

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—	
Craft Masonry	87
Instruction	89
Royal Arch	89
Mark Masonry	89
Ancient and Accepted Rite	90
Freemasonry in India	90
Freemasonry in Australia	90
Freemasonry in West Africa	90
Freemasonry in New Zealand	91
Consecration of Two New Lodges in Napier, New Zealand	91
The Next Quarterly Communication	92
Anti-Masonry	92
Masonic Studies	92
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
St. Alban's Abbey	93
Queries	93
United Grand Lodge	93
List of New Lodges	93
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	93
Consecration of the Sir Charles Bright Lodge, No. 1793	93
The Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association	94
Royal Masonic Institution for Girls	95
Masonic and General Tidings	95
Lodge Meetings for Next Week	96
Advertisements	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi.

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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ANTIQUITY LODGE (No. 2).—The installation meeting of this ancient lodge took place on Wednesday evening last, at Freemasons' Hall, before a numerous gathering of members and visitors, among whom we noticed Col. Burdett, Prov. G.M. for Middlesex; Bro. Monckton, President of the Board of General Purposes; several Past Grand Officers, as Bros. Rucker and P. De Lande Long, as well as Bros. Lieut.-Col. Peters, Brodie, Hewitt, Jones, Jekyll, and many more. Among the members present we noticed, P.M.'s Col. Stewart, Rae, Sampson, Pierce, E. J. Barrett, Lt.-Col. Craton, and Bros. Stephen Pearce, Greetham, Pontifex, Batley, Rivington, Sharon Turner, Letchworth, Ames, and others. Bro. Ames was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. A. J. Batley passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Hope, appointed by H.R.H. Prince Leopold as his D.M., was then installed according to ancient form, by Bro. Woodford, D.M., P.G.C. The ceremonies were accompanied by some admirable music played on the organ, by Bro. Jekyll, of the Chapel Royal, St. James. Afterwards the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was, as usual with this distinguished lodge, alike most social, harmonious, and agreeable. The brethren separated at an early hour.

BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, on Monday last. Bro. Simson John Byng, W.M., presided, and there were also present, Past Masters Bros. H. C. Jefferys, (Sec.); T. F. Bringes, Samuel Poynter (P.M. 1491); S. W. Iron, Henry Smith, R. W. Field, R. H. Simmons, Harvey, and Brooks. The whole of the Past Masters were thus present, and there was a very numerous attendance of the brethren, this popular lodge enjoying at the present time an almost unexampled season of prosperity and harmony. Among the visitors we noticed Bros. Joseph Piget, P.M. 753; W. A. Morgan, W.M. 1044; R. Payne, W.M. 1328; Wm. Thorp, P.M. 463; A. R. Jones, P.M. 1044; Max Sabel, 1490; John Close, W.M. 463; Charles C. Addison, 1305; J. Fredk. Wuest, P.M. 753; J. J. Berry, P.M. 554; Thomas Catland, 913; Thomas W. Hayes, W.M. 913; J. J. Griffiths, 193; J. Wallace, 907; W. Iron, J.D. 1579; J. Wilson, P.M. 1165; Fredk. J. Sweeting, 1257; B. Oxenham, 115; R. W. Savill, 215; J. W. Lee, 205; J. G. Tongue, 534; J. Pickett, 526; Joseph Scott, 3; N. B. Headon, P.M. and Treasurer 1426; C. H. Maisham, 326; E. Gosherson, 193; J. J. Cattle, P.M. 1441; Walter M. St. Aubyn, 318, 357; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*). Previous to the installation Bro. Byng, W.M., passed to the Second Degree Bros. Williams, Shaw, and Cooper. On presentation duly made by the D.C., the W.M. then formally installed Bro. Henry Alexander Pocock, S.W., and W.M. elect, as Master of the Burgoyne Lodge for the year ensuing. The following brethren were appointed and invested as officers of the W.M. for the year:—Bros. Taylor, S.W.; Wales, J.W.; Samuel Poynter, P.M., Treas.; H. C. Jefferys, P.M., Sec.; Gabb, S.D.; Turner, J.D.; Wilkins, I.G.; Bundy, W.S.; Brookes, P.M., D.C.; Charles Young, Asst. D.C.; and Shepherd, Organist. Bro. Grant, the regular Tyler of the lodge, being unfortunately confined to his house by illness, the investiture of Tyler was deferred. Bro. Byng then concluded the ceremony by delivering the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren, finishing off his work in the same complete style as he carried it on throughout. The result of the audit was announced by Bro. Byng, in the course of the evening, when the highly satisfactory statement was made by him that there was a balance of £45 in the hands of the Treasurer after all liabilities of whatever kind had been met and the Charities not forgotten. Lodge being closed with the customary formalities, the brethren adjourned to banquet. At the

proper time for the proposal of the toasts, the introductory toasts of "The Queen and the Craft;" "The M.W.G.M.," and others, were given by the W.M., and the I.P.M., Bro. Byng, proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that he knew the brethren would receive this toast most heartily, because it was always well accepted by the members of the Burgoyne Lodge. The reason it was so well received was that they never elected a brother to that office unless they had the greatest confidence in his ability, and Bro. Pocock answered that requisition. The brethren had had an opportunity of seeing what he could do in other positions in the lodge, and could testify to his having brought to bear on his work those great essentials, efficiency and urbanity. He, therefore, felt perfectly sure that the new W.M. would conduct the duties he had just entered on with credit to himself and satisfaction to themselves. The W.M., in reply, said he would not detain the brethren from the enjoyment of their evening, and would, therefore, merely thank the brethren, though he did it with great heartiness, for the kind way in which they had received the flattering remarks of their I.P.M. After some music and singing, the W.M. proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Byng," and in the course of his remarks said the brethren were quite aware how well Bro. Byng had performed his duties while occupying the chair of the lodge. Most of those brethren present had seen how ably he had concluded his year of office by installing his successor in the chair of the lodge. For himself (the W.M.), although he had seen many installations performed, he had never seen one that was performed better. The brethren having at the last meeting of the lodge given an evidence of their approval of his conduct in the chair by voting him a Past Master's jewel, it was his (the W.M.'s) duty now to present it to Bro. Byng, and in placing it on his breast he must say that that single token of the approval by the brethren of the Burgoyne Lodge of the late W.M.'s conduct had been fully earned; and, in conclusion, he wished Bro. Byng many years of life and health to wear that jewel in the presence of the brethren. It would be a pleasure to Bro. Byng and to the members of the lodge. Bro. Byng, in reply, said he was deeply sensible of the too flattering terms in which the W.M. had spoken of him, and of the cordial reception by the brethren of the W.M.'s remarks. During the time he had had the honour of presiding over the lodge, his sole anxiety had been not only to further the interests of the lodge, but to contemplate those three great principles on which the Order was founded, and from the very marked manner in which the brethren had responded to the toast of his health he was led to believe he had been somewhat successful. That alone was sufficient recompense for any labours that his occupation of the chair might have entailed. But the brethren in the goodness of their hearts had thought fit to supplement it with something more substantial, by presenting him with a handsome Past Master's jewel. He should always prize it, not for its intrinsic value, but as a lasting and pleasing memento of the very cordial and kind support he had received from all the brethren, without any exception, and that was saying a great deal. For the kindness he had received from the brethren, one and all, during his year of office he begged to thank them most heartily, and he could assure them that it would never be effaced from his memory. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," whom, he said, it was very pleasing to him to see present at his installation. Of these visitors there were thirty present. Bro. Scott (No. 3) replied. He said he had been selected, unfortunately, to reply in preference to other more able brethren, because his lodge was older than that of any other visitor present. Although he had had the pleasure of attending many lodges, he had never on any occasion enjoyed himself more than he had that evening. Everything had passed of admirably, and the superior way in which the work had been done had given him great satisfaction. It was for these reasons he hoped he should frequently have the opportunity of coming again among the brethren. The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Past Masters," said it was very gratifying to him to see so many of those brethren present to honour him with their company. Although he had been so short a time in the chair he was glad to have P.M.'s to back him up. The brethren always honoured the P.M.'s because they were all worthy and good fellows. They were always ready to assist the W.M. in the performance of his duties, and they should always be most highly esteemed by the brethren. Bro. Harvey, P.M., replied, and stated that if the W.M. required any assistance during the twelve months he was in the chair he should always be pleased to give it. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of Bro. Samuel Poynter, P.M. and Treasurer," warmly eulogised the zeal, energy, and prudence displayed by that brother, to which, in a great measure, the present prosperity of the lodge was to be attributed. This toast was very warmly received, and Bro. Poynter, in returning thanks, observed that he had so frequently performed the duty of responding to the kindness of his brethren from that place, although never with greater satisfaction than at that moment, that they must excuse him if he spoke upon something less personal. As for his sense of their cordial appreciation of his labours, *cela va sans dire*, they had it on Scriptural authority that a prophet was not without honour save in his own country and among his own kindred, and it was often said that a man was not thought much of in his own family. With deep gratitude he (Bro. Poynter) could say that in the Burgoyne Lodge the brethren whenever they met did their best to convince him that his was the exception that proved the rule. The learned brother then proceeded to give a detailed statement of the prosperous condition of the lodge at the present moment, and remarked that to some of those present it must recall by contrast other and less favoured times. He attributed much of their present prosperity to the perfect union of the Past Masters, every one of whom

was then present. The speaker then adverted to general Masonic principles, contending that the lodge should represent the family, where a brother should leave his cares, and, at the same time, his passions and his crotchets, outside in the ante-room with his hat and overcoat. The brother who, through irritation or, still worse, deliberate animosity, did an action, spoke a word, or gave a vote not under the solemn sanction of his moral—and that is equivalent to his Masonic—consciousness of responsibility, was a traitor to the body among whom he worked, an unfilial member of the family into which he had been admitted. For his own part a formula, with which they were all acquainted, had ever had for him a real, and not merely a conventional, significance, but now in these halcyon days, with even a deeper meaning, a more marked emphasis, a more heartfelt, if that were possible, conviction of its truth, could he repeat of meeting his brethren of the Burgoyne, "Happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again." The worshipful brother resumed his seat amidst considerable applause. Bro. Jefferys, P.M. and Secretary, responded to the toast of "The Secretary," and the S.W. to that of "The Officers." The brethren shortly afterwards separated, having spent a most happy and agreeable evening.

PECKHAM LODGE (No. 1475).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Thursday, the 20th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, under the presidency of its highly esteemed W.M., Bro. Thomas Stephens, who, after initiating three gentlemen in a very perfect and impressive manner, proceeded to install Bro. Henry Vickery, the J.W., who had been duly elected the sixth Master of the lodge, into the chair of K.S., it being a sine qua non in this lodge that every W.M. shall install his successor. Bro. Stephens proved no exception to this excellent rule, and in the presence of nearly thirty Installed Masters who formed the Board, the W.M. elect was duly installed and saluted. On the return of the brethren into the lodge the W.M. appointed and invested the following officers for the year:—Bros. E. A. Whitley, S.W.; D. Channon, J.W.; Warren, P.M., Treasurer; W. E. Gompertz, P.M., Secretary; Thomas Jackson, S.D.; Gaywood, J.D.; Messum, I.G.; Rose, P.M., D.C.; Watkins, P.M., W.S.; Stribling, Org.; and Harrison, Tyler. The Installing Master then gave the three addresses in so perfect and impressive a manner that all the Past Masters present averred they had never heard them given more feelingly or with better effect before. It is but fair to note that the highly efficient manner in which the Masters of this lodge have acquitted themselves is in a great measure due to the untiring zeal of Bro. Rose, the Preceptor of the lodge of instruction. After the usual routine business, ten guineas were voted to the Boys' School, and the lodge closed. The brethren, accompanied by over fifty visitors, adjourned to the large and handsome hall used for dramatic and other entertainments, where a sumptuous banquet was laid. Amongst the numerous visitors the purple of Hertfordshire, from the mother lodge of the Installing Master, was conspicuous, being represented by Bros. Dr. E. G. Pottle, the W.M. of 869, P.G.S.B. of Herts; F. D. R. Copestick, P.M., P.G.S.B.; A. C. Wylie, P.M., P.G.S.B.; Gompertz, P.M., P.G.P. Herts. A letter was also received from Bro. James Forsyth, P.M., P.G. S. of Works, regretting his inability to be present, but sending his hearty good wishes. Bro. the Rev. Chas. E. Mayo, M.A., P.G. Chaplain, unable to be present, sent a donation to the Steward's list for the Boys' School, Bro. Stephens having announced his intention to serve as Steward at the forthcoming festival. There were also amongst the visitors Bros. Richards, P.M. 1329; Grammont, 1559; H. Smith, 205; Tholander, 1457; Blackmore, 1672; J. Brown, 1327; J. W. Hunt, 1662; Bickerton, W.M. 1329; Rush, P.M. 1201; Vail, 1155; Hockley, P.M. 172; Barnes, P.M. 1632; James Allen, 1052; Haddington, 217; Voisey, J.W. 1641; J. Garner, P.M. 1622; Sensey, 1632; Henry Gompertz, W.M. 1364; W. H. Lee, P.M. 975; Goldsmid, S.D. 1641; Seex, P.M. 1426; Thue, 1622; Robins, W.M. 25; A. W. Stead, S.W. 1622; Earl, 186; Saul, W.M. 1201; T. E. Smith, W.M. 185; Redding, 917; Pitt, 917; Binckes, P.M., Secretary of the Boys' School, and many other brethren. Full justice having been done to the good things provided, "the perfect arrangements for which they were indebted to the untiring zeal and ready will of Bro. Hilton, who had charge." Grace was sung by four of the brethren of the lodge, and the cloth removed. The usual loyal toasts were given and duly responded to. The W.M., in proposing "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Stephens," spoke in feeling terms of his genial and courteous behaviour in the lodge, and of his kindly and consistent conduct as a neighbour and friend, and in placing a very handsome Past Master's jewel on his breast, presented by the lodge, he correctly interpreted the feelings of all the brethren present in saying he hoped he might long be spared to wear it, and the lodge have the advantage of his presence amongst them. Bro. Stephens, in reply, after thanking the W.M. for the kind way in which he had spoken of him, assured the brethren that although he regarded his mother lodge with the affection of a first love, yet having adopted the Peckham Lodge, he would never forsake her. He was pleased to see so many of his old friends present from his mother lodge and thanked them for their good wishes towards him, but as a Past Master of 1475 his future care and interest for the prosperity of that lodge and for the comfort of its members would be his constant care. The jewel they had so kindly presented him he should wear with pride as a token of their good will towards him. During his remarks the subscription list went round the tables, and it was announced that close on one hundred pounds were added to it for the Boys' School. Bro. Binckes, in responding for "The Masonic Charities," said as there were three gentlemen initiated that evening who, in all probability, knew very

little, if any thing, of our great Charities for their benefit, at the risk of tiring the brethren, most of whom he recognised as supporters of our Institutions, he would go over the old ground, and spoke at length of the financial position of each of the Institutions, and of the benefits conferred, concluding with an earnest appeal for the subscription list of Bro. Stephens on behalf of the Boys' School. The toast of "The Visitors" was next given. The fact that so large a number were present, the W.M. thought to be evidence of the cordial manner in which visitors were always received, and of their appreciation of the hospitality extended to them. Bros. Bickerton, W.M. Sphinx Lodge; Copestick, P.M. Gresham Lodge, 869; and H. Gompertz, W.M. Earl of Zetland Lodge, 1364, replied. Bro. Bickerton spoke in very feeling terms of the pleasure he, in common with the rest of the visitors, had experienced at being in the lodge and hearing the very perfect manner the installation had been conducted; he also spoke of the frequent and kindly interchange of visits by the officers of this and his own lodge, which meet under the same roof, and hoped the same cordial feeling and goodwill would ever exist. Bro. Copestick said, while he regretted the loss of Bro. Stephens from his own lodge, he heartily congratulated the brethren of 1475 for their good fortune in numbering amongst their Past Masters so worthy and zealous worker. Bro. H. Gompertz followed, saying he had been present at the consecration and at every installation since, and in marking the progress and efficient manner in which all the duties were carried out he was much pleased, and of the hospitality extended to visitors the large gathering present bore sufficient evidence of their appreciation. Other complimentary toasts followed, and the evening was greatly enlivened by a well arranged programme of songs by the members of the lodge, under the immediate superintendence of Bro. Stribling, the Organist.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Wednesday, 19th ult., the W.M., Bro. John Douglass, in the chair, assisted by Bros. C. J. Scales, S.W.; W. Side, J.W.; R. T. Kingham, I.P.M.; W. M. Stiles, W.M. 1732; Secretary; George Clark, jun., D.C., as S.D.; H. Lovegrove, W.S., as J.D.; C. C. Cruikshanks as I.G.; Brummell, Steward. The visitors present were Bros. Fred. Binckes, P.G.S., Sec. Boys' School; Pitman, Orpheus; Kauffman, 1732; Blunt, 422; Cleverly, 1107; R. W. Hayday, P.M. 504; W. Hayday, 504; Barrett Kidder, 12; and Brent, 769; and members, Bros. J. J. Steele, Gilbert, jun., Edmonds, Fortescue, Perks, Wiltshire, Dimsdale, Burton, and others. Bros. Clarkson and Shepherd having been entrusted, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Potter and Conolly, but as they were unable to be present there was no other business before the lodge, which was closed down in the Three Degrees. At the banquet table, after the usual toasts of "The Queen," "M.W.G.M.," and "Grand Officers," the toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by the W.M., and ably responded to, especially by Bro. Binckes, who, as is usual with him, made a very effective speech in behalf of the Charitable Institutions of the Order in general, and the Boys' School in particular. The speech of this worthy brother had such an effect that a further sum of twenty guineas was collected at the table, in addition to the large sum collected at a former meeting, to be divided between the W.M. and I.P.M. as Stewards for the Boys' and Girls' Festivals respectively. The Tyler's toast was given at an early hour, and the brethren separated.

NEW FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1695).—This lodge having removed to the Alexandra Palace, the first meeting was held there on Tuesday, the 18th ult., when the members present were:—Bros. W. T. Pukiss, the W.M.; T. Press, S.W.; H. B. D. Dunn, J.W.; R. V. Davies, Treas.; A. J. Berry, Sec.; H. C. Frampton, S.D.; J. N. Thompson, J.D.; J. Eldridge, D.C.; G. Edmonds, I.G.; E. Grout, Org.; G. Carey, Steward; C. Hutchinson, T. Jackson, J. H. Bastable, J. Cox, S. Hawkins, G. Chutter, J. Reid, J. Brown, and G. E. Trodsham. The visitors were:—Bros. Hollis, P.M. No. 167, P.P.S.B. Herts.; J. Rowe, P.M. 167; J. Shackell, P.M. 193; J. Yeoman, W.M. 167; J. F. O. Wood, 1288; J. Searle, 1288; A. Speller, 217; J. Wilkinson, 167; J. Swinyard, 1178; and A. J. Mucklow, 1685. The lodge having been opened, Bro. Reid was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and Bro. Brown was passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Frodsham, of Lodge No. 3, was then balloted for as a joining member, and declared unanimously elected. A sum of £5 5s. was unanimously voted to be placed on the list of the W.M., who had accepted the office of Steward for the Girls' School. Several propositions for initiates and joining members were then received, when the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a repast was served in a style which reflected the greatest credit on Messrs. Bertram and Roberts, the well-known caterers and proprietors of the Palace. The usual toasts were given, that of "The Visitors" being responded to in the most able manner by Bro. Hollis; and some vocal assistance rendered by the brethren brought to a conclusion a very successful meeting.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Southampton Lodge (No. 394).—The installation of the Senior Warden, Bro. Bone, as W.M. of this lodge for the year ensuing, took place at Freemasons' Hall on the 19th ult., in the presence of a numerous attendance of brethren, the Board of Installed Masters numbering nineteen, and including the W.M.'s of the Peace and Harmony, the Shirley, and the Albert Edward Lodges, with the Mayor of Southampton, Bro. J. Blount Thomas, P.M. of the Royal Gloucester Lodge. The ceremony of installation was impressively performed by Bro. W. Hickman, W.M., and D.P.G.M. of

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and the W.M. elect invested his officers as follow:—Bros. F. H. McCalmont, W.M., S.W.; W. J. Hickman, P.M., J.W.; W. Furber, P.M., Treas.; E. T. Howell, P.M., Sec.; Rev. S. Scott, Chap.; H. P. Aslatt, D.C.; Alex. Paris, S.D.; Henry Lashmore, J.D.; G. Nymott, P.M., I.G.; and Biggs, Tyler. Votes of thanks were afterwards accorded to the D.P.G.M. for his important services during the day; the retiring W.M., Bro. J. W. Walker, at whose absence, through indisposition, much regret was expressed, and to certain officers for past services. The installation banquet was served by Bro. Dartnall, and presided over by the W.M. elect, to whom many hearty congratulations were tendered.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The usual meeting took place at the Pump-room, on Wednesday, the 19th ult. Bro. W. B. Bacon, W.M., presided, and there were also present Bros. H. D. M. Williams, S.W.; C. Graham, acting J.W., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Hodgkin; T. F. Bates, Sec.; J. Burton, S.D.; J. Dunkley, J.D.; Strange, Tyler; Boorman, T. Elliott, Rule, Read, and others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and having been closed down to the First Degree, the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler took place, and was unanimous in favour of Bros. A. D. M. Williams; W. S. Elers, P.M.; and Strange. The Audit Committee were appointed, and the members elected to serve were Bros. Cheale, Elliott, and Graham. Bro. Read, P.M., proposed that the usual Past Master's jewel be given to Bro. Bacon. The W.M. proposed, and Bro. Williams seconded, that Bro. Lord George Nevill and Bro. Dickenson, both of the Tunbridge Lodge, be joining members of the lodge. An important notice of motion having been given by the W.M. the lodge was duly closed.

BUXTON.—Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann (No. 1235).—The anniversary of this prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th ult., at the Court House, when there was an assemblage of brethren from all parts of the province. The following were among those present:—Bros. J. H. Lawson, W.M.; E. J. Sykes, P.P.G. St. Bearer, I.P.M.; E. C. Milligan, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; R. R. Duke, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; Josiah Taylor, P.M., Treas., P.P.G. St. Bearer; P. Le Gros, S.W.; W. Boughen, J.W.; W. Lees, Sec.; W. D. Sutton, S.D.; W. Goodwin, I.G.; G. Smedley, R. Hulme, Stwds.; W. Needham, G. F. Barnard, H. D. Hudson, William Cannell Cheever, John Edwin Harrison, W. C. Moore, S.W. 1688; A. Oram, W. F. Mill, G. Goodwin, T. W. Brittain, J. H. Taylor, John Oram, J. Stanley, Treas. 1769; Jos. Whalley, J. Heathcote, Jas. C. Hyde, and R. H. Hyde. The visitors present were, Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, P.M., P.G. Chaplain; W. W. Jendwine, P.M. 681, P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Wyatt, J.W. 654; W. T. Gunson, 1089; G. J. Wood, J.W. 1028; J. Whitehead, S.W. 654; H. Hirst, S.D. 1405; A. Sandilands, J.D. 1688; A. Stubbe, P.M. 850, P.G.A.D.C.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.M. 317, P.P.G.D.C. East Lancashire; Geo. Wilson, 1028; A. Schofield, P.M. 1028; W. Milligan, I.P.M. 884, P.J.G.W.; C. J. Bennett, 654. The lodge was opened in due form at two o'clock by the retiring W.M., Bro. J. H. Lawson, who after the usual routine business proceeded to raise Bro. W. C. Cheever, which ceremony he performed in such a manner as to receive the encomiums of all the brethren present. The lodge was then closed to the Second Degree, and Bro. W. Milligan, P.M. 889, P.G.J.W., took the chair for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. Philip Le Gros, S.W., who was presented by Bro. Sykes, P.M., and Bro. Lawson, W.M. The installation ceremony was performed in a most able and beautifully impressive manner by Bro. W. Milligan, P.M. 881, P.G.J.W., assisted by Bro. Sillitoe, P.M. 317, P.P.G.S.B. East Lancashire. After the ceremony the W.M. appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. H. Lawson, I.P.M.; W. Boughen, S.W.; W. D. Sutton, J.W.; Josiah Taylor, P.M., Treas.; G. Smedley, Sec.; C. Wilkinson, S.D.; W. Goodwin, J.D.; C. Gwinnell, D.C.; H. Wint, Std. Bearer; G. Marsden, P.P.G.O., Org.; W. Lees, I.G.; R. Hulme, and J. Gladwin, Stewards; A. Pyle, Tyler. An adjournment was then made to St. Ann's Hotel, where an elegant and sumptuous banquet had been prepared by the proprietors, Messrs. Harrison and Le Gros, in a style every way worthy of the reputation of the house, for the companions of the chapter and the brethren of the lodge. When the cloth was removed and grace had been said by Bro. the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, P.G.C., who had also assisted in the ceremonies of the lodge, there were the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The newly-elected W.M. presided, and in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," made a touching allusion to the great domestic affliction which had fallen on the Royal House since the last anniversary of the Phoenix Lodge, expressing himself confident that every brother would unite with every subject and every Mason in deepest sympathy with her Majesty on that occasion. "The Health of the Prince of Wales" was also proposed by the President, who remarked on the eminent services his Royal Highness had rendered to Masonry, and the high estimation in which he was held by the brethren generally. The following toasts were subsequently proposed:—"The Earl of Carnarvon, R.W. Pro. G.M. and G. 1st Principal R.A., with the Officers, Present and Past, of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter;" "The Marquis of Hartington, M.P., R.W.P.G.M., Pro Grand Sup. R.A., Bro. H. C. Okeover, R.W. D.P.C.M., P.G. 2nd Principal, and the Officers, Present and Past, of P. Grand Lodge and Chapter;" "The Newly-Installed Principals;" "The Newly-Installed W.M.;" "The Installing Masters and Principals;" "The Visitors;" "The 1. Past Master and Past Principals;" "The Charities;" "The Officers of the Lodge;" "The Treasurers of the Lodge and Chapter;" "To all

Poor and Distressed Masons." In proposing "The Health of the Immediate Past Master," Bro. J. H. Lawson, the newly-installed Master, expressed the great pleasure it gave him to propose that toast, and the additional pleasure he had in investing him with the jewel, which the lodge had unanimously voted him as some recognition of the estimation they held of his valuable services during his term of office. The jewel was of very elegant design, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to W. Bro. J. H. Lawson, P.M., by the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge of St. Ann, Buxton, as a token of regard and appreciation of his services as W. Master, 6th Feb., 1879." The whole of the proceedings throughout were perfectly satisfactory, and a most pleasant day was spent in perfect harmony.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—This prosperous provincial lodge met in goodly numbers at the Lion Hotel, on Thursday, the 20th ult., when there were present, amongst others, Bros. Fox, P.M. Lebanon, W.M.; Francis, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, acting S.W.; Hiscox, I.G., acting J.W.; J. Hammond, P.M. 201, I.P.M.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, Treasurer; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, &c., Secretary; E. Raw, P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, S.D.; Kent, J.D.; Moody, D.C.; Tagg, A.W.S.; Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. Bro. Handel, of the Wolsey, was the sole visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of his officers, passed Bro. Bunyan to the degree of F.C. He then vacated the chair in favour of the I.P.M., who most ably raised Bro. Prime to the degree of a M.M. Letters of apology for non-attendance from the Wardens and others having been read, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a collation. "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been duly honoured, the W.M. in very warm terms proposed "The Health of the R.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex, and the rest of the P.G.O.'s, Present and Past," coupled with the name of Bro. W. Hammond, P.G.D. The toast having been received with excellent "fire," Bro. Hammond responded. In his speech he eulogised the services of Bro. Col. Burdett to the cause of Freemasonry in general, and to the Province of Middlesex in particular. He believed that no Masonic province had ever attained so high a position in so short a time as Middlesex had. This happy state of things was undoubtedly due to the zeal displayed in its welfare by the distinguished subject of the toast. In conclusion, he briefly touched upon the merits of the brethren composing the remainder of the staff of the Provincial Grand Lodge. "The Health of the W.M." followed. In proposing this toast the I.P.M. deplored the indisposition which had prevented their W.M. at the very commencement of his Mastership from taking that active part in its administration which the position demanded. He believed that their W.M.'s interest in all things Masonic could not be surpassed by any member of their mystic Order, and that when he left the chair of the Hemming Lodge he would carry with him the respect of every member. This toast having been duly honoured, the W.M. made a brief reply, and immediately proposed "The Health of the Visitor." Bro. Handel in response expressed the great pleasure his visits to the Hemming Lodge had invariably afforded him. He was impressed with the "work," delighted with the harmony manifested by the members, and gratified with the hospitality always displayed by No. 1512. In conclusion, he hoped that they would shortly permit him to come among them as a joining member. The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Officers" came next, and were suitably acknowledged by Bros. W. Hammond and E. Hopwood. The remainder of the evening having been agreeably spent, the members separated at an early hour, highly pleased with the instruction and the entertainment that had been afforded them.

PLUMSTEAD.—United Military Lodge (No. 1536).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Friday, the 14th ult., at Bro. Garbett's fine hall on Anglesea Hill, attached to the Sir Robert Peel, when an unusually large gathering of the brethren of the lodge and district assembled to bid farewell to one who had not only added a lasting lustre to the lodge, but had gained for himself the deep attachment and esteem of all who knew him, both in his private and Masonic life. We refer to Bro. Past Master George Spinks, I.P.M. of the lodge, who, as Assistant Commissary in the Army Service Corps, sailed on the following Tuesday in charge of stores for the Cape of Good Hope. The lodge was opened by Bro. Hay Grieve Picken, W.M., supported by the following Past Masters and Officers:—Past Masters Dr. Spurrell, also P.M. 615, and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; C. Coupland, also P.M. 913, and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; W. Weston; T. D. Hayes, also W.M. 913; A. Penfold, also P.M. 913; H. Shaw, S.W.; D. Deeves, J.W.; W. Murphy, Treas.; J. Kennedy, Sec.; W. Welding, J.W.; T. Holleyman, J.D.; H. Harding, Org.; H. A. Watkins, Steward; and J. Lackland, Tyler. Bro. Anderson acted as I.G. The visitors present included Bro. J. Scott Mutch, W.M. 706; A. Woodley, W.M. 700; T. Newnan, 1604; J. Sculley, 363; J. A. Elder, 1472; E. W. Crews, 13; T. E. Hassell, 13; S. Hare, 706; C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*), and others. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, Bro. Richard Soars, Sergt-Major, 6th Brigade Royal Artillery, of Lodge No. 465 in India, was balloted for, and accepted as a joining member. Sergt-Major E. Maul, R.H.A., and Sergt. John Steer, of the 1st Brigade, R.A., were then, after ballot and approval, initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, and then Bro. Robert Anderson was raised to the Sublime Degree. The initiates were then called up to the pedestal, and the W.M. recited the E.A. charge to them most eloquently. Bro. Weston then rose, and said he felt that before they closed they would

like to convey to Bro. Spinks in open lodge their regret at losing not only his valuable services but his esteemed companionship. The brethren had heard of the terrible misfortune that had occurred to their gallant brothers in arms at the Cape, and how throughout the garrisons of England the note of preparation had sounded for reinforcements. Among those gallant soldiers who were called was their esteemed Bro. Spinks, and he was sure before he left that lodge to go on his pathway of duty, that they, the members of that lodge, would try, or at least desire to try, and repay him the deep debt of gratitude they owed him, for the many valuable services he had rendered them since and before the formation of the lodge. He had not only gone through his work in the two Wardens' chairs in a perfect manner, but in his position as W.M. he had excelled, if not surpassed, anything that had been done in it by his predecessors. No one, he felt sure, who had been at the installation ceremony last year could ever forget the magnificent manner in which he had performed that beautiful and solemn ceremony. It was the admiration of all who heard it, and their distinguished Chaplain, Bro. Solbéc, had declared it to be equal to anything he had ever seen in his life for eloquence and impressiveness. Their esteemed brother was going to leave them for active service in the field, and they wished him God speed on his journey. Might the G.A.O.T.U. keep him in the hour of danger, and when honour was satisfied—for English soldiers wanted not revenge—might he be spared to come once more among them, and in that lodge receive a welcome home such as they in their hearts would give him, and which would be as honourable to them as it would be pleasing to him. The brief but feeling reply of Bro. Spinks was cheered to the echo. The W.M. said a few words, which he promised to supplement at the social board, and then, after the usual questions, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. Upon reassembling the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, as well as the provincial ones, all of which were duly honoured. Bro. Spurrell, in replying for "The Past and Present Grand Officers of Kent," said he did not expect to receive such a compliment, as he now formed a part of the very large circle of those who belonged to the past. It was however, an honour at any time and anywhere to respond for the Grand Officers of Kent, and in their name he returned thanks. He was now a member of that lodge, and hearing that their excellent Bro. Spinks was going away he could not let this opportunity pass without attending and bidding him farewell, and wishing him a safe journey out and return home. Bro. Spinks then rose to propose the toast of the W.M. He said he had the honour once more to propose the toast, and from the manner in which Bro. Picken did his duty they could see that he was determined to do it firmly, honestly, and nobly. They had heard the admirable rendering of the charge to their initiates that evening; that showed them that their W.M. was capable of carrying out his duties to the utmost limits. He was one of those who came in at the door and went out at the window. Well, he would go out at the window, for he was not at the furthest end of the room. He asked them to drink the toast with enthusiasm. Bro. Picken, in response, said, were it not for the cloud that hung over them through their being about to lose Bro. Spinks, he should have felt proud of the way in which they had responded to their brother's call in connection with the toast. There was one thing, however, he could not help being proud of, and that was that they were at last out of debt. Every Master of the lodge had tried to clear it off, and had done well, and now he was proud to say every claim was paid, and they were clear. (Cheers.) He now hoped they would be able to take their place among the lodges who assisted, and largely too, those grand Institutions of the Order "The Masonic Charities." (Applause.) "The Initiates" were then toasted, and returned thanks. In proposing the toast of "The Past Masters" Bro. Picken said it would be the last time for the present they would have their esteemed Bro. Spinks with them. They all knew that the British arms had sustained a severe reverse at the Cape of Good Hope, at least on the borders of Natal, and that reverse had raised a profound feeling of sorrow in every heart in the land, from the Queen in her palace to the peasant in his cottage. The loss had been severe, and while they mourned for that loss, yet there was not a soldier in the British Army who would not step forward and gladly go to-morrow to retrieve that reverse. It was their duty, and duty was a sacred thing in the heart of a soldier. (Loud cheers.) He knew personally the leader of the corps that was lost, Colonel Durnford. He was not only a good soldier, but was a good man, and a Mason, who would not only assist a brother with money, but with advice and example, and that evening they were about to send away to the same place one who was near and dear to them, their good Bro. Spinks. (Cheers.) Should he fall at his duty he would have a soldier's death, and a soldier's grave, and those who he left behind him would be to them as their own, and they would protect them, (Loud cheers), but should he be spared to return they would welcome him back with joy and rejoicing. Bro. Spinks, who replied to the toast, and was sensibly affected at the warmth of the brethren's response, said, on behalf of the Past Masters, he thanked them heartily. With respect to himself he never could thank them for the manner in which they had assembled together to express to him their wishes for his welfare in the expedition, in which he, among many more of her Majesty's soldiers were about embarking. When he was installed and placed in the chair of that lodge by Bro. Weston he ventured to speak as to its future, and to foretell for it a great and useful path in Masonry, and he did not think upon that night, when he was about to leave them, that he had a single word to recall. It had increased in strength, position, and numbers, and while he gloried in the opportunity afforded him of going into active

service, he left that lodge to go without a single fear or regret, save for those he left behind. He had been a sort of mother to it, while Bro. Weston had been the father, and like some fathers, Bro. Weston was hot, and hasty, and impetuous, and so energetic in the cause of his offspring, that it required his (the speaker's) slow and wet blanket sort of ways to retrain Bro. Weston's ardour. But between them they had, with the help of the brethren, he trusted, placed it upon a safe and sound basis, and he left it with confidence in their hands. He should as long as he lived continue to be a member of it, and should always take an interest in its prosperity, and so that he might hear continually of its goings on, he had commissioned Bro. Weston to send him the *Freemason* every week, and that brother had promised to do so. He then spoke of the good feeling that existed between their lodge and the other lodges round about, more particularly with the Pattison Lodge, between whom and themselves a bond of brotherly love existed that he trusted would never be broken. Their W.M. had alluded to his being called away to active service. His corps was famed more particularly for being "first for bread and last for ammunition." He had, however, applied for a six-chambered revolver, and if he had occasion to use it there would not be a barrel of it thrown away, for

"With our twelve or nine-pounders we will force
the savage foe,
And give a good account of them wherever we
may go.

But if it is our fortune, boys, to fall upon the field,
We'll die like British soldiers, but never will we
yield."

"The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Watts, of the Pattison; Hall, of the Florence Nightingale; Hassall for the Union Waterloo; and Bro. Hayes, although an honorary member of the lodge, yet as W.M. of the Pattison, felt that he could not let this occasion pass without saying how much they regretted losing Bro. Spinks from their midst. But their loss was his gain, and although at the present a dark cloud seemed to hang over them it had a silver lining, and would soon pass away in the lustre that would, he trusted and hoped, be theirs from the honour done them by Bro. Spinks and his gallant comrades on the shores of Africa. Bro. Watts, as the oldest Mason in the room, wished Bro. Spinks success and a honoured return; and after Bro. Spinks (who filled the chair upon Bro. Picken leaving the room) had toasted their Bro. Rust, who had just gone to Cyprus as Chaplain of the Forces, and paid a tribute to the memory of Bro. Hiscock, of the Union Waterloo Lodge, who had just departed this life, the Tyler's toast and "Auld Lang Syne" brought the meeting to a close.

INSTRUCTION.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of the above lodge of instruction was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, on Wednesday, the 25th ult., when there were present Bros. P. V. Denham, W.M.; A. B. Blackmore, S.W.; J. Frost, J.W.; W. J. Huntley, S.D.; W. F. Wardroper, J.D.; F. Reed, I.G.; C. Digby, W. A. Morgan, J. G. Carter, H. R. Jones, A. Newens, A. Mason, W. Marshall, and A. A. Denham. The lodge being duly opened, Bro. Newens offered himself as a candidate for the First Degree, which was worked. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. A. Morgan (W.M. of the 1044), who worked the Second Degree, Bro. Newens again being the candidate. The brethren then proceeded to discuss a motion of Bro. J. G. Carter—"That the evening of meeting be changed from Wednesday to Tuesday." This was carried unanimously. Bro. W. F. Wardroper proposed, Bro. J. Huntley seconded, and it was carried nem. con.—"That the time for meeting be 7.30 instead of 8 o'clock, as heretofore." Bro. Blackmore was appointed W.M. for the ensuing meeting.

Royal Arch.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).—A regular convocation was held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, 18th ult., summoned for 8 p.m., but it was nearer 9 before the Board of Principals was opened. Present.—Ex. Comps. Hill, Z.; Watts, P.Z. 379, as H.; Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 587, 710, as J.; Keene, P.Z.; Becket, P.Z.; Moutrie, P.Z. and Treasurer. On the admission of the companions the chairs were taken by Comps. Howes, E.; Peach, as N.; Stuckey, P. Soj.; Young, as S. Soj.; Hayward, J. Soj. The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. satisfactorily accounted for the absence of H., J., N., and S. Sojourner. A brother in distress applied for relief, presenting a certificate from a lodge in Scotland, whence so large a proportion of such cases come. A small sum was given for immediate necessities, and the Janitor was directed to pay his fare to Exeter, where he stated that he has friends, and to see him off by rail. Bros. Glover and Mercer, who had been previously balloted for, were admitted, properly prepared, and duly exalted to the rank of R.A. companion by the M.E.Z., at whose request the acting J. gave the historical and symbolical lectures. Ex. Comp. Moutrie communicated the signs, with their explanation, and as it was then late, Dr. Hopkins promised privately to make the new companions acquainted with the rest of the mystical lecture, to whom a vote of thanks was accorded for his assistance on this as on all occasions when called upon. A ballot was taken for Bro. Cartmell as a candidate for exaltation at the next meeting, which was unanimous in his favour. It may be added, that the proceedings went off very smoothly, which was creditable to the new officers who acted for the first time after their appointment.

OLDHAM.—Tudor Chapter (No. 277).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Monday evening, the 17th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Oldham, at 6 o'clock. The proceedings were opened in due form and with the usual solemnities, under the presidency of Comp. P. P. Henry Lees Hollingworth, as M.E.Z.; Henry Thomas, H.; and James Lees Page, J. The minutes of the preceding chapter were read and confirmed. The next business being the installation of the Principals for the ensuing twelve months, the very eminent and worthy Comp. James Hall, P.P.G.P.S. of Lancashire, was requested to perform that ceremony, and the three Principals elect were duly presented to him in open chapter and obligated. A Conclave of Installed Principals was afterwards formed, and the Principals invested, after which the other companions were admitted into the chapter and saluted their newly-installed superiors, viz., Comps. Henry Thomas, M.E.Z.; James Lees Page, H.; and Joseph Crompton Lees, J. The officers having then been severally invested and admonished by the Installing Principal, the magnificent and impressive ceremony was concluded by an earnest address to the companions generally. So complete was the satisfaction of the chapter at the very able manner in which Comp. P. P. James Hall performed the beautiful ceremony, that it is their intention to elect him as honorary member, as a slight token of their appreciation of his services, and his kindness in having for several years installed their Principals. The chapter was then closed and the companions adjourned to a banquet of the most recherché character, which reflected the highest credit upon Mr. Chew, the manager of the Freemasons' Hall.

MANCHESTER.—Affability Chapter (No. 317).—The installation festival of this old chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 20th ult. The chapter was opened by Comp. Smethurst, Z., at 5.30, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the companions adjourned to tea. On the resumption of business about 40 companions were present. Comp. W. F. Towle, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., commenced the installation ceremony. When all below the rank of Installed Principals had retired, Comp. James Dawson was placed in the chair of Z. by Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z., P.G.D. of C. Comp. J. E. Lees was placed in the chair of H. by Comp. J. Hall, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., and Comp. W. P. Norris in the chair of J. by Comp. W. F. Towle. On the readmission of the companions the newly-installed Principals were proclaimed and suitably greeted, after which Comp. Hall invested the following officers, viz.:—Comps. W. Nicholl, S.E.; J. T. Watts, S.N.; W. Sowtar, P.S.; H. Rocca, 1st A.S.; John Church, 2nd A.S.; F. Vetter, Organist; and James Sly, Janitor. The address to the newly-installed Principals was delivered by Comp. J. Batchelder, P.Z., and those to the officers and companions by Comp. Sillitoe. As is usual in this chapter the new year was commenced by voting a sum to the funds of the local charity in lieu of having a banquet. The chapter was duly closed, and the remainder of the evening was spent very harmoniously and agreeably, the musical talent, both vocal and instrumental, possessed by members of this chapter being far above the average.

CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY.—Chorlton Chapter (No. 1387).—This chapter assembled at the Masonic Rooms, on Wednesday, the 19th ult. The chapter was opened by Comps. J. H. Sillitoe, Z.; John Bladon, P.Z., acting as H.; J. E. Lees, J. There were also present Comps. J. J. Lambert, Treasurer, acting as S.E.; J. G. Batty, S.N.; John Dewhurst, P.S.; Alfred Love, 1st A.S.; A. D. Edwards, 2nd A.S.; and other members and visitors. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been duly ratified, Bro. A. J. Billings, P.M., was exalted to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason by the M.E.Z., the historical lecture was delivered by Comp. Lees, and both the symbolic and mystical lectures by Comp. Sillitoe. Although this chapter has but recently been consecrated it possesses a fair number of members and has attained a high standard of working. Letters were read from several officers and companions explaining the causes of their absence, and the chapter was closed in solemn form.

Mark Masonry.

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 104).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 21st ult., at the Guildhall Tavern, on which occasion there were present Bros. North Ritherdon, W.M.; Thomas Meggy, P.M., Treas.; James Stevens, P.M.; William Worrell, P.M. and Sec.; Robert Berridge, P.M.; Edward Moody, S.W.; W. P. Collins, M.O.; F. H. Cozens, S.O.; George Yaxley, R.M.; G. Ward Verry, S.D.; W. C. Hall, J.D.; J. K. Pitt, I.G.; H. F. Partridge, W. Johnstone, T., A. De Leliva, T. W. Simons, Louis Hirsch, H. Mills, A. Hubbard, John Syer, 139; and H. Massey, P.M. 22 (*Freemason*). Bro. T. B. Humphrey was advanced to the Mark Degree, after which Bro. Berridge announced that he was going to stand as Steward for the lodge at the next festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, and explained to the brethren the scheme which was settled at last half-yearly communication of Grand Lodge for establishing an educational fund. He hoped he should at the next festival take up a good list, and he asked the favourable consideration of the lodge for that object. Thereupon Bro. Worrell moved, and Bro. Meggy seconded, a resolution for giving two guineas from the lodge funds to Bro. Berridge's list, and this having been unanimously adopted, the thanks of the lodge were presented to Bro. Berridge for undertaking the office of Steward. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a most agreeable dinner. When the toasts

were proposed, Bro. Meggy replied to the toast of "The Grand Officers." Bro. James Stevens responded to that of "The Provincial Grand Master, Col. Burdett," and said that he was proud to think that the Macdonald Mark Lodge had the honour of supplying so many Grand Officers to the province. The lodge had reason to be satisfied with the kind consideration that the Prov. G. Master had given this lodge from its foundation to the present time, and he hoped it would be in the future as it had been in the past, a very great encouragement to the members of the lodge that their chances of preferment in Grand Lodge were almost positively secured. Bro. Meggy proposed "The W.M.," who, he said, had done his duty well, and shown the brethren that he could perform the ceremony of advancement most admirably. The W.M., replying, said he congratulated himself on having had the opportunity that evening of performing the ceremony for the first time since he had been Master. He had begun to think he should go through his year of office without showing what he could do. This lodge could boast that among its Past Masters was a race of giants in Mark work, and he thought there was a fair prospect of the race being perpetuated. Their next W.M. would be Bro. Edward Moody, who would also be a good worker. He (the W.M.) congratulated himself not only upon having entered Mark Masonry, in which he took great delight, but also on having taken the degree in the Macdonald Lodge, No. 104. He always looked back with satisfaction on his introduction into the degree; he had the interest of the degree in general at heart, and of this lodge in particular. He should always do all he could to advance the interests of the lodge. Bro. Humphrey replied to the toast of "The Newly Advanced Brother," and said he had been highly delighted at the ceremony and the way in which it was worked. Bros. Hubbard and Massey replied to the toast of "The Visitors," and Bro. R. Berridge to that of "The P.M.'s." He said that it always had been and always would be the greatest possible pleasure to him to render any assistance he could to the Master in the chair, and to his officers in any post he might be asked to fill. He then repeated the observations he made in lodge as to the Educational Branch of the Mark Benevolent Fund, and appealed to the brethren for their support of his Steward's list. In giving "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. said, the lodge was highly favoured in these two offices. The first had filled all sorts of offices in the lodge, and was always ready to do any work which might be required of him. With respect to the Secretary, they could not possibly have a better. Bro. Meggy, in reply, said, the remarks made concerning him were very flattering, and the warmth of the brethren's reception very hearty. Both the W.M. and the brethren had done what they had done from the bottom of their hearts, and he believed they had felt what they had expressed. He should always do what he could for the lodge, and all he could to make the brethren comfortable. Bro. Worrell, as Secretary, also replied, and the proceedings, which had been enlivened with some delightful music and singing by Bros. Cozens, Simons, Hubbard, Stevens, and Meggy, were brought to a close.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

MOUNT CALVARY ROSE CROIX CHAPTER (No. 4).—A meeting of this old and distinguished chapter was held on Friday, the 14th ult., at 33, Golden-square. There were present Ill. Bros. C. H. Driver, 31°, M.W.S.; W. Paas, 30°, Almoner, acting 1st General; D. M. Dewar, Recorder, as 2nd General; Hyde Pullen, 33°, as High Prelate; D. Nicols, 30°, as Grand Marshal; T. C. Walls, as Raphael; B. F. Cramer, Organist; J. O. Wood, as Captain of the Guard; Col. S. H. Clarke, 33°, G.S.G., &c.; R. W. Stewart, P.W.S.; A. Williams, F. W. Driver, C. W. Tayleur. Ill. Bro. G. Lambert was a visitor. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the M.W.S., with the assistance of his officers, most ably rehearsed the ceremony of perfection, Bro. F. W. Driver acting as candidate. There being no other business, the chapter was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to the Café Royale, where a most elegant repast was served by Comp. Nicols and assistants. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary preliminary toasts were done full justice to. The toast of "The Supreme Grand Council" was acknowledged in fitting terms by Ill. Bro. Col. Clarke. "The Health of the M.W.S." was proposed by Ill. Bro. Dewar, in which he congratulated the Mount Calvary upon possessing so able an exponent of the ceremonies of the Rose Croix Degree as their Ill. Bro. Driver had unquestionably proved himself to be. He was sorry that through unavoidable circumstances the candidate for perfection had been prevented from attending the chapter that day, because the M.W. had evidently taken great pains in getting up the arduous ceremony, and it was a pity that he should have been disappointed by the non-attendance of the candidate. In conclusion, he hoped that the remainder of the M.W.S.'s year of office would be characterised by the same amount of prosperity and happiness as had attended it hitherto. This toast having been warmly received, the M.W. modestly replied. "The Health of the Visitor" was acknowledged at length by Bro. Lambert. "The Officers" followed, and drew from Ill. Bro. Hyde Pullen an exhaustive response. The proceedings then terminated.

India.

BANGALORE.—Bangalore Lodge (No. 1043).—Notwithstanding that the war in Afghanistan has summoned to the front many of the military brethren of Lodge "Bangalore," seldom has the Masonic Hall here been more densely crowded than it was last St. John's Day. The

proceedings commenced at 7.30 a.m., with the installation of W.M. Bro. Arthur Hayes, the late Senior Warden, who had been unanimously elected at the previous regular meeting. The ceremony was performed by P.M. Bro. Balfour Cockburn, assisted by an unusually large number of Past Masters, amongst whom we noticed Bro. Brindley, P.M. from Burmah; Bro. Collins, P.M. from Secunderabad; Bro. Haynes, P.M. from Bellary; Past Masters J. W. Hayes, sen., Nepean Smith, Pratt, and M'Cally Hayes, from Mysore. The W.M. having been duly placed in the chair of K.S., appointed Bro. J. Smith to be Senior Warden, and Bro. H. Reuben to be Junior Warden. The remaining collars having been duly distributed and the final charges delivered, the W.M. rose, and, in an exceedingly neat and appropriate speech, presented P.M. Bro. Balfour Cockburn with a testimonial in the form of a very handsomely printed address. The following is a copy of the same.

"To W. Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn, Esq., M.D., P.M., P.Z., &c., &c.

"Dear Sir and Brother.

"We the undersigned Past Masters, Past Wardens, Wardens, and members of the Bangalore Lodge, 1043, consider we shall be failing in our duty and depriving ourselves of a great pleasure, were we to allow this memorable day to pass away without conveying to you our warm and sincere thanks for the very able manner in which you have presided over our lodge during this year. Deprived of the services of the Worshipful Master who was elected by the brethren for this year, viz., W. Bro. Capt. J. M'Cleverty, you unhesitatingly accepted the responsibility of filling his place, and we are proud to bear testimony to your having cheerfully and zealously performed all the duties required of you from time to time, and to your having advanced the best interests of our lodge. This will be at once understood when we add that during this year nine members have been initiated by you, six passed, eight raised, and eight affiliated. In vacating the chair you carry with you our best wishes. We shall always cherish your connection with us with feelings of the utmost gratification, and we hope and trust that you will yet attain that high rank in Masonry, which all of us so sincerely desire, feeling assured that the same cannot but conduce to the welfare of Freemasonry throughout Southern India.

"We subscribe ourselves, dear Sir and Worshipful Brother, yours fraternally.

"Bangalore, 27th Dec., 1878."

To the above address is appended the signature of every member of the lodge, without a single exception. P.M. Bro. Balfour Cockburn, accepting the presentation, made a most suitable reply, and alluding to the kind wishes expressed as to his future advancement, said that should H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master be pleased to deem him worthy of occupying the post of District Grand Master, he trusted he would never for a moment be insensible to the duties or grave responsibilities of that high and important position, and no efforts would be wanting on his part to justify the selection of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, as also to merit the approbation of the brethren of the province.

Australia.

MELBOURNE.—Lodge of Judah (No. 388 S.C.).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held in Freemasons' Hall, Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, Victoria, on Tuesday evening, 3rd December, 1878. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer at 6.30 p.m., the retiring R.W.M., Bro. James Moore, in the chair. There was a brilliant assembly of Provincial Grand Office-bearers of the Three Constitutions, W. Masters, Past Masters, and visiting brethren from the various lodges in the province. The minutes of last monthly meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. John Thornton, age 33, proposed at last monthly meeting, and resulted in his being declared duly elected; also for Bro. Geo. Wilson, M.M. Carlton Lodge, 380 I.C., as a joining member, who was duly elected a member of the lodge. The candidate, being in attendance, was admitted in due form, and initiated to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry in the First Degree by the retiring R.W.M., who thereafter intimated that Bro. P.M.M. Goldstein had kindly consented to act as Installing Master, and vacated the chair in his favour. The R.W.M. elect, Bro. J. P. Ceddesberg, was then conducted to the East by Bros. P.M.'s Erichsen and Little, and, having given his assent to the charges, was duly obligated and subsequently installed R.W.M. of the lodge. The following brethren were then obligated and invested with the collars and jewels of their respective offices:—Bros. Ceddesberg, R.W.M.; Moore, P.M., R.W.D.M.; Erichsen, P.M., R.W. Substitute Master; Spink, S.W.; Burton, J.W.; Cahill, P.M., Treasurer; Millar, Sec.; Rintel, P.M., Chaplain; Coverlid, S.D.; Browne, J.D.; Perraton, Org.; Wright and Jackson, Stewards; Altson, I.G.; Levy, Tyler. Bro. Goldstein, P.M., then, in a very impressive and eloquent manner, addressed Bro. Joseph Cahill, P.M., Treasurer, thanking him in the name of the lodge for the many valuable services rendered as Warden, R.W.M., and during the past five years as Treasurer, the duties of all of which offices he had fulfilled to the entire satisfaction of the brethren, and presented him, in the name of the lodge, with a beautiful Past Treasurer's jewel in gold, the key being studded with diamonds and brilliants. Bro. Cahill, P.M., replied in suitable terms, thanking the brethren for their kind token of brotherly love, and expressing the pleasure it gave him to be connected with the lodge and help it onward in its career of progress. Bro. Secretary having read correspondence and apologies for absence, and a candidate having been proposed for initiation on next lodge night, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.30 p.m. The brethren, to the number of over a hundred, adjourned

to the banqueting hall, when a truly pleasant evening was spent, enlivened with speeches, songs, and recitations. A visiting P.M. made a stirring speech by relating how, when a stranger in Melbourne, and in dire distress, his wife and family stricken with fever, Bro. Cahill, P.M., had visited him, and raised him physically and mentally from a state of great despondency. Visiting Bro. Glover, a recent arrival in the colony, contributed greatly to the pleasure of the evening by his excellent singing.

West Africa.

LAGOS.—Lagos Lodge (No. 1171).—The annual festival and installation of this lodge was held on Friday, the 27th December, 1878, at the Freemasons' Hall, Marina, Bro. Robert Campbell, W.M., presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. Chas. Foresythe, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Charles Dennett Turton, P.M., to the Installing Master for installation. The ceremony of installation having been impressively performed, the new W.M. invested Bros. John Field, S.W.; Charles J. George, J.W.; Rev. Valentine Faulkner, Chap.; John A. Payne, Sec.; Charles Pike, P.M., Treas.; William Meyer, S.D.; Thos. J. Whittington, J.D.; W. William Lewis, I.G.; F. D. Cole, Tyler. The lodge was closed at the conclusion of business, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. To the pleasures of this upwards of twenty-two brethren sat down to enjoy the many delicacies, which had been so carefully provided by the exertions of Bros. Campbell, Payne, and Pike; the place being tastefully decorated, or dressed up, by Bros. Lawson and Whittington. The W.M. gave the toasts of "The Queen;" "Bro. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.;" "The Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family;" and "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master," and referred to the valuable services his lordship had rendered to the cause of Masonry. Bro. Campbell, P.M., gave the toast of "The New W.M.," and, in reply, the W.M. gave "The Health of the Past Masters," and coupled it with the name of Bro. Turton, P.M. After reply, Bro. Turton, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Officers" for the ensuing year, and coupled the name of Bro. Field, S.W., who, in reply, gave "The Health of the Retiring Officers," and coupled it with the name of Bro. George, who, in reply, wished prosperity to the lodge. Bro. Pike, P.M., gave "The Health of the Visitors," and coupled it with the name of Bro. Leighton, and this brought the banquet to a close.

Public Amusements.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Last month Mr. Carl Rosa produced at this house an English version of Herr Wagner's first successful opera, "Rienzi." The English disciples of Wagner, and the school is now a large one, must have experienced considerable disappointment on hearing the music in "Rienzi;" there is nothing in the opera to indicate that it was composed by the author of "Tannhauser" and "Lohengrin." On the other hand, those who are not rabid Wagnerists will welcome this English version of "Rienzi," as a decided acquisition to the somewhat restricted repertoire now in existence; and from this section of the musical public Mr. Carl Rosa will be thanked for his enterprise and judgment. But altogether apart from its merits as a musical and literary production, it must be allowed on all sides that its first appearance in England was undeniably successful. Mr. Carl Rosa himself conducted his excellent and efficient band, as only Mr. Carl Rosa can conduct, throwing his whole soul into the task before him.

ROYALTY.—This charming little theatre is now under the management of Mr. J. Mortimer, who on the 3rd ult. produced an adaptation of Sardou's "Papillonne," entitled "A Gay Deceiver." From a dramatic point of view the piece has many serious blemishes, the fault lying more with the author than the adapter; but, its faults notwithstanding, "A Gay Deceiver," which is most efficiently acted by an excellent company, affords much laughter and amusement.

FOLLY.—That capital comedy "Retiring" still holds its place in the play bills at this house, and recently has been produced a new burlesque, to wit, "Carmen, or Sold for a Song," by R. Reece. It is not so good as "Nemesis," by the same author, but it is, nevertheless, a good burlesque, and certainly well worth seeing.

CRITERION.—Here we have a new piece by Bronson Howard, the author of "Brighton," first played in America, under the name of "Hurricanes," and now called "Truth." I need only say that it is a weak and poor imitation of "Pink Dominions."

PRINCES' THEATRE, MANCHESTER.—On Monday evening, the 23rd ult., at this elegant theatre an entire change took place in the performance, the splendid pantomime having given place to Mr. Cellier's ever welcome comic opera, "The Sultan of Mecha," which was played before a large audience. It is capably mounted by Mr. Edmonds, whose responsible duties as stage manager have been transferred to this theatre. Mr. Wainwright was the Sultan, Mr. Ryley, Admiral Sneak, and Messrs. Doyle and Bremner filled respectively the parts of Captain Flint and Peter. Madame Cave-Ashton, who is well-known to Manchester, both on the platform and stage, fulfilled the important rôle of Dolly, and sang the music charmingly; her rendering of the "Slumber" song creating quite a furore. This lady is a valuable acquisition to the company. The rest of the characters were fairly represented. The opera is announced to run seven nights longer, terminating on Saturday, the 8th inst.

FREEMASONRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The doubly interesting ceremonies of the consecration of a new lodge-room and the installation of the new W.M. for the ensuing year of the Marlborough Lodge of Unanimity, No. 1236, took place on the 21st November last, exactly two years after the building, in which the lodge was formerly held, was destroyed by fire. The lodge having met and opened in the Three Degrees, the members had, some of them for the first time, an opportunity of looking round the new room, which has been specially constructed, and furnished with very great thought and care, and at considerable cost, as nearly as could be contrived after Dr. Oliver's valuable suggestions in his book of the lodge. The handsome veil of the three appropriate colours, shutting out the light from the chilly north; the Ionic pilasters on the other sides; the rich carpet and tessellated pavement; the canopy in the East; the principal chairs with their massiveness and comfort; form but part of a pleasing and harmonious whole. The W.M., Bro. B. O. Waddy, having in front of him the Three Great Lights, the warrant of constitution, and the vessels of consecration, rose, and gave an exordium on Masonry as follows:—He said that we were met together that evening on a very solemn and interesting occasion, that of opening and consecrating our new lodge-room. As Master of the lodge the honour of conducting the ceremony, an honour which he should remember as long as he lived, fell upon him. It was an honour which very rarely fell to the lot of Masters of lodges, as the ceremony was usually performed by Grand Officers. As, however, we were directly under the Grand Lodge of England, there was no Masonic authorities in this country to whom we owed allegiance, and, consequently, the ceremony must be performed by ourselves. Before commencing, or rather, perhaps, as part of the ceremony, it was usual for some remarks to be made on Masonry in order to prepare the mind for the after ceremonial, and he thought it would be as well to explain the necessity of consecrating the lodge at all. He would have to tell them—what, indeed, they already knew, and few of his remarks could teach them what in one form or another had not been taught them already—that lodges are consecrated because the floor of the lodge represented holy ground. It represented the spot on the top of Mount Moriah where the three grand offerings were made; the first, that of Abraham, of his son Isaac; the second, that of David, to stay the pestilence which was raging amongst his people; and the third, that of Solomon, at the dedication of the Temple. Indeed, one of our customs would, but for the dedication, have no meaning. It was well known that in the East—and most of our practices and traditions came from the East—it was the custom, on entering a sacred edifice, to take the shoes from off the feet, a custom the necessity of which was at certain times insisted on in our lodges, as would be remembered by all present. In endeavouring to prepare the minds of the members for the approaching ceremony, he thought he could not do better than call their attention to the consideration of some of the symbols by which they were surrounded, after doing which he should bring his remarks to a close. To commence with, the lodge-room itself was a symbol as much as the furniture it contained. It was a singular circumstance that the greatest Masonic monuments existing in the world had been built by despots—by those who had almost supreme power over the bodies or over the minds of men. In a free country the buildings generally, both private and public, are good, but the public buildings, as monuments, are far inferior to the magnificent structures of tyrants. No one who knows anything of the history of the human race can look upon the Pyramids of Egypt and doubt for a moment that those grand and useless structures were built by slaves to the glory of some potentate, and no one can doubt that under their vast shadows were hovels full of squalor and wretchedness. To come to modern times, the magnificent palace of Louis XIV. at Versailles was built at a time when the French people were starving, and this and other instances of reckless extravagance in wealth and in human life led to the fearful retribution of the French Revolution, when the people rose like a wild beast in its fury, and tore into tatters, and ruins, and death the good with the bad, the sacred with the profane. The object of Freemasonry is not to erect buildings such as these, but it looks upon them in a speculative manner. When a candidate is made he is placed in the N.E. part of the building, and is told that he represents a stone, a foundation stone, on which he is expected to raise a superstructure, perfect in its parts and honourable to the builder. He is also told, in the explanation of the tracing board, that a Freemason's lodge is as high as the heavens, proving that our lodge rooms are regarded as merely temporary and emblematic, and that we are all supposed and expected to form living stones of a temple which was commenced long ages ago, and is still being raised, willingly and freely, to the glory and honour of T.G.A.O.T.U. Inside the lodge, he continued, are other emblems, but he could not refer to all. On occasions of this sort it was necessary, of course, to consult authorities, and we were told that at the ceremony of dedication the three great lights were to be displayed. They are the volume of the sacred law the square and compasses. The sacred law is to rule and govern our faith. He could not let the occasion pass, especially considering the late action of the Grand Orient of France, without saying a word about Masonic toleration. A Masonic lodge-room was a place where all sorts of religious belief were tolerated. In fact, we were an example of it. Not a word in this room could be said about forms of religion without discord being the result. All sorts of religious belief were tolerated in a Masonic lodge, but there must be a line somewhere, and the Masonic line was drawn at unbelief. Masonry requires an acknowledgment from a candidate of

his trust in God, and it teaches him later the grand doctrine of the immortality of the soul. Do away with those two landmarks, and the lodge-room is at once and for ever stripped of its glory. This first great light would then be useless, for by its life and immortality are brought to light. You may expunge that—for it alludes to the Grand Geometrician of the Universe. You may tear up that pavement, for it represents that on which the high priest walked when he went once a year to pay adoration to the Most High. The prayers in our ceremonies become a farce, and the ceremonies themselves lose their meaning and are shorn of their beauty. Of the other two great lights, the square is to regulate our actions, and the compasses to keep us in due bounds with all mankind, particularly our brethren in Freemasonry. In other words, the first great light teaches us our duty towards God, and the other two our duty towards our neighbour. The disciples of Christ were to teach all nations, but "it was meet" that they should do so "beginning at Jerusalem," amongst their own brethren. Freemasonry is similar in its instructions. It teaches us to keep in due bounds with all mankind, particularly with our brethren in Freemasonry. This, brethren (he said), is what we have to remember. It is "one another first, the world afterwards;" and if Freemasonry has not taught each of us at least this, it has failed as far as we are concerned. In conclusion, he sincerely hoped that the opening of the new lodge-room would be the commencement of a better and more united feeling. We might congratulate ourselves on having a suitable and handsomely furnished room, and must look forward to its being productive of social pleasure and other benefits to ourselves in the first place, and eventually a blessing to the town in which we lived. At the conclusion of this address, the officers of the lodge were formed in procession, under the able direction of the P.M., C. J. W. Griffiths, and the W.M. sprinkled salt, with the usual invocation. The procession then moved round, when Bro. P.M. J. T. Robinson strewed corn, giving the invocation. The second time round Bro. Griffiths, P.M., sprinkled wine and gave the invocation, and the third time the W.M. anointed with oil and gave the closing invocation. The proceedings being ended, most of the brethren then adjourned to partake of a supper, at which much satisfaction with the conduct of the ceremony was expressed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts drunk. At a later meeting of the lodge, a motion was unanimously carried, that an account of the opening of the new lodge-room should be sent to the Editor of the *Freemason*.

CONSECRATION OF TWO NEW LODGES AT NAPIER, NEW ZEALAND.

On Friday, the 27th of December, 1878, the Masonic Hall, in Munroe-street, of the Victoria Lodge, English Constitution, was the scene of an exceedingly grand ceremony, that of dedicating and consecrating two new lodges—the Abercorn, of Waipawa, and the Heretaunga, of Hastings—followed by the installation of the officers of the Victoria Lodge and of the two new lodges. The ceremonial of dedication and consecration was ably conducted by Bro. Nicholas Marchant, P.M., District Grand Superintendent of Works, and acting by special dispensation as Deputy District Grand Master. The duties devolving on the Grand Chaplain were performed by Bro. the Rev. D'Arcy Irvine, M.A., Chaplain of the Victoria Lodge. Bros. Rudman and Aplin conducted the musical part of the service. The installation of the three Worshipful Masters and officers of the three lodges was performed by Bro. Marchant, P.M., D.G.S.W. The following are the names of the officers installed:—

Victoria Lodge.—Bros. De Lisle, W.M.; C. Raven, Treas.; E. P. A. Platford, Sec.; W. E. Combs, S.W.; W. A. Dugleby, J.W.; J. W. Upchurch, S.D.; F. Bee, J.D.; Russell Duncan, I.G.; Motley, Tyler.

Abercorn Lodge, Waipawa.—Bros. R. Karuish, W.M.; Todd, Treas.; A. St. Clair Inglis, Sec.; J. Chicken, S.W.; J. Westmoreland, J.W.

Heretaunga Lodge, Hastings.—Bros. J. M. Batham, W.M.; G. R. Grant, Treas.; W. Beilby, Sec.; W. O. McLeod, S.W.; D. A. Wright, J.W.; W. Y. Watson, S.D.; Hayes, J.D.; Chapman, I.G.

After the installations, several candidates were proposed for initiation in each of the two new lodges.

Before the lodge meeting closed, the District Officer, Bro. Marchant, took occasion to compliment the Victoria Lodge upon its flourishing condition, financially and otherwise, and several visiting brethren testified that they had not seen a better appointed lodge within the Wellington Masonic District.

The festival was celebrated in the evening with a banquet, held in the Masonic Hall, Munroe-street, where a large number of members of the Victoria Lodge, and the officers and warrant members of the two new lodges, assembled to do honour to the occasion. The chair was occupied by the newly installed W.M. of the Victoria Lodge, Bro. F. I. De Lisle, supported on his right by P.M. Bro. Marchant, D.G.S.W.; Bro. Karuish, W.M. of the Abercorn Lodge, and P.M. Bro. Wundram; and on his left by P.M. Bro. Batham, W.M. of the Heretaunga Lodge, and Bro. H. C. Pirani. Later in the evening P.M. Bro. Sutton and P.M. Bro. Koch joined the company, and were accommodated with seats on the dais. There were a good many visitors present, some—such as Bro. Rhodes and Bro. Ellison—Masons who have not joined in a festivity of the kind for some years.

After ample justice had been done to the many good things provided in excellent style by the caterer, Bro. Johnson, the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Three Grand Masters of England, Scotland, and Ireland," were duly honoured.

The W.M. then proposed "The District Grand Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. Marchant, D.G.S.W.

Bro. Marchant acknowledged the toast at length, and afterwards proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Masters of the Victoria, the Abercorn, and the Heretaunga Lodges," to which Bros. De Lisle, Karuish, and Batham responded.

Bro. Wundram, P.M., proposed "The Installed Officers of the Three Lodges."

The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Combs, on behalf of himself and the other newly-installed officers.

Bro. Batham, P.M., proposed "The Outgoing Officers of the Victoria Lodge." He had to thank them very much for their assiduous attendance. They had worked very harmoniously together, and it was a pleasure to him to acknowledge it. (Applause.)

Bro. Carnell acknowledged the toast for himself and the other outgoing officers.

Bro. Marchant, P.M., desired to show to the brethren that while the proceedings of that day were being conducted interest was felt in those proceedings in the Wellington lodges. On leaving the hall that afternoon he received a telegram from Bro. G. S. Cooper, W.M. of the Wellington Lodge, as follows:—"Wellington Lodge desires to congratulate the newly-constituted lodges." He had also received a telegram from Bro. F. Binns, the W.M. of the Pacific Lodge, in which he said, "Tender congratulations to Victoria, Abercorn, and Heretaunga Lodges from Pacific Lodge." (Applause.)

Bro. De Lisle, W.M., proposed "The Sister Lodges of the Sister Constitutions."

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. Wundram, Batham, and Koch.

The other toasts were "The Visitors," acknowledged by Bros. Sutton, Pirani, Ellison, Howard, and Koch; "Newly-Initiated Masons," acknowledged by Bro. McKenzie; "The Ladies," acknowledged by Bro. Grace; "The Press," acknowledged by Bro. Pirani; "The Chaplain of the Victoria Lodge," acknowledged in eloquent and feeling terms by Bro. the Rev. D'Arcy Irvine; "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces;" "The Life Boat Crews of England;" "The Caterer, Bro. Johnson;" "Absent Friends."

The following toasts were drunk in solemn silence:—"The Memory of Princess Alice," and "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

A good many songs were sung and recitations given during the evening, and it was a good deal past 1 o'clock in the morning before the company broke up.

We observe that Bro. Henry Murray, Past District Grand Master, &c., for China, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master for Warwickshire and Staffordshire, is about to read "Othello" at Birmingham, under distinguished Masonic patronage. Bro. Murray comes of an old theatrical family, and possesses great dramatic and elocutionary ability. In an address presented to him upon quitting China the brethren affirmed that "the various public ceremonials in which he had taken part had received an enhancement of dignity from his impressive delivery of the ancient ritual." His grandfather, Mr. Charles Murray, was an eminent member of the Covent Garden company at the commencement of this century, while his aunt, Mrs. Henry Siddons, and his father, Bro. William Murray, were the famous artists under whose management the Edinburgh Theatre flourished for more than forty years. In the pages of "Waverley" Sir Walter Scott makes mention of Mrs. Henry Siddons and Bro. William Murray, as *Viola* and *Sebastian* in the comedy of "Twelfth Night." The Earl (afterwards Marquis) of Dalhousie, when M.W. Grand Master of Scotland, visited the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, in ample Masonic form. It may be of interest to add that Bro. Murray's great grandfather was a Mason who, early in the eighteenth century, took an active part in the dissemination of the Craft upon the Continent of Europe.

The Eleventh Annual Festival of the French Hospital took place last Saturday, the 2nd ult., at Willis's Rooms as usual. The banquet was largely attended by English and French gentlemen. The Count of Montebello took the chair, and was supported by the Lord Mayor of London and his Sheriffs. His Lordship made a very humorous speech, which was very much applauded. The noble Chairman also, after the dutiful toast to "Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and Royal Family," made a very telling speech, eulogising the French Hospital, the new President of the French Republic, and saying that moderation in politics was the programme of the present French Government, which elicited a thunder of applause from all parts of the room. After dinner, and many good speeches by different distinguished French and English guests, Signor Tito Mattei sat to the piano and performed his own celebrated and beautiful waltz, which was encored accordingly. Then came Signor Urio and Mdle. De Bono, the talented violinist, the former delighting the select audience by his beautiful and pure singing, the second one by her admirable instrumentation. As soon as the entertainment was over, M. Rimmel, the infatigable honorary secretary, gave an account of the funds of the French Hospital, thanking the learned French physicians for their great care to the patients, and the good it had done, not only to the French colony, but also to English poor, who partake with the French the great benefits of the hospital. Altogether it was a very enjoyable evening, and a large sum of money was collected for the benefit of the hospital.

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.

TO OUR READERS.

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

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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

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

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

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Further particulars may be obtained of the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

S. JEWELL.—On the whole declined with thanks. If Mrs. General Hearty will call at, or send to, 198, Fleet-street, she will hear of the MS. she wishes to have.

The words "Masonic Institutions" in a recent paragraph, relative to Bro. Samuel Tomkins, ought to read "these Masonic bodies to which he was Treasurer."

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

"Payne's Lagos and West African Almanack and Diary for 1879," "The Hawke's Bay Herald," "Jersey Express," "Bauhutte," "Debreit's House of Commons and the Judicial Bench for 1879," "The London Express," "Our Domestic Poisons; or, the poisonous effects of certain dyes and colours used in domestic fabrics," "First Annual Report of the Home Hospitals' Association (for paying patients), 1877-78," "Touchstone," "Broad Arrow," "Hull Packet," "Bundes Presse," "Der Triangel," "The Paper Consumers' Circular," "The Western Daily Mercury," "Loomis' Musical and Masonic Journal," "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, 1878," "Masonic Review," "Daily Bristol Times and Mirror," "Corner Stone," "Hebrew Leader," "Keystone."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements not exceeding Four Lines under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

CAMPBELL.—On the 18th ult., at Oporto, the wife of Major Lyon Campbell, of a daughter.

LANGHORNE.—On the 24th ult., the wife of the Rev. J. Langhorne, M.A., Head Master of Rochester Grammar School, of a son.

DEATHS.

FOSTER.—On the 21st ult., at 33, Halfmoon-street, Piccadilly, Mr. George Jones Foster, aged 77.

FEARTEE.—February 24th, at 31, Bevis Marks, John Peartree, P.M. and Treasurer, "Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185, aged 59.

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1879.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The next Quarterly Communication is one, for several reasons, of some importance, inasmuch as in addition to the vote of condolence to the Queen, which Bro. Clabon will move, the Grand Master will be nominated, and the Grand Treasurer elected. Of course until the meeting of Grand Lodge it is impossible to know who is the brother who most commends himself to the feelings of the brethren to fill that important post. We have heard several names mentioned, such as Bro. Monckton, the President of the Board of General Purposes, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creaton, Bro. J. D. Allcroft, M.P., and others. A very important question comes before us—if Bro. Monckton, for instance, is elected by Grand Lodge Grand Treasurer, who is there to succeed him at the Board of General Purposes? There he has given great satisfaction, there his high attainments and legal knowledge are invaluable, and we feel we express the feelings of the Craft when we say he is emphatically the "right man in the right place." Considering the brethren who compose our Grand Officers, it is alike unwise and impertinent to doubt but that many can be found to fill either post with every advantage to the Order, and no doubt as the coming man "is always coming." Dame Rumour—not always the "lying jade" she is sometimes represented to be—seems to intimate that all these offices can be efficiently filled, whether by promotion, or merely by the election of a Grand Treasurer. For our part we leave the matter in entire confidence in the hands of Grand Lodge. The days are past when anything like a "job" or "favouritism," or too hasty elevation would be possible, and in the present advanced Masonic public opinion on the subject, no such proceeding is possible or practicable. And, to say the truth, we need not discount any such apprehensions; no such procedure is ever likely under our present wise and considerate rule. Never at any time in our history need Freemasons repose more trustingly and in full confidence on the executive. Well may we all feel proud of the manner in which our general business is transacted at Freemasons' Hall. We must all remember that the work there is very different from what it was say twenty-five years ago. And no one can be insensible to the fact that our claims, our executive duties, our charities, our responsibilities have all gone on "pari passu" with increasing numbers, and an expanding Order. We have no doubt that we shall have a good attendance at the next quarterly meeting, and we feel sure that the result will justify our expectations, and that the result may be safely left both in calm assurance and with "Hearty good wishes," to our Masonic Parliament. We have heard that a brother of high social standing will be proposed as Grand Treasurer (not so far named), if so, there can be no doubt of his entire eligibility. His appointment would, no doubt, also gratify the members of Grand Lodge.

ANTI-MASONRY.

There always has been a tendency, probably on the theory "omne ignotum pro magifico," to doubt and disparage the institution of Freemasonry. It has had to encounter since 1717 the anathemata of Popes and the maledictions of synods, it has had to confront stupidity and ignorance combined, it has had to bear the sarcasms of the weak and the cavils of the suspicious. We do not say that Masons have been always wise, or that all Masonic bodies have kept close to the "good old paths." Unfortunately, and undoubtedly, much may justly be said on the folly of some professors of Masonry, on the unfaithfulness of some jurisdictions. But, on the whole, very little can be alleged at any rate, against Anglo-Saxon Masonry, in times past, and

at this moment, we believe, positively nothing. It is moving on faithful to old landmarks, abiding by ancient traditions, a loyal, religious, God-fearing, man-helping Fraternity, and whether we look at its words or its works, its avowed teaching, or its actual results, it may well compare with any other body of men on the face of the habitable world. That it has its weaknesses, its shortcomings, its deficiencies, and its drawbacks, is both inevitable and admitted, but what earthly society has not, we should like to know? and making every allowance for human frailty and earthly imperfection, we may well all of us be proud of our kindly, sincere, and beneficent brotherhood. But, alas! just as human nature is ever weak, wayward, failing, and fallen, so is it still prominently marked by those tendencies which deform, those unworthinesses which disgrace. It seems to be purely human to persecute and revile, to antagonize and defame. Even religion itself is not free from fanaticism and bigotry, from a love of persecution, from a willingness to slander, from an incompetency apparently of realizing that truth may be anything else but what we ourselves like subjectively to accept, to proclaim, to profess, to maintain. Lately some religious fanatics have "run a muck" at Freemasonry, especially in America, but Freemasonry can well leave its defence to its own worth, well dismiss attack and assailable to calm contempt and contemptuous oblivion. Mawworm and Stiggins have had their day, they can do no harm now to any one. If Freemasonry is doing good it will prosper, if it is a thing of evil it will come to naught, and so knowing what it is, what it says, and what it does, we may well leave the reply to the world in which we live to-day, assured of this, that neither childish opposition, nor ignorant malediction, nor fanatical "furor," nor bigoted "condemnation," will ever weaken the foundation, or cast down one stone of that goodly building, which is built up on reverence to God and love to men, on the practice of piety and virtue, on a generous and philanthropic effort to aid and comfort all fraternal claimants who rightly apply to charitable hearts, on a kindly and enlightened sympathy with the common evils and prevailing woes of our common humanity. We need trouble ourselves with no controversies, nor seek to reply to any antagonists; let us have confidence in our Order, its mission, its work, its profession, and, above all, its practice.

MASONIC STUDIES.

Time was when few of our brethren knew much more of Masonic literature than was contained in "Prosper the Art," "Worthy Freemasons All," "No Mortal can boast a nobler Toast than a Free and Accepted Mason." If Preston was read, and Oliver skimmed over, that was all. Anderson and Callcott, Ashe and Hutchinson were in abeyance, and the brother who wanted to know something about Masonry was referred to the list of "Patrons of Masonry" in the Grand Lodge Calendar, to Oliver's newest and most sensational work, and to our Masonic serial literature, which was then sometimes extant and sometimes not, and mostly, we regret to say it, of the purely uncritical school. We are speaking of 40 years ago, we regret to say it, though we will not add, "Ah mihi proteritos si referet Jupiter Annos." To-day what a change appears. We are now speaking of England alone, because in Germany, to say the truth, from the end of the last century, a critical school in Germany has gradually been forming and advancing. But in England what a wonderful difference and progress we have seen. Oliver with all his merits and industry, and cleverness and good feelings, was too uncritical to please this cavilling age, and those who have trod the pathway pursued amid many hindrances by a little band of true Masonic students have seen how very clearly Masonic studies and criticism have proceeded, so to say, hand in hand. We remember gratefully to-day the names of W. J. Hughan, D. Murray Lyon, Matthew Cooke, R. Spencer, Bro. R. F. Gould, Masonic Student, Bro. Ellis, Bro. Whythead, and many more, who have all sought to advance the goodly cause of Masonic criticism and research. In the United States we can also gratefully mention the

names of Mackey, Macoy, Steinbrenner, E. T. Carson, Fort, Clifford P. Macalla, and many others well known to fame in various ways and for various efforts. We rejoice to mention such names, and to note such results. In the next *Masonic Magazine* will appear a valuable contribution of Bro. R. F. Gould in respect of the numeration of lodges, as well as a catalogue of Masonic books, by the Editor, both of which will be very valuable to Masonic students. Too much cannot be said for the efforts of those who seek to vivify and develop Masonic literature amongst us, and to aid Masonic studies. We hope still to witness a literary revival amongst us, when the laborious efforts of a few faithful and earnest Masonic students will be appreciated and applauded, and brethren will learn to believe at last that a good deal may be written, and a good deal more over read with interest about Freemasonry. If the reviler and the scorner tell us we have no Masonic literature, as ignorance likes sometimes to say, we beg to refer all such "obscurantists" to Bro. Fort's "History of the Antiquities of Freemasonry," as a work "sui generis," really remarkable "per se," worthy of any order; and which deserves, as it has received, careful perusal and friendly acknowledgments from all, whether Masons or non-Masons.

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.]

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am very happy to note the Masonic movement to help to restore this noble building. This is most emphatically a Masonic work.

I trust that Bro. Keyser may be well supported.

Yours fraternally,

AMPHIBALUS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The protest of Bro. T. Wardle, as reported in the *Freemason*, at the meeting on the above subject ought to command attention, although it could not be supported by the Committee appointed to carry out the text—"The Restoration of St. Alban's Abbey."

I trust you will allow me space in your columns to express my views, with all due deference to the Committee and their worthy Secretary.

Freemasons of late years have almost kept a silent dignity in such matters, and erred by silence rather than bustle. They have thereby, perhaps, avoided many of the errors and manias of the outer world.

As regards our operative work, surely the experience connected with our Charities and Institutions can give us wide fields of industry at home, and although it may be urged that it is impossible for us to neglect these, even when busy at work abroad, such as is now proposed, I submit that we ought to do the latter with dignity to the Craft and a thoroughly well considered selection. We should certainly keep a strong curb upon "restoration" work, or there may be no end of it.

I admire the zeal and judgment displayed in soliciting Freemasons to assist in making up the deficiency for the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey, but object to our work being mixed up with the structural parts of the building. When Freemasons, as a body, become "operative" as well as "speculative," I, like Bro. Wardle, would rather see them identify themselves with something original.

A memorial window, or monument of some kind, to our ancient brethren who built the Abbey would have been quite enough to identify the spirit of the Freemasons of this century with St. Alban's Abbey.

Yours fraternally, G. TIDCOMBE, JUN.
Abercorn Lodge, 23rd Feb.

QUERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can any of your numerous readers inform me, through your columns, if they know of an institution where an old gentleman (a Mason) rendered helpless by a slight paralytic stroke could be boarded and cared for at a reasonable cost? By so doing they will greatly oblige.

Yours fraternally,

M.S.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As the *Freemason* is looked up to as an authority, will you kindly inform me in your next issue whether or not it is the duty of the Secretary of a lodge before issuing the regular lodge circulars to convey to the W.M. the postscript for his perusal and confirmation?

Yours fraternally,

A MEMBER OF 1389.

[We suppose the brother means "transcript," and we should say certainly, yes, alike for courtesy's sake and Masonic requirements.]

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business which is to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 5th March, 1879:—

1. The regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business will be read.
2. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 4th December, 1878, will be read and put for confirmation.
3. Election of a M.W. Grand Master.
4. Election of a Grand Treasurer.

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

	£	s.	d.
The five orphans of a brother of the Clapton Lodge, 1365, Clapton ...	100	0	0
A brother of the Belvidere Lodge, 503, Maidstone ...	100	0	0
A brother of the Albion Lodge, 9, London	50	0	0
A brother of the Barnard Lodge, 1230, Barnard Castle ...	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Vitruvian Lodge, 87, London ...	50	0	0
A brother of the Lodge of Freedom, 77, Gravesend ...	100	0	0
A brother of the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, 20, Chatham ...	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, 19, London ...	100	0	0

NOTE.—A grant of £100 was made to this brother on the 4th of December, 1878, which lapsed, in consequence of his death, on the 24th of December, before confirmation of the grant by Grand Lodge.

The widow of a brother of the Ranelagh Lodge, 834, London ... 75 0 0

A brother of the Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, 574, Newbury ... 75 0 0

6. Report of the Board of General Purposes.

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

The Board of General Purposes beg to submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 14th day of February ult., shewing a balance in the Bank of England of £7828 16s. 1d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £75, and for servants' wages £96 15s.

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.
18th February, 1879.

7. Report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1878.

8. Appeal and protest of Bro. George John Ryan, District Grand Senior Warden of the Argentine Republic, against the action of the District Grand Lodge in repealing some of the bye-laws, against the wishes of the District Grand Master, and contrary to the provisions of the treaty entered into between the Grand Orient of the Argentine Republic and the Grand Lodge of England, authorising the establishment of a District Grand Lodge at Buenos Ayres, under the English Constitution.

9. Notice of motion by Bro. John M. Clabon, P.G.D., President of the Lodge of Benevolence. "That the Grand Lodge desire most respectfully to express the deep sympathy which they feel at the loss sustained by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and by His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the rest of the Royal Family, by the death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse Darmstadt."

LIST OF NEW LODGES.

The following warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- 1793, Sir Charles Bright Lodge, Teddington.
- 1794, De Vere Lodge, Nottingham.
- 1795, Combermere Lodge, Albury, New South Wales.
- 1796, Balranald Lodge, Balranald, New South Wales.
- 1797, South Down Lodge, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.
- 1798, Zion Lodge, Manchester.
- 1799, Arnold Lodge, Walton-on-Naze, Essex.
- 1800, Memorial Lodge, King William's Town, South Africa.
- 1801, St. George Lodge, Dargaville, Auckland, New Zealand.
- 1802, Vernon Lodge, East Retford, Notts.
- 1803, Cornhill Lodge, Lombard-street.
- 1804, Coborn Lodge, Bow.
- 1805, Bromley St. Leonard's Lodge, Bromley, Middlesex.
- 1806, Corinthian Lodge of Amoy, Amoy, China.
- 1807, Loyal Wye Lodge, Builth, Breconshire.
- 1808, Suffield Lodge, North Walsham, Norfolk.
- 1809, Lodge Fidelis, Guernsey.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards took place on Monday last, the 24th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, amidst a goodly attendance. The accounts were audited and passed, and the usual complimentary votes carried by acclamation, not forgetting a very warm vote of congratulation and gratitude to Bro. James Terry.

A balance of £66 was then disposed of. Life Governorships were voted, amid much applause, to the Chairman and Treasurer; £5 5s. each to the clerks in the office; and the balance was offered as a fraternal "honorarium" to Bro. Terry, whose labours had been alike remarkable and unceasing.

The Board of Stewards was then dissolved.

CONSECRATION OF THE SIR CHARLES BRIGHT LODGE, No. 1793.

Another new lodge for the Province of Middlesex was consecrated last Saturday, at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, by Bros. the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Col. Burdett, who was assisted by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Sir Charles T. Bright; H. G. Buss, Asst. Grand Sec.; H. C. Levander, Prov. Grand Sec.; the Rev. Ambrose William Hall, M.A., Chaplain to "Prince of Wales" Lodge, No. 259, P.M., Prov. Grand Chaplain and P.P.G.S.W. Surrey, and others.

The lodge was formed as follows:—Bros. Col. Burdett, W.M.; Sir Charles T. Bright, as Deputy G.M.; H. C. Levander, S.W.; H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.D. Middx., J.W.; Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, Chaplain; H. G. Buss, D.C.; and J. W. Baldwin, P.P.G. Tyler Middx., I.G.

The lodge room was crowded. The brethren present besides the above were:—Bros. John Hurst, R. W. Forge, John Piller, Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, Charles R. Pitt, Sec.; T. C. Walls, H. W. Linton, Charles Stevens, who acted as Org.; Fredk. Brown, T. A. E. Scott, 1656; W. D. May, 1538, 1700, P.M.; D. M. Dewar, P.M. 1415; Edward Brown, Treas. 1685; Fredk. Chandler, 1656; W. H. Bateman, W.M. 12; W. J. Buddell, D.C. 12; Thos. J. Lamb, J.W. 820; Charles Cousin, S.D. 259; F. J. Hunt, Org. 1638; R. T. Elsan, P.M. 201, 889, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; Rev. F. J. De Crespiigny, P.M. 708; John Bond, P.M. 889; Charles B. Payne, G.T., P.M. 27; E. B. Bright, W.M. 778; Francis Buckland, W.M. 1638, P.M. 325, 889; George Harrison, 1326; Alfred Abbott, 1656; C. Worthington, 1656; Alfred Humphris, 1656; Williams Gredies, 1293; W. E. Fliker, 887; S. Hill, 889; and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*).

After the lodge had been opened, Colonel Burdett, addressing the brethren, said, they were assembled for the purpose of consecrating a new lodge, and it gave him great pleasure to assist in forwarding the wishes of its promoters. He believed that such a lodge was required in that neighbourhood for the residents of the locality. The town of Teddington was rapidly increasing in size and importance, and the lodge might be made in time a lodge holding a good position in that part of the county. It was not always that a lodge could be entirely supported by local residents, and frequently members were brought to it from other parts. It was very essential that a lodge should be supported entirely by the inhabitants of a particular district. He believed that all the promoters of the Sir Charles Bright Lodge were resident in the locality, and he congratulated the brethren on having for their first W.M. and Wardens, brethren who would do a great deal of good to the Order, and who would be always creditable to the lodge. The Master whom the brethren had selected was not new to his duties, and it was consequently with the greater confidence the government of the lodge was committed to his hands. Bro. Hurst would be able to rule the lodge in a way creditable to himself and with much advantage to every one. The Wardens he believed had not had the same experience, but they were capable of performing their duties, and under the presidency of such a Master as Bro. Hurst they would have ample opportunities of attaining proficiency and setting a good example to those brethren who were coming on after them. That was what was wanted. They wanted junior officers who could perform their duties well, and afford the means of learning to their juniors. It was not absolutely necessary that a lodge, situated as the present lodge was, should try to extend its numbers largely. A lodge consisting of a few members was much more manageable and comfortable in itself than those lodges whose members were numerous. If a lodge was limited in numbers it became the more valuable for a gentleman to seek initiation in, and if that were done with this lodge it would have a very select and agreeable body of members. There had been occasions with which he was acquainted when the admission of some person to a lodge had been a very unfortunate circumstance for it; for the brethren must remember that if a brother obtained admission to a lodge as a member and afterwards became disagreeable it was a very difficult thing indeed to get rid of him. He had known cases where a brother had found himself out of place as a member of a lodge, and had withdrawn voluntarily. This was a very wise and considerate act; but there were cases where brethren did not choose to retire; and, therefore, the members of a lodge should be doubly careful in their choice. They should look more to quality than quantity, and he trusted the brethren would be careful in framing their bye-laws, an ingredient in a lodge which was highly essential, particularly with reference to the ballot. This question had come before Freemasons very frequently. The ballot was a very serious thing, because what a man really was should be ascertained before his name was submitted to the test of the ballot. For this purpose it would be far better that the bye-laws should be so framed, that the ballot for an initiate should be taken at one meeting, and the initiate at the next, otherwise there was a chance of a gentleman being prepared for the ceremony when he was really blackballed, and then he had to be sent away. This, of course, created a great deal of annoyance, and it was a very awkward position. There were difficulties, no doubt, in the scheme he had suggested, on account of the long time that elapsed between the last meeting of one season and the first meeting of the next; but still a lodge of emergency, for the purpose of the ballot, might be called before the regular meeting of the lodge, which would get over the difficulty. To avoid any awkwardness he recommended that if a gentleman was proposed, and a brother found out anything which he considered would not render the candidate acceptable to the lodge, communication should be had with the Secretary, and then, without the name of the brother being divulged, the information would be conveyed to the proposer

of the candidate, and the name could be withdrawn. With such precautions as these many unpleasant situations could be avoided, and the brethren of this lodge might bring it to a highly prosperous condition, and render it a credit to the Order, and a source of pride to its members and the province to which it belonged.

At the conclusion of this address, the ceremony was proceeded with, and the oration was delivered.

The Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, in giving the oration, said—Brethren, My invitation to attend here to-day was so short a one that I must ask you to bear with me whilst I say a few words, according to ancient custom, upon the nature and principles of our great Order, and I will speak to you much in the words that I addressed at a lodge which I very lately attended the consecration of, and I will ask you to give me your ears a little space, although I know when I look around at the eminent Masons that are here that I can tell them nothing that they are not already acquainted with—that there can nothing emanate from me as regards our great principles that they do not know already, and have not already endeavoured to practise. And, yet, it is a good old custom that, on an occasion like the present one, when a new lodge is about to be founded, the founders of that lodge should be reminded of the responsibilities that will rest on them and the great duties that they are going to undertake. You, who are to be the members of this lodge, are now bringing into life another society, formed for the guidance of its members in the path of truth and virtue, formed also to bring together a number of brethren in that social intercourse which, it is probable, without this lodge would not have had an opportunity of being brought together. Therefore, you are to be a lodge of brethren, you are to extend to each other the great features of goodwill and equality; you are to cement the ties of brotherhood by your good teaching, by your good working, by your good understanding of our rites and ceremonies, so that your lodge may shine as one of the now many bright stars in what I may symbolically term the great firmament of our Order. For we see lodge after lodge rising up, and we are astonished at the great influential body we are becoming. Why is it that so many are crowding under our Masonic banner? It is, as our old Entered Apprentice Song says, because

"There's naught but what's good,

To be understood,

By a Free and an Accepted Mason."

Those who were at the last meeting of Grand Lodge will remember our noble brother, my Lord Carnarvon, the Pro Grand Master, calling our attention to a little scarce work that had been presented to Grand Lodge, which gave an account of the roll of Lodges 150 years ago, in 1723. At that time the lodges numbered 159 only. Well, now taking this lodge, which is 1793, you will see the rapid strides we are making, and I mention this to call your attention to those rapid strides, and also to bear testimony to those valued brethren, now long passed away, to whom our mysteries, and our ceremonies, and our teachings were originally committed, and who through this long vista of years have brought them down to us as pure and unsullied as when first they were delivered to the Masonic world. It is these great truths and teachings that are now to be confided to you. If as brother after brother is added to your number you give him an example by your good rendering of our beautiful rites and ceremonies you may lead him in the path that good Masons have trodden before, so that when you, who I may call the parent stem, are gathered too to the Great Lodge above, the growing children of the lodge may carry out the good work, nobly commenced to-day, and may show to the outer and uninitiated world what Masons should be, in sorrow and in joy, in sickness and in health, in life and in death. Thus much for the nature of Freemasonry. A few words now upon its principles. As you all well know, the principles of our Order are brotherly love, relief, and truth, and yet at the present time it is a duty that your attention should be called to another great all-prevailing principle that permeates and pervades all the lodges of this country. I mean the presence of the Great Architect of the Universe. We seek His aid to-day for a blessing on this new lodge; we seek His aid when we open our lodge with prayer; we ask His blessing on the candidate for our mysteries and ceremonies; and when we close our lodge we render Him our grateful thanks for the mercies we have received. And now, at this day, when on the continent our brethren in the Grand Orient of France have chosen to ignore that Great Presence, it is, I say, the bounden duty of one bearing the Holy Orders I do to tell you, to remind you, that He is always with you and His all-seeing eye is upon you, that in the eternity of ages past, ere worlds were made, or suns were formed, and other worlds revolved in their orbits, great God, Thou wast—to tell you in His own Almighty words, "Him that honoureth Me I will honour, but him that despiseth Me shall be lightly esteemed." And now, brethren, I will not keep you any longer than to wish all success to your new undertaking. May your vessel have a prosperous voyage on the ocean of its Masonic life; and I feel sure from those who are to form its bulwarks that the helm will be properly held, and that it will bear onward the great truths it possesses to the good of our cause, the glory of God and the benefit of our fellow creatures. Brethren, for the kind attention you have paid to the short address that I have been enabled to give you, receive my hearty thanks. I have tried as much as I could to condense what I had to say of the nature and principles of our Order as inculcated in our rites and ceremonies; and if one word of the Chaplain's should be remembered in after years to a brother's good, if aught that I have said should bear good fruit or bring down the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe upon you, upon your lodge, or upon our holy cause, my mission has been faithfully fulfilled, and I would bid you go to your respective duties as founders, as officers, as members of

the Sir Charles Bright Lodge, to go to them with energy and zeal; and God's benison be with you, and with all those who would make good of bad, and friends of foes.

The reverend brother resumed his seat amidst loud applause, and the ceremony of consecration was afterwards proceeded with and completed.

Bro. H. C. Levander then installed Bro. John Hurst, P.M. 1512, W.M. designate, as Master of the lodge, and the following brethren were invested as officers:—Bros. R. W. Forge, 1656, S.W.; J. Pillar, 1656, J.W.; Charles R. Pitt, Sec.; T. C. Walls, S.D.; H. W. Linton, J.D.; Charles Stevens, Org.; and John Gilbert, Tyler.

On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., Bros. Colonel Burdett, Sir Charles Bright, H. G. Buss, H. C. Levander, the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, H. A. Dubois, and J. W. Baldwin, were elected honorary members of the lodge, with thanks to them for their kindness in consecrating and assisting in consecrating the lodge. After a good list of names for initiation and joining had been proposed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet. The toasts which followed were given very briefly, as many of the brethren had to leave for town.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "Colonel Burdett, R.W. Prov. G.M. for Middx.," said that this toast came home very closely to the brethren, as they were under the provincial rule of Colonel Burdett. He could not let this toast be drunk without first informing the brethren that they had to thank Col. Burdett for the kind manner in which he had come forward to assist at the ceremony of opening the new lodge, and for the very great kindness he had also exhibited in aiding them in getting the warrant for the lodge. They had very much to be thankful for in the kind services of Col. Burdett, for his recommendation, and for the great interest he had taken from the first time the subject of the lodge was called to his attention. He had at all times acted very kindly towards him (the W.M.) in the matter, recommended, advised, guided, and otherwise counselled him in everything he had had to do with reference to the lodge, for all of which kind acts he (the W.M.) felt personally deeply grateful. The brethren well knew how Col. Burdett had acted in the Craft in the province, that he was always to be found somewhere performing Masonic duty. In every lodge in the province he was highly esteemed, and the brethren could not go into a lodge in Middlesex without finding him held up as a pattern Mason. The brethren must be aware that whenever he came among them it was at great personal sacrifice, and, if for no other reason, they must for this feel themselves under a great obligation to their Provincial Grand Master.

Col. Burdett, in reply, said it was with great gratitude he acknowledged the flattering remarks of the W.M., and the cordiality of the brethren's acceptance of them. This was not an ordinary appreciation of the efforts of a Prov. G. Master, for he found himself surrounded by friends who had in the most affectionate and kind way expressed their appreciation for several years. He was not like a stranger coming among the brethren, but was a friend and a brother, and he hoped he and they would have many opportunities hereafter of meeting not only in that room, but in other places in the province. The Province of Middlesex within the past ten years had grown very largely. Ten years ago he was installed as Provincial Grand Master in that very room, but at that time he did not think he should ever preside over twenty provincial lodges. It was very gratifying to him, however, to do so, and it was the more gratifying to him to find that the brethren around him were all brethren of that class which would do credit to their lodges, the province, and the Order in general. He had seen throughout the province of Middlesex an immense number of members brought into it, and he had also seen a great deal of attention had been paid to the class of men who were brought in. From all that had been said and considered in this question the Masters and other officers had been very particular as to whom they admitted, and it was on that account the province had a high class of men which he believed no province in England could exceed. They were likewise brethren who were anxious to work up the system of Freemasonry, and go through the several offices in the lodges. He was happy to see around him a body of brethren who he thought would sustain the interests of this lodge, and he felt confident that under the able presidency of Bro. Hurst they would find the lodge not only flourishing in a few years, but rapidly increasing in a very short time.

The W.M. next gave "The Health of the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir Charles T. Bright," and said that that day a brother of Sir Charles Bright had been proposed as a joining member of the lodge. This, he thought, the brethren ought to feel very proud of.

Sir Charles Bright, in reply, said that the Provincial Grand Master had really said everything that he (Sir C. Bright) could say. As regarded the interests of this lodge they would be his best care as long as he took any interest in Masonry, which he had now done for the last twenty-three years, and which he hoped he would do to the end of his life. His interest in this lodge, besides it being in the province of which he was Deputy Grand Master, would always be the greater in that his name was so prominently associated with it. It would always be a great pleasure to him to come among the brethren whenever he was able, and from what he had seen of the commencement of the lodge he was sure it would be an example to every other Masonic lodge in the province, that its work would be thoroughly well done, and the social friendship of its members would not be surpassed by any of the twenty-six lodges over which the Provincial Grand Master presided. He hoped his name would ever be received as that of a friend by every brother of the lodge.

Bro. the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall responded for "The Visitors," to the toast proposed and drunk in their honour.

He said he was obliged to hurry over his remarks, as he and other brethren had to catch the last train to London. It had given him great pleasure, as he knew it had to all the rest of the brethren and the other officers who assisted at the consecration, to be present, and assist in bringing to light a new lodge. He was sure from what he had seen that the lodge would become distinguished among the roll of lodges, especially in the province of Middlesex. He had said so much to the brethren in his address in lodge, in the way of advice, that he really had scarcely anything left to say. Indeed, it was very little he could say to such old Masons as he saw at the table, because he knew they would all feel those great duties which devolved upon them; they would hold out their hand to a brother Mason, succour distress, sustain all those points which made our noble Order what he was proud to say it was, and which, he was sure, they were all proud and pleased to belong to. He thanked the brethren most heartily for the reception they had given to the visitors, and he drank "Success and all Honour to the Sir Charles Bright Lodge and the Province of Middlesex."

The London brethren then left, and the remaining toasts were soon afterwards disposed of. The whole of the day's proceedings passed off with the greatest success.

THE LANGTHORNE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The anniversary meeting of this Association was held on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at the Swan Hotel, Stratford, when there were present the President, Bro. J. G. Stevens, P.M. 544, 933, P.L. 933; Vice-President Bro. W. A. Thorp, P.M. 49, 1228, Z. 93; Treasurer Bro. Charles Lacey, P.P.G.D. Herts, P.M. 174, 1327, 1421; Bro. R. W. Biggs, 1421; Bro. H. N. Taylor, 1421; Bro. R. J. Tucker, P.M., 933, members of the Committee; and Bros. Owen, Bright, Medwin, Allen, Bolton, Hunt Claridge, &c.; Bro. T. S. Taylor, W.M. 1421, Secretary of the Association, and Bro. Fredk. Binckes, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. On this occasion the Committee presented their third Annual Report, in which they congratulated the members on the continued success of the society. During the course of the year just closed the sum of £196 11s. was paid in by members, and, with the balance from last year, has enabled the committee to have twenty-six appropriations balloted for, making 71 from the commencement of the society's operations.

The society started with one hundred and nineteen members, each paying one shilling per week for the purchase of Life Governorships in the three Masonic charities. Of the above number, seventy-one, as already stated, have obtained Life Governorships, and there are only thirty members still to receive prizes, some few having discontinued their contributions. The total amount received from the commencement down to the close of the third year was £750 18s. 6d., of which the Boys' School received £190, the Girls' School £155 10s., and the Benevolent Institution for the Aged £260. These amounts do not absorb the whole of the above sum, there being eleven Life Governorships allotted, for which the institution was not nominated when the report was drawn up. The Association, it will be perceived, is worked very much upon the same principle as a building society, and enables brethren by means of small weekly contributions to become Life Governors of the Masonic Charities who would be unlikely to become so by making a single payment of ten guineas each, and, in the result, societies of this kind are the means of obtaining for the institutions more than the bare sums contributed by the societies; because the allottees frequently accept Stewardships, and, of course, get as large an amount upon their lists as they are able.

The Committee of the Langthorne Association suggest to their members that as this is the fourth and last year of its existence, it is advisable for each member to pay up the amounts due by him, so that those who have not yet had their appropriations may obtain them as speedily as possible, and thus enable the Committee to close the Association within the time prescribed by the rules.

The report concludes with an expression of the desire of the Committee to testify to the very valuable services rendered by Bro. T. S. Taylor, the Honorary Secretary, as they feel convinced that the success of the Association is mainly due to the admirable manner in which he has conducted its proceedings, and, on behalf of the members, to accord him their warmest and fraternal thanks.

The report being in the hands of the members was taken as read.

Two Life Governorships were balloted for, the successful members being No. 45, Bro. T. Jex, and No. 52, Bro. J. Jessett.

Wednesday being the night for the election of officers, it was proposed and seconded that the present officers be re-elected; carried unanimously.

A letter was read from Bro. F. W. Hedges, Secretary of the Masonic Institution for Girls, apologising for his inability to attend.

The Secretary stated that the amount received that evening from members was £29 16s.

This concluded the business before the Committee, and the brethren then adjourned to the dining-room, where a handsome repast, admirably served by Bro. Watkins, the host, was partaken of. On the removal of the cloth, the President rose to propose the health of the first lady of this land, "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," to whom the hearts of all Englishmen turned more particularly just now, in consequence of the present crisis in colonial affairs. The Chairman also proposed in one toast "The M.W.G.M., Prince of Wales, and all the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

These having been duly honoured, he again rose, and said—"The next toast that I have to introduce

o the notice of the meeting is really the toast of the evening, "Success to the Langthorne Masonic Charitable Institution." Now, brethren, it requires certainly a better man than myself to explain to you, if need be, the objects of this Charitable Association, but you are so well versed in the working of it, and the report is in your hands, that, perhaps, I may save myself some trouble in endeavouring to explain that which you already know. To-night we celebrate the third anniversary of this Association, and I think we may fairly congratulate ourselves upon our venture commenced three years since. I find that during that period seventy-one Governorships have been balloted for, though eleven out of that number have not yet been appropriated; it is a matter of fact, however, that sixty Life Governorships have been paid for during those years. Further manipulating the figures, I find that during that time £196 have been paid to the Masonic Institution for Boys, £155 10s. to the Masonic Institution for Girls, and £260 to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. Now, brethren, these facts and figures are incontestable. I think we may safely say that if we had not banded together the three Institutions, of which we are so justly proud, would not have received that amount of money—perhaps not a quarter of that amount. This, therefore, is a proof of the usefulness of this Institution, whose third anniversary we celebrate to-day, and of that of the other kindred institutions that exist. We really do not know the extent of the good accomplished, how we have assisted the aged to obtain an annuity, the child to win his candidature. Yes, it may be ours to picture the relief of a broken-hearted widow when she sees her son or daughter has been successful in entering the schools through the assistance we have gained the power to give. It is a well-known fact, that in these schools the children are admirably tended; morals, health, conduct, and education are well cared for, and in all cases are these children looked upon as members of one great family, and not as the recipients of charity. Now, brethren, we may congratulate ourselves that we have done something towards assisting these widows in getting their boys and girls into the schools. And we may congratulate ourselves in like manner that we soothe the aged, and render less rugged the declining path by which they reach the grave. These facts are golden; we know that they have taken place; and I say prosperity to the Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association, which has been marvellous, so that £750 has been collected in three years, or on an average £248 10s. every fifty-two weeks. Brethren, it deserves our highest encomiums. Our success proves that a society of this kind was wanted in this neighbourhood. In asking you to drink this toast I shall also ask you to drink "The Health of Bro. Binckes," who is closely associated with us through the position he holds as representing one of those noble Masonic Institutions in whose behalf this society is working. Bro. Binckes will be able, better than I can, to tell you what the Boys' School can do; and from his constant communication with his colleagues he can tell you what the kindred Institutions can do. As regards the report I call your attention to the second paragraph, which is as follows:—

"The Committee desire to impress upon the members that as this is the last year of the Association, the advisability of at once paying up the amounts now due by them, so that those who have not yet had their appropriations may obtain them as speedily as possible, and thus enable the Committee to close the Association within the time prescribed by the rules."

Well, now, as an individual member of this Association, and as your President, I wish to say it is well to close this society as soon as you reasonably can. Every effective member is now owing £2 12s. Some of us have got our appropriations; some have not. Those who may very likely feel inclined to pay up; those who have not may possibly also be so disposed as they will get their appropriations the sooner; but if they do not all agree of course we must carry on the society to the term of four years. The auditors are here; they have examined the accounts, and have found them correct. Since printing some of the names of prize-holders several have been placed upon the lists, and the money has been paid to the Aged Freemasons Institution. We have sent up a large amount to the Institutions, indeed in what we have attempted, I believe we have been perfectly successful.

Bro. Binckes in reply, alluded to a report which has somehow got abroad that he did not approve of this Association, that indeed the questions had been put to him point blank, but he assured his hearers that such a thought had never crossed his mind, indeed, he regarded with the most favourable eye such Institutions, which had his best wishes for their success. He then proceeded to give the brethren present some interesting information as to the condition of the Institutions, and the manner in which their operations were being extended. Bro. Binckes concluded by referring to the first of the festivals that had been held this year as a proof that however great commercial depression might be, yet Freemasons had the welfare of their Charities so constantly at heart, that they were able to make sure that the Masonic Institutions should not suffer.

Bro. Lacey, the Treasurer of the Association, proposed "The Health of the President, Bro. J. G. Stevens," referring to the length of time, 16 or 17 years, during which time Bro. Stevens had always distinguished himself by his desire to make himself serviceable to his fellow creatures, and by his energy in Freemasonry had become widely known among the brethren. He trusted that the day was far distant when they would no longer see his face.

The President having returned thanks in an amusing speech, referring to his vivid recollection of his experience as an initiate, &c., proposed "The Health of Bro. Taylor," and in so doing stated his belief that the success of the Association was mainly due to the talents and energy of

their worthy Secretary. During the three years they had been at work there had been neither mistakes nor confusion in the accounts, which was highly creditable in a society consisting of more than a hundred members contributing to the funds by small monthly payments.

Bro. Taylor having replied, the President proposed "The Health of the Vice-President, Bro. Thorpe," whose business talents and genial character were so very welcome in their society.

"The Health of Bro. Lacey, the Treasurer," was also proposed in fitting terms by the President, the compliment being duly acknowledged by both these brethren.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of the subscribers of this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Joshua Nunn presided, and the other brethren present were—Bros. J. A. Farnfield, A. A. Richards, C. S. Brown, J. G. Stevens, C. H. Webb, W. F. C. Moutrie, A. H. Tattershall, Thos. W. White, Aubrey Walsh, J. Nunn, W. Stiles, J. S. Pierce, W. Winn, J. Peters, J. Thomas, W. Paas, F. Mead, W. Marshall, Chas. Nash, W. W. Smith, A. A. Pendlebury, George Plucknett, S. Rawson, R. W. Stewart, E. J. A. Trimmer, Erasmus Wilson, C. G. Rushworth, W. Stephens, R. B. Webster, J. A. Rucker, A. Tisley, A. F. A. Woodford, S. W. H. Ramsey, H. Phythian, E. C. Mather, H. C. Sadler, F. Richardson, J. L. Mather, R. Wilkinson, T. Robinson, J. E. Middleton, George Penn, Thos. Massa, A. Macnamara, Samuel Poynter, J. Terry, J. P. Robert, B. C. Marshall, Henry Venn, W. H. Main, J. C. Stilwell, W. F. Nettleship, G. Bolton, J. J. Berry, W. C. Barlow, E. Letchworth, Thos. Johnson, R. R. Davis, A. J. Duff Filer, E. W. Davis, J. Brett, E. Cox, J. Hervey, J. Abbot, H. G. Buss, J. Kemp Coleman, Robert King, R. L. Loveland, A. E. Gladwell, H. A. Dubois, J. W. Baldwin, W. H. Farnfield, J. W. Figg, F. J. Cronin, J. M. Case, S. Jordan, J. Faulkner, Thos. Cubitt, F. Binckes, John Dennis, J. Chynoweth, George Kenning, Chas. Horsley, A. J. Fenner, H. Bishop, E. H. Hewitt, J. W. Hobbs, R. H. Giraud, H. Dearsley, W. C. Glen, O. Hansard, T. J. Cousworth, S. C. Dibdin, E. J. Barron, W. Long, F. H. Hunt, H. W. Greenwood, Fredk. Hockley, Herbert Dicketts, Peter De Lande Long, William Hope, C. H. Harding, F. Adlard, F. R. W. Hedges, (Secretary), and H. Massey (Freemason).

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Bro. R. B. Webster gave notice of motion for the next Quarterly Court, that one girl be struck off the list of elected candidates, in consequence of her not having been sent in after frequent applications by the House Committee.

The Secretary reported that a brother did not intend to proceed with the candidature of one little girl.

The petitions of three candidates' friends were read and accepted, and the candidates placed on the list.

The letter from Bro. S. Leith Tomkins was read by the Secretary, offering to receive subscriptions on behalf of the Institution, and stating that his interest in the welfare of the Institution remained unabated.

On the motion of Bro. Tattershall, seconded by Bro. A. E. Gladwell, a letter was ordered to be written to Bro. Tomkins acknowledging the kind offer, which was deferred on the suggestion of Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, for further consideration.

The election of two members of the House Committee in place of Bro. Benjamin Head and Bro. John Boyd, deceased, was taken during the meeting of the Committee. The poll was kept open till five o'clock, when the scrutineers of votes commenced casting up the votes. When the poll was declared the following was found to be the result:—

Name.	No. of Votes.
Bro. Hope, William, M.D.	39
" Cox, Edward	32
" Cubitt, Thomas	25
" Farnfield, John, A.	25
" Richardson, Frank	18
" Mason, John	12
" Spooner, Edward	1

Bro. William Hope, M.D. and Bro. Edward Cox were therefore declared duly elected, and a vote of thanks to the scrutineers of votes (Bros. W. F. C. Moutrie, John G. Stevens, George Bolton, and J. J. Berry), and to Bro. Joshua Nunn, Chairman of the day, closed the proceeding.

A Meeting of the St. Alban's Restoration Committee was to take place on Friday, at the Board Room, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.30 p.m.

Bro. W. Stokes has just completed his sixteenth year at the Royal Polytechnic as a lecturer and teacher of the Science of Memories. We need hardly add that Professor Stokes has during the above time given valuable instruction to thousands.

Bro. Colonel Stanley, M.P., W.D. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, Secretary of State for War, will preside at the 48th Anniversary Meeting of the Royal United Service Institution, to be held in the Theatre to-day, at twelve o'clock, when the gold medal will be presented to the writer of the Prize Essay.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The diseases common to our climate, and endangering man's physical condition, will always exist, though many may be mitigated and their effects removed by timely and appropriately applied at the proper time. Holloway's Pills are acknowledged far and wide to be the most effective purifier of the blood, the most certain regulator of disordered organs, and the most innocent aperient that can be prescribed. This medicine is applicable to all alike, young or old, robust or delicate; it increases the appetite and controls all derangements of the bowels. After the disorder is subdued occasional doses of these Pills will prevent any relapse, and moreover secure, promote, and intensify the good results which flow from perfect purity and regularity.—[ADVT.]

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. J. D. Allcroft, M.P., P.M. 1657, has forwarded to the directors of the proposed Worcester County and City Coffee Tavern Company a donation of £50 towards the preliminary expenses attending the formation of the company.

On Wednesday evening, the 11th December, the District Inspector, P.M. Bro. W. Oldham, installed the officers of the Wooroora Lodge, No. 461, I.C., Riverton, for the ensuing term. In consideration of the business in hand viz., one initiation, one passing, and installation, the lodge had been called for 4 p.m., so that many were thereby prevented from attending who had otherwise signified their intention of being present. The lodge was first duly opened by W.M. Bro. P.M. J. E. Blechmore, raised to the Third Degree, and the V.W. Pro. Grand Inspector, Bro. Oldham, was then requested to assume the chief position, who with Bros. Jobling, P.M.; A. Klaner, W.M. 363, I.C.; A. G. Aish, P.M., W.M. 408, I.C.; F. H. Barkla, W.M. 416, I.C.; and J. J. Rucad, W.M. St. James, S.C., then formed a Past Master's lodge, and duly installed Bro. Castine, J.W., W.M. of Wooroora Lodge for ensuing term. Lodge being closed to First Degree, the following officers were then installed as follows:—Bros. James Schölefield, S.W.; R. B. Millner, J.W.; J. M. Elliott, Treas.; F. Calf, jun., Sec., (re-elected); the Rev. J. Houghton, Chap.; J. Gray, S.D.; R. W. Hall, J.D.; H. Cole, I.G.; J. M. Elliott, Tyler. Mr. James Gant, farmer, of Finnis Point, was then initiated, and Bro. T. Campaign, passed, lodge being closed at about 7.30 p.m., when all present sat down to a very nice spread provided by host Suckling, of the Riverton Hotel, and after the cloth was removed, the usual Masonic toasts were drunk and the brethren separated.

The *Whitehall Review* is enabled to announce that General Lord Napier of Magdala, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., will return to Gibraltar and resume the Governorship of that fortress on the expiration of his leave, and that there is every probability of his completing his full period of six years in the appointment, which he took up in October, 1876.

"BRUT IMPERIAL" CHAMPAGNE. — The wines of the famous house of Moët and Chandon, of Epernay, where they boast some six miles of cellars, wherein are stored millions of bottles of champagne, have become famous all over the world since the days when, in the fifteenth century, Jean and Nicholas Moët were *chevins* of the City of Reims. Their "Star" brand is known wherever champagne has penetrated; and, in order to keep pace with the modern demands for dry wine, they are now shipping, in addition to their White Dry Sillery, a fine champagne entitled the "Brut Imperial." There can be no doubt it is one of the finest dry champagnes ever offered for sale in this country. It is entirely "Brut," that is, the wine has only its natural saccharine, with no added liqueur, and thus it will recommend itself to the physician as well as the *connoisseur* of champagne, as it is infinitely more wholesome as well as pleasanter to the taste. It has a good body, is thoroughly vinous, and possesses also a delicate flavour.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Duke of Leinster Mark Master Masons Lodge, 363, I.C., was held in the Alfred Masonic Hall, Weymouth-street, Adelaide, on Friday, Dec. 20th, 1878. The business of the meeting comprised the marking and passing of Bro. Alfred George Aish, W.M. 408, I.C. The candidate was present, and the ceremony was performed in a most impressive manner by the C.A., Bro. R. J. Winter. The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. R. J. Winter, C.A.; W. Baker, 1st Inspector; W. Sumsion, 2nd Inspector; J. W. Castine, 3rd Inspector; T. S. Lang, Sec.; W. N. Crowder, Treas.; A. Klaner, P.C.; R. W. M. Hunckley, Asst. C.; R. Couch, I.G.; and Tucker, Tyler.

The *Whitehall Review* can state most positively that there is not the slightest prospect of Lieutenant-General Sir Garnet Wolseley handing in his resignation of his appointment at Cyprus, as has been more than once stated by some of our contemporaries. We have before us a letter from an officer holding an official position at Cyprus in which it is stated that "His Excellency has never even hinted at such a thing, and for some months at least he will remain at his post."

The number of out-patients on the books of the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Paralysis, Soho-square, for the week ending Feb. 15th, was 1,147.

Among the many articles on demand in the household none deserve more attention than plate and polishing powder. Many of the powders now in use are simply ruinous to every article upon which they are used. The "Star" Plate and Universal Polishing Powder Co. have supplied a great want in the "Star" Plate and Polishing Powder, and the price places it within the reach of all. This powder has been subjected to the most crucial tests, is entirely free from all mercury, acids, or anything that can injure plate, gold, silver, or the finest jewellery. For polishing and cleaning copper, white metals, ivory, marble, or glass it far surpasses any preparation in use. The company received the only prize medal for polishing powders at the Exhibition, Philadelphia, 1876, there being fourteen competitors. Their powder is certainly a great desideratum.

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.

Bro. Viscount Mandeville was installed W.M. of Union Lodge, No. 105, Tandarage, on Friday, the 27th Dec., 1878. The Viscount Mandeville is son and heir of the Marquis of Westminster. His marriage to Miss Yzuaga, daughter of the Cuban merchant of that name, at Grace Church, in New York, will be remembered as one of the most fashionable ever solemnised in that city. Viscount Mandeville is well-known in leading society in that city.

DEAR AND CHEAP VEGETABLES.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* of January 18th mentions that in a suburb of London the following prices are charged for vegetables:—Carrots, 1d. each; turnips, 3d. each; parsnips, 3d. each; savoys, 2d. each; potatoes proportionately dear. These exorbitant prices should induce all who have a spare piece of ground to grow their own vegetables. Messrs. Sutton & Sons, the Queen's seedsmen, Reading, supply collections of vegetable seeds for the amateur's small garden at 12s. 6d., 15s., and 21s. each, the latter collection carriage free; while those who prefer making their own selection can have all seeds sent free by post (except peas and beans) on receipt of order. "Sutton's Amateur's Guide in Horticulture," which contains full particulars as to when to sow, what to sow, and how to sow, may be had post free for 15 stamps, or for 1s. at all the railway bookstalls.

Bro. G. C. Boor has been unanimously elected chairman of the Streets Committee of the Commissioners of Sewers.

At a recent meeting of the Ward of Cheap Club, held at Kennan's Hotel, Chcapside, a handsome marble dining-room clock, with a pair of bronze and gilt candelabra, were presented to Bro. J. Hamilton Townend, in recognition of his services as honorary secretary to the club.

Bro. G. S. Graham's grand annual evening concert took place on Thursday, the 13th ult., at the Angell Town Institute, Brixton, under Royal and distinguished patronage. The programme consisted of a varied selection of vocal and instrumental pieces, which were exceedingly well rendered by the talented artistes who took part in the concert, Bro. G. S. Graham especially distinguishing himself and winning the well-deserved approbation of the company present.

The "Masonic Magazine" for March is now ready, price 6d. It may be obtained of any bookseller or newsagent, or direct from the office of this paper, 198, Fleet-street, London.—[Adv.]

The Committee of the Burdett-Coutts Lodge announce their first annual ball to take place at the New Manor Rooms, Hackney, on the 12th inst. The proceeds will be devoted to the Masonic Charities.

Prince Louis Napoleon left Southampton in the Union Company's steamer Danube, on the 27th ult., en route to Natal, to witness the campaign in Zululand.

The Duke of Cambridge, K.G., has consented to preside at the sixty-fourth anniversary festival of the Royal Caledonian Asylum, to be held at the Freemasons' Tavern about the middle of June next.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, March 7, 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, MARCH 1.**
Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1622, Rose, S.M.H., Camberwell.
Chap. 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
" 975, Rose of Denmark, Star & Garter, Kew Bridge.
Mark Lodge, 224, Menatschin, 2, Red Lion-sq., W.C.

- 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-rd., N.

- MONDAY, MARCH 3.**
Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
" 1669, Royal Leopold, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1670, Adelphi, 4, Adelphi Terrace, Strand.
Chap. 58, Felicity, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
Red Cross Con., Premier, F.M. Tav., Great Queen-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.
Tr. deger, Royal Hot., Mile-end-rd.
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, MARCH 4.
Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 9, Albion, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
" 1257, Grosvenor, F.M.H.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
" 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
" 1668, Sampson, F.M.H.
" 1693, Kingsland, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.

- 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.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, Three Bucks, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.
Clapton Chapter, White Hart Tav., Upper Clapton.

- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5.**
Quart. Com. Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1687, Rothsay, Inns of Court Hot., Lincoln's Inn.
" 1766, St. Leonard, Town Hall, Shoreditch.

- 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-rd., Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-rd, Holloway, at 8.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
Duke of Connaught, Faunce Arms, South-pl., Kenngtn, at 8.
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.
Thistle, M.M.M., The Harp Tavern, at 8.

- THURSDAY, MARCH 6.**
Lodge 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
" 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
" 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
" 1351, St. Clements Dane, 265, Strand.
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Lecture Hall, Wimbledon.
" 1507, Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd., N.
" 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
" 1765, Trinity College, 61, Weymouth-st., W.
Chap. 2, St. James's, F.M.H.
" 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
K.T. 127, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

- 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-rd.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-rd., at 8.
Covent Garden, Ashley's Hot., Covent Garden, at 8.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.

- FRIDAY, MARCH 7.**
Lodge 706, Orpheus, F.M.H.
" 890, Hornsey, F.M.H.
" 1275, Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
Chap. 8, British, F.M.H.
Mark 223, West Smithfield, Newmarket Hot., King-st.

- 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-rd., 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-rd.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-rd., 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-rd., 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, March 8, 1879.

- MONDAY, MARCH 3.**
Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
" 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

- TUESDAY, MARCH 4.**
Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
" 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's.
" 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston.
" 965, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
" 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hot., Poulton-le-Fylde.
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
Mark Lodge 11, Joppa, M.R., Birkenhead.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.

- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5.**
Lodge 86, Loyalty, Crown Hot., Prescott.
" 484, Faith, Gerald's Arms, Ashton-in-Makerfield.
" 580, Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk.
" 758, Ellesmere, M.H., Runcorn.
" 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby H., Liverpool.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead.
Mark Lodge 65, West Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

- THURSDAY, MARCH 6.**
Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
" 950, Hesketh, Royal Hot., Fleetwood.
" 1032, Townley Parker, Whittle-le-Woods.
" 1070, Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
" 1473, Bootle, Town Hall, Bootle.
" 1576, Dec, Union Hot., Parkgate.
Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

- FRIDAY, MARCH 7.**
Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

MATRICULATION.—ARMY.—A MARRIED CLERGYMAN (B.A. Oxon, and a Mason of high Standing), who has had Eleven Years' experience in Tuition, receives THREE RESIDENT PUPILS into his House at Oxford. Terms 180 Guineas. No Extras. References to the Earl of Lonsdale, Lady Eden, Master of University College, and others.—Address PRINCIPAL, Union Society, Oxford.

EDUCATION.—GERMANY.—Bro. PH. FEES, Director, Pforzheim, Baden, has now a few vacancies. Terms, from £60 to £80, according to pupil's age. Paternal care over them. References: Bro. Rev. F. Forle, Cary House, Hammersmith, London; Bro. Rev. T. M. Stopford, Tichmarsh Rectory, Thrapston, Northampton, &c.

MR A. W. HUME, M.A., Allison Tower, Dulwich-common, S.E.—First Class in Classical Honours, Trinity College, Dublin, high place at open competition for Indian Civil Service, 1861, PREPARES CANDIDATES for the Indian and Home Civil Service, the Line, Woolwich, and other competitions, and gives instruction in all branches of a liberal education. His staff include a D.D., a seventh and an 11th Classic, a 13th Wrangler, a late Professor at Potsdam (resident), a B. és L., Paris, and other distinguished professors. Individual attention to every pupil, airy and healthy situation, and every home comfort. Terms from 120 to 150 guineas. No extras. Pupils admitted at any time.—Apply as above.

NORFOLK HOUSE SCHOOL, Green Street, near Sittingbourne.—Conducted by Bro. W. A. Rudd. Terms inclusive. Latin English Books.
Under 10 Years 22 guineas.
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French, Music, Drawing (connected with Sth. Kensington), are the only extras. Home comforts, unlimited food. Reference to P.M.'s whose sons are being instructed.