surrey, M.H., Camberwell.  
 " 1056, Victoria, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-street.  
 " 766, Wm. Preston, Cannon-street, Hot.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-st., at 7 till 9.  
 Urban, 23, Gresham-street, City, E.C., at 6.30.  
 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.  
 Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.  
 Pythagorean, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.  
 La Tolerance, 2, Maddox-st., W., at 7.45.  
 Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.  
 Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
 Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8.  
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.  
 Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.  
 United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd, N.W.  
 Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.  
 Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.  
 Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.  
 Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.  
 Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 23.

- House Committee Girls' School, at 4.  
 Lodge 32, Mount Moriah, F.M.H.  
 " 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.  
 " 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.  
 " 766, William Preston, Cannon-st. Hot.  
 " 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.  
 " 1658, Skelmersdale, S.M.H., Camberwell.  
 Chap. 5, St. George's, F.M.H.  
 " 29, St. Alban's Albion Tav., Aldersgate.  
 " 177, Domatic, Anderson's Hot., Fleet-st.  
 " 534, Polish National, F.M.H.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

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

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 24.

- House Com., Boys' School, at 4.  
 Lodge 197, Jerusalem, F.M.H.  
 " 1601, Ravensbourne, B. of W. Office, Catford, Bge.  
 " 1602, Sir Hugh Myddleton, Agricultural Hall, N.

## LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.  
 Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., 6 to 8 p.m.  
 Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.  
 Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.  
 Unions Emulation (for 'M.M.'s), F.M.H.  
 Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.  
 Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.  
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.  
 Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.  
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.  
 St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E.  
 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.  
 Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.  
 Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W.  
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.  
 Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.  
 Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.  
 Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.  
 Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8.  
 William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.  
 Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.  
 Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Goulbourne-rd., Notting-hill.  
 Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich.

## MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 25, 1879.

## MONDAY, JANUARY 20.

- Lodge 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 32, Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 995, Furness, M.H., Ulverston.  
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## TUESDAY JANUARY, 21.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.  
 " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1570, Prince Arthur, M.H., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.  
 Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.  
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22.

- Lodge 32, St. George's, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.  
 " 220, Harmony, Wellington Hotel, Liverpool.  
 " 724, Derby, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1756, Kirkdale, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.  
 Chap. 605, De Tabley, Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe.  
 " 1052, Callender, Public Hotel, Rusholme.  
 Neptune, L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 23.

- Lodge 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 293, Liverpool, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Stanley L. of I., 214, Gt. Homer-st., Liverpool.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 24.

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

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

"The whole of the Masonic fraternity owe a deep debt of gratitude as well as hearty support in his enterprise, to Bro. G. Kenning, for the spirit which he displays in connection with publications intended for the use of the members of the various mystic orders. Chief amongst his numerous publications is undoubtedly 'The Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar, Diary, and Pocket Book,' which is an invariably welcome annual, and that for 1879 is in some respects superior to those of former years, inasmuch as there is not only more extensive information, but one or two features of a novel kind. As a Masonic book of reference it has no equal, and every Mason ought to possess a copy, as he will thus be able to 'see at a glance,' (as Mr. Toole would say), a complete list of the lodges and other Masonic orders in every corner of the globe. The compilation of such a work must have been one of the greatest difficulty, but the publisher, justly proud of his 'Cosmo,' has evidently exercised the greatest care in connection therewith. Information which can nowhere else be found is here presented most readily, and Bro. Kenning is again to be complimented on his model Calendar."—*Liverpool Mercury*, Dec. 23, 1878.

## LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

A Special General Meeting of the Members of this Association, will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Tuesday the 21st day of January, 1879, at half-past four in the afternoon precisely, to select the Candidates to be supported by this Association at the forthcoming Elections, to be held in April next.

A. TISLEY.  
 J. WILLING, JUNIOR.  
 Hon Secs.

N.B.—A Committee Meeting will be held, same day and place, at four o'clock precisely, when any Brother who wishes to recommend a London Candidate, can qualify as a Member of the Associations.

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