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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

**HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).**—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, at the Seven Sisters, Page Green, Tottenham. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Henry Stephens, who was supported by the following officers and Past Masters:—Bros. G. Burford, S.W., W.M. elect; J. Farrin, J.W.; D. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; T. Cunningham, P.M., Sec.; Past Masters John Maller, G. Townsend, W. Dance, W. Steedman, W. Kelly, J. Linzell, and J. Jones; H. V. Clements, S.D.; T. H. Thompson, J.D.; Wm. Tegg, I.G.; J. Garrod, D.C.; J. Very, Tyler; and several members. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. G. C. Young, 820; J. E. Brown, J. Driscoll, P.M. 30; S. Hill, 109; W. W. Morgan, jun., 1385; A. J. Manning, P.M. 1472; J. H. Thompson, 1580; J. Barber, 933; H. B. Carter, 1435; J. Badkin, 1365; J. Pinder, H. Cleverly, 1107; J. B. Reid, 946; J. E. Pinder, 1707. The lodge having been regularly opened and the usual formalities observed, the report of the Audit Committee was submitted. Bro. Mitchell was passed, and later on Bro. H. Cooper was raised. Bro. Dance, P.M., then presented Bro. Burford, the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. A Board of Masters being formed, that brother was regularly placed in the chair, and in due course he appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. Farrin, S.W.; Clements, J.W.; Roberts, Treas.; Cunningham, Sec.; Thompson, S.D.; Tegg, J.D.; Garrod, I.G.; W. S. Blenkinsop, D.C.; Stevenson, Steward; Lewis, Asst. Steward; Very, Tyler. The Installing Master, Bro. Stevens, then gave the addresses usual after the installation ceremony. One candidate for initiation having been proposed, the W.M. proceeded to close the lodge, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where a most enjoyable repast was provided by Bro. Oddy. At the conclusion of the banquet, and grace having been sung, the W.M. gave the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," which was followed by the National Anthem. "The Health of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master," followed, and was most heartily received. The toast of "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was the next honoured. After a song, Bro. Stephens proceeded to give the toast of "The W.M." He said he could not speak much of his ability as W.M., as he was new to that position, but as a member of the lodge, and a faithful officer, he paid him a great compliment. The W.M. had ever been at his post, and was well qualified to fill the position he now occupied. He trusted that at the end of his year of office Bro. Burford would be able to look back upon as successful a year as he, Bro. Stephens, had just passed through. The S.W. having favoured the brethren with a song, the W.M. replied as follows:—Brethren, I have to return my very sincere thanks for the kind manner in which you have accepted the toast proposed by Bro. Stephens. I am sure it is a very great honour to be elected as W.M. of the High Cross Lodge. There are few metropolitan lodges that can boast as many members as the High Cross Lodge, and if they have as many they have not so great a number of sincere Masons as we have. I cannot do more than thank you for placing me in the chair. Whatever I may do I will endeavour to do my duty, and work in unison with you all, and thereby please the members of the lodge. Should I seem to be averse to some of your wishes you may rely that I am differing only in the interests of Freemasonry. Ideas are not the same in all brethren, it being natural that we should have different views on certain subjects. It will be my endeavour to carry out the duties of my office satisfactorily, and I hope that I shall have a successful year; but to secure this I must ask for the aid of the brethren and my officers. The next toast the W.M. characterised as a most pleasing one for him to propose, it was that of "The I.P.M., Bro. Stephens." He was sure that those brethren who had been in the lodge during the past six or seven years must agree with him that Bro. Stephens had had one of the most successful years on record in the High Cross Lodge. The brethren must be all agreed that he had endeavoured to do his best for the lodge, and the result, he considered, had been proved

without a doubt to be a success. More especially was this the case with regard to the handsome surplus he had left in the hands of the Treasurer. The W.M. then proceeded to place on Bro. Stephens's breast the jewel that was voted to him at the last meeting. In doing so, he expressed the great pleasure he felt in presenting this mark of the esteem of the lodge to so worthy a brother. Bro. Stephens, in reply, after thanking the brethren for the reception that had been accorded him, said: I do not know if I am deserving of the many kind things that have been said of me to-night. I have endeavoured to do my utmost while in the chair for the benefit of the lodge, and, as you are all aware, I have in a measure succeeded. If I have pleased you I am more than amply rewarded for any exertions I have made. I thank you most heartily for the splendid jewel your W.M. has just placed on my breast. I hope it may be handed down to my children and their children as a token of the respect in which their father and grandfather were held by the High Cross Lodge. I must again thank you for the kind way in which you have supported me during my year of office. The W.M. announced that the collection made on behalf of the Charity Fund of the lodge amounted to thirty-three shillings. The next toast proposed from the chair was that of "The Visitors." The W.M. said this was one always well received by the High Cross Lodge. Scarcely a meeting passed but they had a goodly array of visitors. On the present occasion they did not fall short, but had many visitors around them, all of whom were welcome. He considered that the lodge would hardly be complete without its array of visitors. With the toast the W.M. coupled the name of Bro. Driscoll. That brother, in reply, said: It will be my endeavour to do as much justice to the toast as will, I hope, satisfy my brother visitors. If the reception accorded this evening is an indication of the usual welcome given by the members of the High Cross Lodge, we can only hope for another invitation. For myself, I am an old hand, having been present at the anniversaries of the lodge for several years past. One thing I have noticed with pleasure at this lodge is the interest taken in its affairs by the Past Masters. On the present occasion I hear there is only one absent, and he, I believe, is far from home or would be among us. This fact must be a great pleasure to you all, and the way in which the brethren who have passed the chair are honoured should be an incentive to young members to take an interest in the lodge. The W.M. in giving the next toast said it was one that would doubtless be new to most of those present. That day happened to be the twenty-first anniversary of the establishment of the High Cross Lodge. Most of those around him could form their own opinion of the position of the lodge at the present time, but few could remember what was its condition at the time of its formation. They had one brother, however, who could tell them something on the subject, he having been the first initiate. The W.M. hoped that in another twenty-one years' time the lodge would number on its roll twice as many brethren as at the present time, and that it would ever remain in a flourishing condition. He then called upon the brethren to drink to "The Prosperity of the High Cross Lodge," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Steedman, who was initiated on the night of its consecration, twenty-one years since. Bro. Steedman said: Brethren, you have thought proper to associate my name with a very peculiar toast, and I feel very peculiar in rising to respond to it. Our lodge was founded 21 years since, next Friday being the anniversary of its consecration. If you refer to the warrant you will find that at first the meetings were held every fortnight. This was continued for about three years, at which time the lodge found itself in debt to the extent of £250. I could record other difficulties that the lodge has gone through, but will content myself, as we are now only concerned with its prosperous career. Bro. Steedman concluded by wishing that the lodge might be in as good a position twenty-one years hence as it was then, and trusted he might be there to see it. "The Health of the Past Masters" was next given, the W.M. referring to the great interest shown in the lodge by those who had passed the chair. He stated that he had received a letter from their only absent P.M., explaining that ill-health precluded his undertaking a long journey in order to be with them, but he hoped that at no distant date he would again be among the members present at their regular assemblies. The W.M. expressed his pleasure at having so large a Board of Masters to assist at his installation, and considered it something for the lodge to be proud of when eleven of its own Past Masters came to assist in placing a new Mason in the chair they each in turn had filled. He felt he could rely on their support during the term of his presidency. Bro. Wells was the first to reply. He tendered the heartiest thanks of the Past Masters for the way in which they were at all times received, and hoped that the newly-installed Master would be enabled to conduct the affairs of the lodge with satisfaction—he could assure the W.M. that he would at all times have the co-operation of those who had preceded him in the chair. Bro. Dance followed to the same purport, specially referring to the indebtedness of the lodge to Bro. Cunningham, P.M., the Secretary, who had, he said, faithfully discharged his duties for the whole of the time he had filled the position. The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed. The W.M. was extremely gratified at having two such worthy brethren to rely on. Bro. Treasurer replied, thanking the company for the way in which the mention of the names of the Treasurer and Secretary had been received. He had, he said, watched the lodge for a matter of twenty years, and was pleased to see it now in so prosperous a condition. Bro. Secretary followed, adding his thanks. Although it was some time since he had raised his voice to express his thanks for the kindness of the members it was not that he had not thanked them. He did so at all times, and only hoped he might continue to deserve the respect and esteem

of his brethren that he now enjoyed. The work of Secretary of the lodge was no light task, but the thanks which he received from the members from time to time were ample to repay any little trouble he went to in carrying out the duties of his office. The toast of "The Press" was next given, and the proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast.

**GATESHEAD.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).**—The regular meeting of this well known lodge was held at 34, Denmark-street, on Monday, the 25th inst., when the W.M., Bro. Robt. Whitfield, was assisted by the officers as follows:—Bros. M. Corbitt, I.P.M.; R. B. Reed, P.M.; John Wood, S.W.; John Duckitt, acting J.W.; W. Brewis Elsdon, Treas.; Edw. Liddell, Sec.; E. W. Middlemast, S.D.; John Moulton, J.D.; Jos. Boyatt, I.G.; R. Ferry, Org.; J. C. S. Liddle, S.S.; J. W. A. Boyatt, A.S.; and Joshua Curry, Tyler. Amongst the brethren of the lodge and the visitors present were:—Bros. Jacob Matthews, Matthew Swinburne, Jas. Liddle, B. P. Ord, I.P.M. 1427; Jos. Cook, P.M. 481, P.P.G.S.W.; J. F. Taylor, P.M. 1676; T. S. Wraith, P.M. 1643; John Duckitt, jun., S.W. 481; R. A. Forster, 481; E. A. Gibson, 424; G. S. Sims, 1342; T. O. Smith, 991; T. McDermott, 24; E. Marston, J.D. 1676; W. H. Dunn, 1676; and others. The lodge was opened in due form shortly after 7 p.m. by the W.M., after which the ballot was taken for Mr. Donald McLeod, who was duly elected. The candidate being in attendance was regularly initiated into the mysteries of the First Degree by the W.M. The working tools were explained by the acting J.W., and the charge was given in an impressive manner by the S.W. Bro. Matthew Swinburne afterwards was examined as to his proficiency, received the test of merit, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Swinburne was admitted and passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. The S.W. explained the working tools. The lodge was again closed down to the First Degree, when the W.M. received the "Hearty good wishes" of the visiting brethren. There were three candidates proposed for initiation during the evening. The lodge was closed shortly after nine p.m., when an adjournment was made for refreshment, and, in spite of the very hot weather, an enjoyable evening was spent in harmony. The usual round of Masonic toasts was given and responded to. The first ballot of the second tontine for Life Governorships to the Masonic Charities was given in favour of Bro. G. S. Sims. The lodge appears to be in a thriving condition, judging from the quality and quantity of the new members, and we are pleased to see that it keeps up its reputation for good work.

**GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Borough Lodge (No. 424).**—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th inst., at Mr. Thomas Pearson's, Half Moon Hotel, High-street, Bro. Jesse Marchant, P.M., W.M., presiding, assisted by the following brethren:—Bros. A. G. Anderson, P.M., S.W.; John Mackay, J.W.; W. F. Poad, Sec.; John F. Boyes, S.D.; E. A. Gibson, acting J.D.; G. W. Wealleans, I.G. There were also present Bros. John Beeby, Joseph Probert, P.M.; Robt. Nicholson, John Shipley, T. S. Miller, Robt. Colquhoun, and William Colquhoun. Visitors: Bros. Jacob Matthews, 48; M. J. Wheatley, 48; J. Boyett, I.G. 48; J. Usher, W.M. 481; Thos. Prentice, S.D. 481; William Healey, 405; M. H. Dodd, J.D. 1119; J. E. Macdonald, 124; J. J. Taylor, P.M. 1676; Jos. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Northumberland, 481 and Thomas Smith, P.M. 541. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second, or Fellow Craft Degree, when Bro. T. Prichard was examined as to his proficiency ere being raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The lodge was then raised to the Third Degree, when Bro. Prichard was re-admitted, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., Bro. Marchant, in such a way so as to elicit great praise from all present. Bro. John Mackay, J.W., explained the working tools in his usual and careful manner. The lodge was closed from the Third down to the First Degree. "Hearty good wishes" were then expressed by the numerous visitors, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren afterwards assembled at the social board, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren separated after having spent a most pleasant evening.

**ERITH.—St. John and St. Paul's Lodge (No. 615).**—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Avenue Hall, and was a most brilliant and impressive affair throughout. The hall was nicely decorated with flags and appropriate mottoes on tastefully designed shields, and over the Master's chair hung the silken banner of the lodge. Outside the hall, and across the road, fluttered variously coloured flags, imparting an air of festivity and welcome to the scene that had the effect intended. The brethren began to assemble soon after 3 o'clock, and then the W.M., Bro. G. W. Churchley, took the chair, and the lodge was duly opened. The minutes of the past meeting were read and passed. The lodge was then closed for refreshment, and after a short time resumed for labour again. Among the company present, besides the W.M., were Bros. F. Binckes, Sec. Boys' School, &c.; Dr. Spurrell, P.M., W.M. 829 and P.P.J.W. Kent; T. W. Knight, P.M. and P.P. Dir. of Cer. Kent; E. Macknay, P.M., 299, and P.P.G.O. Kent; T. Smith, P.M. and Treas. 829 and P.P.G.P. Kent; J. R. Poord, W.M. 503 and P.G.S. Kent; R. Stone, S.W. and W.M. elect; F. Fletcher, J.W.; R. G. Stone, Sec.; E. Tomkins, S.D.; G. Fletcher, J.D.; C. L. Boardman, I.G.; S. Chittenden, J. Hutton, W. Hills, J. Aillud, J. C. Sheffield, and C. Bishop, all of the lodge; W. W. Medcalf, W.M. 1671; C. Eltham, W.M. 1827; H. Tuff, W.M. 1273; W. Barlow, W.M. 77; G. H. Cruell, P.M. 1050; T. Butt, P.M. 700;

J. Brown, P.M. 1066; J. Scott Mutch, P.M. 706; J. J. Michael, P.M. 1107; J. Rowland, P.M. 700; R. J. Warren, J.W. 1671; R. Challoner, Sec. 1178; H. King, 1622; J. Hart, 503; H. De Gray, 13 and 706; G. Mitchell, 700; H. Hammond, 913; M. Sherwin, Org. 1472; G. Baker, 503; G. Tedder, 11 and 1107; G. H. Hill, 700; R. Jamblin, 299; W. Bradbrook, 299; C. White, 299; F. Fletcher, 1732; W. Cauty, 913; J. Boulden, 1050; J. S. Randall, 1089 and 913; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*), and others. The lodge having been resumed, Bro. Stone was presented to the Installing Officer, Bro. Churchley, for the benefit of installation, and having consented to the ancient charge, a Board of Installed Officers was formed, and he was with the usual honours installed in the chair of K.S. The brethren then saluted and Bro. Churchley invested the officers as follows: Bros. E. Tomkins, S.W.; J. Fletcher, J.W.; H. H. Poole, Treas.; G. Churchley, P.M., Sec.; R. G. Stone, S.D.; J. Hutton, J.D.; C. Bishop, Org.; W. Hill, I.G.; J. C. Sheffield, Steward; S. Chittenden, D.C.; and Martin, Tyler. The three addresses were delivered by Bro. Churchley, whose fine declamation was rewarded with the unstinted applause of the brethren at its conclusion. Bro. Knight, P.M., was then unanimously re-elected to represent the lodge at the Provincial Charitable meetings. It was then proposed by Bro. Knight, seconded by Bro. Spurrell, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks should be tendered to Bro. Churchley for the splendid manner in which he had that day carried out the duties of Installing Officer, the same to be inscribed upon the minutes of the lodge. Bro. Churchley briefly returned thanks, and after "Hearty good wishes" had been given from representatives of every lodge present, the lodge was closed. The musical part of the ceremony was under the charge of Bro. C. Bishop, who with Bros. Cliff White and J. Fletcher, sang from the "Liber Musicus" the service incidental to the installation ceremony in excellent style. The "Liber Musicus" used was presented to the lodge by Bro. Churchley. The banquet took place at the Prince of Wales Hotel, and was in every respect a most delightful one. The room, however, was rather small, and we heard complaints of the difficulty felt by some of the brethren in being served, however, Bro. R. G. Stone was indefatigable in looking after the comfort of every one, his efforts, like the hospitality as displayed in the menu, being simply unbounded. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were enthusiastically honoured and responded to. The W.M. then, in glowing terms, proposed the toast of "The Prov. G.M., Lord Holmesdale, Bro. Eastes, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was duly honoured. The name of Bro. Spurrell was coupled with the toast. Bro. Spurrell, in reply, said he was proud of having his name connected with so important a toast. It would be impossible for him to tell them one-tenth of the amount of work done by Lord Holmesdale and Bro. Eastes for the wellbeing of the Craft, and Freemasonry in general in the province. He was exceedingly sorry that he was not able personally to attend the late Prov. Grand meeting at Maidstone, but had been to a meeting the day previous. When he was in office he attended a great many of the lodge meetings in the province, and had always met with a most flattering reception, which showed him that the Masons of Kent were loyal to those placed in position by the Prov. G.M. He had nothing very new to tell them, but must heartily thank them for the hearty manner in which the toast had been proposed and received. Bro. Churchley then proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said it would be an evil day for the lodge when the health of its W.M. was passed over, especially upon such an occasion as the present. It was not the custom to appoint W.M.'s in that lodge unless the brethren were sure those so appointed could, and would, do their duty. Their W.M. was, however, but mortal, and it was impossible for mortals to attain perfection, but they loved him so that if there were any faults they would not see them, but rather magnify his good qualifications. He could assure him in their name that anything he undertook—and in most things he undertook he succeeded—that would be for the benefit of the lodge, he would be supported by the brethren to the utmost, particularly in carrying out those grand principles upon which Freemasonry was founded. From the first time Bro. Stone had set his foot inside that lodge up to the present he had never been wanting in his efforts for its success, and there had never been a call upon his purse that had not been answered in a most kind, hearty, and brotherly spirit, and, therefore, he wished to assure him that during his year of office he could not call upon any brother of the lodge to carry out his wishes in any way without that brother feeling a pride and pleasure in so doing. He (Bro. Churchley) felt an especial pride in proposing this toast, because their esteemed W.M. was his father in Freemasonry, but to-day he (W.M.) was his "little boy." Bro. Stone, after thanking them for the toast, said it should be his constant endeavour to carry out the duties entrusted to him in every shape and form. He then presented a valuable Past Master's jewel to Bro. Churchley in the name of the lodge, as a token of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the members, and in pinning it on his breast, said nothing could have given him greater pleasure than the task now placed in his hands. He wished Bro. Churchley many years of life to wear it, for none could have more fairly earned it, or more deserved to wear it. The toast of "The Past Masters" was then given, and, in responding, Bro. Churchley said he had many things to be thankful to them for, not the least was their kindness in presenting him with the handsome jewel so kindly tendered to him by their W.M. He should always wear it with a deal of pride and satisfaction, because he felt sure that if he had not deserved it they would not have given it to him. He must congratulate the lodge upon its vitality; there was a time when it seemed destined to an early extinction, but, thanks to some of its members,

it now was prosperous and flourishing, and what might it not yet accomplish? If they could do these things in the green, what might they not do in the dry? For himself, he should as long as he lived remember with pleasure the universal kindness he had received from every member of the lodge. This was an especially happy evening: here harmony and brotherly love prevailed, and every one must feel that here at least he was in good hands. He trusted their esteemed Master might have a good and prosperous year of office, and concluded by again thanking them for their hearty good wishes. The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and Bros. Barlow and Michael replied. Bro. Binckes was then honoured as the representative of the Masonic Charities, and was enthusiastically received. Bro. Churchley, in putting the toast, spoke highly of the energy, zeal, and tact displayed by Bro. Binckes in his office as Secretary of the Boys' School, and of the great and good work done by him for the cause of charity generally. Bro. Binckes, in reply, said he was an old member of the lodge before it became in a state almost of decay. This lodge used to be conspicuous for the large amount it gave to Masonic Charities, and now he asked them to think of the Boys' School, and not at the next festival, in June, 1880, to be conspicuous by their absence. If time had permitted, he had intended to have made a most elaborate speech, but he could not give it that night because the trains would not wait, but he would thank them in the first place for their kind reception of the toast, and in the next for their reception of him as the representative of the Masonic Charities, more especially the Boys' School. The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was responded to. "The Health of the Treasurer" was made a special toast, and Bro. Poole, who had held the office for some time, now met with a most flattering reception when his name was mentioned. Bro. Jolly responded for "The Masonic Press," and then the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings. The musical arrangements were entirely in the hands of Bro. C. Bishop, who, with Miss Matilda Roby, of the Royal Academy of Music, and Bro. Cliff White, sung a choice selection of ballads.

**DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).**—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Bro. G. T. Wright, P.P.J.G.W., as W.M. (in the absence of Bro. W. Cooper, W.M., who was unavoidably absent from the town), Bros. J. C. Merry, P.P.G.D. of C., as S.W.; Wm. Whittaker, J.W.; W. H. Burton, Treas.; G. Cay, Sec.; J. Bland, S.D.; James King, J.D.; Thos. Day, D.C.; C. Webster, I.G.; E. Horne and Jas. Copstick, Stewards; E. Holden, Tyler; John Brown, P.M., P.G.J.D.; James Taylor, P.M.; Thos. Cox, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; John Smith, P.M., P.P.G.J.W.; F. L. Smith, H. Fowkes, P.M.; W. W. Popplewell, T. Carter Wigg, P.M.; H. H. Lewis, William Knight. Visitors: Bros. A. Schofield, P.M. 1028; Wm. Rowbottom, 1028; E. R. Ward, W.M. 253; Thos. Hughes, 103; J. B. Coulson, P.M. 253; J. O. Manton, J.W. 1085; A. J. Waller, 802; and H. Glover, 802. The lodge was opened at 7.15, and the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. After the election of two candidates for Freemasonry, the W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree. The lodge was then advanced to the Third Degree. The W.M. said that he would at once proceed to the principal business of the evening, which was to listen to a lecture, which they were all expecting with very great interest, from one of the visiting brethren. The subject was one which he (the W.M.) had studied, and in which he found an inexhaustible and fascinating charm. He would at once introduce to them Bro. W. Rowbottom, the orator of the evening. Bro. Wm. Rowbottom, Royal Alfred Lodge, 1028, rose to deliver his lecture, entitled "The Great Pyramid of Egypt; its Masonic Origin and Teaching." It should be said, in passing, that for the intellectual treat afforded by this lecture the lodge is indebted to Bro. H. Burn, P.M., by whose influence it was arranged some months ago, but the somewhat heavy work of the lodge prevented its earlier delivery, and it speaks highly for the character of the lecture, and the strong interest felt in the subject, that at this holiday season so many brethren attended, some from long distances. One of the most remarkable signs of the progressive state of Masonry in the present day seems to be that we are not content to limit our attention exclusively to speculative Masonry, the ordinary and beautiful ceremonies of our ritual, or the attractions of the Fourth Degree, but there is an increasing desire to penetrate and study the historic work and teachings of our ancient brethren in the far-off ages of the past, in which they left their mark upon the world, "in records that defy the tooth of time." It is quite impossible in a short report to give anything like a fair resumé of this admirable lecture, which was delivered quite orally and in the number of figures and statistics proved Bro. Rowbottom's memory to be one of the most retentive. In eloquent language the lecturer

"Scrutinised the dates

Of long past human things,"

showed how architecture "is the printing press of all the ages," giving the Masonic history of every time, from the Pyramids of the Pharaohs to the cathedrals of our own day. The theory and construction of the Great Pyramid, and its dependence on the proportions of the square and circle, were dwelt with in a masterly manner, proving clearly their connection with Masonic ritual and teaching. By observing the tendencies of analogous formations, it is most interesting to trace the links in the design of this wonderful and mysterious structure, and their intimate connection with general Masonic laws. Every great national architecture "is the manly language of a people inspired by resolute and common sense," and rendering resolute and common fidelity to the legible laws of an undoubted Great Architect of the Universe. In summarising the symbolical

teaching of the mystic numbers in the cubic measurements of the passages leading to the centre, or king's chamber—the corner stone—the grand base and apex of this four-square pyramid, or perfect pentagon, the lecturer concluded by proving an eloquent parallel between the time of its construction, and the days of the later Temple, in the course of which the chronological symbolism of the passages was explained, and its result applied to the sacred narrative. In an eloquent peroration, showing how all this ancient symbolism, worked in imperishable stone, which time ever consecrates, and which, though grey with age, still more eloquently teaches—illustrating the unity and consistency of that old and illustrious brotherhood, whose immemorial watchwords have been "Love, Relief, and Truth"—the speaker brought his most interesting lecture to a close. Bro. Whittaker, J.W., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Rowbottom for his exceedingly interesting and instructive lecture. For his own part he had been delighted to listen to it, and, judging from the rapt attention of the lodge, he had no doubt he was expressing the sentiments of every brother present. Bro. Taylor, P.M., seconded, and the vote was carried unanimously. Bro. Wm. Rowbottom, in reply, said that it had given him great pleasure to be present that evening with the Arboretum Lodge; and if anything had given him more gratification than another it was the great attention with which the brethren had been pleased to receive his lecture. At the conclusion of the business of the evening, the W.M. received the "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors, and the lodge was closed in harmony. The brethren then adjourned to supper, Bro. G. T. Wright, P.M., in the chair. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily received. After a most enjoyable evening, interspersed with excellent songs and instrumental music, amongst which ought to be especially mentioned an inimitable flute solo by a distinguished brother, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated.

**WALTHAM.—King Harold Lodge (No. 1327).**—The installation meeting of this prosperous country lodge was held at the Britannia Hotel, on Thursday, the 21st inst. Owing to the bad state of the weather on that day, the muster was not so great as was anticipated, but still a goodly array of brethren assembled to do honour to the occasion. Amongst the members present were the following: V.W. Bro. F. H. Wilson Iles, D.P.G.M. Herts; Bros. A. Malcolm, W.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; S. Jacobs, S.W., W.M. elect; J. Knight, J.W.; E. West, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts; Treas.; T. Reilly, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; Sec.; J. Fisher, S.D.; J. Noyes, J.D.; J. Robinson, D.C.; G. Eversfield, I.G.; J. Lumsden, W.S.; E. Pric, W.S.; C. Lacey, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts; F. Drummond, P.M.; E. Parker, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts; J. Gaskell, P.M.; J. Tydeman, P.M., P.P.A.G.P. Essex; W. Gilbert, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Herts; Blackmore, W. Bradstock, Brewster, J. Bull, W. O. Bull, Cooke, Goodall, Holdsworth, Kent, Lewis, Newman, Pritchett, P.P.G. Org. Herts; Richardson, Rogers, Walker, Wiggs, Woolley, Streeter, and Sampson. Visitors: Bros. J. E. Dawson, P.M., P.G. Sec. Herts; Rev. C. E. Mayo, M.A., P.P.G. Chap. Herts, 869; Liddall, 53; Roddam, 212; Driscoll, 30, P.M., P.P. G.P. Middx.; Tanner, 1797, P.P.G.D. Herts; and Osgathorp, 1437. The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the auditors' report given, and the W.M. then deputed Bro. E. West, W. Gilbert, and T. Reilly, Past Provincial Grand Officers of Hertfordshire, to meet Bros. F. H. Wilson Iles, Dep. P.G.M., and J. E. Dawson, P.G. Sec. Herts, at the railway station, and on the arrival of these distinguished brethren at the lodge house, they were conducted in ancient form into lodge, and had due honours paid to them, Bro. P.M. West acting as D.C. Two gentlemen were duly invested, viz., Mr. J. Shuter and Mr. George Sampson. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. S. Jacobs, was very ably proceeded with by the W.M., Bro. A. Malcolm, P.P.G.P. Herts, assisted by Bro. E. West, P.M. and P.P.G.D. Herts, the Board of Installing Masters numbering twelve. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. A. Malcolm, I.P.M.; J. Knight, S.W.; J. Fisher, J.W.; E. West, P.M., Treasurer; T. Reilly, P.M., Secretary; J. Noyes, S.D.; J. Robinson, J.D.; J. Gaskell, P.M., D.C.; W. W. Pritchett, P.P.G. Org. Herts; W. A. Rogers, I.G.; J. Lumsden, W.S.; W. Lewis, W.S.; and W. Steedman, Tyler. The lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to banquet, which was very neatly served up. The effect of the floral decorations was heightened by a contribution of some very choice plants by Bro. Fred. Drummond, P.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. The Dep. P.G.M. Herts, Bro. Iles, in responding for "The Provincial Officers," was pleased to express his hearty approval of the manner in which he found the business of the King Harold Lodge conducted. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. A. Malcolm, the retiring W.M., in token of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren of the lodge. Bro. Malcolm thanked the brethren in an able speech. The Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close, which was culminated by very good harmony.

**LANCASTER.—Duke of Lancaster Lodge (No. 1353).**—This lodge held its regular lodge meeting at the Masonic Rooms on Wednesday evening, the 20th inst., when there were present Bros. James Ellershaw, W.M.; Wm. Parker, S.W.; H. Hartley, J.W.; J. Acton, P.M., Hon. Sec.; R. Cleminson, S.D.; Jos. D. Belc, J.D.; J. E. Oglthorpe, Org.; William Huntington, S.S.; P. Dutton, J.S.; C. J. W. Stork, I.G.; A. K. Allinson, Tyler; E. Shepherd, Assr. Tyler; John Barrow, P.M.; J. Simpson, S. S. Lees, H. Stünzaker, E. Smalley, Geo. Bleyard, T. Derome, T. B. Row, J. M. Belc, G. W. Smelt, D. Shaw, J. S. Stork, W. Drinkale, C. A. Beckett, and W. M. Miller. Visitors: J. Atkinson, S.D. 281; W. Butterfield, Sec. 1085.

The lodge was opened in due form at 6 p.m., by Bro. J. Ellershaw, W.M. Two candidates were balloted for and unanimously elected. The W.M. initiated the two candidates and they retired. The lodge was opened in the Second, there were two candidates for the Third Degree. Bro. J. Ellershaw, W.M., raised one, and Bro. J. Acton, P.M., Sec., raised the other. The W.M. gave the historical, the charge, the lecture and the working tools. Thus a good, long, and enjoyable evening was spent, and the lodge was closed at 10 o'clock p.m.

**OKEHAMPTON.**—Obedience Lodge (No. 1753).—The first annual installation of W.M. of this lodge, held at the White Hart Hotel, took place on Monday, the 25th inst. The lodge was consecrated on the 26th August of last year, on which day the Grand Lodge of the province was held at Okehampton. That was the last Provincial Grand Lodge at which Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe presided, and Obedience Lodge was the last lodge which Bro. Huyshe consecrated. There was a large gathering of Freemasons from all parts of the county; and, as this was the first lodge constituted in Okehampton, the proceedings created a great deal of interest. The lodge was founded mainly through the efforts of Bro. William Brodie, then W.M. of Semper Fidelis Lodge, 1254, who was installed its first Master. He, however, received considerable assistance from members of the Craft resident in the town. In April last, when the appointment of Viscount Ebrington as P.G.M. (in the room of Bro. Huyshe, resigned through age and infirmity) was notified, the Obedience Lodge passed a complimentary resolution to the R.W. brother, reminding him that he presided at his last Provincial Grand Lodge in Okehampton, and that Obedience was the last lodge that he consecrated. The lodge has flourished with considerable vigour during the twelve months of its existence, and it now numbers twenty members. There were seven initiations and three members joined from other lodges. Monday's proceedings commenced about 2.30 o'clock, a large number of visiting brethren being present, amongst whom were Bros. W. Brodie, P.P.J.G.D.; B. Barker, P.G.A.D.C., I.P.M.; Rev. C. W. H. Holley, P.G. Chaplain; Rev. J. R. Nankivell, P.P.G. Chaplain; H. M. Body, P.P.S.G.D.; G. C. Bignell, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; W. Pidsley, W.M. 1254, P.G.S.; J. W. Boon, J.W., W.M. elect; G. W. Gould, Sec.; A. J. G. Waters, S.D.; J. J. Ball, J.D.; A. Paddon, I.G.; W. Burd, Taverner, Brendon, Treliving, J. Wood, W. Yeo, C. Dacie, J. Horswell, Nos. 39, 106, and 1254; John D. Barker, 70; F. C. Hallett, 303; L. A. Stockham Myrten, 619; J. B. Elliott, 773; F. W. Brodie, 1254; S. Palmer, 1254; Thos. J. Smith, I.P.M. 1255; Lewis J. Hudd, 1426; Dr. Pearce, 1753 and 1550. The lodge having been duly formed and opened, Bro. James William Boon was installed W.M. for the ensuing year in the customary way, and he was heartily congratulated on his taking the chair. Bro. Brodie performed the duties of Installing Master. Bro. Boon then appointed the following as his officers for the year:—Bros. W. Brodie, I.P.M.; the Rev. C. W. H. Holley, S.W.; G. W. Gould, J.W.; R. T. Relf, Treasurer; J. Ball, Sec.; W. Burd, S.D.; W. Yeo, J.D.; John Wood, I.G.; and J. Coombe, Tyler. The next business was the presenting to the retiring W.M., Bro. Brodie, of an elegant and chaste gold Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the members of the lodge. The jewel bore the name and number of the lodge, and on the riband the arms of the Borough of Okehampton in gold and coloured enamel relief. The back of the jewel bore the following inscription, "Presented to Bro. William Brodie, P.P.J.G.D., by the Officers and Brethren of Lodge Obedience, No. 1753, Okehampton, in appreciation of his services rendered as first W.M." In making the presentation Bro. Boon said it was a most pleasing duty to him. The lodge had only been established twelve months, and Bro. Brodie had worked zealously for its interests, and had spared neither trouble nor expense to make it prosperous. In recognition of his energy, his brethren asked his acceptance of that handsome jewel as a memento of his year of office, believing that he would feel proud to wear it. The lodge freely acknowledged its obligations to Bro. Brodie, and the gift was made with their heartiest good wishes. What Bro. Brodie had done in the past they felt sure he would continue to do in the future, and that the gift would be regarded as a mark of their respect. Bro. Brodie, in acknowledging the great compliment paid him, warmly thanked the W.M. and the brethren of the lodge for their handsome and valuable present, and assured them that it would be always highly prized by him as an expression of their goodwill and esteem, and as a proof of their appreciation of his services. His work in the lodge had been a source of great pleasure, and altogether a labour of love. A good deal of time and trouble had been expended upon it, but he had been far more than repaid by that substantial gift, and by their kind feelings towards him. The jewel would ever remind him of the liberality of the brethren, and of the pleasant time he had spent amongst them, and he desired nothing more than the prosperity of Lodge Obedience. Bro. Boon said that there were two other brethren—Bros. Barber and Pidsley—who were also entitled to their warmest thanks for the great assistance they had lent during the past year respectively as I.P.M. and S.W. They, too, had been instrumental in bringing the lodge to its present successful state, and in retiring from office the brethren desired them to accept a small jewel each, which he handed to them. Although the gifts were small, they were presented with the best and grateful thanks of the members. Bros. Barber and Pidsley briefly acknowledged the compliment paid them, and remarked that they would continue to take the warmest interest in the prosperity of the lodge. Before closing the lodge, Bro. Boon said he had a melancholy duty to perform, and that was to inform the brethren of the death, on the previous day, of Bro. Sydenham James, who had only a short time been made a member of

that lodge, and to ask their sympathy for the orphan son and daughter who were left to mourn their loss. Bro. James only left the town a few days before in apparently good health, but he was taken ill and had died at a distance from his home. The funeral would take place on Tuesday, at four o'clock, and he would like to meet at the lodge as many brethren as could make it convenient, for the purpose of following his remains to the grave, and of performing a last mark of respect for their departed brother. The installation banquet was afterwards held in an adjoining room, when about thirty of the brethren sat down to a repast, which was served by Bro. Ball in a style which gave the most unqualified satisfaction. Bro. Boon presided, and was supported on the left by the I.P.M. The toast list commenced with "The Queen and the Craft," which was given by the Chairman, who followed with "The M.W. the Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "The Pro and Deputy G.M.'s, and the rest of the Grand Officers," and "The Provincial Grand Master of Devon, and the P.G. Officers, Present and Past." The name of Bro. the Rev. J. Huyshe was heartily received, and it was feelingly alluded to by the Chairman. Bro. Boon said that Bro. Huyshe paid that lodge a great compliment in coming to consecrate it last year when he was so aged and infirm. He had also greatly honoured Bro. Brodie in heading the subscription list for the jewel with a donation, but it was also a compliment to the lodge. That a little place like Okehampton should attract such notice was very gratifying, and would tend to make the lodge even more successful than it had already proved to be. Bros. Holly and Barber responded, and the latter feelingly alluded to Bro. Metham, P.D.P.G.M. of the province, whose name was received with much applause. In conclusion Bro. Barber proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Installing Master, Bro. Brodie." He said that no one was more entitled to their thanks than the Installing Master for the admirable way in which he had performed his duties that day, and for the deep interest he had taken in the lodge since its foundation. Bro. Brodie not only had won the good feeling and respect of the brethren in Okehampton, but of members of the Craft throughout the country, and especially at Exeter in his own lodge. His only fault was perhaps that he was a little over-zealous. Bro. Barber then read a letter from Bro. Huyshe, in which he paid a high compliment to the Installing Master and to the lodge, and the speaker suggested that a copy of it should be made in the minutes. Bro. Brodie, in reply, returned thanks for the manner in which the toast had been received, and said it would be his study to deserve all the kind things that had been said of him. Provincial honours had early come to the lodge, no less than four brethren in the room owing their provincial collars to the foundation of Lodge Obedience. In conclusion, he proposed "Health, Long Life, and Prosperity to the Worshipful Master, Bro. Boon." The Chairman, in response, remarked that he had been twenty years a Mason, having been initiated in Lodge Benevolence, No. 303, at Teignmouth, in which he attained the dignity of Senior Warden, but he declined to take the chair. He had come to Okehampton, and had helped to form that lodge, the chair of which he had been prevailed upon to take with great reluctance. He highly appreciated all their kindnesses, and the honour so many visiting brethren did him in being present. He hoped to prove himself worthy of their confidence, and to obtain the hearty support of all his officers and brethren. He trusted that the lodge would prosper under his rule, and that neither he nor they would have any cause for regret when he left the chair. The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Officers," to which all of these present responded. Bro. Holley said that he was initiated twelve years ago in the Apollo University Lodge, but he then thought that Freemasonry would never be much use to him. When, however, he became the rector of a large parish, he found that his connection with the Craft brought him into real brotherly love and connection with a large number of his parishioners and neighbours. Bro. Boon proposed "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," to which Bros. Hallett, Nankivell, Barker, and Hudd responded. "Our Poor and Distressed Brethren," brought the toast-list to a termination. The death of Bro. James threw a gloom over the whole of the proceedings for the day, and the greatest sympathy was expressed for his relatives.

**BRIGHTON.**—Atlingworth Lodge (No. 1821).—The first regular meeting of this recently consecrated lodge (a full report of which appeared in our issue of July 26th) was held on Friday, the 22nd inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Royal Pavilion, Brighton, at five o'clock. There were present Bros. T. J. Sabine, P.M. 73, &c., Prov. S.G.W. Middlesex, W.M.; James Robertson, S.W.; H. G. Martin, P.M. 404, P. Prov. J.G.W. Herts, J.W.; G. Smith, P.M. 732, P. Prov. G. Purst. Sussex, Treas.; G. S. Godfree, Sec.; J. N. Stone, P.M. 56, S.D.; W. Newsome, J.D.; S. P. Weston, I.G.; J. M. Newham, Chap.; S. Peters, D.C.; Paige, Steward; and the visitors were Bros. C. J. Smith, P.M. and W.M. 1466; M. B. Tanner, M.D., P.M. 811, Prov. J.G.D. Sussex; Himmens, 487; F. Downard, 315. After the minutes of the consecration meeting, the careful entry of which reflects great credit on Bro. Godfree, the Secretary, had been read and confirmed, ballots were taken separately for the following gentlemen as candidates for initiation:—Messrs. J. B. Macfarlane, A. Loader, W. J. Bramwell, R. Allison, J. B. Hannay, John Field, R. A. Pearce, Thos. Berry, R. Burfield, and R. Hayler, all of whom were unanimously elected. Two joining members were elected by ballot—Bros. A. Henderson, M.D., of Scotch lodge, 242, and Hiddmans, of Scotch lodge, 225. Messrs. Macfarlane, Loader, Bramwell, and Allison, being in attendance, were separately initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. G. Smith, Past Master 732, and the charge after initiation was given in a most impressive manner, eliciting the warmest commendation of the bre-

thren, by Bro. C. J. Smith, P.M. and W.M. 1466. The lodge was called to refreshment, which was served in the ante-room. On the lodge being resumed the Bye-laws Committee presented their report, which, after a short discussion, was approved and passed. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and three brethren for election as joining members. During the evening the W.M. announced that Bro. Edwin Booth had most kindly presented the lodge with a very handsome set of folding Tracing Boards, mounted in oak, and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the donor for his very thoughtful and useful gift. All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and an emergency meeting was held next day, at three o'clock p.m., when there were present the W.M., Bro. T. J. Sabine, P.M., Past Provincial S.G.W. Middlesex; Bros. James Robertson, S.W.; H. G. Marten, P.M. 404, P. Provincial J.G.W. Herts, J.W.; Godfree, Sec.; J. M. Stones, P.M. 56, S.D.; W. Newsome, J.D.; S. P. Weston, I.G.; Paige, Steward; S. Peters, D. of C.; Loader, Bramwell, Allison, V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Sec. Sussex (H.M.); and J. S. Eidmans. The visitors comprised Bros. James Curtis, P.M. 315, S.W. 17; Hawkes, P.M. 315, Prov. G. Steward Sussex; C. Sandeman, P.M. 315, W.M. 1636, P. Prov. A.G.D. of C. Sussex; B. Bennett, W.M. 732; C. J. Smith, P.M. and W.M. 1466; E. Jones, P.M. 192; G. R. Lockyer, S.D. 315. Messrs. John Field, Thos. Berry, B. Burfield, R. Hayler, and R. A. Pierce being in attendance, were separately initiated into Freemasonry, the work being well done by the W.M. and his officers. The charge was again most effectively delivered by Bro. C. J. Smith, P.M. and W.M. 1466. All business being ended the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The brethren and visitors, nearly thirty in number, adjourned to the Unicorn Hotel, North-street, where Bro. Paige, Steward, had provided a first-class dinner, which reflected great credit on the resources of this hotel. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the after dinner proceedings enlivened by songs and recitations. The company separated shortly before 11 o'clock, fully impressed with the vitality of the Atlingworth Lodge, which under its present management bids fair to be a well worked and successful lodge.

**INSTRUCTION.**

**DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1524).**—A meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dlston, on Wednesday, the 27th inst. There were present Bros. F. Jacob, W.M.; C. Lorain, S.W.; J. L. Payne, J.W.; J. Dignam, J.D.; G. Ferrar, I.G.; W. Fieldwick, Preceptor; J. Williams, Sec.; also several other brethren. The lodge was opened in ancient form with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony initiation of was rehearsed, Bro. Williams being the candidate. Bro. J. Lorain, assisted by the brethren, worked the First, Second, and Third Sections of the Lecture. Bro. Fieldwick proposed, and Bro. Payne seconded—"That Bro. C. Lorain be W.M. for the ensuing week." Carried unanimously. Bro. Fieldwick proposed, and Bro. C. Lorain seconded—"That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. F. Jacob, for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the evening." Carried unanimously. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed in ancient form.

**Royal Arch.**

**MANCHESTER.**—Affability Chapter (No. 317).—This old and popular chapter met on Thursday, the 21st inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. Amongst those present were Comps. J. Dawson, Z.; J. E. Lees, H.; W. Norris, J.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; J. Bladon, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Grover; S. Henson, P.Z.; Jno. Smethurst, P.Z.; W. P. Groves, P.H.; W. Nicholl, S.E.; W. Sowter, P.S.; J. J. Lambert, R. Davies, W. H. Bailey, D. Donbavand, J. Oldham, St. Patrick Riley, M.D.; A. Middleton, J. Sly, Tyler, and others. Visitors: Comps. Jno. Barker, P.Z. 1345; J. R. Lever, S.E. 1496; E. Brundreth, 1387; Cook, 1045; Sinclair, 163; and M. Thomson, 163. The chapter was opened at 6 p.m. After the usual ratification of the minutes, &c., the ballot was taken for Bros. J. Wilson, W. H. Cunliffe, and M. Owen, respectively, and declared in favour. The three candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree of R.A.M. by Comp. Dawson in a truly impressive manner. At the close of the ceremony the visiting companions expressed their "Hearty good wishes," and the chapter was closed in due form, after which an adjournment was made to the banquet-room, where toasts, songs, and recitations were admirably given and duly appreciated.

**CHORLTON - CUM - HARDY.**—Chorlton Chapter (No. 1387).—This chapter held its bi-monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 20th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. There were present Comps. J. H. Sillitoe, Z.; J. Potts, H.; John Rains, P.H.; J. E. Lees, H. 317; W. P. Groves, P.H. 317; R. Davies, S.E.; J. J. Lambert, S.N.; J. G. Batty, J. elect; D. Williams, 2nd Asst. Soj.; E. Brundritt, W. Chesshyr, Janitor, and others. The chapter was opened at 6.30, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and duly ratified, Comp. J. G. Batty was installed as J. (he having been unavoidably absent from the previous meeting) by Comp. Sillitoe, Z. Subsequently, Bro. W. Norbury, who had before been duly elected, was exalted to the Supreme Degree of R.A.M. by Comp. Sillitoe, Z., who also delivered the Symbolic and Mystical Lectures. The Historical Lecture was delivered by Comp. J. E. Lees. The P.S. work was most admirably performed by Comp. Williams, who is himself but a young Royal Arch Mason, and his proficiency in the working elicited high commendations from all present. The chapter was closed in due form at 8.30, and an enjoyable evening around the social board ensued.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda of business to be transacted in Grand Lodge on Wednesday, 3rd September, 1879:—  
The minutes of the Quarterly Communication on the 4th June for confirmation.

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

	£	s.	d.
A brother of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, Gravesend	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Eleanor Lodge, No. 1707, Edmonton	50	0	0
The widow of a brother of the New Zealand Lodge of Unanimity, No. 604, Lyttelton, New Zealand	50	0	0
A brother of the Caveac Lodge, No. 176, London	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, Portsmouth	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319, London	50	0	0
A brother of the Maybury Lodge, No. 969, London	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, Oxford	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Stortford Lodge, No. 409, Bishop's Stortford	100	0	0
The widow of a brother of the Pentalpha Lodge, No. 974, Bradford, Yorks	50	0	0

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 15th day of August inst., shewing a balance in the Bank of England of £5183 14s. 11d.; 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.,  
19th August, 1879.

NEW LODGES.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

- 1827, Alliance, Gresham-street.
- 1828, Shepherd's Bush, Shepherd's Bush.
- 1829, Burrell, Shoreham, Sussex.
- 1830, Castlereagh, Coonamble, N.S.W.
- 1831, Victoria, Ashfield, N.S.W.
- 1832, Charles Warren, Du Toits Pan, Griqualand, South Africa.
- 1833, St. Keyna, Keynsham, Somersetshire.
- 1834, Duke of Connaught, Portsea.
- 1835, William Kingston, Tunis.
- 1836, Collegium Fabrorum, Kingston, Jamaica.
- 1837, Lullingstone, Farningham, Kent.
- 1838, Tudor Lodge of Rifle Volunteers, Wolverhampton.
- 1839, Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

The installation of Viscount Ebrington as Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire, in succession to the Rev. John Huyshe and the late Earl Fortescue, the present P.G.M.'s grandfather, is an interesting event in the annals of Freemasonry; and the meeting on Thursday, the 14th inst., in the Victoria Hall, Exeter, very fairly represented, both as regards the numbers of the brethren in attendance and their earnest unanimity, how strongly they feel in testifying their respect to those most able administrators of the Province of Devon, within the memory of the ancients of this present generation. The reports so ably furnished in the *Freemason* and other journals, north, south, east, and west, especially in Devonshire—all prove the existence of the same spirit of devotion to the interests of Freemasonry in the West of England. Where all has been so admirable it would be invidious to make comparisons except for the generous purpose of promoting nobler rivalry. We refer our readers to the journal before-named for a detailed account of the general proceedings, beginning with the muster at the Victoria Hall, Exeter, to the banquet's termination at the Public Rooms. It is satisfactory to find that the Masonic Charities, as reported by the Committee of Petitions, have been enabled to continue their aid to the aged members of the Craft, and the widows of deceased Masons, as well as to the orphans, male and female, of brethren requiring pecuniary aid. We may heartily congratulate the venerable and beloved Past Prov. G.M. of Devon, Bro. Huyshe, that he has reaped so ample an harvest even during his life-time, and feel assured that his remaining years will be most gratefully refreshed by the recollections of his Masonic labours of love. The golden chain of office, which he handed to be placed on the neck of his successor, Viscount Ebrington, young in years, but earnest to acquire experience, emblematises the more secret but not less desired linked affections of the general brethren, whether young or old, or whatever their circumstances. We conclude these remarks by the following lines, dedicated to Freemasonry in Devonshire:—

Descend, blest Spirit! from the realms of bliss,  
As when Elijah mounted to the sky,  
Nor let the soaring thought be aught amiss,  
Which humbly prays thine aid for Masonry!  
Descend! though not by falling mantle seen,  
Nor bid us gaze, by anxious straining sight;

But rather let our judgment truly deem,  
The golden yoke of office may be light!  
Light as the labours of a well-spent life,  
That tread the steps of faith, hope, charity;  
So speed thou, Bro. Huyshe, o'er earth's strife,  
To God's grand mansions of eternity!  
And may the golden chain of tender love,  
Bequeathed for Bro. "Ebrington" to wear,  
Be like a charming faculty to move,  
Each heart Masonic from a weight of care!

WM. LANGLEY POPE, D.D., and P.P.G.C. Devon.  
Newton Abbot, Devon,  
August 15th, 1879.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of the Mark Master Masons of Devon was held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., under the banner of Fortitude Lodge, No. 66, at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth. R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel J. Tanner Davy, J.P., P.G.M.M., presided, supported by the following officers of the year:—W. Bros. the Hon. W. Hylton-Jolliffe, P.S.G.W.; H. Horton, P.J.G.W.; C. Godtschalk, P.G.M.O.; and W. Vicary, P.G. Treas.; V.W. Bro. V. Bird, Past G.M.O. of England; W. Bros. R. Lose, P.G.S.D.; E. Binding, P.G.O.; J. H. Stephens, P.G.St.B.; F. Littlton, J. Allen, and L. D. Nicholls, P.G. Stewards; and John Rogers, P.G. Tyler. Among the brethren present were also R.W. Bro. W. Jas. Hughan, Past G.W. of England, and P.P.G. Sec. of Cornwall, and the following Past Prov. G. Officers and lodge officers of the province:—V.W. Bro. J. E. Curteis, Past G.D. of England, and P.P.G.J.W.; W. Bros. T. S. Bayly, P.P.J.G.W.; Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Fitzgerald, P.P.G.M.O.; J. B. Gover, P.P.G.M.O.; S. Jew, P.P.G.M.O.; A. R. Lethbridge, P.P.G.M.O.; I. Latimer, P.P.G.S.O.; the Rev. T. W. Lemon, M.A., P.P.G. Chaplain; the Rev. W. Whitley, P.P.G. Chaplain; R. B. Twose, P.P.G. Treasurer; L. D. Westcott, P.P.G.T.; E. Aitken-Davies, P.P.G.J.D.; J. M. Hifey, P.P.G.J.D.; G. H. Evans, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Pengelly, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Toms, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Croydon, P.P.G.S.B.; E. Roseveare, P.P.G.S.B.; E. Knight, P.P.G.S.B.; H. H. Arnold, P.P.G.O.; R. G. Bird, P.P.G.O.; Jno. Lynn, P.P.G.O.; E. D. Farnell, P.P.G. St. B.; H. Miller, P.P.G. Purst.; B. B. S. Richards, W.M. 23; W. Harris, W.M. 215; T. C. Lewarn, W.M. 76; J. R. H. Harris, S.W. 91; Geo. Jackson, S.W. 35; H. G. Beachey, S.W. 215; J. W. Collins, S.W. 16; Jno. James, J.W. 50; T. S. May, S.O. 96; S. Griffin, S.O. 50; Jno. Horswell, J.O. 15; Jno. Ingle, J.O. 215; G. R. Barrett, J.O. 35; E. Tout, J.O. 50; Adml. F. H. Glasse, 66; H. Bridgeman, M.O. 91; J. R. Lord, 50; H. R. Langmead, J.O. 16; W. Collins, J.D. 48; J. D. Barker, O. 50; Geo. Mitchell, I.G. 50.

At the Board of General Purposes there were present R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. Tanner Davy, W. Bros. Hon. W. Hylton-Jolliffe, C. Godtschalk, V. Bird, W. Vicary, S. Jew, J. B. Gover, and L. D. Westcott.

The accounts were audited, and showed an available balance for disposal of over £44.

The Board resolved to recommend a vote of forty guineas to the Devon Educational Fund, and "That the said sum be given in the name of the R.W. the P.G.M. for the time being, thus giving him fifty votes for the disposal of the fund for twenty years."

A brisk discussion on that proposition occurred between the members of the Board, some of them considering the vote proposed too large, and recommending that the amount should be reduced to twenty guineas. The majority, however, determined on recommending forty guineas.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was subsequently opened, and the admission of brethren became general.

The P.G. Secretary (V.W. Bro. Bird) reported that the returns of all the lodges in the province had been sent in with the exception of the Pleiades Lodge, No. 26, at Totnes, which, it was feared, was hopelessly dormant.

The P.G. Treasurer (Bro. Vicary) reported that the receipts for the year had been £33 0s. 6d., which, added to a balance in hand from the previous year of £23 2s. 7d., made total receipts of £52 13s. 1d. The payments had been £8 15s. 3d., leaving a balance in hand of £44 11s. 10d.

The P.G. Secretary read the report of the Board of General Purposes.

W. Bro. Gover proposed that the Board's recommendation should be carried out, and forty guineas voted to the Devon Educational Fund.

W. Bro. W. Hylton-Jolliffe seconded the proposition.

W. Bro. C. Godtschalk proposed an amendment that the vote should only be for twenty guineas. He thought it unadvisable to vote away the whole of the available balance to a local fund. When the Devon Educational Fund was being established it was asserted that it would not in any way interfere with the support of the London Great Masonic Charities, but if the revenues of the Provincial Grand Lodges were to be voted away in the wholesale manner proposed in that lodge such action would certainly interfere with the London Charities. The Province of Devon was deeply indebted to the London Charities for the great assistance extended to the province, and he thought in gratitude they should not be deserted. W. Bro. Lethbridge seconded the amendment.

W. Bro. E. Aitken-Davies supported the amendment. He thought that the principle so hastily introduced should be carefully considered. He approved of the Education Fund, but thought the attempt made by its officers to absorb all the disposable money in the province in the support of that project alone should be resisted. The support of the Education Fund should come from the individual contributions of members in the province. That was understood to be the source from which it was at first proposed to maintain the fund, and it would shew the in-

terest taken in the fund by the brethren; but now all the old sources for maintaining the London Charities and voting to other benevolences were to be absorbed by the Education Fund. There was also another question. Was the forty guineas to be capitalised? or was that money to be used as revenue? If large sums were thus to be voted by the Prov. G. Lodges that matter should be settled first.

W. Bro. Stephens supported the amendment. W. Bro. Whitley supported the proposition. He did not see that any valid objections to the measure had been proved. A scrutiny was called for in the voting, when, of the brethren entitled to vote, twenty voted for the amendment and twenty-eight for the proposition. The forty guineas were, therefore, voted to the fund, and the question of how it should be used left to the Committee of the Educational Fund.

W. Bros. Saml. Jew, I. S. Bayly, C. Godtschalk, and Richard Lose were elected the Board of General Purposes. Bro. John Ingle, the J.D. of the Devon Lodge, No. 215, was elected the Treasurer.

The P.G.M.M. then invested the following brethren as the officers for the ensuing year:—

V.W. Bro. P. H. Newnham (by proxy)	Prov. G.D.M.
W. Bro. Admiral Glasse, C.B., 66	Prov. G.S.W.
" Lewis Riccard, 9	Prov. G.J.W.
" Jno. James, 50	Prov. G.M.O.
" Geo. Jackson, 35	Prov. G.S.O.
" H. Cole, 100	Prov. G.J.O.
" Rev. Geo. Warner, 215	Prov. G. Chap.
" Jno. Ingle, 215	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. G. Beachey, 215	Prov. G. Reg.
V.W. Bro. V. Bird, 66	Prov. G. Sec.
W. Bro. J. Galliford, 5	Prov. G.S.D.
" W. Harris, 219	Prov. G.J.D.
" H. Miller, 91	Prov. G.S. Wks.
" Jno. Horswell, 15	Prov. G.D.C.
" F. Littleton, 48	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" Jno. Allen, 96	Prov. G.S.B.
" S. D. Nicholls, 23	Prov. G.St.B.
" Jno. D. Barker, 50	Prov. G.O.
" H. R. Langmead, 16	Prov. G. Purs.
" J. C. Lewarn, 76; S. B. S. } Richards, 23; and Geo. } Mitchell, 50	Prov. G. Stewards.
" Jas. Gidley, 50	Prov. G. Tyler.

In the evening a large party of the brethren dined together at Walter's Farley Hotel, Colonel Tanner Davy presiding.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Mark Master Masons of the Province of Cornwall was held on Tuesday afternoon, the 26th inst., in the Masonic Hall, New Public Rooms, Truro. W. Bro. W. Tweedy, Deputy P.G.M., presided, supported by W. Bros. Rev. W. H. Bloxsome, P.S.G.W.; I. Paull, P.J.G.W.; T. C. Polglaze, P.G.J.O.; W. Tregay, P.G. Treas.; W. J. Johns, P.G. Sec., P.P.J.G.M.W.; J. Q. James, P.S.G.D.; S. Michell, P.G.J.O. Wks.; S. Harvey, P.G.D.C.; E. M. Cock, P.G.A.D.C.; Captain W. E. Michell, P.G.S.B.; R. H. Heath, P.G. Org.; W. Rooks, P.G.I.G.; T. Davey, P.G. Steward; and J. Langdon, P.G. Tyler.

Among the brethren present were R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.P.G. Sec., and P.G.W. of England; W. Bro. George Brown, P.G.M.O. Leicester and Rutland; Bro. H. S. Hill, M.O. Charity, No. 76; and the following Past Provincial Grand Officers and lodge officers of the seven lodges in the province: Bros. John Thomas, P.P.G. Organist; T. Chirgwin, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Middleton, P.P.S.G.D.; J. C. R. Crewes, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; C. Truscott, jun., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Mason, W.M.; R. Lean, S.W.; J. T. Tillman, M.O.; W. P. Smith, S.O.; W. J. Tryhall, J.O., and J. C. Furness, J.D. 78; F. H. Pool, P.P.G.M.O.; James Pool, P.P.G.J.O.; J. G. Osborne, S.W. 87; W. F. Newman, P.P.S.G.W.; M. Little P.P.G.S.B.; Harry Tilly, J.W. 94; Rev. G. L. Church, P.P.G. Chap.; J. Hooper, W.M. 101; J. Eastlick, J.O. 101; and H. Trembath, S.W. 175.

Bro. W. J. Hughan said the first business would be to enter into the minutes of the province a record of the lamented death of the late Prov. Grand Master, Sir F. M. Williams, Bart. Bro. Hughan commented on the great regret felt by the brethren on his death, and of the interest which Sir Frederick always took in Mark Masonry since its introduction into the province in 1867, of which they had a lasting memorial in the handsome set of jewels, the most handsome in England, which their late P.G.M. had presented to the lodge. He moved that a minute expressing their regret should be entered, and that Colonel Peard should be empowered to convey the same personally or by letter to Lady Williams. W. Bro. W. H. Bloxsome seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Treasurer reported a balance of £9 13s. in hand, and Bro. Tregay received a hearty vote of thanks for his services as Treasurer since 1874.

Bro. W. Tweedy spoke of the gratification all must feel in seeing Colonel Peard appointed as Prov. G. Master; and of the R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. T. Davy, J.P., P.G.M.M. of the senior Province of Devon, attending for the purpose of the installation, and of their desire to promote good fellowship with their sister county.

A deputation was then appointed to receive R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Davy, who was appointed Installing Master by the M.W.G. Master, and he was placed in the W. Master's chair and saluted by the brethren.

The patent of the appointment of Bro. Peard as the second Prov. Grand Mark Master of Cornwall was read by the Prov. Secretary, and a deputation received Bro. Peard and conducted him to the pedestal.

Bro. Davy expressed the pleasure it gave him to instal Col. Peard. He congratulated him on the high honour conferred upon him, and the brethren of the province on the selection that had been made. The name of Colonel Peard was known, not only in England, but throughout the world, and he was known as one who thoroughly discharged whatever he undertook, and whatever duties devolved upon him. Courtesy and firmness would characterise his ruling, and satisfaction would be given to the Grand Lodge no less than to his province. Colonel Peard, he felt sure, was not insensible of the great responsibility devolving upon him, since the character of the Provincial Grand Lodge would in a great measure depend on his skill. He hoped that the Grand Overseer of the Universe would help him, and that Colonel Peard would make His revealed word his guide.

Colonel Peard was then installed into the chair, after taking the obligation, and was duly proclaimed and saluted. The returns of the lodges in the province showed that Meridian, No. 73, Redruth, had 34 members; Fortitude, 71, Truro, 50; Cornubian, 87, Hayle, 49; Love and Honour, 94, Falmouth, 17; Boscawen, 101, Chacewater, 27; St. Michael, 175, Helston, 22; and Fort, 206, Newquay, 21; total 221 members.

Thanks were voted to R.W. Bro. Davy for the very able and efficient manner in which he had performed his duty; and a hope was expressed that he would again visit the province.

Colonel Peard could only endorse what had been said, and tender his own very cordial thanks.

Colonel Davy said he had met Colonel Peard in Craft lodges in Devon, and under his rule he hoped to see Mark Masonry flourish in the province. He (the speaker) was the first to bring Mark Masonry into the West, and it had spread and taken deep root.

It was resolved that Bro. Hughan should edit a directory of the members of the Mark Masons' lodges in the province.

The P.G.M.M. then invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. T. Chirgwin, 78	...	...	Prov. G.D.M.
" W. Tweedy, 78...	...	...	Prov. D.P.G.M.
" E. M. Cock, 34...	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" C. Truscott, 78...	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" W. E. Michell, 206	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" John Thomas, 73	...	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" M. Little, 94	...	...	Prov. G.J.O.
" Rev. G. L. Church, 101	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" H. Tilly, 94	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. J. Johns, 78	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. T. Davey, 101	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" J. F. Hooper, 101	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" Geo. Bray, 73...	...	...	Prov. G.I.O. Wks.
" S. Harvey	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Dr. W. Mason, 78	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" T. Davey, 175	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" R. H. Heath, 73	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Rooks, 78	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Husband, 87; H. Trem- bath, 175; and W. Huth- nance, 87...	...	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" J. Langdon	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bro. W. Tweedy was elected Treasurer. The P.G.M.M., Deputy M., Wardens, Secretary, Chaplain, and Registrar were appointed a Committee of General Purposes for the province.

The lodge was then closed in due form, and in the evening there was a banquet, under the presidency of Colonel Peard.

HOW BRO. JONES SPENT HIS HOLIDAY.

Bank Holiday on Monday next! Nearly three whole days from the smoky, noisy Manchester streets. But the question is, where shall I go to? Here, boy, run for a penny Bradshaw! Now for it. What about Wales? let's see—Rhyll four hours and forty minutes in the train. That's too long. Ah! glorious, only one hour and twenty minutes! Jones, my boy, Blackpool is the place for you. Having thus far settled how to spend my Bank Holiday, I retired to rest on Friday with a kind of boyish delight, contemplating the pleasures in prospect, for I had never visited the Northern watering place.

Saturday "Old Sol" managed at last to give us just one of his glorious summer warmings, and some two hours before my usual time for closing I issued the command to "Tom to up shutters," much to the delight of that urchin, who grinned all over his face when I announced to him the fact that he need not present himself again until Tuesday morning.

Dressed in my new tweed suit (which had been lying by for some weeks ready for summer), my best stove pipe go-to-meeting hat, real new gingham, and travelling bag, all complete, I started early for the L. and Y. Railway Station, thinking that I would have the pick of seats in the train, but, to my astonishment, I found that hundreds of others were of the same mind, and that instead of being first at the station I was at the tail end of a long human stream, which was moving at a funereal pace towards the pay-desk. All things have an end, so at last I faced the mild-looking young man who stood behind the counter. "Third-class, Blackpool," said I, putting down a gold coin. "No thirds by this train, all first express," replied the mild young man, at the same time exchanging my coin for a small piece of paste board and another coin just one-half the size of the one I gave him. Before I had the least chance of expostulating I was propelled along to the platform. Mentally calculating how my expenditure would have to be curtailed in consequence of having to pay extra fare, I arrived alongside a long train

of coaches. Out of one of the windows suddenly came a hairy cap, having underneath a merry-looking face, and a well-known voice called out "Why, hang it, here's Brother Jones. Come in, old boy; just room for one," and in popped the hairy cap like an overgrown "jack in the box." Approaching the compartment from whence the friendly invitation came, I found my friend Bro. Tomkins, with four other brethren of the mystic tie, smoking away like factory chimneys.

"Why, I thout you were a reg'lar third-class parlymentry swell," said one of the party, adopting, as is usually the case when on pleasure intent, the Lancashire dialect. "A'int he coming it extravagant, going a gallivanting first-class?" said another. The bell rang, the "iron horse" snorted, and off we dashed over the house tops. "Who's for a game?" says Tomkins, pulling a pack of cards out of his satchel. "Just to while away the time," says another. "Only a tanner a game," says a third. Not being an adept at whist, I respectfully declined taking part in the game, but was exceedingly amused at the remarks with which my loquacious and humorous fellow passengers diversified the play. "Now then, crack yer whip," says one, when a little delay occurred. "That's too big for my fireplace," says another when unable to beat a card laid down. And so the game went merrily on until we reached the Hounds Hill Station. That being our destination, and bidding my friends adieu, I made for the sea-shore, which I was told was but a few yards distant. Goodness gracious! had I been dreaming? or was I at the time wide awake? Being satisfied on this important point I came to the conclusion that by some means I must have got into a wrong train and been landed at some new station in Manchester, for surely what I behold must be Knott Mill on a fair day. There certainly was a broader sheet of water than the Irwell. Still, near me sat the Deansgate boy without hands, whining in his usual nasal twang, and accompanying his doleful voice with a concertina. "The Moody and Sankey Minstrels" were calling upon everybody to "Hold the fort," another well known Knott Mill musical nuisance. A man playing a groaning harmonium was grinding out discords. The acting blind man was addressing his "kind Christian friends," and alternately uttering under his breath anything but blessings upon those who passed him by without increasing his ill-gotten store; Cheap Jacks bawling out the sale of their wares with their husky voices, and a lot of other itinerant impostors making the place hideous with their incessant yelling.

After passing along a continuation of this Babel of sounds, I struck out into the side streets for the purpose of finding a resting place, but even these were crowded by a rough mob of excursionists. In the winter gardens, on the pier, in the rink, the rabble and noise never ceased.

Feeling somewhat wearied, and anxious to find some hostelry wherein to refresh the inner man, I strolled towards the only quiet looking part of Blackpool, viz., "Claremont Park." Immediately after I had paid my admission copper and passed the entrance gate, I was hailed by a welcome—"Hullo, my boy; where do you think you're off to?" and the robust form of a jovial brother impeded my progress. Noticing my almost forlorn appearance, he kindly led the way to the magnificent hotel at the extreme limit of the promenade, where my bodily wants were soon supplied. During the repast I related to him my adventures and disappointment with Deansgate-on-the-Sea, and expressed my intention to return home the next morning if he could only find me a lodging for the night. Out came the brother's watch. "Just in time," says he, "not a minute to spare, so come on;" and by means of elbowing and jostling through the motley crowd for about a mile I found myself at the same station at which I had landed that afternoon.

Thinking that he intended returning to Manchester that evening I ventured to suggest that a little rest would be acceptable before undertaking the journey home. "Home," shouted he, laughing like a great hyæna, "who's going home? Why, I'm going to take you where you can have a quiet night's rest—a peep at the sea, plenty of fresh air, and as good a dinner to-morrow as you ever sat down to."

"Now," said I, "I'm not in the humour for joking, so where are you taking me to; fair play and above board, you know?"

After mopping his jolly old face with his handkerchief, he managed to get out, "St. Ann's."

I was just on the point of turning away in disgust, for I really thought he was playing off one of his jokes, for the only St. Ann's I could then think of was the church and square so called in Manchester. At that moment a whistle sounded, and I was pulled into the train. "It's all right," said my jovial brother, "we shall be there directly," and in a few minutes the train slackened, and he pointed to a large board, on which was painted "St. Ann's-on-the-Sea."

When the train stopped we alighted, and passed out of the pretty little station. A few strides brought us in front of a beautiful hotel, wherein we entered. Every one seemed to know my companion, and on all sides we were heartily welcomed. After a "short nip" he left for his diggings, and I adjourned to the extensive and handsomely furnished coffee-room, just in time for a Lancashire "thick tea." This much needed meal dispatched, I mounted my *smoke stack*, and puffing away through the strong sea breezes reached the splendid promenade, which is laid out and walled for about two miles along the shore. The bracing air immediately revived my spirits and served to dispel from my mind the annoyances of the previous part of the day.

Here, thought I, I can enjoy my holiday in quietness, and with that pleasing idea I retired to my hotel, and at an early hour was snoring in my comfortable bed.

Sunday morning. A beautiful breeze blowing, and the sun making periodical attempts to burn through the thick

clouds. Breakfast over, I strolled about the wide streets of semi-detached houses, across the numerous sand hills, covered with "star grass," along the shore, and back through rural walks amidst the farmsteads and cornfields in time to take part in the morning service in the quaint little church, wherein I heard an excellent sermon, and afterwards returned to "mine inn."

Having seated myself upon one of the comfortable garden chairs I determined "to enjoy a quiet weed," but judge to my surprise to hear my name called out from an open conveyance then pulling up in front of the hotel, out of which jumped my companion railway travellers of the day before. "Caught you at last, old boy," says one. "Nothing less than a white neck will do," says another. "Mumm's the word," says Tomkins, and, seeing a waiter at the door, he beckoned him to us; and without consulting either my desires or the length of my purse an order was given, and, said Tomkins, "to be put down to Jones's bill." "Bravo, we're in luck," shouted one of my noisy visitors. "Why, here's the Egyptian," meaning my jovial friend, who was just taking an appetiser on the shore. "Hi! Hi! there's old Pyramid!" bawled out another; "we're just come a lookin' for yer."

It is needless for me to endeavour to relate what passed in the half-hour before dinner, beyond the remark made by the waiter as the carriage containing the Blackpool contingent drove away, "That's a merry lot, sir, and just the sort to enjoy themselves," which I think will convey to the reader's mind a sufficient idea of their proceedings. After dinner I strolled along the beach to the picturesque town of Lytham, which is prettily situated at the mouth of the Ribble, and returned to St. Ann's by rail—so finishing the day.

Monday morning, in spite of the intermittent heavy showers, I commenced my day's peregrinations by visiting the public gardens, thence along the shore towards Blackpool, passing the Star Hotel, which is celebrated for fresh caught cockles; also the gipsies' encampment, the rendezvous of the young maidens who possess a desire to know the colour of the eyes and hair and the height and breadth of their future husbands. About an hour's walk brought me to what is termed the south shore, or, as I think, it may be more aptly termed "Juvenile Bay"—about two miles from the centre of Blackpool. Here was paterfamilias in all his glory, surrounded by his olive branches, furnished with the inseparable spade and bucket. Here, too, were the indigenous donkeys—galloping along the extensive sands with their juvenile burdens. Perambulators in scores occupied the wide promenade—and the joyous shouts of the hundreds of happy youngsters bore a cheerful contrast to the noisy rabble in the central part of the town.

From time to time I caught sight of some familiar face enjoying the bracing sea breeze, surrounded by his little flock; and now and again a hearty "Hullo, Jones; you here," came from the open windows as I passed by. The throng of human beings increased as I proceeded; the South Pier and the central beach were simply a living mass, and it was amusing to see the steamboats crowded as thick as bees in a hive.

The North Pier is evidently reserved for the upper ten, and here all the hideous fashions of the ladies' dresses are seen to perfection. One thought occurred to me, i.e.: supposing an alarm of danger should be raised, how would the ladies manage to escape? because to run is entirely out of the question, the longest steps permissible by their tight costumes being about six inches. Why do our fair friends try to imitate the Egyptian mummies? This pier is certainly one of the finest in Europe. At the extreme end stands the music-hall, capable of seating 2000 people, and in which an excellent band, conducted by Mr. Risegari, performs each evening; on special occasions some of our leading vocalists are engaged.

A stroll along the cliffs to Uncle Tom's Cabin and back brought the day as well as my holiday to a close, and at the appointed time I met my fellow passengers at the railway station, and, enlivened by the recital of their various adventures and experiences, I arrived at smoky Manchester.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Thursday last at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton, Grand Treasurer, presided. There were also present Bros. H. A. Dubois, Col. James E. Peters, Arthur E. Gladwell, Joshua Nunn, S. Rosenthal, F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary); and H. Massey (Freemason).

There was but one petition before the Committee, and that was deferred on account of unsatisfactory reading on the part of the child.

Authority for signing cheques, was then given to the Chairman for payment of current expenses, and the Committee adjourned.

The telephone appears to be getting very popular in the United States, one company alone having now in operation over 40,000 instruments.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life and on its purity depends our health, if not our existence. These Pills thoroughly cleanse this vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that power, strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills commends them to the favour of debilitated and nervous constitutions which they soon resuscitate. They dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or who from some cause have become so.—[Advrt.]

## TO OUR READERS.

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

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

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

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

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

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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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## Answers to Correspondents.

VESTUR.—Your communication is an advertisement.

## BOOKS, &amp;c., RECEIVED.

"Brief," "Die Bauhütte," "Keystone," "Citizen," "Alliance News," "Broad Arrow," "Hull Packet," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "The Belfast Morning News," "The Freemason's Monthly," "Report United Grand Lodge of England and Agenda Paper," "Report of Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire," "New York Dispatch," "The West Middlesex Advertiser," "The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette," "Masonic Review," "The Hebrew Leader," "Bulletin du Grand Orient de France."

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

## BIRTHS.

DUNCUM.—On the 24th inst., at Broomfield, Weybridge-heath, Surrey, the wife of Mr. William Duncum, of a daughter.

LAKE.—On the 25th inst., the wife of Mr. Edward Lake, Bury St. Edmunds, of a daughter.

TAYLER.—On the 24th inst., at 224, Lewisham High-road, the wife of Mr. Francis T. Tayler, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGE.

MÜLLER—KROLL.—On the 21st inst., at the Parish Church, St. Botolph, Aldgate, London, Bro. Capt. A. Müller, Lodge "Germania," Shanghai, to Doris, eldest daughter of Mr. Ernst Kroll, 15, America-square, London. No. cards.

## DEATHS.

GUNNELL.—On the 20th inst., at Lexden, George W. Gunnell, son of the late Mr. George J. Gunnell, aged 48 years.

QUINCEY.—On the 25th inst., at South Hackney, Mr. J. Harcourt Quincey, in his 80th year.

RUMSEY.—On the 25th inst., at Clevedon, Mr. John Rumsey, aged 86 years.

## THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1879.

## THE ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

Such is the name to be given to a "fund" about to be started, under very high auspices, and to which Bro. Dick Radclyffe has called our attention, being in one sense, we believe, the founder of it. Among several distinguished brethren who have already given their patronage to it we find Bros. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., P.G.W., Prov. G. Master Oxon; Earl of Rosslyn, K.T., P.G.M. Scotland, 33°; His Grace the Duke of Athole, K.T., Past Grand Master Scotland; Right Hon. Lord Henniker, P.S.G. Warden, S.G.W.M.M., P.P.G.W. Suffolk; Sir Daniel Gooch, Bt., M.P., Prov. G. Master Berks and Bucks; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., Dep. Prov. G. Master Suffolk; F. Adlard, P.M. 7, P.Z. 214, P.P.A.G.D. of C. Essex; Sir John Bennett, Grand Stewards' Lodge; W. Biggs, P. Prov. G. Secretary Berks and Bucks; F. Binckes, P.G.S., Sec. R.M.I.B.; R. Bradley, Prov. G. Secretary Berks and Bucks; Colonel Frederick Brine, R.E., P.M., 30°; J. O. Carter, Sec. 209, P. Prov. G.D. of C. Berks and Bucks; Baron Fielder, P.M., P.G.S.W. Berks and Bucks; J. Jacobs, P.M. 482, P.P.G. Reg. Staffordshire; George Kenning, P. Prov. G.D. Middlesex; W. H. Lucia, G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec. Suffolk; Andrew Pears, W.M. 865; Robert Roberts, W.M. 209, Prov. G.J.D. Berks and Bucks; H. C. Tombs, P.G.D.; A. Withers, W.M. 211; and others. Many more will no doubt soon join the movement, and it will easily be got into working order. Its object is practically to "look after" our pupils leaving our excellent Schools, and assist them in meeting the difficulties and dangers of life as they start on their journey. It appears to us a practical scheme, and one likely to commend itself to all who interest themselves in our Masonic orphans, and who feel that the associations of our lodges, and the pleasures of Masonic social intercourse, are enhanced and expanded in wonderful measure when we seek to extend to the poor children of those who once were our "mates and confrères" in many a pleasant gathering of "auld lang syne," the kindly hand of Masonic charity, or the warm sympathies of Masonic benevolence. There is nothing about this plan grand or pretentious, chimerical or Utopian. It is a plain and practical development of what is right, needful, and truly considerate. In all similar praiseworthy movements, for some time past, in this country, there has been existing, happily, a growing conviction that our duty to the orphans we seek to educate, that our interest in them, cannot and do not cease with the conclusion and limits of the "school age." All over the land great anxiety has been evinced of late years to discover a method and elaborate a plan, by which our girls and boys on leaving school might find a continuance of culture and care, friendly help, and genial "surveillance," if we may so use the word, by which in the most dangerous period of life they may be shielded from the temptations which lure, and the perils which beset, young and ardent minds, bursting out with the feelings and vigour of youth, and emancipated from needful control or kindly advice. This is the main point of this new Masonic scheme, as we understand it, and as such we give it our warm approval. Our Institutions grant a sum for outfit and advancement in life, but there they stop. This new society will seek to carry on the good work, and watch over the progress of our pupils from the time they leave their respective Institutions, and will seek to find suitable positions for them, and in every way act as friends, counsellors, and helpers to those who from their peculiar position as orphans are too often friendless, and require much fostering care to enable them to reap the benefits of that admirable education which has been given to them. We are aware that this is not the best of times to make appeals or to found new charitable

institutions, but we think the useful, the needful, and the practical so predominate in this simple and straightforward scheme, which we print elsewhere in detail, that we have thought well to call the attention of our readers specifically, if shortly, to it. As the Society increases in size and commences its work in good earnest as we doubt not, we shall from time to time have much pleasure in noting its reports and reprinting its proceedings, for the information and gratification of our readers.

## CHARITY REFORM.

We must fairly confess that, in common, we fancy, with most of our readers, we are greatly disappointed with Bro. Simpson's reply to the Grand Treasurer's letter. As regards our own remarks, we do not see that Bro. Simpson attempts to answer them. It is plain to us that he is altogether ignorant—we say it most respectfully—of the position which Provincial Charity Committees now occupy in the question, and we can only repeat, what we fancy ninety-nine out of every hundred Masons will also say, "if great abuses exist, we do not know where or what they are." As regards the "investigation" into cases, which proposed reform Bro. Simpson took from us, and has now made part of his own little programme, he mentions "information he has received." We fancy that even in this respect he does not realize what it is he is proposing. There are now certain formalities laid down which must be complied with, and certain pre-requisite conditions which must be satisfied before candidates can be placed on the list. But that is not "where the shoe pinches." The only one real difficulty is a comparative question of poverty, of need. And this is a most difficult and delicate subject, as all who have looked into or handled Charity cases can testify at once. It is all very well to indulge in general propositions, in magnificent utterances and mysterious hints, but what we want is the reality and, above all, the truth of careful, conscientious enquiry. We need least of all the "crotchets of reformers," or the "high falutin" of the stock sensationalism, the "bombast" of the childish fallacies of the hour. "All that glitters is not gold," and all the professions of philanthropy, all the demands for change, the agitated craving for public discussion or popular approval, so rampant and so pretentious often just now, have not the slightest effect on the minds of those who understand their business, who care little for mere excitement or the platform, and who have watched the real wants of such institutions and have realized the true position of affairs. As regards the "scenes on polling days," we think our brother the Grand Treasurer will be as amused as we are with our worthy brother's gentle "casuistry" on the subject. For there is a "casuistry," as we have sometimes observed before, not purely of Roman origin, not alone practised at Stonyhurst. The illustration in the *Graphic* or *Illustrated London News* did not refer to a Masonic Charity, and it is idle, and worse than idle, in a discussion on Masonic Charities to bring in other charities. It is not quite respectful to the Craft or Bro. Col. Creton, when asked what are the scenes at Masonic elections, to be told they exist in other associations. The Craft wanted "particulars" not "generals." However, we do not wish to seem even to find fault. No proved abuses exist in our Masonic Charities. If our Past Grand Chaplain thinks so, let him openly say so, and point them out. But if not, the charge ought to be withdrawn at once, as detrimental to the character and derogatory to the imputation of the subscribers. We have said all this in the interests of our Charities, openly and fearlessly, but, we trust, also courteously and fraternally.

## SERVANTS' CHARACTERS.

A good deal of controversy has arisen lately upon this very difficult and delicate question, and some amusing letters have been written, and some striking illustrations have been adduced to demonstrate the evils and inconveniences of the present system. Certainly, at present, everything is as doubtful and uncomfortable as

well can be. The anxious housewife, rightly ever on "hospitable thoughts intent," and desirous of pleasing her "lord and master," seeks for a good cook, a comfortable housemaid, an active butler. Alas, poor woman! many are her difficulties, her drawbacks, and her dangers. The characters too often which she receives contain both a "suppressio veri" and a "suggestio falsi," and she soon finds that the "good cook" is a very indifferent performer, the housemaid who "knows her duties" is slatternly, and idle, and "cheeky;" and that the butler who is "thoroughly conversant with the requirements of his place" is a frequenter of the neighbouring public and a liberal dispenser of his master's "cellar." And so it goes on until the evil has reached a pitch which is almost unendurable. To say nothing of "false characters," reduced to a system, by which either information is sought for by "special agents" or notoriously unfit persons are comfortably located in a "genteel family," with an eye to business, pleasure, and "white soup" combined, we have daily to meet with untrue statements and dishonest replies. And why is all this? Simply because of the want of that rare commodity—truth—solely because we will not obey the golden and Divine law of "doing to others as we would be done by." Persons to get out of a scrape with a troublesome servant, or anxious to save their own pockets, deliberately slur over notorious shortcomings, judiciously suppress proved offences, and by an evasively worded and intentionally deceptive character or letter, mislead the anxious enquirer and palm off a discarded servant on a suffering fellow creature. Among the most absurd suggestions we have seen for mending the matter, improving the present most unwholesome state of things, is that from the well known Mr. (brother?) Pollaky, of Paddington-green, recommending the foreign "Dienstbuch" for servants. The "Dienstbuch" has, no doubt, its good points in Germany, like a similar Book of "Service" in France, Belgium, and Russia, but it has its bad ones. It has greatly and gravely broken down as a preventative of the very evils we have to contend with, and like the passport system is practically useless. It does not help the good; it can, and does, serve the bad, as no one knows better than Mr. Pollaky himself. Any such plan is utterly unsuitable to the habits and traditions of our people, and, though it might help certain parties amongst us, would be no guarantee to employers, on the one hand, no aid to servants on the other. No! all we want, to use a common expression, is "honour among thieves," a little more truth, honesty, uprightness, and faithfulness in our dealings one with another. Since we wrote the above we have seen another letter from Mr. Pollaky in the *Times* of Saturday, on the same subject, which suggests many serious considerations. We fancy that our skilled detectives in the City and in Scotland-yard will smile heartily at such remarkable statements and such sagacious suggestions, and that "polite letter writer" who favoured the *Times* with that striking epistle, must believe the English people to be very easily "led by the nose," if he can suppose for one moment that such flippant remarks about "constitutional difficulties," and the like, can dispose of the question or induce all classes amongst us to acquiesce, in what would be a social revolution. Mr. P. is enamoured of the "Dienstbuch." Be it so; he has quite a right to be so if he so pleases, but he cannot expect us to share his raptures, the more so as we, with others, well know what qualifications may be fairly adduced to the system, as a system. A letter, signed "A. B. C.," in the *Times*, fully confirms our views. Mr. P.'s last letter, like the preceding, is solely a special agent's letter, from a special agent's views and interests, and can have no possible effect on the discussion, which requires English, not foreign, treatment. There is one sensational touch about "lost jewels," which as the old saying runs, is "worth a Jew's eye," (ought it not be a Jew's?) and we can imagine how Mr. Bailey and Mr. Williamson will have laughed at this characteristic bit of "chaff." We trust that Sir E. Y. Henderson may be spared reading the threatened report which Mr. P. promises, as it is altogether a grave mistake to attempt to graft on our

social life, a system which originates from an entirely different theory of government and legislation. We feel sure that this proposal is altogether inexpedient and unsound, and if persevered in could only tend to favour the game of "special agency," and to destroy all confidence between employers and domestics, that great, important portion of our community, on which so much of its peace, happiness, and comfort hourly depends.

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.]

SCENES AT MASONIC ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

It is just as I expected. Bro. Simpson has made a mistake, or has been misinformed. He does not really mean our Masonic meetings, though his words might lead fairly to that inference in his original letter, but he alludes to other societies and other meetings not Masonic. I am very glad that it is so, as here my part of the controversy happily ends.

I am, yours fraternally,

J. CREATON.

A CAUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Through the medium of your paper I am desirous of putting the Almoners of lodges and members of the Craft in general on their guard with respect to one who called on me on the 20th inst., and gave his name as William John Hutchinson, Hiram Lodge, No. 97, Belfast, but whose real or assumed name I am led to believe is Thomas Blain, and whose address has been at some time No. 14, Dock-street, Belfast. On his first application I referred him to the lodge Almoner, but he shortly after returned, and informed me that that brother was not at home; he was about half-an-hour too late for him (this I have since learned was untrue, as the Almoner was at home, and he was told by this individual that I had sent him to him; he was relieved, and receipt taken for the same). He, therefore, gave me his name, and produced a certificate, and very smartly answered the three or four questions I put to him. I relieved him, and as he begged hard for some old clothes, his being shabby and wet through, I gave him a coat and vest; he again shortly returned with some letters he found in the pockets, and unintentionally left his own letters and certificate, which have led me to take further interest in this individual. I immediately wrote off to Chichester and Arundel, and have since heard that he applied for relief the next morning at Chichester, but as he could not answer the questions put to him, he cleared out sharp. He says "that he is a mechanical draftsman, has lately returned from America," which he much regrets, and hopes soon to return again; he has a son in the R.E., who is on the Ordnance Survey Branch, and he has lately been at Aldershot to try and find him (one of his letters has been re-addressed to Aldershot). He is about 5ft. 10in. in height, slightly built, of dark complexion, and dark moustache, no beard or whiskers, and has something of a military bearing about him.

I am, yours faithfully,

T. F. 804.

P.S.—From the quantity of begging Masons, and some of them worthless fellows, being about, it is time that a better system of relief was organised. I would suggest that Almoners of neighbouring lodges should communicate with one another, and if each of them were required to make out a quarterly return of the particulars of those who called for relief, and the same forwarded to the G.S.'s office, where the lists should be analysed and then published with the G.L. quarterly report, it would in time weed out these parasites and make it much better for the genuine brother in distress.

[The certificate and letters I have forwarded to the G.S. of the G.L. of Ireland.]

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At this season of the year there is not so much to occupy the mind of the Masonic public, and hence it may be a fitting opportunity to draw some attention to the great advantage which has arisen from the establishment of lodges of instruction in all parts of the United Kingdom, and the many reasons existing for their encouragement and further consolidation.

It is to be presumed that most Masons are well acquainted with the origin of these admirable institutions, and also with the way in which they came into existence, viz., by the authorisation of regularly warranted lodges, under whose aegis they have flourished, and it is to be hoped will continue to flourish. We have in special two lodges of instruction, the Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for Master Masons, and the Stability Lodge of Instruction. These two lodges have effected signal good in bringing up the standard of Masonic delivery to a point of excellence. They are supplemented by many more, and the value of these lodges can scarcely be over-estimated, inasmuch as by their means that impressive elocution is acquired which renders a lodge meeting something more nearly approaching its original purpose.

To hear the solemn words of our ritual droned out without a thought of their infinite and touching meaning

has often been my unlucky fate; to hear the Master of the lodge prompted at almost every word in the course of a ceremony has not unfrequently been my fate; but to hear the solemnest obligations administered by an inadequate authority has been the worst infliction.

I am aware that there are elocution masters, members of the Craft, who do their best to produce not only perfect intonation and due stress upon words, but if the spirit be absent, letter perfectness does little to convey to the person initiated, passed, or raised, the actual meaning of the grand and noble fraternity he is joining or is receiving advancement in.

This is a most important point—and it is partly overcome by the existence of these lodges of instruction, where, at an almost nominal cost, he can perfect himself not only in the essential parts of the Craft ceremonies, but in many instances in the Sectional Lectures as well. But it is hardly to be anticipated, unless lodges of instruction are further spread over the land, that the majority of Masons can be expected from the regular meetings to become accomplished either in the ceremonies or the lectures. Many of these lodges of instruction are permanent, and as they are duly advertised in the *Freemason*, no really studious Mason need plead ignorance of the source of knowledge.

But there exists another class of lodges of instruction very much to be deprecated. I allude to little coteries of Masons, otherwise very worthy, who occasionally meet without the sanction of the warranted lodges at places of entertainment, and there rehearse the usual ceremonies, with the prospect of a chop and a pint of stout, and perhaps a glass or so of whiskey after it. This kind of lodge of instruction, and of such there are hundreds in the metropolitan district, is to be discouraged. They meet without authorisation—without paraphernalia—without fitting rooms—and, I may say, without that observance of secrecy and decorum which should mark all Masonic proceedings.

The existence of such conventions is undoubted—and I am not singling out one only for notice on the present occasion, nor am I imputing to the holders of them motives at variance with the spirit of our institution. I mention their existence, however, with a view of directing the attention of Masonic authorities to a grave error. I will put it this way. What would a Church of England clergyman say if the solemn offices of the Church of England were, I will not say travestied, but to some degree dishonoured by hole-and-corner conventions of the kind? What would a Dissenting minister say to a service conducted mainly for the purpose of ending in a "merry bout" of pipes and beer? I do not presume to suggest, but I, for my own part, should regard the matter with the utmost suspicion and horror.

Hence I venture to offer some ideas, in the hope that they will be accepted, as I enounce them, in a fraternal Masonic spirit.

First. I would propose that all lodges of instruction should be registered in a sub-register, duly authorised to rehearse the ceremonies and sections—of course without power of actually working—and that their places of meeting shall be invariable.

Second. That no lodge of instruction, thus registered, shall be allowed to continue without a quarterly report of its proceedings and the brethren present being sent to head-quarters.

Third. That duly authorised and qualified inspectors be at any regular meeting of the lodges of instruction entitled to attend and report to head-quarters.

And, fourth, that refreshments, except once or twice a year, be not supplied to members attending such lodges, but that a fair sum shall be paid out of the entrance money to the persons at whose homes they may from time to time be held.

I would also suggest that regular minute books be kept, showing the names of the brethren and the numbers of their lodges as they may attend.

In this manner I feel sure that the better class of lodges of instruction would take a higher standing in the Craft than they do now, and would in the end educate the fraternity more fully for the noble purposes it has in hand.

There are many Masonic instructors, and it would be invidious to mention any one in especial. These brethren work hard and receive little encouragement at present, but their status and importance in the Craft would be raised, without derogating from the authority of the regularly warranted lodges or their officials, by such a proceeding.

Wishing all properly constituted lodges of instruction every future success in any case,

I remain, very dear Sir and Brother, yours sincerely and fraternally,

KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE.

Hounslow, August 26th, 1879.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The Grand Lodge meeting of this province took place at Ventnor, on Monday, the 11th inst., under the presidency of the R.W.P.G.M., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, assisted by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Hickman. The usual routine business having been disposed of, the P.G.M. proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year, and it is this part of the proceedings that requires some notice.

The P.G.M. made his usual introductory speech, about the difficulty of distributing ten collars among thirty lodges, and that the six Stewards' collars, which he intended giving to W.M.'s and P.M.'s of lodges, must not be considered as a bar to their future advancement, but, on the contrary, should be regarded as a recommendation for honours in years to come.

Now, a Steward's collar, we all know, is never received as an honour by the Master or Past Masters of a lodge, and but for their dread of creating a scene in Prov. Grand Lodge they would almost invariably refuse to accept it, as its possession subjects them to continual annoyance from the jests of their brethren.

We all freely acknowledge the difficulty of dividing the honours equally, but fail to see how this desideratum can be obtained by nearly always giving the honours that are worth having to the same set of lodges, the others getting only Stewardships—or nothing.

I will not presume to say that the fact of what may be called the permanent officers of P.G. Lodge being members of these lodges has anything to do with this, but many brethren have this belief, and reference to the accompanying table, showing the distribution of honours

since 1868, will shew that they have some excuse for their opinion.

There being some twenty-nine working lodges in the province, it follows that each lodge can only expect one Wardenship in about fifteen years, but these fortunate lodges average about one in three years.

It is abundantly evident that some alteration is necessary, and if the province is so large that justice cannot be done to the lodges comprising it, let it be divided into two—say the five Isle of Wight lodges, the nine lodges of Portsmouth and Gosport, together with Fareham and Havant, in all sixteen, under the title of East Hants; and the remaining fifteen lodges as West Hants. This or some similar division would clear the way for provincial honours and give satisfaction to all parties.

Yours faithfully and fraternally, AN OLD P.M.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROVINCIAL OFFICES from 1868 (inclusive) to the present time. Not including D.P.G. Master; P.G. Treasurer; P.G. Secretary; P.G. Chaplain; P.G. Organist; or P.G. Stewards.

Table with columns: LODGE, No., S.G.W., J.G.W., G. Regt., S.G.D., J.G.D., G.S.Wks., G.D.C., A.G.D.C., G. Sd. Br., G.P., Total. Lists various lodges like Medina, Cowes, Isle of Wight, Economy, Winchester, etc., with corresponding numbers.

A. The R.W.P.G. Master is a member of this lodge. B. The D.P.G. Master and P.G. Sec. are members of this lodge. C. & D. The P.G. Treasurer is a member of this lodge.

IMPOSTORS.

The following seasonable and amusing letter in our contemporary last week we republish for the information and warning of our readers.—ED. F.M.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—During the past year it would seem that impostors, who trade upon the kind-hearted and rob the really poor, have been more than usually active and ingenious in plying their trades. The following, which have all come under my own notice and have been proved to be impostors, may be taken as specimens of the modus operandi, and may serve to put your readers on their guard. First, there is the neatly-dressed young lady, the niece of a clergyman in the country, who has brought a girl up to a blind institution and finds that a few pounds more are required for clothes. Then there is the relieving officer, who has come up from the country with some people about to emigrate, and who has not enough to get certain necessities. There is the military-looking, middle-aged man, who is interested in getting a blind child into a school. There is a smartly-dressed man, calling himself a relieving officer of a West-end union, who asks help for a man whom the guardians cannot legally assist. There is a lady who finds herself in South Kensington, and, having lost her purse, does not know how to get home to Islington. This is occasionally varied by a poor woman, in a great flurry, in Grosvenor-square, who has been summoned to see her daughter, who is dying at Norwood, and who has had her pocket picked—purse and telegram and all are gone. There is the old sergeant who claims to have served with officers in every branch of the service. There is the old woman with the basket of fresh (?) eggs who has been sent by the master of the house all the way from the City to far Tyburnia. There is the young woman who is selling scissors in order to provide for her husband, who is waiting to be admitted to the hospital. There is the smartly-dressed, fashionable-looking man, who is collecting subscriptions for a song about to be published in aid of some charitable object. There are the two ladies who are collecting orders for a book in course of publication, the proceeds to be given to an aged governess. And last, but most heartless of all, there is the scoundrel calling himself the agent for a widows' gift charity, who, after getting all particulars from an unfortunate widow, finds he has not got the necessary 20. for his omnibus fare, and promises repayment when he brings the gift.

Now, I think you will agree with me that all these not only directly rob the poor, for we none of us possess the purse of Fortunatus, but they tend to steel our hearts against genuine appeals, unless, in order to discriminate between the false and true, we avail ourselves of the services freely

offered by the Charity Organisation Society, of which I may claim to be

A WORKING HONORARY SECRETARY. Army and Navy Club, August 18th.

FREEMASONRY IN SUFFOLK.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,— Having been away from town at the time Bro. Neilson's letter on the above article appeared in your columns, I have only just read it. Permit me, therefore, to inform him, through the medium of your esteemed journal, that this is the second of a series of articles I am writing, and that in the first, which described the rise and progress of "Freemasonry in Essex," I acknowledged Bros. Gould and Hughan's books as the principal sources from which I got my information. I do not think it necessary I should go on stating and re-stating this in each fresh article, but if it will be any satisfaction to Bro. Neilson, I will state now, and once for all, that in every similar article I may write for the Freemason, my information will be derived principally from Bro. Gould's "Four Old Lodges," and Bro. Hughan's "Register," &c.

I remain, fraternally yours, THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE. London, August 21st, 1879.

DEATH OF SIR ROWLAND HILL.—We regret to announce that Sir Rowland Hill died at his residence at Hampstead, where he had lived many years, at half-past four on Wednesday morning last. He had been for many hours unconscious, and seemed to die without pain. It had been feared, owing to the painful character of the malady from which he suffered, that there might be a return of the paroxysms, but, happily, this was not the case. Sir Rowland was the son of Mr. Thomas W. Hill, a schoolmaster, near Birmingham, and was born in 1795. He was consequently in his eighty-fourth year. He is best known as the author of the penny-postal system. A public testimonial of the value of £13,360 was presented to him in 1846. From 1843 to 1845 Sir Rowland Hill was engaged in the management of the London and Brighton Railway, and in 1846 he was appointed Secretary to the Postmaster-General, becoming Chief Secretary in 1854. He was made a K.C.B. in 1860, and retired in 1864 on account of failing health. The Treasury issued a minute acknowledging the full success of his plans, and awarded him for life his full salary of £2000 a year. He also received a Parliamentary grant of £20,000.

WORDSWORTH'S "COCA PILLS" the successful remedy for sleeplessness, neuralgia, and Hay fever. 2s. per box. Homoeopathic Chemist, 6, Sloane-street, London.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

WILLIAM PRESTON'S INITIATION.

I think there are few Masons who have not heard of the name of William Preston, author of the "Illustrations" (which, from A.D. 1772 to the present day has commanded an extensive circulation), and yet, with all that has been known or said about this enthusiastic member, his early career as a Freemason has never been fully explained. In the "Freemasons' Magazine" of A.D. 1794-5, as also in the "European Magazine" for 1811, are recorded particulars of our zealous brother, but there is a lack of preciseness in the details afforded, and subsequent historians appear generally to have been contented with accepting the sketches in these papers by Bro. Stephen Jones (his old and valued friend) without further enquiry, sometimes acknowledging their indebtedness, and at others simply presenting the materials without a word as to their origin. Bro. Robert Freke Gould, in his "Four Old Lodges," has contributed to the subject, and, as usual with him, credits the magazines named accordingly, but since the issue of his unique work he has succeeded in tracing the entry of Bro. William Preston's initiation in the "Ancient" Records (Seceders). Knowing the importance of this, and that hitherto the matter has been left in obscurity, I at once communicated with the author of the "Four Old Lodges," who has kindly obliged me with all the particulars.

It appears that on Preston's arrival in London, A.D. 1760 (vide "F. Mag.," &c.), a number of other gentlemen from Edinburgh were desirous of forming a lodge in the City under Scottish auspices, but, on the recommendation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, applied to the "Grand Lodge, according to the Old Institutions, or "Ancients" (London), for assistance, and by that body a dispensation was granted to form a lodge and make Masons. "They accordingly met at the White Hart, in the Strand, and Mr. Preston was the second person initiated." \*

According to the evidence Bro. Gould has submitted to me, the authority was granted as follows: "Bro. Robt. Lochhead petitioned for dispensation to make Masons at the sign of the White Hart, in the Strand, &c., and a dispensation was granted to him to continue in force for the space of thirty days" (G. L. minutes, March 2nd, 1763, vol. 4., letter D.) At this period there was no lodge really formed, but the dispensation (usual at that time) answered every purpose. On the 20th April, 1763, the Lodge No. 111 was duly constituted, twenty-nine names in all being recorded under date 1st June, 1763 (respecting fees), the twelfth (not the second) being our Bro. William Preston. The second was William Leslie. It is quite clear that No. 111 was the mother lodge (so to speak) of Bro. Preston's under the "Ancients." Bro. Lochhead was a member of No. 81 (now 73, Mount Lebanon, London), and was the first Master (so Bro. Gould has found) of No. 159 (1760), which, in 1792, bought the vacant number 10, and is now No. 19, Royal Athelstan, London †

No. 111 was left or surrendered in the following year by Preston and his friends, as they preferred the regular Grand Lodge ("Moderns"), and so he and others received a warrant from the rival Grand Lodge (the Grand Lodge, in fact), dated Nov. 15th, 1764, to assemble at the Half Moon, Cheapside, from which period to the present day it has been aptly known by the name of the Caledonian Lodge (now 134). The warrant, evidently surrendered by Preston and the other members, was dormant until Nov., 1805, when it was re-issued to some brethren at Colchester, receiving the No. 135 after the union of the two Grand Lodges in Dec., 1813, but on March 5th, 1828; it was crased, with some sixty others. W. J. HUGHAN.

T.G.A.O.T.U.

(From "Diderot." By JOHN MORLEY, Vol. 1, p. 100. Chapman & Hall, 1878.)

Diderot refers (Letter on the Blind) to "the ingenious expression of an English geometer that God geometrizes." He is unaware apparently of the tradition which attributes the expression to Plato, though it is not found in Plato's writings. Plutarch, I believe, is the first person who mentions the saying, and discusses what Plato exactly meant by it. In truth, it is one of that large class of dicta which look more ingenious than they are true. There is a fine Latin passage by Barrow on the mighty geometry of the universe, and the reader of the Religio Medici may remember that Sir Thomas Browne pronounces God to be "like a skilful geometrician."

"3, 5, 7, OUT OF MASONRY.

(From "Rousseau." By JOHN MORLEY. Vol. 2, pp. 314-15.)

"The best of the musings are masterpieces in the style of contemplative prose. The 3rd, the 5th, the 7th especially, abound in that even, full, mellow gravity of tone which is so rare in literature, because the deep absorption of spirit which is its source is so rare in life."

ANCIENT MASONIC DIPLOMA.

It is with great pleasure we publish the following letter from Lodge 45, of Pittsburg, to Dr. Alfred Creigh, of this place. The letter speaks for itself in unmistakable language, which we commend to every one who takes an interest in ancient relics.

In connection with this subject, we may state that Allegheny County was not organised until 1788, seven years after Washington County, and before its organisation Pittsburg was in Westmoreland County. Lodge 45 was organised in Pittsburg in 1785, and is the oldest lodge west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Lodge 54 was chartered in 1791, and established in

\* "F. Mag.," 1795, p. 5. † Vide Hughan's "Masonic Register of Old Lodges" (George Kenning).



Washington. Its charter members were from Lodge 45, and some of the Eastern lodges. We shall recall the names of a few of the early members of Lodge 54 as an inducement for the present members of our Masonic bodies to imitate their example, as citizens and as Masons. The lodge consisted of such high-minded and honourable men as Dr. Absalom Baird, James Ross, David Reddick, John Hoge, Joseph Ashbrook, David Acheson, John Wilson, John Israel, Joseph Pentecost, Alexander Reed, Thomas H. Baird, and a long list of such honourable worthies, some of whose descendants are members of the fraternity in this place and are emulating the lives of their ancestors by adhering to the undying principles of Masonry:

Pittsburgh, April 2, 1879.

To Bro. Past Master Alfred Creigh,  
of Washington Lodge, No. 164,  
Washington, Penn'a.

Dear Sir and Bro.—At a stated meeting of Lodge No. 45, F. and A. Masons, held at Masonic Hall, 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Wednesday evening, March 26th, 1879, Bro. George S. Haines, W.M., of Ionic Lodge, No. 525, in a few graceful and kindly words presented on your behalf to this lodge a diploma issued to Bro. David Reddick, bearing date June 6, 1799.

The interest attached to this venerable document is of no ordinary character. Having been granted at a time long prior to the birth of any living member, when not only this lodge but Masonry as an Institution was in its infancy in this locality, and Lodge 45 was the only Masonic body west of the Allegheny Mountains, it is very easy to conceive that a certain value was attached to it then, how much more should we value it now, and how much greater should we prize it, surviving as it has done all the trials and tribulations through which the fraternity has so nobly and so successfully passed.

The splendid state of preservation in which this relic reaches us, with the seal uninjured, the parchment scarcely worn, and the writing so clear and distinct that it might have been written to-day, demonstrates how thoroughly well the work was performed in the first place, and specially points out how sacredly it has been guarded through the nearly four-score years of its existence. It thus becomes a connecting link between the past and the present—the old time and the new—the bridge which spans the dark and troublesome days in Masonic history which so "sorely tried men's souls"—and leads us step by step to our present era of peace and prosperity.

Next to its value as a Masonic relic and the intimate relation it bears to our lodge, comes its record as a memento of a past century—a time that has been; and in this connection, we can understand how sore a trial it may have been to part with so valuable a treasure, and can admire, whilst scarcely hoping to imitate, the self-denial practised by one to whom such rare articles are so dear. No poor words of mine can express our appreciation of, and sincere and cordial thanks for, so valuable and interesting an addition to the archives of our lodge.

We shall show our appreciation of this valuable relic—the diploma of a true-hearted Mason—by placing it in a frame worthy of so valuable a donation, and whilst we view its beauties and ponder over the vicissitudes of its strange and long history, we shall ever respect and admire its generous donor—and thus hand down the gift and the name of the giver to the latest posterity. Yours fraternally,

FRED. H. LACEY, W.M.

[L.S.] Attest:  
D. A. STEVENSON, Sec.

THE MONDE MACONNIQUE FOR AUGUST.

The "Monde Maconnique" for August gives us some interesting facts, as pointing out clearly the increasing "embroglio" and difficulties of French Freemasonry in the Grand Orient of France. Its friends like to declare that everything is "couleur de rose," and that "all is for the best" in this "best," not of "worlds," but of "jurisdictions." Those of us, however, who are behind the scenes are perfectly well aware that when the tinsel, and the fireworks, and the coloured lights are at an end there remains but a sad "residuum" of doubt and dissatisfaction, of fear and confusion for French Freemasonry to-day. The "Convent" which is to be held on September 8th, at Paris, of the Grand Orient, having dealt with the usual number of foolish, childish, and impracticable "vœux," that is, so to say, practical suggestions, or amendments and changes, has two most important matters before it—"the revised rituals," and the "payments from lodges" to the Grand Orient.

There can be no doubt as to what the report of the Council of the Order will be as to the "revised ritual," which "it has," says Bro. Grimaux, reassuringly "placed in harmony with the changes effected in the Constitution." This act of harmonizing means suppression of the name of God. Bro. Grimaux adds, that the new ritual is not to be "obligatory," but that "the lodges will always have the liberty of choosing between the new and the old." We shall hope that Bro. Grimaux's anticipations may turn out to be correct, that so tolerant a programme may be realized. But we confess that we have both fears and doubts on the subject. Nothing, alas! can now bridge over the chasm between the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Orient of France, and when Bro. Cousin tells an English brother, as we read in a recent "Bulletin du Grand Orient," that the divergence between the two bodies arises from a "mal entendu," a "mistake," we only wonder what he means, and ask if "words" are really "words" and "facts" are really "facts?" or if there be not a Masonic as well as a Jesuit non-natural use of words? But when the changed ritual is a "fait accompli" we ought not to hear anything more of a "mal entendu" at any rate, and we feel sure that Bro.

Caubet is too honest to accept any such position or state of the case. We have not always been "in accord" with Bro. Caubet, as our readers know, but we have always done justice to his sincerity. We honestly disagree, and we say so, on both sides, without any loss of mutual respect or Masonic good feeling. With regard to the "contribution from lodges" a good deal may be said, as Bro. Grimaux puts it, on both sides. In England we pay a "capitation" fee, according to the numbers of members in our lodges, and it seems that all the French lodges, if we understand Bro. Grimaux rightly, now pay a "cotisation," if numbering forty members of seventy-five francs, or close into £3 3s. in round numbers annually. It is now proposed to make each lodge pay a fixed payment, according to numbers, to be settled by the annual Convent. Bro. Caubet and others object that if one lodge, for instance, pays fifty francs and another pays 300 francs, the lodge paying 300 will want more votes than the lodge only paying fifty francs, and that all lodges are equal.

Bro. Grimaux points out that the present system is illogical, for if the lodge has forty-one members it pays 120 francs, or £5, so that lodges keep down the numbers to forty. If the Grand Orient would only turn its attention to its own financial position and leave "burning questions" alone, how much better would it be for French Freemasonry, nay Freemasonry "all the world over."

MASKELYNE.

THE ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

The course of training followed by the Masonic Educational Charities, in common with many similar institutions in various parts of the country, is looked upon as more or less successful in proportion to the results that can be shown as emanating from the pupils themselves. It is not only necessary that a girl or a boy should receive a good education, but it is likewise desirable that they should prove that such education has been of service to them in after life—indeed, that it has been the means of their securing a position which without such education they could not have attained. With a view to assist in this object the Committees of very many of the English Charities make it a part of their duty to interest themselves in the future of the pupils who have been educated under their care. This they do by obtaining for those whom they deem deserving situations in offices presided over or belonging to one of their number, who they are assured will act as parent or guardian to their charge, and by apprenticing, or otherwise starting in life those who, being orphans or from other causes, may need more aid than is forthcoming from relatives generally. The practicability and success of such a scheme can be vouched for in numerous instances where it has been in work for years past; and were it necessary the records of some of our largest Charities would give ample evidence of the satisfaction derived from keeping an account of each scholar's proceedings in after life. It has frequently been found that a little advice, counsel, or help has proved to be the starting point of success.

With regard to the Masonic Institutions, it has often been regretted that some further surveillance has not been exercised over those who have been so fortunate as to receive therein education and early training; and it is felt that without something be done to watch the future of those who leave the Schools, and, if need be, lend them a helping hand, the work of Masonic Charity is incomplete. This want may perhaps best be expressed in the words of the Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, K.T., Past Grand Master of Scotland, who, as President at the eighty-first anniversary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, brought the question particularly before the Craft. The Right Worshipful brother, in proposing prosperity to the Institution, after detailing the advantages and benefits which were derived from the School, said: "I will tell you a little fault, and I am sure I need only mention it to find it immediately corrected; and the fault that I am going to find is this—that it is not impossible that at the end of their schooling career some of these boys may leave the School homeless and in need. It may be that the good seed sown may bear fruit during their scholastic career, but it may also be that the fruit will perish for want of cultivation at a later period. It may be that having derived all the advantage that they could from their study, and from their religious training in your Institution, they may leave it to fall into evil courses and evil ways, or even to suffer penury and poverty. I would appeal to you once more, as that is the only blot I can find in your excellent Institution, to try and amend it, that the pupils may derive the full benefit of your bounty and your charity."

It is now proposed to raise a fund which shall act as an adjunct to the two Masonic Schools, and be the means of supplying the want set forth above; and for this purpose your support and aid are earnestly solicited.

It is proposed that an early date shall be fixed for a meeting of those who may express approval of the scheme, and thereat the various rules for the government and conduct of affairs shall be discussed, Committees appointed, and general arrangements made.

It is hoped that the fund when once established will grow from year to year, and that the dividends of the subscriptions—which will be invested in approved securities—may in themselves prove sufficient for the various objects aimed at.

Further particulars of the scheme will be announced as they are arranged; but in the meantime we ask you fraternally to lend your aid to the furtherance of the desired object, by making it known to your friends, offering suggestions, or in any other way you may deem desirable.

The main objects of the fund will be:—  
To provide situations for the pupils on their leaving the Masonic Schools.

To watch their progress and offer aid and advice where needful.

To advance small amounts to aid in the purchase of tools, outfits, and, later in life, goodwills of businesses, &c.

To assist pupils who may have gained scholarships at the Universities, or boys who may desire to enter the Army or Navy, and aid them in obtaining commissions.

And generally to watch over the future of the pupils, and help them in securing success in life.

Circulars and forms for collecting, together with other information, may be had on application to Bro. Dick Radclyffe, 129, High Holborn, London, W.C.

SPECIMENS OF SOCIETY JOURNALS

No. II.—SPECULUM.

*Veluti in speculum.*—Latin Proverb.

Salisbury: Stand by, or I shall gall you, Faulconbridge.  
Bast.: Thou wert better gall the devil, Salisbury.

\*\*\*\* Put up thy sword betime,  
Or I'll so maul you and your toasting iron  
'That you shall think \*\*\*\*'

[For context see the play itself.]  
—King John Act IV., sc. 3.

I am not myself a Freemason, but I have often amused myself by passing for one.

Freemasons are the most ignorant and credulous of mankind. I know—but then it does not become me to reiterate assertions, which sound like bragging, and, of course, as I am acquainted with everything, it amounts to a platitude to repeat that I am aware of this—I know more of Freemasonry than the brethren do themselves.

For instance, how few, or how many, Freemasons have ever enquired into the cause of the curious fact that the vast majority of the members of the Craft follow the avocation of undertakers?

It is so. I assert it. I know. That settles it.

Which postulate granted—as, of course, it must be—why is this thus? What is the reason of this thusness? as my most intimate and dear friend, the late Count Cavour used to say.

The immorality throughout Great Britain was never more hideously dreadful than it is at the present moment.

I lament it; I need not say this. The whole course of my previous life will attest the sincerity of my indignantly righteous denunciations of the prevalence of immorality.

But immorality has material results.

Alas!

Of all the useful handicraftsmen the necessities of an artificial state of society compel its votaries to employ, the undertaker is perhaps the most indispensable.

But may not his aid be sometimes invoked to conceal the results of vice, as well as with dignity and solemnity to hide the fragile tenement of clay that once clad the soul of the respected and lamented "loved and lost?"

An assistant schoolmaster, with whom I contract to supply me with the very little knowledge of English history I require in my business of gossip purveyor, sometimes most agreeably communicates his information over a glass of vermouth and a cigarette.

I invariably smoke the very best cigarettes.

My vermouth is the same as that supplied to His Excellency the Pasha of Beyrouth.

When I was in the House of Commons I served on the Members' Refreshment Committee. I endeavoured to procure the introduction of absinthe and vermouth.

I was defeated in this laudable object.

I was indubitably the most popular, and probably the most influential man in the House, but I was out-voted in the matter of vermouth and absinthe.

My instructor, the A.S., informs me that there existed a tradition, during the great civil war, that Lunsford's Dragoons, then in arms for His Majesty's cause, used to breakfast on broiled babies.

I have breakfasted and dined upon almost everything, but I have never partaken of broiled babies. Boiled, with bread fruit sauce, they are very good eating.

The banquets of Freemasons are notoriously coarse and gross.

Undertakers are convenient purveyors.

The seal of secrecy is obviously an advantage.

When John Colman's son desired to descend a coal pit his father asked him why he wished to run the risk. He replied, "In order to say that he had been down a mine." Says Père, "What a fool you must be. Can't you say you have been down without going?"

I wouldn't be guilty of such mendacity for the world.

Remember, I have never asserted myself to be a Freemason.

I have gone no further than saying that I have often been mistaken for one.

Perhaps I ought to have undeceived the deluded.

But I didn't.

To be taken for what you are not is perhaps, as the song says, "Naughty; but it's nice."

But I have passed the veils, as they say in the Order or Degree—the precise term is immaterial—of the Imperial Aqueduct. Oh, yes, I have passed the veils very often. I could never pass one without attempting to look under it.

Sometimes it would be raised.

Sometimes it wouldn't.

A. S. S.

### Masonic and General Tidings.

The consecration of the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, takes place this day (Saturday) at Freemasons' Hall. A full report will appear in our next.

Bro. Captain Webb and Bro. Captain Boyton are matched to swim a race of twenty miles, the former without artificial assistance and the latter with his buoyant suit and paddles.

THE LATE SIR ROWLAND HILL.—Bro. W. D. Keyworth, jun., has been permitted to take a cast after death of the late Sir Rowland Hill, K.C.B. It is Bro. Keyworth's intention to model a bust of the late Sir Rowland.

Bro. W. S. Daniel, of 84, Fleet-street, has established officers at 40, New Kent-road, S.E., and at Loughborough Junction (opposite booking offices of London, Chatham, and Dover Railway), for receiving advertisements for the *Freemason*.

Bro. Brackstone Baker, the Secretary of the Great Western Railway of Canada, has written a letter to the Grand Trunk Company in reply to one received from Sir Henry Tyler. He announces that Mr. Childers has retired from the board of the Great Western Company.

A lodge of instruction—which promises to be a very large and popular one—has just been formed at Putney, a spacious room at the Railway Hotel having been set apart for the use of the brethren. Bro. Charles E. Goldring, solicitor, is the Secretary. The time for meeting is eight o'clock on Monday evenings.—*Mid-Surrey Standard*.

INSTRUCTION.—A meeting of the Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, which has been removed from the Spread Eagle Hotel, was held on Tuesday evening, the 26th inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Wandsworth. Bros. J. J. Holland was the W.M.; F. Reed, S.W.; A. Newens, J.W. The two degrees were well worked. Votes of thanks were afterwards passed to the Treasurer (Bro. J. J. Holland), and Secretary (Bro. A. A. Denham), for this service.

We understand that that well-known and deservedly popular author, William Andrews, F.R.H.S., is about to publish a new work, entitled "Historic Romance, Strange Stories, Scenes, Mysteries, and Characters in our National and Local History." A somewhat novel and attractive feature of this forthcoming history is, that Mr. Andrews offers advance sheets of his new book, for simultaneous publication in a limited number of provincial journals, for twenty-six weeks, commencing in October 4th, 1879, each paper occupying about one-and-a-half column in length. An author so scholarly and notable for literary skill should command the attention of many of our leading journals, where his articles cannot fail to find favour with the general reader. We shall be glad to find that his "Historic Romance" runs its widening way from John O'Groats to the Land's End. Early communications should be sent to William Andrews, F.R.H.S., 4, Tinsley-terrace, Stamford Hill, London, N.

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.—[Adv't.]

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.—Adv't.

SUSSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—This Society visited Brighton on Wednesday, the 27th inst., when, despite drenching rain, there was a large attendance of members, associates, and friends. They assembled at the Pavilion, Museum and Library. Trips were taken to Rottingdean and Ovingdean, the ancient churches of which were visited, but a journey to Telscombe had to be abandoned owing to the weather. Returning to Brighton, the parish church of Old St. Nicholas was inspected, and a page on Sussex churches, by Archdeacon Hamah, read, and the party then adjourned to the Pavilion, where they dined. In the evening a soirée on a large scale was given by the local committee.

### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, September 5, 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 month of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30.

House Com. Ben. Institution, at 3.

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.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 144, St. Luke's, 2, Westminster Chambers, S.W.  
" 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.  
" 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-End-rd.  
Mark 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.  
Red Cross Premier, F.M. Tav., Gt. 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.  
Tredegar, 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, SEPTEMBER 2.

Colonial Board, at 4.  
Lodge 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.  
" 1383, Friends-in-Council, 33, Golden-sq.  
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.  
Mark Lodge 1, St. Mark's, F.M. Tav., Great Queen-st.

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., Dalston, E.  
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.  
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.  
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.  
Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hot., Wandsworth.  
Royal Artillery, 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, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., Bermondsey.  
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.  
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st-rd.  
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.  
Clapton Chapter, White Hart Tav., Upper Clapton.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.

Quar. Com. Grand Lodge, at 6 for 7.

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, Malsmore 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, Sutherland Chapel, Walworth Road.  
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Albion-rd., N.  
United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., N.W.  
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.  
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 Tav., at 8.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
" 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot.  
" 1360, Royal Arthur, Wimbledon Club, Lecture Hall.  
" 1724, Kaiser-i-Hind, 68, Regent-st., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

United 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, Ponsoby-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.  
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.  
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Lodge 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.  
Chap. 1489, Ezra, 90, Ball's Pond-road, W.  
Mark 223, W. Smithfield, N. Market Hot., Smithfield.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.  
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.  
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, September 6, 1879.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

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.  
Chap. 594, Downshire, M.H., Liverpool.  
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

Lodge 673, St. John, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.  
" 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Hot., Blackpool.  
Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.  
Mark 11, Joppa, M.R., Birkenhead.  
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.

Lodge 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.  
" 1080, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.  
" 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.  
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.  
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk.  
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby Hot., Liverpool.  
Mark 65, W. Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.  
De Grey and Ripon L. of I., 80, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.  
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.  
" 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.  
" 1473, Bootle, A.R., Bootle.  
St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
Duke of Edinburgh, L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.  
Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.  
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.  
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

### MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, September 6, 1879.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

Lodge 37, Anchor and Hope, F.M.H., Bolton.  
" 62, Social, Queen's Hot., Manchester.  
" 381, Harmony and Industry, Smalley's Hot., Market-st., Over Darwen.  
" 1009, Shakerspere, F.M.H., Manchester.  
" 1077, Wilton, Red Lion Hot., Blackley.  
" 1519, Albert Edward, Albion Hot., Clayton-le-Moors, near Accrington.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

Lodge 226, Benevolence, Red Lion Hot., Littleborough.  
" 1134, Newall, F.M.H., Salford.  
" 1322, Waverley, Queen's Arms, Ashton-undr-Lyne.  
Mark 136, Alfred, Bridge Inn, Bolton-street, Bury.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.

Lodge 128, Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bury.  
" 210, Duke of Athol, Bowling Green Hot., Denton.  
" 274, Tranquillity, Boar's Head, Newchurch.  
" 298, Harmony, Masonic Rooms, Rochdale.  
" 645, Humphrey Chetham, F.M.H., Manchester.  
" 678, Earl Ellesmere, Church Hot., Kersley Farm-worth, Bolton.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Chap. 369, Limestone Rock, M.H., Clitheroe.  
Mark 36, Furness, Hartington Hot., Barrow.  
" 56, Temperance, M.H., Todmorden.  
" 161, Walton, Skelmersdale M.H., Kirkdale.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Lodge 215, Commerce, Commercial Hot., Haslingden.  
" 266, Naphtali, M.H., Market-place, Heywood.  
" 269, Fidelity, White Bull Hot., Blackburn.  
" 300, Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Hot., Ashton-under-Lyne.  
" 317, Affability, F.M.H., Manchester.  
" 1012, Prince of Wales, Derby Hot., Bury.  
" 1504, Red Rose of Lancaster, Starkie's Arms Hot., Padiham.

Chap. 325, St. John, F.M.H., Salford.  
" 348, St. John, Bull's Head, Bradshawgate.  
Mark 20, Faith, Spread Eagle, Rochdale.  
Hugh-de-Payens Preceptory, Old Bull, Blackburn.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

Lodge 44, Friendship, F.M.H., Manchester.  
" 219, Prudence, M.H., Todmorden.  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6.  
Lodge 1458, Truth, Conservative Club, Newton Heath.