

THE FREEMASON.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND; SIR MICHAEL ROBERT SHAW-STEWART, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND; THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSSLYN, THE M.W. PAST GRAND MASTER MASON OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

COMMUNIQUE.

Under this heading at page thirty-six of an official pamphlet put forth by the Grand Lodge of Quebec, under date January 31st, 1880, appears a very remarkable document. It purports to be a communication or deliverance of the Grand Master in 1871. One of the statements strikes us as a very startling one, *per se*, not to say somewhat doubtful as to authority.

"A convention of representatives of these lodges, duly authorized and regularly assembled, may, without let or hindrance, form a Grand Lodge in and for said territory, but it has become a very generally accepted rule that a majority of the private lodges situated therein should take part in said convention, or acquiesce in its 'action.'"

We note that just above the writer defines a "territory" to mean "a distinct territory, having a legislature of its own," and as in the first paragraph these are said to be among the "few fundamental principles of Masonry, anent the organized action of Grand Lodge," they require most serious consideration and careful thought, as it appears to us, before they are generally accepted or acceded to. We will notice later one or two more "fundamental principles," laid down in these Masonic "state papers," before we leave the subject.

Now we are anxious to know, in the first place, where this great authority has obtained his law? Where is it so laid down? We have studied most Masonic writers, and we never remember it in any authoritative work or anything like it. For it must be remembered that much of what we now call "Masonic law," is newly coined law altogether, and mainly applicable to the American state Grand Lodges, their difficulties, needs, and requirements. We are cognizant of no English, or American, or Canadian writer whose "dicta" would be accepted as decisive on the subject.

And for this simple reason, that we know not whose Masonic code of law, general, international, or of universal constitutional law, is to be met with, except, indeed, in those excellent "Constitutions," whether of our own or kindred jurisdictions, which, however, are only binding on the members of their own jurisdictions.

It is not too much to say that there is no such "code" in existence, and for the best of all causes, that there has been until late years no uniform practice of any kind even attempted on the subject. If we look back on the creation of Grand Lodges, we shall find many curious anomalies in their formation and no settled rule. The English Grand Lodge of 1717, the mother of all European, and American, and Canadian Masonry, indeed, of all world-Masonry nearly to-day, was formed by the members of four or six lodges meeting together, calling themselves a revived Grand Lodge or Grand Assembly, no doubt on the principle of aggregation, but not of delegation or representation simply on the plurality and agreement of recognised Masons. This deserves to be noted. Dermott's schism was a pure schism, so we may pass over that, the York Grand Lodge revived itself under Drake, by plurality and agreements of the Masons assembled.

The Grand Lodge south of the Trent, created by the Grand Lodge of York, which was composed of the Lodge of Antiquity, was formed by warrant from the Grand Lodge of York.

If we read the history of other national Grand Lodges, we find four characteristics by which all these formations are marked:

1. The creation of Grand Lodge by delegation of lodges.
2. The declaration of Provincial Grand Lodges that they are Grand Lodges.
3. The declaration of private lodges that they are Grand Lodges.
4. The assertion of a number of recognised Masons that they form themselves into a Grand Lodge.

No doubt in America it has been laid down from the necessity of the case, that no new Grand Lodge can be formed without the aggregation of three or more lodges, but such is more of an agreement of "comity" and convenience than a law, and it could not be a law, for supposing there

are ten lodges in a state and only three concur in the formation of a Grand Lodge, what can be done with the recalcitrant seven? Yet if the proposition be sound and the argument good for anything, and the law law, the three lodges can constitute a Grand Lodge, despite the opposition of the seven. It then only becomes a question of acknowledgment, of convenience, of numerical consideration.

This we say is all perfectly modern, and never has been acknowledged as law in England. We have in England undoubtedly recognized the *fait accompli*, we have said *fieri non debet, factum valet*, inasmuch as the genuine interests of Freemasonry transcend minor questions of technicalities and red tape.

But when the Canadian Grand Lodge separated from the English and Scottish Grand Lodges, it was distinctly admitted, laid down, and agreed to, that such lodges as thought fit to retain, the "old connection" were at liberty to do so, alike as a matter of sentiment and a matter of Masonic usage.

So much is the Masonic usage of a lodge adhering to its creating and warranting Grand Lodge, if it so thinks fit, a Masonic usage, that in Germany this one fact has constituted the great difficulty in the way of one German Grand Lodge, with District or Provincial Grand Lodges, as in England.

Indeed, until the recent discussion, we never heard the "lodge right" questioned, and we are, we confess, startled beyond measure to note the facility and, we must say, unconcern with which American Grand Lodges have surrendered this, to us, indispensable right of private lodges. We never could understand how or why the Grand Lodge of Quebec took it into its head to claim to ignore the settlement made confessedly by the Grand Lodge of Canada.

That the Grand Lodge of Scotland was fully justified in defending the rights of its lodges thus assailed, as we have previously expressed our opinion, and, as, indeed, the Grand Lodge of England has done ever since the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada. Indeed, the English Grand Lodge has done more, for it has retained a Provincial Grand Master there, though we are not sure if the Prov. Grand Lodge is in working order.

We believe, also, that there were, when the controversy began, only four lodges at Montreal which had kept their old charters,—two Scottish, two English.

A principle is a principle, whether it affects few or many, but we admit, as *amici curia*, that probably a friendly transaction, would be the best ending of the affair. If the Grand Lodge of Quebec wishes for peace it has nothing to do but to appoint a deputation, at the head of which Bro. Graham, the G.M., would be fitly placed, who has much experience, and by making a *tubula rasa* of the past, the matter could, we feel sure, be adjusted for the welfare and dignity of all concerned. But if the Grand Lodge of Quebec will persist in ignoring the undoubted legal and Masonic position of the English and Scottish lodges, and will put forward claims that are, in our opinion, untenable, and law that is unsound, the breach will, and can only, widen, as the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland are neither to be intimidated or cajoled, and they are bound by every principle of Masonic chivalry, legality, and honour to uphold the rights of lodges whose only offence is unswerving loyalty to themselves.

FREEMASONRY IN SPAIN.

The past history and present and future prospects of Freemasonry in Spain must always be a matter of peculiar interest to every English brother.

Spain, the land of the Cid, the land of romance, the chosen home of chivalry, was also the nursery of the grand Gothic school of architecture—the school, par excellence, of English Masonry. In no two countries in Europe has the operative Master Mason's art gone so emphatically hand in hand as in England and in Spain. It would be difficult to decide which of the two lands possess the richest treasures of the builder's art, which must ever be considered as the source from which springs the Antient Free and Accepted Rite. Our operative brethren of mediæval days, alike British and Spanish, vied one with the other as to who could most fully dedicate every attribute with which the Great Master had gifted them, alike to His glory and for the benefit of their fellow men. Architect, Master Mason, and Craftsman gave the labour of a life-time to the work of love which they undertook. They sunk all individuality in a collective endeavour to raise temples in which the G.A.O.T.U. could be fitly worshipped, desiring for themselves neither wealth nor personal fame. Architect succeeded architect, taking up the square and the compass of him who had gone before, whom death had released from his labours; and Craftsman followed Craftsman, as one generation of workers after another, passed away from labour to reward, leaving the grand design of the first founder for others to complete.

And in no country in the world have brethren belonging to our Free and Accepted Rite remained more loyal to their Masonic obligations than in Spain.

Freemasonry in Spain, even at the present day, is no bed of roses; and the slight sketch which we are about to offer to our readers of the terrible persecutions to which our Spanish brethren have been subjected during the last century-and-a-half will demonstrate their claim to the very foremost rank amongst the martyrs to our cause. The splendid heroism, the true loyalty—even unto death—which characterised the leaders during the last two or three generations of Freemasons in Spain entitle their Masonic descendants of the present day to our special sympathy and support. Spanish Freemasons look upon their Anglo-Saxon brethren with true Masonic regard; they look upon the

United Kingdom as (in a Masonic sense) their mother country, whose ancient Masonic landmarks they are bound to respect. They owe to a brother hailing from the United Kingdom the introduction amongst them of the Scottish Rite. It is now a little more than one hundred and fifty years ago, or—speaking Masonically—in the year of Light 8728, that Bro. Lord Coleraine personally assisted in the formation and solemn consecration of regularly constituted lodges, which were placed under the banner of the Grand Lodge of London, who nominated Bro. Captain Cummerman, then resident in Spain, as Provincial Grand Master, with his head quarters in Andalusia.

How short a period seems to have elapsed since the year of our Lord 1728! and yet it has sufficed for a long series of the most frightful persecutions, which entitle many of the victims to the martyr's crown.

The active assistance rendered by our worthy brethren, Lord Coleraine and Captain Cummerman, resulted in the formation of Masonic lodges in many of the principal cities of the Peninsula, and for a period of ten years our beloved Order grew apace, and an era of remarkable prosperity for the Craft seemed to be secured, when suddenly the fair prospect changed. The Great Beast of Rome, who had previously almost exclusively directed its persecutions against those suspected of Christian *heresy*, suddenly became aware that it also stood face to face with another power, that of Freemasonry, which equally demanded its attention and suppression, root and branch; and it proceeded forthwith to try and strangle the Free and Accepted Rite at its very birth. On the 28th of April, A.D. 1738, Pope Clement XII. issued his famous Bull against Freemasonry, such Bull being more particularly directed against the brethren in Spain. The Holy Inquisition was then in the plenitude of its power, and its devilish snake-like machinations were brought to bear against our Order with a concentrated soul-crushing force which not the greatest heroism could withstand—for in those days the Inquisitors did their deadly work too well.

We in England, who were freed centuries ago from the political bondage of Rome (through the grace of the G.A.O.T.U., by His instrument, King Henry VIII.), can form but a faint idea of the dread reality which stared our Spanish Masonic brethren in the face when this Bull was thrown, as a very thunderbolt from hell, into their midst. They were immediately confronted with death in its most awful form—death on the rack or at the stake, or by the no less dreadful fate of a life-long imprisonment in one of the foul dungeons of the Inquisition, where the light of day would never again penetrate, nor the voice of human sympathy again reach the ear.

But our brethren remained true to the Craft. They worked on, secretly, it is true, but still most loyally and heroically, in the faithful discharge of their self-imposed obligations. All honour to the noble band! Despite the Bull new lodges continued to be founded, whose Worshipful Masters (carrying their lives in their hands) continued to initiate those who, having sought admission to our Order, were found worthy. Candidates for admission presented themselves in every part of the country; not only scions of noble houses and men of high intellectual culture and attainments, but also men of acknowledged political standing, sought, and obtained, admission, and, for the sake of light, faced the terrible fate most certainly in store for them if they fell into the hands of the cruel Inquisition.

Time went on. Despite the wholesale imprisonment and the execution of those suspected of being Freemasons, the Inquisition made but little progress in its work of suppression until the Grand Inquisitors bethought themselves of a notable device by which to discover the leading members of the Order. They deputed one of their most trusted members, the Friar Jose Torribia, belonging to the Society of Jesus, to assume a feigned name, and profess great zeal for the cause of Freemasonry, thus ingratiating himself into the confidence of some of the community, and securing his admittance within the mystic circle. He was proposed and accepted, and duly initiated, taking all the solemn obligations of the Order. It is worthy of remark that Pope Clement XII. deliberately countenanced this act of treachery, and in fact granted a special dispensation authorising this miscreant friar to perjure himself in the interests of the Holy Inquisition. After taking several Degrees this traitor travelled through the length and breadth of the Peninsula, visiting Masonic lodges on his way, and thus making himself thoroughly acquainted with the names of the brethren. Finally he threw off his disguise, and, presenting himself openly before the Supreme Tribunal of the Inquisition, he denounced the whole of those who belonged to the Craft. The brethren belonging to no less than ninety-seven regularly constituted lodges were thus denounced and placed at the mercy of the executioner. Torribia declared that Freemasonry was an institution of the most depraved and immoral kind, and that its members were debauchees and criminals guilty of every species of iniquity.

Thereupon Pope Benedict XIV. (on the 18th of May, 1751) issued another Bull against the Order, and King Ferdinand VI., pretending to believe all that was charged against Freemasons, promulgated his Royal decree, dated the 2nd of July, 1751, in which sentence of death was pronounced against every one belonging to the Craft. So ruthlessly was this decree carried out, and so terribly complete was the subsequent process of repression, that more than fifty years elapsed before any notable revival of Masonic activity took place; nor, in fact, are any further records of the existence of lodges in Spain to be met with until the commencement of the 19th century.

The next chapter in the eventful history of Spanish Freemasonry opens with the French invasion. In the year 1807 several new lodges were dedicated, and candidates

presented themselves from amongst the nobility, learned professions, and commercial men of the day. In 1809 Joseph Bonaparte gave his support to the formation of a Supreme Council of the 33^d, which, two years later, viz., in 1811, was formally confirmed in its powers by Bro. the Count Grasse-Tilly, a delegate specially appointed by the Supreme Grand Council of Charleston, U.S.A. Then followed seven years of uninterrupted Masonic prosperity, and our Order became again an active power for good in the land, when the restoration of the Bourbon regime, in the person of Ferdinand VII., again suppressed all liberty, and in the year 1814 the Inquisition was re-invested with full powers of life and death over heretics and Freemasons alike. The work of repression was carried on during the years 1815-1823 with a ferocious zeal worthy the worst days of Torquemada himself. Our brethren were thrown into prison; all open movements of the Supreme Grand Council were suspended, but its members nevertheless met, although with the utmost secrecy, and much Masonic work was carried on. In the year 1818 the Grand Council numbered amongst its members Bros. General Riego, Palacios, Galves, Augustin Arguelles, Evanisto San Miguel, and other illustrious workers in our cause. In the year 1820 the Jesuitical persecution for the moment ceased, when a remarkable outburst of Masonic activity ensued, and large numbers of worthy candidates were initiated, too many of them to die for Masonry! for the lull only preceded a renewed outburst of persecution during the early months of 1823, in which year Bros. Riego, Palacios, and Galves, members of Supreme Grand Council, were arrested, condemned to death, and executed for the sole "crime" of being Freemasons. Bro. General Riego was executed at Madrid, Bro. Palacios at Cadiz, and Bro. Galves at Granada; whilst many other members of the Craft were executed in Seville, Barcelona, Salamanca, and other cities of Spain. This fresh blow caused the surviving members of the Supreme Council entirely to suspend their labours, and a veritable reign of terror ensued; wives denounced their husbands at the confessional, children their fathers, until the cup of Masonic suffering may be said to have overflowed, when the grim proclamation of Ferdinand VII. made its appearance (on the 1st of August, 1824), in which sentence of death was pronounced against every Spaniard who had taken the obligation of a Freemason, unless within thirty days of the date of the said decree he should make a public declaration and acknowledgment to that effect. After the expiration of thirty days all who had not so declared themselves were to be forthwith executed without further process of trial.

This frightful decree was, however, too sweeping to be effectual, seeking as it did to place the halter of the executioner around the necks of some 80,000 Spaniards! and need we say that not a single member of the Craft declared himself as such? Every subject of King Ferdinand VII. knew too well what his royal word was worth! They knew that such a declaration and acknowledgment of belonging to the Craft would most certainly ensure the very penalty which had been pronounced against those who did not make it. Thus our brethren kept their own counsel, but so great was the secrecy with which their further labours were conducted that the movements of the Supreme Council during the next twelve years are shrouded in the utmost mystery, although the house at Madrid, in the Calle Mayor, where frequent meetings took place, is well known to the initiated. In the year 1838 the brethren again began to show signs of more open activity. Candidates from amongst the nobles of the land are known to have come forward, and to have been secretly initiated; and in the year 1839 no less exalted a personage than an Infanta of Spain, Don Francisco de Bourbon, had a seat on the Supreme Council, which included at the time Bro. Evanisto San Miguel, one of the survivors of 1823, in which year Bros. Riego, Palacios, and Galves were executed.

Another period of seven years of comparative calm again allowed Masonry to prosper in Spain, until in 1846 Pope Pius IX. re-enacted all the terrible articles contained in the Bull of Pope Benedict XIV. against Free and Accepted Masons.

Although the Papal decree of the 9th of November, 1846, was not followed by such bloody scenes as those which more immediately followed the edicts and enactments of the years 1738, 1751, and 1824, yet it sufficed to suppress the further open practice of our rites in Spain. Our Bro. the Infanta Don Francisco had to fly the kingdom, and Bro. Magnan and Bro. Pinilla, into whose hands our Royal brother resigned his powers as Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the 33^d, felt compelled to entirely suspend all further Masonic labours, bury the seals of office, and secrete the warrants of the lodges and the documents appertaining to the Supreme Grand Council.

Thus for twelve more years Freemasonry remained dormant in Spain, until the Revolution of the 2nd of September, 1868, frightened Queen Isabella II. into exile, and compelled the Jesuit throng to follow her example.

(To be continued.)

MARK MASONRY IN NATAL.

During last year a number of leading Masons in Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the colony, being desirous of working the Mark Master's Degree, forwarded a petition to the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for England, Wales, and the Colonies, praying for a warrant of constitution for a lodge, to be called "The Natalia," to meet in the Masonic Temple.

The petition (being recommended by the D.G.M.M. for S. Africa, Bro. the Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, 33^d) was readily acceded to by the M.W. Grand M.M.M., Lord Skelmersdale; and the warrant having been received, the lodge (No. 252) was duly opened in ancient form, the Master designate regularly installed, and the officers appointed in February last.

The brethren, having held several preliminary meetings, and having overcome the initiatory difficulties connected with the establishment of the lodge, and the proper working of the ceremonies, the first meeting for the advancement of candidates to the honorary Degree of Mark Master Mason was held on the 26th February last.

Present: W. Bro. Wesley Francis, 30^s, installed Mark Master (in the chair); Bros. R. I. Finmore, 30^s, S.W.; E. S. T. Stantial, 18^s, J.W.; J. Smith, 18^s, M.O.; B. Ireland, S.O.; S. Ford, 18^s, S.D.; E. L. S. Torguis, J.D.; Captain Astley Fellowes Terry (60th Rifles), 30^s, &c.; and J. R. Harrison, 18^s, &c.

The lodge having been opened in due form, the ballot

was taken for twelve candidates for advancement who had been regularly proposed and seconded at a previous meeting, all of whom were unanimously elected.

The following approved candidates were then severally prepared and admitted, and regularly advanced to the honorary Degree of M.M.M., and took their seats in the lodge, viz., Bros. William Frederick Stanton, 18^s, Edward Homersham Wiltshier, Samuel Button, Thomas Ernest Harding, Tom Bodley, George Edward Thame, and Edward Keywood. Considering that this was the first attempt at working, the ceremony was very creditably gone through, and Bro. Harrison, of the Caledonian R.A. Chapter, who had specially travelled from Durban to assist at the meeting, rendered efficient aid to the officers of the lodge. The W.M. next proceeded to fill up the vacant offices in the lodge as follows: Bros. E. Homersham Wiltshier (Advocate Supreme Court), Sec. and Reg. of Marks; W. F. Stanton, J.O.; T. Bodley, J.G.; G. E. Thame, Treasurer; and E. Keywood, Tyler. The W.M. stated that as he intended proceeding to England, he regretted that he must, in the course of a few months, vacate his office, and it would be necessary to instal some one as his successor, so that the lodge might be carried on, as there would be no P.M.M.'s in the city to work the Degree. It was unanimously resolved to apply for a dispensation to instal as W.M. Bro. R. I. Finmore (P.M., P.H., P.M.W.S., &c.), Master of the Supreme Court.

Another candidate for advancement having been proposed, and "Hearty good wishes" conveyed from visiting brethren, the meeting terminated, and the brethren separated, well pleased with the successful manner in which the lodge has been established, and with its future prospects.

This is the first Mark lodge established in the colony, and, if the progress of the Natalia Craft Lodge, No. 1665; Natalia Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1665, and Natalia Rose Croix Chapter, No. 62, affords any criterion, then the confidence of the brethren in its future may be regarded as well founded. We learn that it is in contemplation to establish, at no distant date, a Natalia Preceptory of Knights Templar; and that a Masonic ball was to be given in April. Undoubtedly Freemasonry flourishes in Natal, and long may it continue to do so.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday, the 25th ult., at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creton presided. There were also present Bros. Col. James Peters, Griffiths Smith, John A. Rucker, A. J. Duff Filer, R. B. Webster, T. F. Peacock, H. Higgins, H. A. Dubois, C. F. Matier, Arthur E. Gladwell, F. R. W. Hedges (Sec.), and H. Massey (Freemason).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes two children were placed on the list for the October election. The House Committee having recommended that the salary of the junior clerk be increased from £60 to £70 a year, Bro. Griffiths Smith gave notice of motion embodying that recommendation for the next meeting of the General Committee in April.

The Chairman was then authorised to sign several cheques, among which was one for £500, the deposit on the purchase of Lyncombe House, the contract for which he stated he had signed on behalf of himself and his co-Trustees.

The following notices of motions for next Quarterly Court were given:

By Bro. W. H. SPAULL, Prov. Grand Secretary North Wales and Shropshire—"That the third and every subsequent Stewardship to this Institution, accompanied by a donation of £5 5s., shall entitle the brother to two votes."

By Bro. H. J. THOMPSON, P.M. 742—"That the sum of £6 be voted to each of twenty-five children next highest on the poll to the successful candidates at this election, in aid of their maintenance and education until the election in October next."

By Bro. G. E. WEBSTER, P.M. 139, West Yorkshire—"That it is desirable that the Life Governors, subscribers, and others entitled to vote at meetings of the General Court should have the power of voting by proxy."

By the same Brother—"That all subscriptions, donations, legacies, and other monies received by this Charity shall not be distinctly appropriated by the donors to the Sustentation Fund shall be applied in maintaining, clothing, and educating the children, and the surplus, if any, shall be invested in 3 per cent. Consols, in the names of Trustees of the General Fund, which fund, and the income thereof, shall not be applied for any other than the above mentioned purposes."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

BRO. VERNON ON FREEMASONRY.

At a recent meeting of the ancient Lodge of Kelso, No. 58, the following address was delivered by Bro. W. Fred. Vernon, the retiring Master, and a number of brethren having expressed a desire to possess a copy of it, we have much pleasure in publishing it here. After the usual business Bro. Vernon rose and said:

Amongst our ancient brethren in this lodge there obtained, over a hundred years ago, many excellent customs, which I think we would do well to imitate or resuscitate. One of these was the religious observance of the festival of St. John the Baptist, or "Summer St. John's," when our worthy predecessors annually assembled to attend Divine service in one or other of the churches in the town, making a special collection on the occasion in aid of some of the local charities. This example of theirs is, in my humble opinion, well worthy of imitation, and I trust the brethren will endeavour to revive, if possible, this good old custom. Another excellent rule they had was that the retiring Master should, on leaving the chair, give the brethren an address on Masonry, and this practice was regularly kept up as long as the lodge prospered and held its regular meetings; and now after the lodge had lain dormant for many years, it has entered upon what I trust will prove a perennial period of prosperity, I think we would do well to revive this custom also. As an ardent admirer of our time-honoured Institution, and a lover of all that pertains to it, I beg leave to-night to ask your indulgence while I, an unworthy representative of our good old brethren, claim the right, as retiring Master of this lodge, of giving you a short address, and at the same time of reviving what I consider to be a most excellent practice, and one we should

not willingly let die. It has happened since the time you did me the honour to elect me to the chair of this lodge that all our meetings were taken up by important business which left no margin for other than the ordinary routine charges and lectures, but it seems to me that it is advisable to have an opportunity from time to time of giving one's thoughts and impressions free vent, and accordingly I take advantage of this occasion to make a few general remarks upon some Masonic points that strike me as being worthy of your attention. I dare say I will tell you nothing but what you knew before, but if any remarks of mine lead a single brother to think out for himself any Masonic idea which I but hint at, I will not have spoken in vain, for my purpose, that of leading your thoughts a little out of the ordinary routine tracks of lodge work and making you take a more comprehensive view of our subject, will then be gained.

The question is very often put to a brother by some one of the outside world, "What is Masonry?" To this question nine out of every ten of you might answer—"It is a system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols," and you would answer well. Let us briefly consider these points. It is a system of morality, for it is founded in Faith, reared in Hope, and established in Charity. It is essential that those who desire to become Masons must have faith in God, T.G.A.O.T.U., and they must make His word their rule and guide through life, for He is the centre of our system, and to Him all our aspirations tend. In all cases of danger or difficulty we are taught to put our trust in Him, and we implore His blessing on, and guidance in, all our Masonic undertakings, and therefore it is impossible for an unbeliever or atheist ever to become a Mason or pollute our sanctuary by his presence. Take away a belief in God and you sap our foundations, and the whole Masonic edifice falls in hopeless ruin. Standing—for certain reasons which you all know and therefore I need not repeat—upon holy ground, beneath the sacred symbol, with the volume of the Sacred Law ever open in our midst, we are constantly reminded that we are in the presence of the Most High, and while practising our arts and mysteries, we steadfastly endeavour to keep to that point within the circle where we cannot err. If we applied the rules and lessons and practices of the lodge to our daily walk and conversation through life—and this is what we ought to aim at and try to accomplish—we would then be worthy brethren indeed. Let us each individually strive to attain to this excellence, and thus show the world that Masonry is not a mere name, but a high principle—a great power for good. We know very well that our noble art is often degraded by men who are Masons but in name, men who for mercenary or other unworthy motives have entered the Craft and joined a lodge, but whose ideas of Masonry are as confused and erroneous as their practices are disreputable. These men, by loudly proclaiming themselves Freemasons, and indulging in debaucheries under the cloak of and in the name of Masonry, have been the means of attaching a certain amount of odium to the Craft. But, brethren, you are none of these. Others again there are who, by means of a retentive memory, are able, in a parrot-like manner, to go through our beautiful services without taking thought of, or understanding the deeper meaning of the words they so glibly utter. While I would have you all to perfect yourselves in our ritual—and this can only be accomplished by attendance at regular meetings and lodges of instruction—I would not have you to be mere speaking machines; if we only required words or sound, and not thought or ideas, science could supply our wants, for she can produce mechanism that will do the speaking part with unfailing accuracy, but we want thought as well as words. Hence, in order to preserve our beautiful art, and make it intelligible only to the thoughtful and the studious, it is veiled in allegory. And what a beautiful allegory is our whole system! Our traditional history takes us back to the building of the Temple of King Solomon by our ancient operative brethren. That magnificent structure was destroyed and the brethren dispersed; a second Temple was reared, and that was also destroyed; and yet a third time the brethren met upon the ruins of the Temple and reared another structure, but unlike the former fabrics, which were built of perishable material, the structure raised by these worthy men of old, upon the occasion I speak of was built of imperishable materials—the ashlar the immortal souls of men; the cement, brotherly love! Unable to rear such a gorgeous temple as that raised and dedicated to God by the wise king, but desirous of doing something to perpetuate his wisdom and the lessons they had learned of him, and anxious to do something to the honour and glory of God, they founded upon the ruins of that temple the superstructure of which we are part. Founded upon the purest principles of piety and virtue, built up of such imperishable materials, and dedicated to truth and charity, no wonder that Masonry has shown such vitality, and has lived and flourished while many other institutions have been swept away by the relentless hand of time. Masonry is illustrated by symbols. Let us just glance at one or two of these. How typical of man's life are our various Degrees? Our entrance into the Craft symbolises our entrance upon this mortal sphere, in a state of helplessness and ignorance, groping in mental darkness as we advance, and desiring in our inmost hearts the illuminating influence of intellectual light, which at last we find displayed to us in the volume of the Sacred Law. Having attained a greater degree of mental vigour and emerged into a state of manhood, represented by the Second Degree, our thirst for knowledge increases, and we long for the fountains of wisdom to be opened to us, that we may attain to the hidden mysteries of nature and of science, so that we may reach step by step from simple truths through all the most intricate labyrinths of scientific formulae, as promulgated by the greatest intellects, till we attain to the most exalted knowledge, and thus be in a position to render ourselves of greater service to our fellow-creatures. But in all our studies we must beware of pride and arrogance, and ever remember that the great aim and end of knowledge is to lead us to "look through nature up to nature's God." And thus "yoked in all exercise of noble end," we are symbolically reminded in the Third or Sublime Degree, that no matter to what extent or height our knowledge reaches it will be all in vain if we have not studied ourselves and attained to the knowledge of life everlasting, for Masonry indicates in no uncertain manner the immortality of the soul, and inculcates in all its votaries a firm belief in a future state and a glorious resurrection. It teaches us to rule our lives so as to be prepared for the closing hours of our existence, which we are taught is but temporary, and we learn that to the good and upright Mason even the grimly King himself has no terrors equal

to the stain of falsehood and dishonour. And having learned how to live, we fear not to die, and we are able to look with composure and expectancy beyond the narrow limits of this mortal world to that bright sphere on high where, amidst the "many mansions," the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore.

I would have wished, had time permitted, to have extended my remarks, and to have touched upon some other points, but perhaps I have said enough on the present occasion to set you thinking; and other and worthier Masons will I trust in time come forward to address you here, and will better elucidate what I have but vaguely hinted at.

- "In the elder days of Art, Builders wrought with greatest care Each minute and unseen part; For the gods see everywhere. "Let us do our work as well, Both the unseen and the seen; Make the house where gods may dwell, Beautiful, entire, and clean. "Else our lives are incomplete, Standing in these walls of Time, Broken stairways, where the feet Stumble as they seek to climb. "Build to-day then strong and sure, With a firm and ample base; And ascending and secure Shall to-morrow find its place. "Thus alone can we attain To those turrets, where the eye Sees the world as one vast plain, And one boundless reach of sky."

The address was listened to throughout with great attention, the brethren frequently testifying their approval by repeated applause. On its conclusion, Bro. the Rev. P. McKerron moved a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Vernon for his interesting and instructive address.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Up to the present Bro. Hedges has received the names of the following brethren (in all 274) as Stewards for the Girls' School Anniversary.

- W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, Sir F. Wyatt Truscott, P.G. Steward, WM. No. 1. ACTING-PRESIDENT. V.W. Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, F.S.A., P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes, V.P. VICE-PRESIDENTS. R.W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. Lord Methuen, Prov. G.M., Wilts. V.E. Comp. Woodford, Rev. A.F.A., M.A., P.G. Chap. V.W. Bro. Wigram, Rev. S. R., P.G. Chap.; P.M. 1000. " Pickard, Rev. H. A., M.A., P.G.C. P.M. 357. " Creaton, Lieut.-Col. J., G.T., Treas. & Trustee W. Bro. Wendt, Ernest E., D.C.L., G. Sec. for Ger. Cor. " Bird, Reginald, S.G.D.; Prov. of Oxford. " Grey, Robt., P.G.D., V.P.; W.M. 1820. " Long, Peter de Lande, P.G.D.; House Com. " Morrell, Fredk. P., P.G. Deacon, P.M. 357. " Montagu, J. M. P., D.L., J.P., P.G.D., V.P.; P.M. 707. " Payne, E. Turner, P.G.D., V.P.; Province of Somerset, and P.M. 53. " Rucker, J. A., P.G.D., V.P., Treas. G. Stewards' Lodge. " Stewart, Raynham W., P.G.D., V.P.; P.M. 108. " Thomas, James Lewis, F.S.A., P.A.G.D. of Cer. " Nunn, Joshua, P.G.S.B., V.P.; P.M. 134. " Toller, George, jun., P.G.S.B. " Tew, T.W., J.P., M.A., D.P.G.M. West Yorks, V.P.; P.M. 910. " Tudor Major, S., D.P.G.M. Staffordshire. " Pickford, W., P.G.S.W. Monmouthshire. " Birch, Henry, P.G.J.W. Oxfordshire; W.M. 1763. " Carter, T. S., P.G.J.W., Herts.; P.M. 1385. " Dubois, H. A., P.G.J.W. Middx.; 1777. " Hatton, A. V., Prov. G.J.W., Gloucestershire; P.M. 943. " Hine-Haycock, W., Prov. G.J.W., Devonshire; P.M. 164. " McCay, George John, P.G.J.W., Cumberland and Westmorland, P.M. 129. " Bennett, Capt. H. A., P.P.G.W., Cheshire, V.P.; P.M. 44. " Boby, W., P.P.G.W., Suffolk; P.M. 114. " Brittain, W.H., P.P.G.W., W. Yorks; P.M. 139. " Crofts, W. Carrick, P.P.G.W., Leicester and Rutland. E. Comp. Cooper, George, P.P.G.W., Essex; Chap. 214. W. Bro. Diamond, Hugh E., P.P.G.W., Derbyshire, P.M. 353. " Emmerson K. Joynes, P.P.G.W., Kent; P.M. 1206. " Godfrey, Henry, J.P., P.P.G.W., Gloucestershire, V.P.; P.M. 82. " Isaac, Saul, P.P.G.W., Kent; P.M. 1206. " Palmer, Rev. J. N., M.A., P.P.G.W., Hants and Isle of Wight; S.W. 10. " Rhodes, M. Sharpley, P.P.G.W., W. Yorkshire; I.P.M. 302. " Robinson, Capt. G., P.P.G.W., W. Yorkshire; P.M. 810.

- W. Bro. Trollope, Thomas, M.D., P.P.G.W., Sussex; W.M. 1842. " Watkins, William, P.P.G.W., Monmouthshire; P.M. and Treas. 1429. " Wordsworth, Capt. J., P.P.G.W., W. Yorkshire, V.P.; Grand Stewards' Lodge, and 60, So 208, and 1019. " Pearson, George, P.G.R., Bristol. " Mullings, John, V.P., P.P.G.R., Gloucestershire; P.M. 592. " West, Frederick, P.P.G.R. Surrey. " Bristow, William, Jun., P.G. Sec., Worcestershire. " Howard, Richard N., P.G. Sec., Dorsetshire; P.M. 1937. " Le Feuvre, J. E., P.G. Sec., Hants and Isle of Wight. " Smith, Henry, P.G. Sec., W. Yorkshire; V.P., P.M. 302. " Spaul, W. H., Prov. G. Sec. N. Wales and Salop. " Hedges, Fentham, P. Prov. G. Sec. Oxfordshire; W.M. 478. " Crowe, G. F., Prov. G.D. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 1211. " Kenning, George, P.G.D. Middx., V.-Pat.; W.M. 1657. " Lane, C. S., Prov. G.J.D. Durham; P.M. and W.M. 704. " Baylis, W., P. Prov. G.D. Staffordshire; P.M. 539. " Bowyer, E., P. Prov. G.D. Hertfordshire; V.P. " Davies, W. H., P. Prov. G.D.S. Wales, E. Division. " Friend, E., P. Prov. G.D. Cheshire; Grosvenor Preceptory of K.T., P.M. 1013 and 1289. " Glover, R. G., P. Prov. G.D. Middx. " Godtschalk, C., P. Prov. G.D. Devon. " Greenhill, G. W., P. Prov. G.D. Kent; P.M. 709. " Page, G., P. Prov. G.D. Kent; P.M. 1209. " Peters, Lt.-Col. J., P. Prov. G.D. Middx.; House Committee. " Short, W., P. Prov. G.D. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 139. " Clark, E., P. Prov. G.S. of W. Middx. " Clarke, W., Prov. G.D.C. Suffolk; P.M. 114. " Beck, W. J., P. Prov. G.D.C. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 289. " Wordsworth, J., P. Prov. G.D.C. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 1019. " Whitley, R. T., P. Prov. A.G.D.C. Middx.; P.M. and W.S. 1585. " Arnison, R., P. Prov. G.S.B. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 296. " Fair, W., P. Prov. G.S.B. Cheshire; P.M. 321. " Roberts, D., P. Prov. G.S.B. Hertfordshire; P.M. and Treas. 754; M.F.Z. 403. " Ballard, J. W., Prov. G.P. W. Lancashire; P.M. 724. " Lister, J. C. W., Prov. G.P. N. Wales and Salop; P.M. 1120. " Baldwin, J. W., P. Prov. G.P. Middx.; P.M. and Treas. 1423. " Driscoll, J., P. Prov. G.P. Middx.; P.M. and Hon. Sec. 30. " Richardson, J., jun., P. Prov. G.P. W. Yorkshire; P.M. 1001. " James, H., G. Steward; W.M. 5. " Spice, R. P., G. Steward; P.M. 21. " Berridge, R., F.R.G.S., P.G. Steward; V.P. " Hollington, A. J., P.G. Steward; P.M. 58. " Hope, W., M.D., P.G. Steward; House Committee. " Meggy, T., P.G. Steward; V.F. " Richardson, F., P.G. Steward, V.F., P.M. and Treas. 1615. " Smith, G., P.G. Steward, V.P.; House Committee. " De Ferrieres, M.P., The Baron, Vice-Patron. " Marshall, H. B., C.C., Vice-Patron; Treas. 1777. " Cadman, J. H., V.-Pres.; I.P.M. 154. " Kirkham, T. N., V.-Pres.; I.P.M. 1719. " Mather, E. C., V.-Pres.; House Committee. " Woodward, E. C., V.-Pres. " Webster, R. B., V.-Pres. TREASURER.

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THE FOUR OLD LODGES.

Bro. Gould's work is one of the most valuable that has come from the Masonic press of the present century, and furnishes ample material towards that great desideratum, a complete history of Masonry since the revival in 1717. His volume is a perfect thesaurus of Masonic facts, and all plentifully and carefully authenticated by exact references. It concludes with an appendix, containing lists of lodges from 1725 to 1813, noting the changes in the relative numbers and names of the lodges. Bro. Gould inserts on his title page the following sentence from the writings of Bro. Elias Ashmole (A.D. 1652):—"Past ages have like rivers conveyed down to us (upon the floate) the more light and sophisticated pieces of learning; but what were profound and mysterious, the weight and solidity thereof sunke to the bottome, whence every one who attempts to dive cannot easily fetch them up." How true. Yet Bro. Gould has dived well, and brought up much, which all lovers of the ancient Craft will value and admire. It gives us fraternal pleasure to congratulate him upon the results of his labour, the analytic method and clearness of his statements, and the singular judgment which characterises all that he has written in "The Four Old Lodges"—a book that is worthy of being in the library of every Freemason.—Krystone.

FRENCH SCOTTISH MASONRY.

We publish the following important circular of the "Grand Conseil" of the Rite Ecossais, Ancien et Accepte, in France:—

Orient of Paris, March 11th, 1880.

To all Scottish Masons, Very dear Brethren, The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite has recently suffered a cruel and irreparable loss, in the person of its venerated and much regretted Grand Master, the Very Illustrious Bro. Adrien Crenieux.

The Supreme Council of France could not have the rash idea of filling completely the immense void created by this death, which has closed an existence entirely consecrated to the duties of a "perfect Mason." Faithful interpreter of the sentiments which animate all the members and all the wishes expressed by a great number of lodges and illustrious Masons, the Supreme Council had fixed its choice on him of its members whom our regretted Grand Master had always himself considered as bound to be his successor, the Very Illustrious Bro. Emanuel Arago.

Notwithstanding the most urgent requests this illustrious brother refused the high dignity which was offered to him, supporting his refusal by motives of the highest gravity, before which we had to bow. He declared himself willing to retain his position of Lieutenant Grand Commander, President of the Grand Central Lodge of France, and ready in this rank to offer to the Supreme Council his most devoted support.

When an army has lost its General the oldest officer accepts the command, and brings to his soldiers his own courage, goodwill, and devotion.

The Supreme Council, wishing to act in the same way, made an appeal to a similar devotion, in unanimously electing as Sovereign Grand Commander the Very Illustrious, very dear Bro. Proal, one of the Seniors of the Supreme Council, an old and tried Mason, and whose Masonic knowledge is only equalled by a too great modesty, which was not overcome without difficulty.

Very dear Brethren, In all free States the accession and election of a new ruler are accompanied by the largest measure of

amnesty and clemency. The new Grand Master has adopted with gratification this generous idea, which accorded admirably with the sentiments of his own heart, filled with fraternal affection for all Masons, his brethren.

DECREE.

On the proposition of the Supreme Grand Commander, supported and developed by the Very Illustrious Lieut.-Grand Commander, it is unanimously decreed:

1st Article.—All the decrees, without exception, issued up to this date by the Supreme Grand Council, suspending and dissolving the lodges of the Rite, affecting and removing the brethren of the obedience, are withdrawn without restriction and without reserve.

In consequence, all the lodges and brethren affected by those decrees re-enter from to-day into the fulness of their Masonic rights.

2nd Article.—The third decree, dated the 30th of October last, is maintained, concerning the nomination of a commission of revision, and inviting the lodges of the obedience to offer their support to this work, but only as regards the commission.

3rd Article.—The Grand Secretary Chancellor of the Rite is charged with the ratification and the execution of the present decree.

E. ARAGO.
BERARD.
PROAL.

DECLARATION.

As a corollary to the present decree, the Supreme Council declares that it is firmly resolved to persevere in the path of reforms claimed by various lodges, in so far as they are not contrary to the statutes and principles of the Constitution of the Scottish Masonic Order, as well as to the treaties of alliance which bind it to confederate Masonic powers.

Already the commission nominated by the third section of the Central Grand Lodge has begun its work of revision, which it is actively pursuing, aided by the light which is offered to it by all the lodges of the Rite and by all Masons of goodwill. Among the most urgent reforms, and which will become the subject of profound study and serious examination on the part of the Supreme Council, we ought to point out principally the following:

1. The necessity for the Supreme Council of completing its numbers by calling to itself the young and vigorous element of Scottish Masonry, and facilitating the access of all Masons to the High Grades by all possible means.

2. The suffrage more largely expressed for the nomination of the Presidents of the Sections.

3. The duty of the members of the Supreme Council to form part, as active members, of a symbolic lodge, whose labours they will share, in assisting there with the ribbon of the Third Degree, as a testimony rendered to the principles of Masonic equality.

4. The nomination of a permanent commission charged with the preparation of matters to submit to the decision of the administrative and executive commission of the Supreme Council, as a means of obtaining a more prompt despatch of the affairs of the Rite.

5. Such measures whose urgency and necessity will be subsequently demonstrated.

The Sovereign Grand Commander, Grand Master, and the Supreme Council close this declaration by making a last appeal to concord, and the oblivion of a mournful past.

Sincerely animated by the desire of good, desirous of marching on the path of true progress, that which they wish before all, and above all, is the prosperity of the Rite Ecossais, A. and A., and a sincere return to union and peace.

They entreat all the Masons of the obedience to be reunited in a fraternal embrace, without recriminations and without hesitation. The trowel ought to efface even the memory of our discords; let us think only for the future which belongs to the new generation, which will know how, we are convinced, to ally love of progress with respect for the fundamental law which we all have taken an oath, from the first to the last, to obey. If some unquiet and dissatisfied spirits persist in their ideas of schism, and if, dreaming of a chimerical independence, they refuse to answer to our fraternal appeal, we are sincerely sorry for them; but they must acknowledge on their part that if they desert our banner it will be our duty to repudiate them.

We still hope, and we shall always hope, that the new head of the Rite Ecossais and the Supreme Council will not see themselves under the cruel obligation of having recourse to measures which are repugnant to every true Mason's heart. We trust that the accession of the G.M. will be greeted by the reconciliation of all the Masons of the Rite. This is our most ardent and most sincere wish. Our hand is loyally held out to you—help us to make firmer the disjointed links of the Masonic chain.

PROAL.
E. ARAGO.
BERARD.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

In reply to the "tradition" argument, put forward by "Masonic Student," no one knows better than this worthy brother, that unless our Masonic traditions are somewhat roughly handled, we might as well wholly abandon any further attempt at Masonic research. A tradition, to carry weight, must be continuous, and in working "up steam," if I may so express myself—that is to say, proceeding from the known to the unknown (instead of the reverse of this process), should we arrive at a period when the tradition ceases (as happens in the case of Wren's alleged connection with the Craft, *cir ca* 1737), we at once rate it as a myth and nothing more. It is as clear as anything can be, that the election of Preston as W.M. by the Lodge of Antiquity, and his discovery of Wren's membership, &c., represent cause and effect. "Before that time," says his friend Stephen Jones, "he had been Master of the Philanthropic Lodge above six years, and of several other lodges, but he was now taught to consider the importance of the office of the first Master under the English Constitution" ("Freemasons' Magazine," Jan., 1795, p. 3). If Wren had been at any time a member of original No. 1 I think it almost certain that this connection would have ensured the lodge from 1717 a pre-eminence which it did not obtain until after Preston's admission in 1774. Desaguliers, Anderson, Payne, Martin Folkes, Martin Clare, or some at all events of the great

Masons or personages who joined the society between 1717—40, would have belonged to Sir Christopher's lodge in preference to any other.

In *Parentalia* (1750) it is stated: "The highest or last stone on the top of the Lantern was laid by the hands of the surveyor's son, Christopher Wren, deputed by his father, in the presence of that excellent artificer, Mr. Strong, his son, and other Free and Accepted Masons, chiefly employed in the execution of the work."

It may, I think, be reasonably inferred that if Joseph Ames had believed Wren to have been a Freemason (as the phrase is now understood), he would have said so. As regards the expression "Free and Accepted Masons," I am of opinion that he alluded to the trade or professional description of the Strong's, which he slightly enlarged, under the influence, no doubt, of Dr. Anderson's statement in the Constitution of 1738. Although it is evident he did not credit the alleged fact of Wren's adoption, it is scarcely possible that he could have rated the positive assertions of Anderson as the solemn nonsense (or worse) which we now know these amount to, endorsed, as they were, by the tacit approval of Dr. Desaguliers, his (Ames's) brother Fellow of the Royal Society, and former tutor.

The term "Freemason" was in common use from a very early period, and signified a superintendent of works or employer of operative Masonic labour. On a monument erected to the memory of Valentine Strong (father of Edward Strong, Wren's "Master Mason") at Fairford, in Gloucestershire, appears the following:—

"Here lyeth the body of Valentine Strong, Free-Mason,
He departed this life
November the . . .
A.D. 1662.

Here's one that was an able workman long,
Who divers houses built, both fair and strong;
Though Strong he was, a stronger came than he,
And robb'd him of his life and fame, we see:
Moving an old house a new one for to rear,
Death met him by the way, and laid him here."

The above named Valentine Strong "had six sons, all of whom were bred to the Mason's trade." According to a memoir of the "Strong" family (cited in Clutterbuck's "History of Hertfordshire," Vol. I., p. 167), "in the year 1675 the eldest son, Thomas, made the first contract for rebuilding the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's, in London, and on the 21st of June that year laid the first stone in the foundation with his own hands." † Thomas Strong died in 1681, "and left all his employment to his brother Edward, whom he made his sole executor."

Edward Strong, the second son of Valentine, continued to carry on the several works commenced by his brother, and died on the 8th February, 1723, aged seventy-two. He was buried at St. Alban's, his epitaph describing him as "citizen and mason of London," and stating "that he laid the last stone of St. Paul's." (According to the *Parentalia*, the last stone on the Lantern was laid by the architect's son in 1710, but Edward Strong in his memoir states most positively that he himself laid it on the 26th October, 1668.)

Thomas Strong is not claimed as a Grand Warden by either Anderson or Preston, and it is scarcely probable that his existence was known by these writers. Even the late Dean Milman, in his "Annals of St. Paul's," represents one and the same "Strong" (whom he styles the master mason) as having assisted in laying the first stone and in fixing the last in the Lantern. Dean Milman, however, quotes copiously from Elmes, and, on referring to the latter authority, we find the familiar nonsense of the *mallet*, *candlesticks*, &c., copied almost word for word from Preston, who is, moreover, styled the best historian of Freemasonry.

Dean Milman states (at p. 404) "The architect himself had the honour of laying the first stone June 21, 1675." Sir William Dugdale, however, in the second edition, "History of St. Paul's Cathedral" (published 1716), after reciting King Charles the Second's commission of 12th November, 1673, adds: "By virtue of which Commission, the new Fabrick was begun in the Month of May next following (An. Scil. 1674)." Dugdale, it will be perceived, does not credit the architect with having laid the first stone, and, indeed, asserts that the edifice was commenced thirteen months prior to the date assigned by Milman.

Sir Henry Ellis, it is true, in his edition of Dugdale (1818) states: "On the 1st May, 1674, the ground began to be cleared for a new foundation; and on June 21st, 1675, the first stone was laid in the new foundation." But this is the opinion of Ellis, and not of Dugdale, and notwithstanding the high reputation of Sir H. Ellis, I demur to Dugdale's own words—"the new Fabrick was begun"—being deemed capable of the interpretation placed upon them in 1818.

To sum up—the authors of the Constitutions of 1738, of "The Complete Freemason, or Multa Paucis for Lovers of Secrets" (1763), and the "Illustrations of Masonry" (1781-1818), assert that the first stone of St. Paul's was laid by Charles the Second in 1673. Dugdale says "the Fabrick was begun in 1674," but all other authorities date the laying of the first stone at 1675. Which is correct? We may well pause to inquire—was the foundation stone laid by Charles the Second, Sir Christopher Wren, or Thomas Strong? and the last stone of the Lantern by Christopher Wren, junior, or by Edward Strong? Writing in 1716, from a personal knowledge of the facts narrated, was Edward Strong more likely to have fixed the actual date of the completion of the Lantern than Joseph Ames,

*An instructive paper bearing on this subject was read at the Royal Institute of British Architects, 2nd Dec., 1861, by Mr. Wyatt Papworth, Fellow.

† By Edward Strong, second son of Valentine, and commonly known as Wren's Master Mason (according to Preston, a member of the Lodge of Antiquity and a Past Grand Warden). The memoir is thus headed: "London, May the 12th, 1716. Memorandum of several works in Masonry done by our family, viz., by my grandfather, Timothy Strong; by my father, Valentine Strong; by my brother, Thomas Strong; by myself, Edward Strong; and my son, Edward Strong." It should be observed that Edward Strong's statements are entitled, historically, to greater weight than the merely secondary evidence of the *Parentalia*, to say nothing of the loose assertions made at third and fourth hand by writers of the current century.

‡ It is noteworthy, that in the *Parentalia* it is merely stated, "The first stone was laid in the year 1675." The honour of having laid it not being claimed for Wren by his literary executors.

writing in 1750, from the papers of the deceased architect and son? In other words, do we, or do we not, accord credit to the only eye-witness (Strong) whose deposition is before us?

R. F. GOULD.

A little caution ought to be shown as regards the discussion in "re" Sir Christopher Wren, &c. It is not quite sufficient to allege that because there is no strict historical proof of this or that, therefore all the traditions respecting Sir Christopher Wren are untenable. The Masons at the beginning of the last century were very tenacious as to publication, and even preservation of minutes, and, in my opinion, it will be a very unsafe and uncritical mode of procedure to assume that all the statements relative to Sir Christopher Wren can receive strict historical proof.

Bro. Gould, and Masonic Student, and Bro. Hughan are, no doubt, critically speaking, justified in attempting to clear away unsupported and unhistorical "myths," but still I would venture to urge caution before we assume too hastily, that because we cannot prove this or that, by "chapter or verse," therefore it becomes unhistorical tradition.

On the whole, despite all that has been said, the balance of probability inclines, in my opinion, to the fact that Sir Christopher was a Freemason, and connected with the old Lodge of St Paul's, now the Lodge of Antiquity.

SENEX.

The notes of Bro. Gould on this subject (*Freemason*, 20th March) appear to imply a doubt, almost amounting to a denial, as to whether Wren was a member of the society of Freemasons, and in support of the views he has advanced he refers to the writings of Aubrey and Anderson, and other authorities. He also gives as the result of his own personal researches that he is "of opinion that there is not a particle of historical evidence to support the theory of Wren having been at any time a member of the society." It is not my intention to enter into any controversy or discussion of the question; but, with a desire to assist Bro. Gould in his further investigation, I wish to submit a few "particles" of evidence in support of the generally accepted theory that Wren was in reality a member of the Order. Amongst other authorities referred to by Bro. Gould is the "Pocket Companion for 1735 and 1736," and such being the case, he may not be unwilling to accept also as an authority "The Pocket Companion and History of Freemasons, 1764." I will therefore venture to submit for his consideration the following extracts:—

Page 86.—"In 1663 Henry Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans, being Grand Master; Sir John Denham, Deputy Grand Master; Sir Christopher Wren and Mr. John Webb, Grand Wardens, made the following regulations." [The regulations referred to are six in number, and relate to the admission of Freemasons and the government of the Fraternity].

Page 87.—"June 24, 1666. Thomas Savage, Earl Rivers, succeeded St. Albans as Grand Master, who appointed Sir Christopher Wren Deputy Grand Master, and Mr. John Webb and Mr. Grinlin Gibbons Grand Wardens; but the Deputy and Wardens had the management of everything concerning the Craft."

Page 89.—"1674.—George Villers, Duke of Buckingham, an old Mason, became Grand Master, but, being indolent, he left all to Deputy Wren and his Wardens; and was succeeded by Henry Bennet, Earl of Arlington (in 1679), who was too deeply engaged in State affairs to mind the lodge; yet in his Mastership the Craft was very considerable, and many persons of distinction requested to be admitted, and were accordingly accepted by the Fraternity."

Page 92.—"Upon the death of Grand Master Arlington, in the year 1685, the lodges met and elected Sir Christopher Wren Grand Master, who annually, while carrying on St. Paul's, met those brethren who could attend him to keep up old usages till the Revolution."

Page 92.—"Particular lodges were mostly occasional in London, except where some great works were carrying on. Sir Robert Clayton procured an occasional lodge of Masters to meet at St. Thomas's Hospital in the year 1693, near which a stated lodge continued long afterwards. Besides the old Lodge of St. Paul's there was one in Piccadilly, another by Westminster Abbey, Holbourn, and Tower Hill. King William was privately made a Mason, approved of the choice of Sir Christopher Wren, greatly promoted the interests of the Craft," &c.

Page 93.—"This year (1695) the most noble Charles, Duke of Richmond and Lenox, Master of a lodge at Chichester, coming to the annual assembly in London, was chosen Grand Master, and approved by the King; Sir Christopher Wren was his Deputy, who acted, as before, at the head of the Craft, and was again chosen Grand Master in the year 1698."

Page 93.—"In the beginning of the reign of Queen Anne the annual assembly was for some years not duly attended; and, what was the worst of all, Sir Christopher Wren, through his great age, bodily infirmities, and retirement from the stage of business and hurry, was no longer able to preside in their assemblies, by which the Craft suffered some detriment."

Alluding to St. Paul's, Bro. Gould says, "It is tolerably clear that the foundation stone was laid by Wren, but the honour has been claimed for Edward Strong, the master mason (or superintendent of work), as well as for King Charles II.," and the following extract from the same source may be interesting:

Page 88.—"The foot stone was levelled in due form by the King, Grand Master Rivers . . . designed and conducted by the Deputy Grand Master Wren, as master of work, with his Wardens, Edward Strong, the elder and younger."

The evidence adduced by Bro. Gould in support of his opinion that Wren was not a member of the society of Freemasons does not appear to me conclusive on the point, and, in the absence of more positive evidence than he has already given, I am disposed to think that such an opinion is not fairly inferential; whilst, on the other hand, assuming the authority I have quoted to be a reliable one, the so termed "prediction" of Aubrey, cited by Bro. Gould, seems to me to really amount to nothing at all, and that there is abundant evidence in the circumstantial extracts which I have given that Wren was not only "a member of the society," but, occupying the highest positions in the Craft, he was for many years very prominent and active in the management and government of its affairs.

B. BROUGHTON
(Prov. G.J.W. West Yorks).

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

Since I wrote my first note on Sir Christopher Wren I have stumbled upon one or two little matters which deserve, I think, consideration.

It seems that King Charles II. laid the first stone of the first pillar of the Royal Exchange, October 23, 1667, and a reference to the "papers" of the day would give us the names of those present. He knighted on that occasion Denis Gauden and Thomas Davis, Sheriffs of London. Is not this the explanation of the mallet? One cannot help thinking, as one surveys the evidence, how true is Bro. Gould's remark, that there is no actual historical proof of the fact of Wren being a Freemason. It is not stated until 1738 that Sir Christopher Wren was a Freemason by any one, and Anderson's evidence of 1738 is the foundation of all subsequent authorities. I may observe in passing that the authority of the "Mason's Pocket Companions" is very little indeed. I, for one, cannot get over the fact that in 1723, and up to 1736, nothing was known of the matter of Wren's Freemasonry. The authority of the *Parentalia* is not much, as it is based on Dugdale, whose authority was only *ut dicitur*. On the other hand, there has been this continuous tradition since 1738, and there is the evidence, so far as it goes, of the Lodge of Antiquity.

Shroder, the German Ritual reformer, declares that Wren took the direction of the Craft in 1660, but where he got his authority from "deponent knoweth not." If "Multa Paucis" could be relied on, the fact is certain, but, unfortunately, he makes so many mistakes and repeats uncritically so many myths, that we cannot accept his witness, the more so as he is unknown himself, and, as Bro. Gould says, only amplifies Anderson.

MASONIC STUDENT.

MASONIC MEDALS.

Brethren in possession of curious and old Masonic medals of the last century will oblige by communicating their character, or "rubblings," or sketches to me, as I am most anxious to do justice to English Masonic medallics. These are mostly of silver, and oval. I have already heard of far more than I had any idea existed, and apparently there are still more to be traced. Did the Alfred Lodge, Oxford, ever issue a medal?

W. J. HUGHAN.

BRO. GOULD AND THE OLD STATUTES.

I should like again to draw attention to the remarkable communication by our able Bro. Robert Freke Gould in the *Freemason* of March 20th, entitled "Masonic History," as our Rev. Bro. Woodford has already done in an editorial.

To maintain that the word "sign," referred to on the Statutes 1495, &c. ("oil signe") does not mean a Masonic sign, would quite astonish some, but Bro. Gould proves most clearly that the word then had no such signification as we attach to it in the Act referred to, but really meant a "badge," and what is more, it is rendered quite evident that no statute whatever prior to the reign of George III. contains any allusion which, by the greatest latitude of interpretation, can be twisted or converted into a reference or recognition of the Freemasons as a secret society. I fully endorse Bro. Gould's statements on these points in the communication herein noted, and also those of considerable value and research made known in the "Four Old Lodges and their Descendants."

Facts are what we want, and are now having, instead of fanciful notions and modern traditions; but such discoveries by Bro. Gould as the above severely shake our confidence in Masonic historians, even of the German school, and demand that we in England most carefully test every statement submitted from all sources, including our own.

W. J. HUGHAN.

MILITARY LODGES.

I regret that "Masonic Student's" note does not help me. Regiments throughout the last century were known by the names of their *Colonels*, and the "Army Lists" (which I have carefully searched) duly record all who filled, or had filled, such office. *General Majoribank's* Regiment I have discovered was a corps in the service of the States General of the United Provinces, but I cannot yet ascertain to what bodies of "Horse" or "Foot" the title of *Duke of York's Regiment* was applied in 1761, and that of *Queen's Royal Irish Regiment* in 1762.

I shall be very much obliged to any reader of this note who will favour me with the names of distinguished military or naval brethren, especially those initiated during the past century in *Scotch* or *Irish* lodges.

R. F. GOULD.

SIR JOHN PRINGLE.

Can any brother inform me whether Sir John Pringle, Bart., President of the Royal Society, 1772, was a Freemason? Many of the Pringles of "Stichell" (of which family Sir J. Pringle was a scion) are cited as "Craftsmen" by Bro. D. M. Lyon, in the "Notes on Scotch Masonry," contributed by him to the now defunct "Freemasons' Magazine."

R. F. GOULD.

MASONIC HISTORY (No. 2).

"Masonic Student" will find the act of Parliament, 11 Henry VII., cap. 3, in the collection of statutes printed by order of George III., the 1st vol. of which was published in 1810. Prior to this date, no complete collection had ever been printed, containing all the matters, which at different times, and by different editors, had been published as statutes.

Referring to his comment on my interpretation of the law of 1549, my object was limited to a demonstration of the erroneous construction placed upon this statute by Bros. Findel and Fort; their contention (as it seemed to me) that the City of London only was excepted from the operation of the 1548 Act being very misleading.

R. F. GOULD.

P.S. The third footnote at page 131 *ante*, should read—"prior to the accession of Henry the Seventh," &c.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn are staying at Biarritz.

WORDSWORTH'S "COCA PILLS," the successful remedy for sleeplessness, neuralgia, and hay fever. 2s. per box. Homœopathic Chemist, 6, Sloane-street, London.—[Advrt.]

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY (No. 2).—The meeting of this ancient lodge took place on Wednesday week last, under the presidency of Bro. W. Hope, M.D., I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, on the Continent, of Bro. Parker Deacon, D.M.

Having disposed of some formal business, the lodge adjourned to the social board, and spent a pleasant and harmonious evening.

We noticed among others the G.S.; Bros. Hope, Sampson Pierce, Woodford, Barron, Pontifex, Sharon Turner, Rivington, Stephen Pearce, Stuart, Tagart, and Bro. Jekyll, the able Organist.

The Lodge of Antiquity sends up two Stewards to the Girls' School Festival this year—Bro. Pontifex, the esteemed S.W., and Bro. Tagart.

WEST KENT LODGE (No. 1297).

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, the 27th ult., and there were present Bros. R. H. Crowden, W.M.; J. C. Wandraw, S.W.; W. G. Kent, J.W.; W. F. Gardner, S.D.; Thomas Perrin, J.D.; J. B. Crump and C. B. Cooke, Stewards; U. Fullwood, James Crowden, P. G. Phelps, Thomas Archer, W. Lomas, A. J. Druce. Visitors: W. Pound, P.M. 19; E. Dresser Rogers, P.M. 15; E. B. Grabham, P.M. 19; G. P. Gillard, S.W. 651; Alfred Allworth, P.M. 1261; E. W. Postans, 1426; —Hodge, 1278; and W. Lake, P.M. 131 (*Freemason*). The ceremony of installation was very ably performed by P.M. Grabham, and the proceedings were of more than ordinary interest from the fact that the W.M., Bro. R. H. Crowden, had been unanimously re-elected to fill that position for another year. On the re-admission of the Master Masons the usual proclamations were made, and the officers were invested as follows: W. G. Kent, S.W.; W. Gardner, J.W.; T. Perrin, S.D.; M. Vizitelley, J.D.; H. E. Stead, P.M., Treasurer; J. C. Woodrow, P.M., Secretary; C. B. Cooke, I.G.; Rev. Rosenthal, Chap.; B. Fullwood, D.C.; Orange, Organist; James Crowden and J. B. Crump, Stewards.

The business on the agenda was then proceeded with. Bro. P. G. Phelps was raised to the degree of a M.M., and Bro. William Lomas and Thomas Archer passed to the Second Degree. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Robert P. Jenkins, Commander Royal Navy, and Mr. John Hicks, which was satisfactory, and they were duly initiated into our ancient mysteries. A motion that the time of meeting be altered to the 4th Saturday in March, April, May, June, July, and October was then put and carried, and the lodge was closed down and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M.

After "The Health of the Queen," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" had been honoured, the W.M. proposed "The Health of those Grand Officers" who are appointed to preside over us, and in doing so hoped he was expressing the feelings of all the brethren present when he congratulated Grand Lodge upon the conclusion they came to at the last Quarterly Communication in reference to the important subject of "Uniformity of Ritual," for if once the traditions and privileges of any particular lodge were interfered with, dissatisfaction and discord would surely take place, and there would be an end to the unanimity that at present exists amongst us. Bro. Crouch, P.M., then rose to propose "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Crowden." He said it gave him the greatest pleasure to see the W.M. installed a second time in the chair of that lodge; he had filled it during the past year with great ability, and was well worthy of their esteem, and of the honour that had been conferred on him. The W.M., in reply, said: It has been your pleasure, brethren, to again place me in this honourable chair for another term of office, and I feel deeply the high compliment you have paid me. It has pleased also our P.M., Bro. Crouch, to speak of me in such kind and felicitous terms, that I hardly know how sufficiently to thank him and you for the honour you have done me. I have been to-day reminded, in the words of our beautiful installation ceremony, that the honour, reputation, and usefulness of a lodge materially depend on a Master in the management of its concerns, and I trust that these points have, in your opinion, been well kept before me, and it gives me much pleasure to think that the zeal and assiduity which I have attempted to display in the carrying out of these grand objects have met with such a hearty recognition at your hands. It also gives me much gratification in seeing the same good feeling and unanimity still exists throughout the lodge, and I think we may now all say with pride and satisfaction we belong to a lodge second to none, viz., the West Kent, and if I have been the humble means of producing these results I am sure I have been amply rewarded this day by the honour you have done me by placing me again in this chair. I tender you my sincere thanks for this compliment, as well as for your hearty reception of this toast. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Grabham," and thanked him in the name of the lodge for so kindly coming down to the Crystal Palace and giving them the benefit of his valuable services. The eloquent and impressive manner in which he had rendered the ceremony gave the greatest satisfaction to all. In reply, Bro. Grabham said that it had given him the greatest pleasure to re-install Bro. Crowden. He was much gratified at the way in which the lodge had progressed under the rule of the Worshipful Master; it had not only increased in numbers, but they had quality as well. The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the Initiates," and said if there was one toast more than another that a W.M. should give preference to it was the one he was about to propose, viz., "The Health of the Initiates," for if they did not introduce their friends into their lodges their Masonic circles would not be complete, they would have little work to do, and their years of office would be wanting in success. It had been his pleasure and privilege that day to initiate Bro. Capt. Jenkins (Royal Navy) and Bro. John Hicks, and he trusted by the reception they were about to accord to this toast they would show the pleasure they had in receiving them into the fraternity as well as to heartily welcome them as members of this particular lodge. By the manner they had gone through their first ceremony he ventured to hope they would look forward with a pleasurable anticipation to their other Degrees, and when, at last, they became M.M. they would be the better enabled to appreciate and distinguish the connection of our

whole system, and understand more fully the grand principles upon which our Institution was founded. He came across the following thrilling stanza the other day, taken from an old Masonic poem, the sentiment of which he would leave with the brethren and with them—

"Let love abound in all your ways,
That all mankind may see
That trust in God is the Keystone
Of ancient Masonry."

The initiates, Bros. Jenkins and Hicks, having suitably replied, the W.M. then gave "The Health of the Visitors," and coupled the names of Bros. Dr. Allworth and Dresser Rogers. The latter brother responded to the toast, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to be present. He had many years ago occupied the chair of his lodge, but for a considerable time had not taken his share of the duties. He felt, however, much inclined to return to Freemasonry after what he had seen that evening. He referred to the fact that they could meet there on neutral ground, even in such a time of political excitement, and that many of the political speakers might take a lesson from Masonry, and often speak a good word instead of an unkind one. "The Past Masters" followed, Bro. Stead and Crouch responding. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge," and, after thanking those brethren (Bros. Stead and Woodrow) for the satisfactory manner in which they had carried out their respective duties, gave the following allegory, which he considered adapted itself somewhat to this toast:—At one time a number of boats were to cross the river where the current was particularly swift and strong; they all drifted to a greater or a lesser distance from the landing place, reaching it after great difficulty and delay; but there were two who kept steadily on their path, and arrived at their destination far in advance of the rest. The two boatswains on being asked why they had been more successful than the others, replied it was only by keeping their eyes steadily and firmly fixed upon the point where they had to land, whilst patience and perseverance did the rest. Now, these happy boatswains were our Treasurer and Secretary, who already had reached their landing place; the others were the officers of this lodge. Many were the currents, swift and strong, ready to carry them away from the grand prize they had before them, and the only way to prevent drifting was by maintaining a steadfast and constant view of the great ends and aims they had before them. They should be careful to study their respective parts, and perform their allotted tasks to the best of their ability. They would all then add lustre to the beautiful ceremonies of their ancient Institution, and eventually, he trusted, reach their true goal, namely, this honourable chair. Bro. Woodrow, in the absence of Bro. Stead, the Treasurer, replied. He considered that the pleasure of serving the West Kent Lodge was enough to repay him for any trouble or effort he made on its behalf, and, speaking for the officers generally, he believed that whatever they carried out to their own satisfaction would be to the satisfaction of the West Kent Lodge. Bros. Kent, Gardner, Perrin, and Fullwood also replied. The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

During the evening the W.M. announced that the subscriptions on his Stewards' list for the Girls' School amounted to £72 3s. 6d.

We should mention also that the proceedings were enlivened by songs from the W.M., Bro. Kent, and Bro. Gillard, who gave "The Charge of the Light Brigade" in a most effective manner.

ST. DUNSTAN'S LODGE (No. 1589).

The usual meeting of this lodge took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Thursday, the 25th ult., and was numerously attended. Special interest attached to this meeting, as the brethren had, at the audit of the lodge on the 24th February, unanimously passed the following resolution: "That it is desirable to offer to Bro. Tisley some token of esteem and regard in recognition of the very valuable services he has rendered to the St. Dunstan's Lodge and Chapter, not only in their formation, but since then as Honorary Secretary, his exertions in those offices very much contributing to the great success attained by the lodge and chapter." The following brethren were nominated as a committee for carrying out the above object: Bros. Henry Turner, W.M. 1589, Chairman; J. C. Dwarber, P.M.; W. Wellsman, P.M.; J. H. Dodson, I.P.M.; W. M. Praed, P.G.S., Treasurer; T. A. Woodbridge, S.W.; G. Manners, J.W.; G. McA. Low, S.D.; W. H. Clemow, J.D.; F. Farrington, I.G.; W. Farrington, Organist; R. H. Clemow, Steward; T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B. Middx., P.S.; G. H. Mason, E. D. Maddick. Bro. Dalwood was requested to act as Treasurer, and Bro. W. E. Farrington as Honorary Secretary. The proposition was so well received that in a few days a goodly sum had been collected, all the members of both lodge and chapter, we believe, subscribing, and it was resolved that the presentation should take place at the next meeting of the lodge.

The lodge was opened in due form, and after the reading and confirmation of the minutes, two candidates, Mr. H. Lyons, and Mr. H. T. F. Groves were introduced and initiated, the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M., Bro. Turner. There being no further business, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet under the presidency of the W.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed from the chair, and received with the customary honours, after which Bro. P.M. Dodson proposed "The Health of the W.M." in very laudatory terms. Bro. Turner responded, thanking Bro. Dodson heartily for the kind expressions he had used towards him, and the brethren for their reception of the toast. The toast of "The Initiates," responded to by those brethren, and that of "The Visitors," responded to by Bros. Long, W. Lake, and Baldwin, followed. "The Past Masters of St. Dunstan's Lodge" was the next, and was responded to by Bros. Dalwood and Dodson. Regret was expressed at the absence of P.M. Wellsman, who had been suddenly called out of town. The Worshipful Master then gave the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary, Bros. Praed and Tisley." He was sorry that the "Treasurer" was not present, and the more so because of the reason—Bro. Praed was in ill health and had been obliged to resort to a more genial climate than London for some time had afforded. With regard to the Secretary, Bro. Tisley, he said it would be recollected that a week or two ago it was suggested that some sort of recognition of his invaluable services both to the lodge and the chapter should be made. The lodge and

chapter had both been nursed by him from their earliest infancy, and owed their prosperity in a great measure to his fostering care. The idea was no sooner mooted than it became a success in a day, and a substantial amount was immediately subscribed. Usually the recipient of a testimonial retired from active duties, but it was not so in this case, and they would still have the benefit of his advice and assistance. It was with peculiar feelings of pleasure that he found himself in the enviable position of being the medium through which this presentation was made. He might say that there was perfect unanimity in the matter; every member of both lodge and chapter had subscribed, and the only difference of opinion was as to the form the testimonial should assume. It was decided that it should be a watch and chain and a "bit of vellum;" a Secretary's jewel was also added by a unanimous vote of the lodge. Bro. Tisley, in thanking the brethren for the very handsome present, said it was the most difficult task he had to perform in connection with the lodge. The W.M. had told them that he would like to pass the chair—that was true; but he had waited seventeen years for his position in the parish, and could wait equally long if necessary for that position in the lodge. Fishermen might wait for ten years and never get a bite, but he was not so badly off as that. He could not find words to express his thanks to the brethren, not only for the handsome present, but for the fraternal spirit in which it had been promoted and carried out. He had, it was true, a good deal to do with the founding of the lodge and the chapter, but had no idea the time had arrived for his services to be recognised in this way.

The watch, which was a valuable one, had been procured from a first-class maker, and was the best that could be obtained, and it, together with the chain, jewel, and "vellum," was much admired.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—

The members of the above lodge held their regular meeting on the 18th ult., at the New Market Hotel. Present: Bros. J. Howes, W.M.; Pennefather, S.W.; W. Malt-house, J.W.; Elliott, Treas.; Adam, I.P.M.; Mallett, P.M., Sec., P.M. 141; T. M. Butt, S.D.; H. J. Lardner, J.D.; G. H. Stephens, I.G.; Snow, W.S.; W. Butt, C.S.; Roberts, Organist.

The W.M. having opened the lodge, called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously confirmed. The W.M. then advanced his lodge a stage. Bros. Titcombe, Mackay, and Walters, candidates for their final Craft Degree, after answering various necessary questions, received a test of merit and retired. The W.M. further advanced his lodge, and Bros. Titcombe, Mackay, and Walters returned to lodge, prepared for their reception, and took that final step so dear to every Freemason, the ceremony, being admirably rendered by the Worshipful Master, and evidently making a great impression on the candidates. The Worshipful Master resumed the lodge to the First, and called the lodge off. On the lodge being resumed a ballot was taken for the

following gentlemen, viz.: Messrs. Nash, W. H. and M. H. Milton, the ballot in each case proving unanimous, and the two latter gentlemen being present, were duly initiated into Freemasonry. Several notices of motion before the lodge were considered and withdrawn, with exception of two, one to confirm a previous grant to the Aged Freemasons, and the other to establish a Benevolent Fund in connection with the lodge, proposed by G. H. Stephens, I.G., seconded by W. Malt-house, J.W. Bro. Stephens, in bringing forward his motion, said he had no apology to offer for doing so, such a subject required no recommendation and he would at once move the same be adopted by the lodge, and a Committee be appointed to consider the best course to adopt, and report on the same at the next regular lodge meeting. Carried unanimously. Bro. Stephens again remarked he had to inform them since their last meeting he had had the honour of representing the lodge at the festival of the Aged Freemasons, and on that occasion had the pleasure of handing to that Institution the sum of £115, which had since been augmented to £125, and hoped it would not stop short at that. For himself, he felt great pleasure in standing as Steward, and taking up his first Life Governorship, and should not feel happy until he had served the other Charities the same way, and he recommended all the brethren who could to do so, and in conclusion begged to thank those brethren who had supported his list.

Amongst the brethren present not already mentioned were Bros. Silver, King, Walters, Corke, C. Smith, Butt, senior. Visitors as follows: Bros. M. Russell, 1700; E. G. G. Bax, 871; F. Walters, P.M. 73, P. Prov. G.D. Middx.; J. Pearson, P.M. 315; C. Soane, 997; R. Paige, 184; A. R. Britten, 820; and H. Blackwell, 377.

The lodge business being ended, the W.M., after the usual enquiries, closed the lodge in due form, and adjourned with his brethren to the banqueting room. After the cloth was cleared the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

The W.M. thanked the brethren for the toast proposed by the I.P.M., and for their hearty response to the same, Bros. Blackwell, Pearson, and others replied for "The Visitors," Bro. Elliott, I.P.M., for "The Past Masters," the Bros. Milton for "The Initiates," Mallett, Secretary, Lardner, Pennefather, Roberts, and others for "The Officers." The Tyler proposed the next toast, and brought the evening's proceedings to a close. Songs were rendered during the evening by Bros. Roberts, Greenwood, and M. Butt.

CLAPHAM LODGE (No. 1818).—The fourth regular meeting of this new and prosperous lodge was held on Monday, 22nd March, at the Grosvenor Hotel, Belgravia. There were present Bros. Louis Hirsch, W.M.; Dr. C. T. Pearce, S.W.; Archibald Fairlie, J.W.; W. Worrall, P.M., Sec.; R. C. Sudlow, Treas. (bro tem); Alfred Pocock, S.D.; W. Carlton Hale, J.D.; Dr. Lewis Evans, D.C.; A. G. Repton, Steward; G. E. Gooding, S. Pocock, G. Hankins, G. Burroughs, Henry Phillips, and others. The visitors, Bros. H. E. France, 857, P.P.G.D. Surrey; C. Hammerton, P.M. 1339; S. H. Parkhouse, P.M. 161; T. E. Andrae, 18 and 255; J. B. Whitmarsh, 145; I. Belfrage, 192; B. S. H. Good, 27 (U.S.A.); and H. Manchester, 1201.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. most ably raised Bros. Burroughs and Hankins, passed Bro. Henry Phillips, and initiated Mr. Howard Smith into the mysteries of the Order. In pursuance of a previous proposition, Bro. A. G. Repton, in a few complimentary remarks, presented the W.M. with a

handsome Founder's jewel, requesting him to make a like presentation to the other Founders of the Clapham Lodge. The W.M. thanked the brethren for this very handsome present to himself and the other Founders of this lodge, and assured them that this jewel would ever serve to remind him of the most pleasant year of his Masonic career. In presenting the Founder's jewel to Bros. Pearce, S.W.; Fairlie, J.W.; Pocock, S.D.; Hale, J.D.; and Sudlow, I.G., he felt sure they would ever esteem and preserve it as a memento of the friendly and fraternal spirit which had prompted the members of the Clapham Lodge to present it to them. Each of the recipients returned thanks in most felicitous terms. The Secretary having read letters from Bros. Col. J. Creaton, Grand Treasurer; Col. S. H. Clerke, Grand Secretary; E. H. Thicllay, and H. Davies, expressing inability to be present, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and that of "The Grand Officers" responded to by Bro. H. E. Frances, who paid a high compliment to the W.M. and officers for the very able and efficient manner in which the ceremonies were rendered. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. W. Worrall, P.M., in very warm terms, and, in response, the W.M. said: I assure you it is very difficult for me to find fresh words to express my thanks for the very cordial way in which this toast is always mentioned and received.

"I can no other answer make but thanks."

I must say that I feel proud of your kind expressions of fraternal regard for me, and wish I could feel that I deserve the many flattering remarks made about me by Bros. Frances and Worrall. Since I have been installed into the chair of this lodge I have discharged the duties of it to the very best of my abilities. My aim has been to arrive at the height of perfection in the rendering of our beautiful ceremonies, but I feel I am far short of that. At your rate, I have done my best, and thank you, brethren, for your appreciation of my efforts. My year of office is waning fast, for at the next meeting another brother will have to be chosen to occupy the chair, and I shall carry with me, in retiring from my high office, many grateful and pleasant remembrances of your kindness and consideration. The W.M. then rose to propose "The Health of the Initiate," and said: There is no toast on my list which affords me greater pleasure to propose than the health of our brother initiate. Our new made brother has been introduced by our worthy Bro. Gooding, the first joining member of our lodge, and a brother whom we all highly honour and esteem. This alone would be a sufficient guarantee, but our Bro. Smith is also well known to several members of our lodge as a man of sterling worth, of whom the tongue of good report has been heard, and who would do honour to any society. I hope he will never regret the step he has taken this evening, and ever remember his birthday in Freemasonry. From what I know of Bro. Smith, I feel sure he will become a good and faithful Mason, and carry out the great principles of our Order—brotherly love, relief, and truth. Bro. Howard Smith thanked the brethren for the cordial reception they had given him that evening, and expressed his admiration for the beautiful ceremony, which had been, as he had heard just now, so ably rendered by their W.M. It had long been his desire to become a Freemason, and he felt sure the step he had taken that evening he would never regret. It would be his great aim to become a useful member of this lodge, and he would endeavour to carry out the precepts of the Order. The W.M. then rose to propose "The Health of the Visitors," which he was sure would meet with their hearty and cordial reception. Nothing could afford him personally greater pleasure than the presence of so many distinguished brethren round their festive board, and he was sure his sentiments would be heartily endorsed by every member of the lodge. He tendered the brother visitors their cordial welcome, and thanked them for the honour of their presence. He could not sufficiently express the pleasure he felt in seeing his esteemed Bro. Hammerton by his side. He knew he had made a great effort to be there that evening on account of indisposition, but trusted he would soon be restored to convalescence. He was also very glad to see Bro. Parkhouse, a brother who distinguished himself at the last festival of the Royal Benevolent Institution, by bringing the largest amount on the list, and who rendered good suit and service to the ladies at the banquet. The toast was responded to by Bro. Hammerton and other visitors, all of whom expressed themselves in the highest terms of the excellent working of the lodge, and the very pleasant evening they had spent. The W.M. then rose to propose "The Officers." This toast gave him a pleasure to propose, and he was convinced it would be most cordially received by the members of that lodge. He was sure that every one of the officers was most desirous to give him their best support during the remaining portion of his year of office, as they had so kindly done hitherto, and for which he tendered his brother officers his very best thanks. No lodge could possibly prosper unless the officers were able and willing to undertake and do the work in an efficient manner; that, he trusted, would always be the case in the Clapham Lodge, so that by their good working, by their good understanding of their beautiful rites and ceremonies, their lodge might shine as one of the brightest stars in what he might term the great firmament of the Order. He was especially greatly indebted to Bro. Sudlow for the deep interest he took in promoting the prosperity of this lodge, and no one more fully appreciated his efforts than he did. He then invited the brethren to fill their glasses and drink in a bumper with him "Long Life, Happiness, and Prosperity to the Officers of the Lodge." The S.W., Bro. Pearce, responded, and the Tyler's toast brought a pleasant evening to a close.

DUKE OF CORNWALL LODGE (No. 1839).

—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday, the 25th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Present: Bros. Brookes, W.M.; Smith, jun., S.W.; Corpe (acting), J.W.; Dewsnap, Treas.; Cruise, Sec.; Dewsnap, as S.D.; Stokes, J.D.; Smith, D.C.; Wilkins, I.G.; Bauman, Steward; Goddard, Tyler; Maloney, P.M. Honorary members of the lodge: V.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary; and Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D. Members: Bros. Owen, Williams, Quoadt, Auerbach, Holmes, Cattermole, and others. Visitors: Bros. Haldane, P.M. 349, P.D.D.G.M. Malta; Higgins, 1381; Chubb, 186; Marcus, 186; Keith Frith, 1226; Culver, 1031; and other brethren.

The lodge was opened in due form, and with solemn

prayer. The minutes of the previous meeting were then read and confirmed. Bros. Quoadt, Auerbach, Holmes, and Cattermole, having answered the questions put them by the W.M., were severally passed to the Second Degree. V.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, then delivered in a most impressive manner a lecture on the Tracing Board, after which a vote of thanks was passed for the same, and the W.M. gave notice of motion that the lodge hold a summer festival, and to admit ladies. The brethren dined at Freemasons' Hall in good style, and the proceedings closed in the usual manner.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Lodge of Indus-

try (No. 48).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at No. 24, Denmark-street, on Monday, the 22nd ult., when there was a large gathering of brethren from the provinces of Durham and Northumberland. The lodge was opened shortly after 2.30 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. Robt. Whitfield, assisted by the officers, viz., Bros. Michael Corbitt, I.P.M. and P.G.S.D.; John Wood, S.W.; J. G. Smith, J.W.; Wm. Brewis Elsdon, Treasurer; R. F. Cook, P.M., D.C.; E. Liddell, Sec.; E. W. Middlemast, S.D.; J. Moul, J.D.; J. W. A. Boyatt, as I.G.; R. Ferry, Organist; J. C. S. Liddell, S.S.; Jas. Macintyre, J.S.; and Joshua Curry, Tyler. The following brethren attended: Bros. E. D. Davis, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; D. Sinclair, P.M.; J. E. Robson, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; B. P. Ord, P.M., and I.P.M. 1427, P.P.G.O.; W. Dalrymple, Thos. Reay, John Snowdon, Robert Brason, W. M. Pybus, Adamson Rhagg, and others.

Amongst others the following visitors: Bros. W. H. Crookes, P.M. So and 1380, P.G. Sec.; R. B. Lutert, P.M. 91, P.P.I.G.; Wm. Liddell, P.M. 949, P.P.I.G.; J. Thompson, So and 97, P.G.P., all of Province of Durham; Jos. Cook, P.M. 481, P.P.G.S.W.; John Page, W.M. 106, P.G.S.B.; W. Cooper, W.M. 1342, P.G.A.P.; W. M. Bell, P.M. 1557, P.G.A.D.C.; Rich. Eynon, P.M. 481, P.G.S.W.; John Usher, W.M. 481, P.G.P.; John Spearman, P.M. 481, P.P.G.S. of W., all of Province of Northumberland; Jas. Montgomery, P.M. 991; Robt. Waugh, 1626; John Duckitt, S.W. 481; R. G. Salmon, S.W. 405; R. A. Dodds, Sec. 1626; W. Gladstone, I.P.M. 991; G. A. Allan, P.M. 991; John Allan, 636; J. T. Corking, 636; John J. Clay, P.M. 97; J. W. Gibson, 1427; and C. B. Ford, J.D. 481.

After confirming the minutes of the last regular meeting the ballot was taken for Mr. J. G. Benson, proposed at the February lodge, and he was unanimously elected. The candidate being in attendance and properly prepared, was initiated into the mysteries by the W.M., the J.W. explaining the working tools. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree. After the W.M. elect had been duly presented by Bro. E. D. Davis, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., and the lodge raised, Bro. John Wood was installed in due form in the chair of K.S. by Bro. R. Whitfield, the retiring Master, who also gave the charges to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren. The newly-installed W.M. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bro. R. Whitfield, I.P.M.; J. G. Smith, S.W.; E. Liddell, J.W.; W. B. Elsdon, Treasurer; R. F. Cook, P.M., D.C.; E. W. Middlemast, Secretary; John Moul, S.D.; James Macintyre, J.D.; R. T. Swallow, I.G.; Adamson Rhagg, S.S.; William M. Pybus, J.S.; R. Ferry, Organist; and J. Curry, Tyler. Two subscribing members were proposed, and the W.M., having received the "Hearty good wishes" from the numerous visitors, the lodge was closed at 4.50 p.m.

The annual festival was afterwards held at the Town Hall, when nearly 100 brethren sat down to an enjoyable dinner, purveyed by Bro. James Tait, Grey Horse Hotel, in his usual able manner. The W.M. was supported by most of the brethren whose names are recorded above, and by others who were unable to attend in the afternoon. The musical entertainment was ably rendered as of old by Bros. D. Whitehead, J. Walker, J. Leatham, and John Nutton, the famous quartette from Durham Cathedral. The dessert was excellent, during which the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. W. H. Crookes, P.G. Sec. (Durham), responded for the R.W.P.G.M. and Officers of P.G.L. In his reply he said that probably the brethren would be aware that at the P.G. Lodge, which was held there last year, the R.W.P.G.M. was unable to attend on account of illness, and he regretted to inform them that he (Bro. Crookes) had received a communication from Bro. Fawcett, the P.G.M., that he had tendered his resignation to the M.W.G.M. of England. From the profound silence with which the brethren received that information he saw that they deeply regretted the severance of their connection with the oldest P.G.M. in England. He would also inform them that the successor to Bro. John Fawcett as P.G.M. for Durham had been appointed, and that he did not think it wrong to mention that the Marquis of Londonderry would probably be installed as the P.G.M. in course of time. Bro. Eynon, P.M. 481, P.P.G.S.W. of Northumberland, responded for the P.G.M. (Earl Percy) and officers of Northumberland. The I.P.M., Bro. R. Whitfield, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said he was glad that it had been his privilege to install Bro. John Wood as his successor, inasmuch as they both were proposed and initiated together six years ago, had worked side by side, and both had now attained the highest honours in succession. The W.M., in his response, thanked the I.P.M. for the high encomium he had bestowed on him, and he also thanked the brethren for the hearty manner they accepted the toast. He was certainly unable to tell them all that was in his heart, for their praise was more than he expected, but he would assure them that he should endeavour to make up for his deficiency of speech that evening by doing his work and looking after the interests of the lodge during the time it was under his charge. Bro. E. D. Davis next followed, and proposed "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Whitfield," who had so creditably performed the duties of his office that afternoon. He said he had no doubt but that if Bro. Whitfield had again to be called upon to perform the duties of Installing Master he would not be found wanting. Bro. Whitfield, in reply, said he was always willing to learn and to hear criticism from so distinguished a brother as Bro. Davis was beneficial to all who took any interest in the ritual of the Craft. The brethren might be assured that he would ever retain his connection and hearty interest in the good old lodge. He was glad to say that during his year of office their lodge had progressed both in numbers and quality, and from the appointment of officers made that day he augured well for its prosperity hereafter. Bro. M. Corbitt, P.M., proposed

"The Masonic Charities" in a very forcible and neat speech, and Bro. E. D. Davies responded. Bro. Davis, in his remarks, mentioned the fact that the Provinces of Durham and Northumberland were working harmoniously together for the welfare of the Masonic Charities, and said that the adjoining Province of Northumberland intended sending their Deputy P.G.M. as a Steward next month with a list of about £400. The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Past Masters of the Lodge of Industry," to which Bro. R. B. Reed replied in an excellent address. Bro. Reed, who is the Chairman of the Industry Masonic Hall Company, which has been instituted for the building of another and larger hall, very much needed for the purposes of this lodge, was glad to find that the recent Masters had followed so well in the footsteps of such esteemed brethren as Bro. E. D. Davis and others who had had the interests of the lodge at heart for so many years. He also made an appeal to the brethren asking them to take up new shares in the Hall Company, and, in response, nearly 200 shares at £1 each were subscribed for in the room. "The Past and Present Officers" was given by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. R. F. Cook, P.M., D.C., M. Corbitt, P.M., and J. G. Smith, S.W. Other toasts followed, and the brethren separated after spending a happy evening.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Integrity.—(No. 163).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Wednesday, March 24th. According to the calendar the meeting should have taken place a week later, but owing to the Provincial Grand Chapter being held at the hall on the 31st. ult., it was thought advisable to hold their own meeting a week before the usual time. The lodge was opened at 4.45 with prayer, and the following officers were present: Bros. E. Williams, W.M.; A. Heald, S.W.; J. Sinclair, J.W.; J. Senior, S.D.; Henry Walley, I.P.M. and Treasurer; B. Williams, jun., I.G. A numerous assembly of brethren was also present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Treasurer, Bro. Henry Walley, P.M., acting for W. D. Waddell, Secretary (who was absent), and were duly confirmed. The ballot was next taken for Mr. R. P. Gardner to be a member of the lodge, and that gentleman was unanimously elected. He was afterwards initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. Henry Walley, P.M., next presented the working tools of an E.A. to Bros. R. P. Gardner, Alfred Hoffmann, and B. B. Dakeyne. The charge was then delivered to these brethren collectively by the J.W., Bro. J. M. Sinclair. The brethren afterwards adjourned to tea at 5.55, and on the resumption of the lodge duties at 6.45. Bros. Hoffmann and Dakeyne, having answered the necessary questions, were passed to the degree of F.C., the first-named brother by the W.M., and the latter by Bro. Henry Walley, P.M. The W.M. presented the working tools to both candidates. Bros. Macpherson and Kershaw, after answering the necessary queries, were severally raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. On the termination of the "work," and when the lodge had been duly lowered, a long discussion took place respecting the scant accommodation at the Freemasons' Hall granted to this and other lodges who met there, at the conclusion of which "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at nine o'clock.

OPENSHAW.—Faith Lodge (No. 581).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Drover's Inn, on Wednesday, the 17th ult. There were present Bros. John Greenup, W.M.; Henry Darbyshire, I.P.M.; Thos. Walker, J.W.; J. M. Johnson, S.D.; A. Swift, J.D.; W. Swif, I.G.; John C. Browne, Treas.; Lee Speakman, Sec.; C. Beswicke, Tyler; James Pollett, John Hilton, James Thos. Entwistle, and Jos. T. Richardson, P.M. Visitors: Bros. W. Beswicke, 1215; Wm. Cox, P.M. 1458; Ellis Jones, P.M. 1147; and R. R. Lisenden, 317 (*Freemason*).

The lodge was opened with prayer at 5.45, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed.

At this stage the lodge was called off, and the brethren sat down to an excellent tea, a la Fourchette, at the conclusion of which the lodge duties were resumed, and a gentleman, who had at the previous meeting been proposed, was balloted for, and being unanimously elected a member, was with all due rite and ceremony initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by the W.M. A brother was next raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., this ceremony also being performed by the W.M. in a highly satisfactory manner, which earned the unqualified approval of all present. Bro. Henry Darbyshire, P.M., presented and explained the working tools. After the lodge had been lowered, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at ten o'clock.

At the social board the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and the brethren separated at 10.45.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge (which numbers nearly one hundred brethren) was held in their magnificent lodge room at the Pump Room, on Wednesday, the 17th ult., at three o'clock, the retiring W.M., Bro. H. D. M. Williams, being the Installing Master. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. W. Stephens, P.M. of Ripon, 1489, Prov. G.D.C.; J. Court, 1678; H. Mackay-Pelham, P.M.; F. H. Plummer, 177; H. Martinic, 1594; J. H. Scott, 271, D.P.G.M. Sussex; A. Spencer, Prov. G.S. Kent; C. Burmeister, P.M. 538; Charles Duke, 40, P.P.G.D. Sussex; Frederick Spencer, 1063, P.P.J.D. Kent; D. W. Davis, 40; G. B. Brodie, W.M. 1117, P.G.S.W. Surrey; E. J. Biggs, 1472; G. D. Warner, 1678; T. H. Crouch, 851, P.P.G.J.D. Sussex; J. S. Charlton, 1678; and others. Also Past Masters Bros. F. W. Elers, B. Marsack, W. Delves, J. W. Roper, J. Reed, B. S. Wilmot, W. B. Bacon, of the Holmesdale Lodge, and about forty brethren.

The lodge having opened in solemn form and the minutes confirmed, a dispensation was read from the Grand Master of England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.T., &c., authorising the W.M. to install the W.M. elect, such sanction being necessary in consequence of the W.M. elect being already W.M. of Lodge 1303, Lewes. Bro. W. S. Elers, P.G.A.S., P.M., having for eighteen years faithfully and zealously discharged the duty of Treasurer to the lodge, the brethren at a previous meeting had decided to present him with a Treasurer's jewel as a slight recognition of his

services, and of their fraternal regard. The W.M., in the absence of the Treasurer, handed the jewel to his brother, F. W. Elers, P.G.J.W., asking him to convey to the Treasurer (who is now on the Continent) how much the brethren of the lodge appreciated his very many excellent services as one of the founders of the lodge, and its Treasurer from its commencement, and he and they hoped that the Great Architect of the Universe would enable him to continue his exertions in the cause of Freemasonry for many years to come. For the past six years Bro. J. F. Bates has discharged the duty of Secretary to the lodge in such a manner as to call forth the admiration of the brethren, and anxious to reward at all times merit and ability, this being one of the distinguishing characteristics of Freemasonry, the Worshipful Master, Bro. H. D. M. Williams, was deputed to present him with a Secretary's jewel and a purse of ten guineas. The W.M., in doing so, expressed the pleasure it gave him, and further stated that from the excellent way in which he had discharged his duties in the past he felt sure the success of the lodge would be maintained in his hands. Bro. J. F. Bates, in reply, stated that he could not find words to sufficiently express his gratitude for the kindness which the brethren had conferred upon him, and assured them that nothing should prevent him in doing the best he could to preserve the peace and harmony of the brethren. Bro. F. W. Elers, P.G.J.W., senior P.M., then presented the W.M. elect, and, in so doing, expressed the pleasure it gave him, Bro. Hodgkin having been initiated in the lodge and duly served the office of Warden, and also having been W.M. of the Tonbridge and Lewes Lodges, all which posts he had filled with merit and ability. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with in a most impressive manner; the charges and exhortations were given by the Installing Master, Bro. H. D. M. Williams, in such a way as to call forth the admiration of the brethren.

The following brethren were afterwards invested officers for the year:—Bros. J. Burton, S.W.; J. E. Ranking, J.W.; L. S. Tugwell, Chaplain; W. S. Elers, Treasurer; J. F. Bates, Secretary; E. Dunkley, S.D.; S. A. Cheale, J.D.; A. J. Boorman, Organist; G. Farrer, Sword Bearer; B. S. Wilmot, P.M., P.G.R. Kent, and C. Graham, D.C.'s; G. Beckley, P.M., and A. D. Beeching, Stewards; W. C. Cripps, jun., I.G.; and G. Strange, Tyler, for the 10th time. The addresses were delivered to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren by Bro. H. D. M. Williams. The W.M. then stated that it gave him great pleasure, as his first duty, to present to Bro. H. D. M. Williams, the retiring W.M. and Installing Master, a P.M.'s jewel. The lodge was noted for the zeal of its Masters, but he felt sure that no Master had discharged his duties more zealously and impartially, or with greater skill and ability, than he had. Bro. H. D. M. Williams, P.M., in reply, stated that if by his humble endeavours he had merited and secured the good wishes of the brethren he was amply repaid for any services he may have rendered. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. H. D. M. Williams for his services as Installing Master. The brethren then adjourned to the new assembly room of the Royal Kentish Hotel, where a choice menu awaited them; and on the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. During the evening some very interesting speeches were made by the brethren, and the harmony of the meeting was much enhanced by songs, given by Bros. Lord George Nevill, Bates, Everest, and Boorman, who were accompanied on the piano. Bro. B. S. Wilmot, P.M., P.G.R. Kent, acted as Master of the Ceremony of Installation, and the manner in which it was performed deserves the highest praise that can possibly be conferred upon him.

TWICKENHAM.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—An emergency meeting of the above lodge took place on Saturday, the 20th ult., at the Albany Hotel, for the purpose of raising Bros. Wm. A. Sims, A. A. Sims, and Fredk. P. Jenkins, passing R. Chipperfield, and F. H. T. Block, initiating Dr. C. E. Priestly, and also to ballot for Bros. N. Tannenbaum and J. J. Beckett as joining members.

There were present Bros. E. W. Devereux, W.M.; R. Pearson, S.W.; J. Faulkner, J.W.; Dr. Ryley, S.D.; John Thomas Moss, P.P.G.R.; E. H. Thielay, P.P.G.P.; J. W. Baldwin, P.P.D.; B. Wright, Sec.; Wingate, Sims, Block, Cash, W. Simmons, and others.

The W.M. occupied the chair, and, in his usual correct and faultless manner raised Bros. W. A. and A. A. Sims and Jenkins, and passed Bro. Block to the Second Degree. A ballot then took place for Bros. Nathan Tannenbaum, of the Globe Lodge, No. 588, and Joseph James Beckett, Justice Lodge, No. 147, who were proposed by Bro. John Thomas Moss, P. Prov. G. Reg. Middx., P.M., and seconded by Bro. E. W. Devereux, W.M., as joining members, and which proved unanimous in their favour, as was also the initiation of Dr. Clement Edward Priestly, who was proposed by Bro. John Thomas Moss, and seconded by the W.M. A telegram was received from the candidate from Cambridge stating his inability to be present.

After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to banquet, where the usual loyal toasts were given and duly responded to. Bro. J. T. Moss proposed "The Health of the W.M.," which he acknowledged. The brethren separated after spending a happy evening.

TONBRIDGE.—Tonbridge Lodge (No. 1678).—There was a good attendance at the usual monthly meeting of this lodge, held in the New Public Hall, High-street, on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. James Smith Eastes, having intimated his intention of being the guest of the W.M. The brethren present were Bros. J. J. Pattison, W.M.; J. Roper, 874, acting S.W.; Monckton, J.W.; J. Charlton, S.D.; J. Abney, J.D.; Barnett, Sec.; Hodgkin, I.P.M.; Treas.; Court, I.G.; B. Sidney-Wilmot, P.M. 874, P.G.R. Kent; Bishop, Carnall, Pattison, Pawley, Warner, and others.

The minutes having been read, the election of W.M. for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and Bro. B. Sidney-Wilmot, P.M., P.G.R., was unanimously elected. Bro. Wilmot briefly acknowledged the compliment, and stated he would do all in his power to promote the good harmony and well-being of the lodge. Bro. Charlton was elected Treasurer, and the Tyler being re-elected, the W.M., in a most impressive manner, raised Bros. Warner and Pawley to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. Bro. Hodgkin then initiated Mr. East into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

The brethren then proceeded to banquet, at the Rose and Crown, the W.M. presiding. The usual toasts having

been given and responded to with all honours, the D.P. G.M., in response to his health, stated that it gave him much pleasure to be present, and that he was pleased to see so young a lodge prosperous, and doing their work so well. He congratulated the W.M. on the excellence of his work, and he wished the members of the Tonbridge Lodge long life and happiness.

The dinner was of the most recherche character, and altogether the meeting was of a most enjoyable kind.

BOLTON.—St. George's Lodge (No. 1723).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 25th ult., at Commercial Hotel, Town Hall-square. There were present Bros. N. Nicholson, W.M.; W. Blair, as S.W.; J. W. Heywood, J.W.; T. T. Holt, Org.; J. Martin Rutter, P.M., Sec.; W. Court, S.D.; J. Barrett, I.G.; J. W. Taylor, P. Prov. G. Org., as D.C.; R. Latham, J.D.; A. Cosgrave and E. E. Harwood, as Stewards; J. W. Roiley, Tyler; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. S.G.D., P.M.; T. Morris, P.M.; Tong, Naylor, Bardsley, and Priestley.

The lodge was opened at six o'clock, and the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Arden, and proving unanimous, he was initiated by the W.M. The working tools were explained by the J.W., and the charge given by Bro. Brockbank. Bro. James Heywood, J.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bros. Brockbank, Nicholson, and Heywood were elected auditors. The lodge was closed at eight o'clock.

TWICKENHAM.—Royal Hanover Lodge (No. 1777).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 27th March, at the Albany Hotel. In consequence of the day of meeting falling in the Easter vacation several of the officers and members were unavoidably absent. The lodge was opened at 4.15 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. H. Lovegrove, supported by Bros. G. Clark, jun., S.W.; H. Clark, J.W.; H. A. Dubois, Prov. J.G.W., I.P.M.; W. H. Barber, Sec.; F. Perks, J.D.; W. S. Dunkley, I.G.; J. Daly, Tyler; M. S. Larham, P.M. 1539; Holliday, C. A. White, Elliott, Johnston, and Villars.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last regular meeting and two emergency meetings were read and confirmed. Bros. Elliott and Johnston having answered the usual questions, were entrusted, and the lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, they were duly passed. Mr. A. H. St. Ledger, who had been balloted for at a previous meeting, was introduced and duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. Mark Larham, one of the honorary members of the lodge, was unanimously elected a joining member, the W.M. speaking in high terms of Bro. Larham's services in the cause of Freemasonry. After the transaction of some routine business the lodge was closed. The only visitor was Bro. Stafford, 55. After the dinner had been done ample justice to the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Prov. G.M., Colonel F. Burdett," being responded to by Bro. Dubois, Prov. J.G.W., who informed the brethren that their esteemed P.G.M. had been appointed high sheriff of Surrey. Several donations were handed to Bro. H. Lovegrove, the W.M., for his list as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Girls' School. The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close at an early hour.

Mark Masonry.

WHITEHAVEN.—Fletcher Lodge (No. 213).

—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, the 25th ult., the W.M., Bro. Dr. Henry, P.P.S.G.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland, presiding, supported by the following officers: in the absence of Bro. Gibson, Ed. Tyson, P.J.G.D., as S.W.; W. White, J.W.; James Winter, M.O.; John Rothery, S.O.; J. W. Miles, J.O.; Geo. Dalrymple, P.S.G.D., Sec. and Reg.; Jas. S. Wilson, S.D.; George Sparrow, I.G.; Geo. Fitzgerald, Tyler. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bros. E. W. Henley and James Cooper, which proved unanimous, and, being in attendance, were advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master, and, as our W.M. was afterwards pleased to express himself, it will be a great acquisition to the lodge to have Bro. Cooper in our ranks, as the musical part of the ceremony will be carefully attended to, and add much to the working of the Degree. "Hearty good wishes" having been expressed from Henry Lodge (No. 216), the lodge was closed in form and good harmony at 9.30.

For the better and more costly kind of Masonic Jewels a great saving can be made by getting them direct from the manufactory. Messrs. J. R. Williams and Son made the most costly badge in the kingdom for the Mayor of Liverpool, and many others, and many of the sheriffs' badges and chains. The firm are now supplying the nobility and gentry (direct) at the same prices as they have for forty years served the best houses in London and the country, and co-operative stores. Messrs. J. R. Williams and Son have always been celebrated for specially fine diamond work and choice gem rings. The two advantages thus offered to the public are far superior quality and an immense saving in price. Manufactory and warehouse, 108, Hatton-garden, E.C. The usual saving is 20 to 60 per cent. Bridesmaids' lockets and all kinds of jewellery for wedding presents. Dealers in diamonds, pearls, and coloured gems, loose or mounted. Elegant designs furnished (gratis) for re-mounting diamond work. Catalogues sent post free on application.—[ADVT.]

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

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

J. E. SHAND & Co., "Fair Traders," Registered Wine and Spirit Merchants (Experts and Valuers), 2, Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Price lists on application.—[ADVT.]

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.—OFFICE, 5, FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

Patron and President: H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M. Patroness: H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, 10th April 1880, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the general business of the Institution, to consider Notices of Motion, as follow, and to elect Thirteen Girls into the School by Ballot, from a List of Forty-five approved Candidates. The Election will commence at One o'clock (or after the usual business is over), and close at Three o'clock precisely.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Bro. Lt.-Col. J. CREATON, Treasurer and Trustee, Grand Treasurer:

"It being desirable to enlarge the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, by maintaining, clothing, and educating Twenty-five Girls in addition to those already in the Institution, the House Committee be directed to make the necessary arrangements to accommodate such Twenty-five Girls, and that such Twenty-five Girls be elected at the next Election, after the House Committee shall have reported the completion of the arrangements necessary for the reception and accommodation for such Twenty-five Girls."

By Bro. W. H. SPAULL, Prov. Grand Secretary North Wales and Shropshire:—

"That the third and every subsequent Stewardship to this Institution, accompanied by a donation of £5 5s., shall entitle the Brother to Two Votes."

By Bro. H. T. THOMPSON, P.M. 742:—

"That the sum of £6 be voted to each of Twenty-five Children, next highest on the Poll to the successful Candidates at this Election, in aid of their maintenance and education until the Election in October next."

By Bro. G. E. WEBSTER, P.M. 139, West Yorkshire:—

"That it is desirable that the Life Governors, Subscribers, and others entitled to vote at Meetings of the General Court, should have the power of voting by proxy."

By Bro. G. E. WEBSTER, P.M. 139, West Yorkshire:—

"That all subscriptions, donations, legacies, and other moneys received by this Charity, which shall not be distinctly appropriated by the Donors to the Sustentation Fund, shall be applied in maintaining, clothing, and educating the children, and the surplus, if any, shall be invested in Three per cent. Consols in the names of Trustees of the General Fund, which Fund and the income thereof shall not be applied for any other than the above-mentioned purposes."

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE.—OFFICE, 5, FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.

Patrons:—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M., President. H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NINETY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, London, on Friday, 16th April next, on which day

H.R.H. PRINCE LEOPOLD, K.G., P.G.W., R.W. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire,

Has graciously signified his intention of presiding.

President of the Board of Stewards—

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON. W. Bro. Sir FRANCIS WYATT TRUSCOTT, W.M. No. 1.

Acting President—

V.W. Bro. SIR JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.D., President of the Board of General Purposes.

Treasurer—

W. Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, P. Prov. G.R. Middlesex.

Brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward on this auspicious occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their names as early as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Sec. to the Institution, Hon. Sec. to the Board of Stewards.

LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.—APRIL ELECTIONS, 1880.—The Committee have selected the following Candidates, and request the Votes of the London Brethren on their behalf:—

GIRLS. Boys.

No. 12, Wyatt, M. A. A. No. 48, Gee, A. A.

" 3, Priestley, J. S. H. " 52, Frost, J. B.

" 4, Williams, E. E. " 3, Scott, J. S.

" 26, Harvey, J. M. " 18, Fellowes, A.

" " 30, Thomas, F. R.

" " 47, Gough, E. A. B.

Proxies to be sent to Bro. A. TISLEY, Hon. Secretary, L.M.C.A., No. 1, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

VERY URGENT APPEAL.—SECOND APPLICATION.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers of the ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS are most earnestly solicited on behalf of

ERNEST AUGUSTUS BRINSMEAD GOUGH,

Aged Nine Years. The father, Bro. Thos. Wm. Gough, Professor and Teacher of Music, was initiated in the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780, July, 1868. Continued a Member till 1874. Joined the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, in 1879, and was a Member at his death. Bro. Gough had been in ill health for some years, which resulted in death from Pthisis, on the 4th June, 1872, at the early age of 37 years, leaving a Widow and Seven Children (the eldest of whom is not yet 14 years) totally unprovided for, his savings having been exhausted for maintenance through his long illness. On behalf of this most distressing and deserving case your Vote is earnestly solicited, and as there are so many Votes lost by being forgotten, it will materially assist if you will kindly forward them to Bro. James Weaver, P.M. 862 and 1319, P.Z. 177, 862, and 1319, P.P.G.O. Midd., 45, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square, W.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—SECOND APPLICATION.—MAY ELECTION, 1880.—Your Votes and Interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

BRO. GEORGE ELLIOTT,

(Now of 91, Kent Street, Grimsby), aged 70 years, who was initiated in Lodge No. 248 (formerly 309), at Brixham, in the year 1846, and subscribed to it for the last 32 years. He was formerly a fisherman, but had the misfortune to lose his vessel in 1865, since which time, owing to failing sight, rheumatism, &c., he could do very little for the support of himself and family, and has been unable to make any provision for declining years. This case is strongly recommended.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—To the President, Vice-President, Governors, and Subscribers.

—Votes for

FLORENCE E. POPKISS,

Daughter of the late H. P. Popkiss (who was one of the ten Trinity pilots drowned through collision off Dover in March, 1879), will be thankfully received by W. R. Swainston, Lord Warden Hotel, Dover. The late Bro. Popkiss was Life Subscriber to the Boys' School, and had qualified one of his boys as a Life Governor.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

ROSINA CAREY,

Aged Eight Years, daughter of the late Bro. Stephen Carey, who was initiated in the City of London Lodge, No. 901, on the 20th January, 1868, and remained a full Subscribing Member until his death, which took place on the 26th July, 1879, after a long illness, which prevented him making any provision for his Widow and Six Children, who are left totally unprovided for. The case is strongly recommended, and Proxies will be thankfully received by the Widow, Mrs. M. A. Carey, 3, Linden-grove, Peckham Rye, S.E.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

STEPHEN DARCY CAREY,

Aged Nine Years, son of the late Bro. Stephen Carey, who was initiated in the City of London Lodge, No. 901, on the 20th January, 1868, and remained a full Subscribing Member until his death, which took place on the 26th July, 1879, after a long illness, which prevented him making any provision for his Widow and Six Children, who are left totally unprovided for. The case is strongly recommended, and Proxies will be thankfully received by the Widow, Mrs. M. A. Carey, 3, Linden-grove, Peckham Rye, S.E.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

FLORENCE PAULINE HALE,

Aged Nine Years, daughter of W. S. Hale, who was initiated in the Polish National Lodge, No. 534, 1866. He has been unsuccessful in business, and for some time unable to do anything, and is now paralyzed in both legs, and an inmate of Guy's Hospital. He has thirteen children, eight of whom are entirely depending on him. The case is strongly recommended, and Proxies will be thankfully received by the mother, Mrs. Hale, 24, Tintern-street, Ferndale-road, Clapham, S.W.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—APRIL ELECTION, 1880.—The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

AUGUSTA HELEN NICHOLLS.

The case is strongly recommended, and Proxies will be thankfully received by the Mother, Grays, Essex.

TO OUR READERS.

THE FREEMASON is published every Friday morning, price 3d., and contains the fullest and latest information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Subscriptions, including Postage:—

United States, India, China, Australia, Canada, the Conti- New Zealand, &c. nent, &c.

13s. 15s. 6d. 17s. 6d.

Remittances may be made in Stamps, but Post Office Orders or Cheques are preferred, the former payable to GEORGE KENNING, Chief Office, London, the latter crossed London Joint Stock Bank.

TO ADVERTISERS.

THE FREEMASON has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe. In it the official Reports of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland are published with the special sanction of the respective Grand Masters, and it contains a complete record of Masonic work in this country, our Indian Empire, and the Colonies.

The vast accession to the ranks of the order during the past few years, and the increasing interest manifested in its doings, has given the Freemason a position and influence which few journals can lay claim to, and the proprietor can assert with confidence that announcements appearing in its columns challenge the attention of a very large and influential body of readers.

Advertisements for the current week's issue are received up to six o'clock on Wednesday evening.

PUBLISHING OFFICE: 198, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

To Correspondents.

APRIL.—We will attend to your communication.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED. "Keystone," "The Egyptian Gazette," "Industry," "Hull Packet," "Weekly Courant," "Columbia," "The Croydon Guardian," "The Liberal Freemason," "Austrian Freemason," "The Jewish Chronicle," "The Masonic Newspaper," "Voice of Masonry," "The Masonic Age," "Young England," "Der Long Islaender," "The Canadian Craftsman," "L'Ordre Social," "Boletin Masonico."

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1880.

THE letter of Bro. Lord ROSSLYN, P.G.M. for Scotland, which appeared in our last, was received after our leaders were in type, otherwise we should have not failed to allude to it. Everything which falls from that most distinguished brother deserves to be carefully considered by his brethren, and we need hardly say more than that his opinion deserves to be most carefully weighed in the balance of approval or disapproval of the "Pupils' Assistance Fund." Supported by the "names" it has enrolled, it comes before the Craft with every advantage of "prestige" and able advocacy. But we confess that in its present form we do not see how it is to continue without infringing on the province and the claims of our Three Great Charities.

SOME of our readers will be much amused to learn that after recent "purist" declarations as to voting the funds of the Girls' School for anything whatever but the "clothing, maintenance, and education" of the orphans, one of the leaders of the recent "agitation" has quietly given in a notice to grant £6 to each of the unsuccessful candidates for the Girls' School at the next election. Where, in the name of everything that's reasonable and Masonic, is all this nonsense to end? If we have to listen at our Quarterly Courts to the scathing sarcasm of one brother, or the torrid eloquence of another, or the preliminary puff, or the subsequent "high falutin," why should not Bro. HEDGES with his usual consideration, supply "biscuits and sherry," yes, and some of Bro. BEST's best "cigarettes," for the support of exhausted nature, and to soothe the excited Life Governors, to say nothing of a much abused Chairman? And the Irish echo replies, "why not, bedad?"

A LITTLE controversy has arisen in our pages, as to how lodges of instruction are to be opened. It is quite clear to us that any gratuitous or volunteer service of consecration for such meeting is illegal. The Consecrating or Installing Master in lodges acts by the authority of the G.M. In lodges of instruction there can only be a rehearsal, and the work should be rehearsed simply as a preparation not as a ceremony. The prayers should be omitted as prayers, or only repeated as is customary, as portions of the ceremony, with a preliminary warning to that effect.

BRO. DICK RADCLYFFE's long letter, far too long in good truth, for our limited space, we have carefully placed before our readers,—the facts of the case, his claim to be heard, and the arguments in favour of the scheme, which has received such distinguished patronage, and of which Bro. DICK RADCLYFFE may be fairly proud. But we cannot say that, his statement, clear as it is, has removed our objections, as we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that do what you will, if this Association continues it becomes a fourth charity, of separate aims and distinct organization.

WHY should not Bro. DICK RADCLYFFE obtain the consent of his supporters to divide the Fund raised between the two Educational Institutions to form the nucleus of an Exhibition Fund, and there is no reason, if this sum be accepted by the Boys' and Girls' Schools, why he should not continue his meritorious exertions.

IT will be noticed that at the last meeting of the Board of Benevolence £1125 were voted, that one case received £250, one £200, three £50, one £40,

four £30, seven £25, five £20, one £15, seven £10, and one £5. Three cases were deferred. We have no doubt ourselves that the Board grants its votes with great care and discrimination, and with liberality, and that it will have full justification for its no doubt large votes of £250 and £200.

* * *

BRO. JOHN FAWCETT, P.G.M. for Durham, who has lately resigned his high office, is not only one of the oldest of our Prov. Grand Masters, the father it may be said, but is one of the most respected of Masons. In Durham, where his Masonic life has been spent, he is alike valued and regarded with the warmest feelings of admiration and respect. He has been always a most distinguished Mason, an able ruler, and a friendly and genial brother. The Marquis of LONDONDERRY, who now succeeds him, is well known to many by the warmth and kindness of his heart, to all and for all, and we feel quite sure that under his regime the Province of Durham will alike prosper and progress.

* * *

WE present our readers to-day practically with a new issue of their old friend the *Freemason*. We trust that the change thus made in its arrangement and appearance will be approved by all our very good brethren and kind patrons. We invoke the same fraternal goodwill which has cheered the past to accompany the onward progress of the *Freemason*.

* * *

WE are pleased to find that our efforts to exclude ritual discussion from our pages meet with universal approval. We feel quite sure that a great mistake has been committed in this free revelation of the technicalities of pure lodge work. Henceforth we will have "none of it."

* * *

IN the *New York Herald* of February 16th this year there was published a communication from Dr. J. A. WEISSE relative to a MS. of Madame BELZONI, with two curious Egyptian illustrations. The original of that MS. is in the possession of Bro. W. J. K. WILD, now of London, and he has, we understand, kindly placed it in the hands of the Editor of the "Masonic Magazine" for proper publication to the Craft. We are informed that it will appear in the May number with coloured illustrations. We shall recur to the subject in our next.

* * *

IT is announced that our distinguished Brother the Lord Mayor, Sir FRANCIS WYATT TRUSCOTT, will be Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge for 1880-81.

* * *

OTHER names are freely mentioned, but we think it best to await more precise data. Some are mere "canards," as it is impossible to suppose that brethren who have only been a few years Masons can be elevated to Grand Office, over the heads of their seniors, and distinguished by services in Masonry. We never believe such statements; they are generally put about by the persons themselves interested. In our "young days," alas, no more, twenty years of Masonic membership was the lowest qualification. Of course there are Masonic exceptions to every rule.

* * *

WE note some remarks in the *New York Dispatch* anent a leader of ours, and to which we will allude further next week. They require a little more attention than we can give to them this.

* * *

WE have seen some remarks by a Bro. Cushing, quoted by our good confrere Bro. Simons, in the *New York Dispatch*, "on dancing," which we deem to be so utterly unsound in all respects that we shall call attention to them next week.

* * *

OUR contemporary, the *Keystone*, is very interesting as usual, and full of Masonic information. We are always pleased to find ourselves actively "en accord" with that admirable representative of American Masonic literature.

THE EAST LANCASHIRE SYSTEMATIC MASONIC EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual report of this very useful Institution is now before us. It appears that during the past year it has granted £118 14s. 6d. in payment of educational fees and clothing for twenty-two children elected in the Institution; that it has also voted £20 for boys' advancement; £72 in relief to poor brethren and widows; and £70 for relief for Almoners. Its receipts on the whole amounted to £1538 7s. 2d.; its expenditure, including investments to the amount of £579 1s., to £889 14s. 3d., and that it has a balance to next account of £648 12s. 11d. Its investments bring it in £140 per annum, now to be increased. It received from Provincial Grand Lodge, for Girls' Educational Fund, £228, and from lodges, chapters, and brethren in East Lancashire £389 19s.

One feature of its report is very striking, that in respect of the "Almoners" they have investigated eighty-four cases during 1879, as against sixty-three in 1878, and sixty-two in 1869. Of these thirteen only were relieved—seventy-one were itinerant Masons. Please note this fact, kind readers all.

The Liverpool Committee reported thirty-seven cases relieved and eight refused; Leeds, thirty-nine relieved and two refused; Birmingham, thirty-seven cases relieved in six months; Bolton, nine cases; and Oldham, five.

It seems that the "itinerants" have applied in two, three, four, and, in some instances, at five places. One applicant admitted having been relieved at Sheffield, Bristol, Newton, Brecon, Leeds, Sunderland, York, Huddersfield, Preston, Accrington, Blackpool, Lytham, Southport, and Bacup.

Have we not said enough to point out the value of this report and the usefulness of such provincial associations?

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.]

THE ROYAL MASONIC PUPILS' ASSISTANCE FUND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In Bro. Dick Radclyffe's long letter, which appeared in your last week's issue, he says he cannot understand how "P.M." could criticise the list of subscriptions, as you only published them immediately above his letter, and he suggests that it is an editorial comment. Seeing that the list in question was published by him a week before it appeared in the columns of the *Freemason*, I fail to see the point of his remarks, and I trust he will absolve me from the charge of prying into the editorial basket, and make the *amende honorable* to yourself. I would remind him, however, that in his desire to fix a suspicion on the *bona fides* of the writer he has altogether overlooked the question I asked, viz., What liabilities had been incurred up to the date of meeting? If by his statement, that the R.M.P.A.F. stands pledged to nothing, he means that the promoters have themselves paid all costs of printing, advertising, &c., up to this time, it is very liberal on their part, and the thanks of the subscribers are due to them.

Yours fraternally,

P.M.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

After the correspondence, of a fearful character, which has been evoked under this head, you must look with a troubled eye upon any mention of the unborn bantling to which this name has been given. But, sir, you need not fear. "I must be brief," for one thing, and, for another, I should never attempt the folly of "answering" the painfully illogical, uncertain, and irrational communications which have appeared. It is sufficient to me that I have drawn out the fact, which is now patent to all, that behind the princely, the noble, and the worshipful patrons of the many-handed bantling to be brought into the world, behind even Bro. Radclyffe, there stands a "charitable" clique, whose idea of charity is, "Let us raise subscriptions; others must be called upon to subscribe, in order that we may arrange how it shall be spent."

These eminently "charitable" persons, nominally belonging to a body whose members "are bound by peculiarities to promote peace, cultivate harmony, and live in concord and brotherly love," have thought fit to assail me in the most violent terms, and they have not scrupled even to attempt injury to me in my profession. The slanders thus published are contained in a paper which claims to have "authority from Grand Lodge," and the personal attack which has been made upon me is the fruit of my late successful efforts to prevent the reprinting of those matters which Masons are bound to *helo*, as well as of the proofs I have given that, for one, I will not allow the public or the Craft to be misled either by the subtle or the foolish, or, as is sometimes the case, by both together, without raising a word or two of warning. My motives in the matter must be apparent even to those who do not know me, and I am pressed into the service of combating folly and cunning by the

varying phases of this gigantic scheme, as well as by the abuse which has been levelled at me.

Of Bro. Dick Radclyffe's sincerity I have not the slightest doubt; but it is apparent that Bro. Radclyffe is ignorant of many things besides press work—and that he is ignorant of this is evident by his idea that a respectable paper would allow its reporter to back up his report by an anonymous letter—or that a daily paper could find space for a full report of such matter as that meeting he refers to presented. Bro. Radclyffe has much to learn even about charity and of the science of giving without doing more harm than good; and his present proposals, if carried out, would do vast injury to many young minds, for its initiatory work would embark young boys on a begging letter career in soliciting votes to be helped by the "fund." Bro. Radclyffe has, if he will look for them, examples without number before him of the evils caused by indiscriminate giving, and by ill-arranged charities, and, believing him to be sincere, I have desired to save him from the mortification which may come to him hereafter when he finds, as he assuredly will, that his energies have been devoted to raising money with the result of doing that which he never dreamt of doing, and which no honest man would ever dream of doing. He is, though he may not see it, somewhat in the position of the enthusiast in the Romish Church, as depicted by Macaulay. In the name of the Church the enthusiastic religionist was clothed in sackcloth, girded with a rope, and sent forth to preach in her name. The Church profited by him; but was not bound by his teachings or his tenets. So with the charitable wire-pullers behind Bro. Radclyffe. They have given him a pen, and they spur him on to the one end—"Get subscriptions" from lodges, ladies, Masons, and the public. Work upon all; but "get money." An objection is raised that a fourth Masonic Charity is not wanted, and they answer, this is not to be one; but, at the same time, they proceed to lay out the organisation for one, *without, however, as yet, making provision for the paid Secretary.* They are asked for the "purposes" of the Charity, and they present "objects." They cry "No, no," when I speak of these objects, and Bro. Radclyffe says these are their "suggestions." Lord Rosslyn, Lord Skelmersdale, and all withdraw from these "objects." The "objects" are derided even in face of the proposers, and no one has a word to say for them. When I speak of them in detail they are termed "monstrous exaggerations." Yet, sir, you may mark this extraordinary fact—that, in face of these denials and withdrawals, only as late as last Saturday these derided, discredited, and discarded "objects" are set forth, with the Royal, lordly, and worshipful names placed in full array, as if there were no doubt of the sanction which they give to this thing of mysterious parentage; and Bro. Dick Radclyffe's name is, moreover, signed to an announcement asking for support to a four days' fancy fair and bazaar (!) to be applied to the benefit of this non-fourth Masonic Charity. Thus we have Bro. Dick Radclyffe at one and the same time holding forth the purposes of his proposed charity as the "objects" of the charity, and mildly repudiating them as mere suggestions. Is there a second "Dick Radclyffe," the second a contradiction of the first? Is the mystery solved by the suggestion that Bro. Dick Radclyffe does not know his own mind? or have we to take it that while Bro. Dick Radclyffe is the nominal mouthpiece, he has behind him, and behind the Royal, lordly, and worshipful gentlemen, some who are making use of those in front for certain peculiar purposes and aims? We shall see, but Bro. Radclyffe, though using many words, has not cleared the view of things.

I say to the Craft, and to the public (who are appealed to for aid), that until more is known of the purpose of the "fund" and the organisation which will direct it, contributions should be withheld, however high in position and well meaning may be those in front. If His Royal Highness Prince Leopold should preside at any future meeting on behalf of the fund, it will probably be suggested to him that the necessity of a "supplementary charity" should first be proved, and its purposes clearly set forth, and not left to be invented afterwards—that before active steps are taken to create a charity in His Royal Highness's name this preliminary step should be taken: the impartial Charity Organisation Society, of which His Royal Highness is the head, shall make inquiry into the needs of the boys in the Royal Masonic Boys' School, whose pupils are to have this new lottery created for them; there must first be shown the want, and then formed some better scheme than a lottery which purposes to give to *lucky ones*, who can secure by pertinacious begging letter writing a majority of votes (not to the necessitous or meritorious), various rights and privileges, from tools being found to commence trade to the prizes of university training, purchase of businesses, and "obtaining" "commissions in the army and navy." Before the public and the Craft are asked to subscribe to this proposed lottery we must know the necessity of the class for whom this elaborate "Assistance Fund" is *nominally* sought to be created. I shall ask this everywhere with all possible energy, and if the necessity should be found to exist, the result will be beneficial. If otherwise the "fund" will remain where it now is, "in the clouds."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully and fraternally,

JOHN WHILE, P.M. 228.

P.S. As there have been so many denials and misstatements regarding the "objects," and as the very "charitable" people connected with the "fund" have not ventured to ask you to publish their circular, it may be as well to lay before your readers the following excerpt, and the publication will enlighten the minds of those who have rashly given their names.

"Royal Masonic Pupil's Assistance Fund—Objects.

"The main objects of the fund are—

"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 establish scholarships, and otherwise support pupils at the Universities and other public schools, or assist boys who may desire to enter the Army or Navy, and aid them in obtaining commissions.

"Generally to watch over the future of the pupils, and help them in securing success.

"To render assistance to the unsuccessful candidates for the benefits of the existing Masonic Charities.

"And otherwise co-operate in the dispensing of Masonic charity."

[We only publish this letter on our correspondent's appeal for fair play, but the discussion must now cease.—Ed.]

CANTERBURY MASONIC HALL.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We are anxious to remove the erroneous impressions you entertain respecting our new Masonic Hall in course of erection, and can assure you it will be amply large enough for our requirements. We can, moreover, assure you that it will be devoted entirely and exclusively to the purposes of Freemasonry. None other than our beautiful and solemn rites and ceremonies will ever be performed within its walls. With respect to not having built also a ball room, our reply is, there is no necessity for one. If we want to have a ball there are rooms existing in Canterbury which will accommodate any number, say from one hundred to one thousand people.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, fraternally yours,
JOHN R. HALL, P.M., and Hon. Sec. 31.

LODGE PRESIDENCY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With reference to a letter in your issue of the 14th February ult., signed "Enquirer," which is evidently from India, permit me to quote the law in the Book of Constitutions on the subject he refers to. Vide Edition 1873, page 78: Head Master's and Wardens' clause.

6. "In the Master's absence, the immediate Past Master, or, if he be absent, the Senior Past Master of the lodge present, shall take the chair. And if no Past Master of the lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence the Junior Warden, shall rule the lodge."

It is not easy to understand how in the face of this plain direction any one else but a Past Master of the lodge, much less a Past Master of a sister Constitution, can legally preside in an English lodge. Why, you might as well say that a Yankee Colonel can take command of a British regiment, for the principle is the same—as the one owes no allegiance to the Queen of Britain, so the other owes no allegiance to the Grand Master of the English Craft, and could not be held amenable to English Craft laws in the event of non-observance of its rules and regulations, and as some of the laws of the Scottish Craft are vastly different to the English, serious mistakes could easily be made unwittingly; e.g., with the Scotch a candidate may have three Degrees conferred on him in one day; with the English, Degrees cannot be conferred at a less interval than one week between each.

Both Scotch and English Masons are working in India side by side on the most friendly terms; indeed there is only one way in which more perfect harmony could exist, viz., by uniting under one banner.

Yours fraternally, A VOICE FROM INDIA.
Bombay, 6th March.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With due submission to you, "Observer" does not answer my query. He tells us of a fact, but he gives us no authority for the practice. What say you?

YOUNG ENQUIRER.

[We have read "Observer's" reply, which amounts to this, that a well-known and able brother rehearsed the "consecration ceremony"—that is one thing. But, as we said before, all work at a lodge of instruction is "preparatory," or "preliminary," and there is clearly no authority for any assumed representation, as an opening ceremony of that appointed for consecration of lodges. Indeed, there are many potent constitutional objections to any such practice or precedent.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

If it be desirable to have a sort of opening ceremonial for a lodge of instruction, such should be, at any rate, used with the express sanction of Grand Lodge.

There would be no difficulty, one would think, in obtaining from our Grand Secretary a suitable form of "address" for opening a lodge of instruction. Of course the ceremonial of consecration ought not to be used, for many reasons which are patent to "Bright Masons."

PROVINCIAL.

SWEDENBORG.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

I quite agree with Bro. Mackenzie, that if the evidence of Swedenborg's initiation took place at Lund exists really, it is undoubtedly decisive of the question, but I also feel, with Bro. Hughan, the greatest doubts on the subject.

Swedenborg, or as he was then called "Sweborg," was at Lund with Charles XII. and Counsellor "Polheim" in 1716, when he was twenty-eight, but no trace appears of the fact of his initiation in any of his works, nor any allusion that I am aware of to Freemasonry. He no doubt travelled a good deal, and was mixed up with Parisian mystics. Can the extract from "Latonia" be found? There was a good deal of High Grade mystification from Sweden.

Swedenborg died in London, 29th March, 1785, but his connection with Masonry seems to be known to no Masonic English writer.

A. F. A. W.

MASONIC EMBLEMS AND CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

With regard to this subject allow me to offer the readers of your most valuable journal a passage from Bro. J. H. Ingraham's "Throne of David." It occurs at page 363, and runs thus:—

"The Pyramids and other stupendous structures on the Nile bear Masons' marks, as fresh as though chiselled yesterday. Similar traces have been discovered lately on the monuments of Nineveh and Babylon, that undoubtedly have reference to the Masonic mysteries, and, among them, to the Great and Occult Name." In regard to the "Book of the Dead," which, in whole or part, is contained in a papyrus roll laid up with the Egyptian mummy in the Sarcophagus, there are many symbols and names, probably Masonic, and more especially the name of Deity among the Egyptian writings, which may have an important bearing upon Masonic history."

Yours fraternally, BRIGHTON.

MASONIC REGALIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I noticed in your issue of the 20th ult. a letter on the above subject from "P.M. 1768," &c.

It is somewhat important to the Craft to adhere with as much fidelity as possible to the instructions, &c., contained in the Book of Constitutions, and, therefore, I think the matter is of considerable interest.

Bro. Horsey has referred to the second paragraph, page 124, of the Book of Constitutions, as a vindication of the use of the "chased metal emblems" of your correspondent, "P.M. 1768," &c. On carefully reading that paragraph, I see that "_____ may have emblems of their offices in silver or white, in the centre of the apron."

This, wherein lies the whole gist of the matter, evidently refers only to the square in the case of a W.M., or the square and its pendant diagram in that of a P.M.; not to the levels, as Bro. Horsey seems to imagine, for these, I believe, are never worn in the centre of the apron, but on the flap, and at the two lower corners only. That, I think, admits of no doubt. The question of "P.M. 1768," &c., appears to resolve itself into something like this: "Does the Book of Constitutions give any authority for the use of other than blue ribbon levels on W.M.'s and P.M.'s aprons?"

I have carefully examined everything I could find bearing on the subject, but up to the present have been unable to discover any authority for what I fear I must now consider to be an innovation.

I, for one, should much like to see this matter more fully discussed, as, until pointed out to the contrary by your correspondent, "P.M. 1768," &c., I had looked upon the metal levels of Masters of lodges and Past Masters as almost as requisite for their correct attire as other jewels they are entitled to wear.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
M.M.

MASONIC REGALIA—APRON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The quotation by Bro. John G. Horsey, W.M. 1619, in your last issue, does not refer to the irregularities pointed out by "P.M. 1768, 421, &c."—"No other colour or ornament shall be allowed except to officers and past officers of lodges, who may have the emblems of their offices in silver or white in the centre of the apron."

If Bro. Horsey will read over the paragraph he will find that the three sets of right angles in silver or white are not in accordance with the Book of Constitutions, as they are not placed in the centre of the apron. The paragraph means that an emblem in silver or white can be put in the centre of the apron of the office of the wearer of it, the square for the W.M., the xvii. prop. of the 1st Book of Euclid, the level for the S.W., &c.

I have waited over a year and a day for some good brother to give an account of the different styles that the apron has gone through. See *Freemason* of February 8th, 1879, p. 61—Aprons.

I cannot find any authority for having the blue edging of the Master Mason's apron two inches in width. The Book of Constitutions, ed. 1871, p. 124, after describing the E.A. and F.C.'s apron, describes the Master Mason's apron—"The same, with sky-blue lining, and edging one-and-a-half inch deep."

May I ask some kind brother to give an account of the different styles it has gone through to the present time up to Master Mason's apron?

Yours fraternally, R. W. O.

WAS SWEDENBORG A FREEMASON?

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Having been baptised into the New Church (Swedenborgian) in 1829, and a Freemason since 1855, I have noticed with interest the articles in Bro. Kenning's *Freemason* relative to the great seer having been a Freemason. As for myself I have seen nothing in his writings to justify that belief, nor any of "those traces of thought couched in such language as to be only intelligible to Freemasons of experience and high degree." In answer to your enquiry on the subject I would ask you to see "Mackey's National Freemason," vol. III., pp. 133-6 (December, 1873), and, if you can, have Bro. Kenning's copy, the article in answer to Bro. Mackenzie, *Freemason*, Feb. 28th, 1880, page 99. I have Bro. Beswick's work alluded to, but cannot see that it proves the point at all. As for Bro. Mackenzie's closing paragraph, I might say that a Master Mason sees "clearly" several traditions that no profane ever did see, and which no history will substantiate. It is far easier to build up a Rite and prove back from it than to do the reverse.

Fraternally yours, WILLIAM W. AUSTIN, K.T. 32°.

Richmond, Ind., March 14th.

Reviews.

LE MONDE MACONNIQUE for March. Paris.

Edited by Bro. ADRIEN GRIMAUX.

This ably conducted French Masonic Monthly is this month purely French in its information and sentiments, and though deeply interesting, no doubt, to its readers, from their "point de mire," has not a great deal to interest English Masonic readers. At the same time we feel bound to do justice to the moderation by which the French theories of Masonry are propounded and marked. We note that Bro. Caubet, its late Editor, has received the Legion of Honour.

GESCHICHTE FREIMAURERISCHER SYSTEME, &c. By BRO. FRIEDRICH C. C. F. W. VON NETTELBLADT. Berlin: Mittler and Sohn.

This is a very remarkable work on the English, French, and German systems, of much value to the Masonic student. It is marked by much careful research and accurate statement, and if not altogether free from error, which is inseparable from all similar works, is a most convenient handbook for information and authority on the matters treated on so perspicuously. It is rather "stiff" reading being, with the notes, a book of 812 closely printed pages. To all who are conversant with German it is a book worthy of note and perusal.

GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC. Extracts, &c. By command of the Grand Master. J. H. ISAACSON, G.S.

This is an official statement of the "vexata questio" as between the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The documents speak for themselves, but as we never have been able to approve of the original proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec "hinc illæ lachrymæ," we think it best for us to say so. How far it was prudent in the Grand Lodge of Scotland to reconstitute a Prov. G. Lodge is, in our opinion, a matter on which the Grand Lodge of Scotland itself is alone able to express an opinion, but it must always be remembered that the G. Lodge of Quebec "threw the first stone" in ignoring the legal position of and practically excommunicating loyal Scottish lodges.

A LIST OF VALUABLE OLD BOOKS. Bernard Quaritch, 15, Piccadilly, W.

We have received this very interesting catalogue, No. 331, and have perused it with much pleasure. Many of our readers, like ourselves, are lovers of "old books," and the collection which Mr. Quaritch now offers to the public is alike curious and rare in the highest degree. We call attention to a few of the choicest morsels, sufficient to make a book epicure's mouth water—"Psalterium et Preces," illuminated English manuscript on vellum, 1420, 30, £100; "Sydrac and Boethius," 1330, 40, £36; "An Encyclopædia of Medieval Wisdom," Sir Richard Holland's "Buke of the Howlat," £125; "Le Livre des Trois Filz de Roi," Lyons, 1508; "Fox's Book of Martyrs," first edition, black letter, £65; "Psalterier," 1513, £35; "Boethius Historia," 1526, £84; "Cervantes," 1608, £210; "Mirror of Knighthood," 1585, £16 16s.; and when we mention that many other books in the 106 pages refer to almost every branch of literature and of archaeological curiosity, we have said enough to induce some of our readers to get the catalogue and study it for themselves.

INDUSTRY: An illustrated weekly journal of science, applied to manufacture and art. 295, Strand, London, W.C.

This is the eleventh number of a "new series" of a very interesting journal. The portrait of Robert Boyle is that of one of the eminent firm of R. Boyle and Sons, Glasgow. Among other striking accounts and illustrations is that of a new pleasure boat, which strikes us as something, if new, both valuable and sensible. We can conscientiously commend the journal to our readers.

A GUIDE TO ELECTION LAW. By the Hon. CHANDOS LEIGH and YARBOROUGH ANDERSON, Barristers-at-Law. Third edition. Davis and Son, 57, Carey-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Though as Freemasons, we are not Freemasons, and know nothing *qua* Freemasonry of political strife and shibboleth, yet as many of our readers may possibly be voting as citizens of our great and common country at the general election now before us, we are glad to mention a book which may be useful to many. It is written by two well-known barristers, one of them the brother of Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. Warwickshire. We have glanced over its well printed pages, and are struck alike by its lucidity and yet its comprehensiveness. It is admirably printed, in a becoming binding, and is in itself a neat, creditable contribution to the better and safe knowledge of election law. It will be to many, we do not, a needful *vade mecum*, and a most reliable reference.

Literary and Antiquarian Notes.

The *Athenæum* understands that some hitherto unpublished letters and documents connected with Oliver Cromwell's movements in Ireland, together with an original contemporary narrative of his proceedings there, will appear in the course of the present month in the second volume of the "History of Affairs in Ireland, 1641-1652," edited by Mr. J. T. Gilbert, F.S.A., for the Irish Archaeological and Celtic Society.

M.M. Erekman-Chatrion has published a new volume of short stories, "Grand Pere Lebigre."

Academy says: Mr. Thorold Rogers is engaged in printing a second edition of his "Adam Smith" for the delegates of the Oxford University Press. This edition will contain an unbroken series of wheat prices by the quarter from 1259 to the present time. The Rev. J. Stevenson is preparing for publication a very interesting memoir by Nau, the secretary of Mary Queen of Scots. It may be regarded as containing in substance the Queen's account of her life, and especially of those parts which have been the subject of so much controversy. The Rev. Professor Wace's "Bampton Lectures for 1879" are in the press, and will be ready very shortly. It is stated that the delegates of the Oxford University Press contemplate the issue of a series of volumes on subjects of original research, especially, and in the first place, with a view of communicating to the public such materials as exist in great quantities in the Bodleian and the college libraries. Messrs. Cecil Brooks and Co. will publish early next week a pamphlet by Cardinal Manning entitled, "The Catholic Church and Modern Society."

Professor Montagu Burrows is engaged in writing a work upon the foreign policy of Great Britain during the reign of George III. Mr. Holman Hunt has promised the Society of Arts a paper on the materials used by artists in the present day as compared with those employed by the old masters.

Le Livre announces the discovery in the Treves Library of a French poem entitled, "Sainte Nouna et son Fils Saint Devy," composed by Richard Cœur de Lion during his captivity in Tyrol.

The German *Publishers' Journal* has issued statistics concerning the number of periodical publications published in the world. According to them the total number is about 23,000, which Germany boasts the greatest number—viz., 3778; England, 2509; France, 2000; Italy, 1226; Austria, 1200; Russia, 5000. Asia produces 387; Africa, 50; America 9129; and Australia, 100.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Though it is impossible, in this climate of changing temperature, so prevent ill-health altogether, yet its form and frequency may be much mitigated by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, and the attending slight fever indicate irritation of the throat or chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon these parts without delay, and his Pills taken in appropriate doses, to promote its curative action. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies. Printed directions envelope every package of Holloway's medicaments which are suited to all ages and conditions, and to every ordinary disease to which humanity is liable.—(Adv't.)

Obituary.

BRO. CHARLES GEARY, P.M. 19.

Another of our ancient brethren has passed from our midst in the person of Bro. Charles Geary, P.M. 19, at the ripe age of 86. Bro. Geary was initiated in the Enoch Lodge (No. 11) on December 30th, 1822, and subsequently, in January, 1825, joined the royal Athelstan Lodge (No. 19), of which lodge he became W.M. in 1826, and discharged the duties of the chair for the three following years. In 1827, in conjunction with Bros. Gilkes and Beckford, he founded the Athelstan Lodge of Instruction, and the Temperance Lodge of Instruction in 1830. At this time he was an acknowledged Preceptor in Masonry, and became a member of eleven other Lodges of Instruction, devoting a large portion of his time to Masonry with a view of producing uniformity of working, towards which object he has done perhaps as much as any member of the Craft. In 1844 Bro. Geary was induced to leave London, to undertake the duties of clerk of the parish of All Saints, Hereford, a position which he held to the time of his death. In 1858 he was instrumental in the resuscitation of the Palladian Lodge, No. 120, in that city, becoming a member, and rendering great assistance to the brethren of that and the other lodges of the province, by whom his services have been frequently acknowledged. In 1865, when age and infirmities began rapidly to advance upon him, he was successful in obtaining an annuity of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which has been a great comfort and support to his declining years. He had been ailing for some time, and about six weeks previous to his death he took to his bed and never rallied. Peacefully and without a struggle he passed to his rest on March 17th, deeply mourned by his wife and children, and sincerely regretted by the many brethren to whom his name was as a household word, and by whom he will be long held in grateful remembrance. Bro. Geary was interred in the Hereford Cemetery on the 22nd March, when several of the members of the Palladian Lodge attended the funeral to pay the last tribute of respect to departed merit.

Royal Arch.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners Chapter (No. 249).

The usual periodical meeting of this chapter was held on Thursday, the 18th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, where there were present Comps. J. E. Jackson, Z.; Peter B. Gee, P.Z.; A. Cotter, H.; A. Morrison, E.; Jos. Wood, Treas.; and Peter Ball, Janitor; G. Crute, Jos. Korn, T. J. Luya, R. Edwards, R. W. Bulman, E. Carter, G. Turner, Jno. Tickle, A. Bucknall, and J. Creak. The visitors were Comps. Charles James, 37 (S.C.); R. Fairclough, 203; and Jno. Kenwright, 203.

A letter was read from Comp. J. Wood, resigning his position of Treasurer in the chapter (which he had held for a period of ten years), in which he thanked the companions, individually and collectively, for the invariable kindness and courtesy he had received at their hands. The resignation of Comp. Wood was received and accepted with many expressions of regret, and the M.E.Z. spoke in the highest terms of the efficiency, amiability, and diligence which had marked Comp. Wood's performance of his duties during the long period he had held the position of Treasurer. The letter was ordered to be recorded on the minutes. The following were subsequently elected officers for the ensuing year: Comps. W. Cotter, Z.; J. Ellis, H.; H. Firth, J.; J. H. Jackson, Treas.; A. Morrison, S.E.; Balman, S.N.; and Korn, P.S. Comps. Gee and Crute were chosen Auditors. The chapter was afterwards closed.

LANCASTER.—Rowley Chapter (No. 1051).

The installation meeting of the companions of this chapter of Freemasons was held on Monday afternoon, the 15th March, in the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum. There were present Ex. Comps. W. Hall, jun., M.E.Z.; H. Longman, H.; W. Duff, J.; Comps. J. Ellershaw, Scribe E.; J. J. Crokell, Scribe N.; R. Stanton, P.S.; F. G. Dale and T. Longmire, A.S.; Ex. Comps. J. D. Moore, P.P.G.S.B., P.P.G.H. Comps. Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., the M.E.Z. elect; Ed. Simpson, P.S.; Dr. Hall, P.S.; Comps. A. Dodson, J. Fenton, W. J. Sly, G. Kelland, T. Bayley, R. Wolfenden, T. Longmire, W. Longmire, A. Sheriff, W. W. Wilde. Visitors, Capt. Garnett, R. Coupland, and T. H. Bradwall. The preliminary business having been transacted, Comp. Col. the Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., Secretary of State for War, was duly installed in the chair of M.E.Z., by Ex. Comp. J. D. Moore, P.P.G.S.B. of the Supreme Council of England, P.P.G.H. of West Lancashire. The M.E.Z. appointed his officers as follows:—Comp. J. Ellershaw, Scribe E.; J. J. Crokell, Scribe N.; Geo. Kelland, P.S.; R. Stanton and F. G. Dale, A.S.; E. Simpson, Treasurer; and A. K. Allinson, Jan. At the conclusion of the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the County Hotel, where a banquet was held under the presidency of Ex. Comp. Col. Stanley; when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

TYWARDREATH.—Chapter of Unity (No. 1151).

The quarterly convocation of this chapter was held in the Masonic Hall on the 16th ult. There were present Comps. Emra Holmes, Prov. G. Standard Bearer, Z.; J. Polkinghorne, H.; P. Smith, J.; S. Trevail, Scribe N.; H. Baker, Scribe E.; W. Tonkin, P.Z.; Dr. Newman, Dr. De Legh, P.Z.; T. C. Stephens, P.Z.; and others. On the proposition of Comp. Smith, seconded by Comp. Tonkin, it was agreed that the chapter should meet in future at five o'clock p.m.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: Comps. J. Polkinghorne, Z.; P. Smith, H.; De Legh, J.; H. Baker, Scribe E.; W. Rundle, Scribe N.; and F. Walton, P. Soj.

On the motion of Comp. Trevail, seconded by Comp. Stephens, £3 3s. was voted to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. It was agreed that at the annual meeting for the installation of officers in June a banquet should be held at the New Inn, Tywardreath. No other business coming before the meeting, the chapter was closed in solemn form.

The Lord Mayor, Bro. Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, will preside at the dinner in connection with the 226th festival of the Sons of the Clergy, to be held at Merchants Taylors' Hall on Wednesday, May 12th.

North Africa.

TUNIS.—William Kingston Lodge (No. 1835).

The annual festival of this lodge was celebrated on the 20th February at the Masonic Hall, Goletta. The lodge was opened at one p.m. precisely by the W.M., Bro. Barker, assisted by Bros. They, S.W.; Curletto, J.W.; Morana, D. of C.; Attard, S.D.; Vaux, I.G.; and A. Pagano, Tyler. There were also present Bros. Coppi, Durazzano, Villarcale, Castelli, Rombi, Rotino, Catalano, and Angelica, members; and visitors, Bros. Vias, Orator; Maltesopolo, J.W., and Cittanuova, Secretary, of the Italian Lodge Risorgimento, at Tunis; and Souller, S.W.; Pentecost, J.W.; Barsotti, Treas.; and Le Gallais, S.D., of Ancient Carthage Lodge, No. 1717, E.C., also at Tunis.

An alarm being given, the following distinguished brethren were received with due honour: W. Bros. Reade, No. 1717, P.D.D.G.M. Egypt; A. M. Broadley, D.D.G.M. Malta; Dr. Perini, W.M. 1717; Professor Ayra, W.M. Italian Lodge Risorgimento; Vais, 33, and Dr. Fumaro, P.M.'s of the same lodge; D. Costa, W.M. of the Italian Lodge Progress Costituzionale, at Susa; and Dr. Mugnaini, 32, P.M. Lodges Carthage and Utica, at Tunis. The Worshipful Master asked the D.D.G.M., Bro. Broadley, to assume the gavel. The D.D.G.M. expressed the pleasure experienced by the Lodge No. 1835 at receiving the visits of so many distinguished Masons on this occasion; he stated that the only business before them was to read a circular from the D.G. Lodge of Malta, warning the English brethren at Tunis from holding Masonic intercourse with a self-created body calling itself the Grand Orient of Tunis and its Dependencies. The circular having been read, it was duly inserted in the minute book. W. Bro. Reade, P.D.D.G.M. of Egypt, H.B.M.'s Agent and Consul-General at Tunis, then addressed the assembled brethren. He said that in returning to his birth-place after an absence of thirty years nothing had pleased him more than to find Masonry flourishing in the country. He was especially interested in the Lodge 1835, as working on the very ruins of Carthage. He called the particular attention of the English and Italian brethren to the circular the D.D.G.M. had read, and told them their duty in the matter could be described in two words—fidelity and obedience—fidelity to the Grand Lodge of England to which they owed allegiance, and obedience to the orders of their immediate superior, the D.G.M., who had so ably dealt with the matter in accordance with the decision of the Colonial Board of Grand Lodge. He added that nothing could be more illegal than the action of the half-dozen individuals who had constituted themselves into a pretended Grand Orient against the will of the great majority of regular Masons in the country, and that he felt sure that the united and harmonious action of the Italian and English Masons in the country would speedily bring the movement into deserved contempt. W. Bro. Reade resumed his seat amidst many demonstrations of approval. W. Bros. Perini, Ayra, Costa, and Mugnaini addressed the lodge in turn, and expressed their cordial approval of the D.G.M.'s circular and W. Bro. Reade's remarks. Two candidates for initiation were proposed and seconded. The charitable collection was then made, and the brethren adjourned to an elaborate banquet, provided by Bro. Angelica. The D.D.G.M., at the request of the W.M., presided, and the whole of the brethren above mentioned were present. On the removal of the cloth the following toasts were duly honoured: "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. Grand Master," "The M.W.G.M. of Italy," "The Grand Officers and the D.G.M. of Malta." In proposing "The Health of the R.W. Bro. Kingston," the D.D.G.M. alluded to the able way that illustrious brother had represented his district in England. He was able to tell the members of 1835 that there D.G.M. took a most lively interest in the progress of English Masonry in this important part of his district, and especially in the prosperity of the lodge which bore his name. Bro. Kingston would certainly visit the Goletta in June, and probably hold a Grand Lodge under their banner. Bro. Kingston's health was then enthusiastically drunk, and it was decided to convey to him by telegraph the hearty good wishes of the lodge. The next toast was that of "The D.D.G.M. of Egypt," to which Bro. J. F. Reade responded. In returning thanks for his health being drunk, Bro. Barker, W.M. Lodge 1835, proposed the toast of their indefatigable chief, "Bro. Broadley." The Worshipful Master of the Risorgimento Lodge, added, on behalf of his lodge, that the D.D.G.M. must be considered as the pioneer and main supporter of the common interests of regular Masonry in the country. The toast was very cordially drunk, and Bro. Broadley returned thanks at some length. Various other toasts were disposed of, and the brethren separated at 4.30, highly pleased with their winter festival. English Masonry is gaining ground day by day in North Africa, but the existence of a spurious centre must always be regretted. It need hardly be said that the body in question has never even sought the recognition of our U.G. Lodge, nor, as far as is known, has any communication with a single Masonic governing body of importance. It originated with four or five individuals, and the members of Lodges Nos. 1717 and 1835 trust that the Masonic authorities of distant countries will obtain proper information before committing themselves by even the smallest recognition of the G.O. of the Reformed Egyptian Rite—whatever this high-sounding title may be intended to represent.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master (His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) has been pleased to confer the important office of Junior Grand Warden of England for the ensuing year upon Bro. Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, the Lord Mayor, Past President Board of Grand Stewards, and now, for the second time, Worshipful Master of No. 1 (Grand Master's) Lodge, and President of the Stewards Girls' School Festival.

Bro. P. Soman, proprietor of the *Norwich Guardian*, has been elected a poor law guardian for the City of Norwich by a large majority over his opponent. The *Ferish Chronicle* says that no Jew has been elected on this board for twenty years until now.

Dr. Stoker, whose services in Zululand in connection with the Stafford House Fund are well known, has returned to England, the work in connection with this society having been completed.

At a convocation of Royal Arch Masons, held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, Comp. Jos. Farncombe, P.M. No. 311 and P.P. G.S.B., was lectured M.E.Z. of the South Saxons Chapter for the ensuing year; Comp. S. Tanner, P.M. 311, as H.; Comp. G. Stone, W.M. 311, as J.; Comp. W. H. Hodgkin, P.M. 1303, as S.E.; Comp. Stedman, N.; Comp. Hauxwell, P.S.; Comp. R. Crosskey, P.G.T., Treasurer; and Comp. H. Hall, Janitor. To Comp. R. H. Ellman the chapter voted a jewel on his retiring from the post of First Principal.

The Creton Lodge of Instruction will be inaugurated on Wednesday next, the 7th inst., at the Royal Albert Tavern, Notting Hill Gate. Bro. Col. Creton will be W.M.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, S.W.; J. J. Barron, J.W.; Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Chaplain; assisted by several other Grand Officers. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

THE SIAMESE ENVOY.—His Excellency Phya Bhaskarawongse, Envoy of His Majesty the King of Siam, is expected on a second visit to England about the middle of May. It had been arranged that the King of Siam himself would come to invest Her Majesty with the insignia of the Order of the White Elephant, but it is understood that His Majesty's visit is for the present postponed, consequent upon the indisposition of His Highness the Ex-Regent, who would, in the King's absence, have had the reins of government.

Bro. W. Nicholas, Secretary to the Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, delivered his lecture, "On Dogs and their Virtues," as part of the proceedings at the annual gathering of the Stockwell Orphanage on Wednesday, when Mr. Spurgeon occupied the chair.

The Volunteer Review at Brighton seems to have been a great success. The town was *en fete* several days previous to the review, many of our volunteers evidently availing themselves of the holiday time to air themselves and their uniforms at the seaside.

A statement of the accounts of Christ's Hospital for the year ended December 31st has just been prepared. The average number of children maintained and educated in the London and Hertford establishments in 1879 was 1131, the average expenditure per child being £50 10s. —*City Press*.

At St. James's Hall, last night, William Cook and William Mitchell played a billiard match of 1000 points up for £200, Cook giving a start of 200 points. Mitchell ran out with a break of 111—a winner by 109 points. But for his opponent's extraordinary luck in the last 200 Cook would have won.

The *Masonic Magazine* for this month is unusually interesting. Mr. Henry Calvert Appleby seems to be a regular contributor, and has another of his charming tales entitled "The Mystic Chord." His stories are told with sparkling vivacity, and they are always true pictures of nature. That excellent antiquarian writer, Mr. Thos. B. Trowsdale, author of "Glimpses of Olden Kent," and many other valuable works, has a good paper on "Church Bells and their Associations," which deals with their various lore in a pleasing manner. We are always glad to see the products of his clever pen. Other articles of a Masonic character are readable even to outsiders, and are full of useful information. Some poems of merit are also included in the number, and altogether the magazine deserves to rank with our best journals.—*Buxton Advertiser*.

Bro. Macrae Moor, P.M. Grenadiers' Lodge, No. 66, intimated at a General Court of the Governors of the Scottish Corporation, held on Wednesday last, that he was in communication with Bro. Major Knollys, to ascertain whether it would be convenient for the Prince of Wales to open the new building, which is expected to be completed early in the summer.

Until more accurately informed as to the contents of the base or the monolith, which are being prepared for removal from Egypt to this country, we refrain from speculative theories upon the revelations of the Obelisk while holding strong convictions. The daily press gives the news, and the Masonic press, in due time, will give its attention to the Masonic bearing and import of the discoveries, should the same be justified.—*The Masonic Newspaper*.

Comp. Col. the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., Secretary of State for War, was installed on Monday, the 16th ult., as M.E.Z. of the Rowley Chapter, No. 1051, Lancaster, by Comp. J. D. Moore, P.P.G.S.B. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, P.P.G.H., &c.

Once in a while a pugnacious, obstinate and cross-grained sort of a man makes the mistake of becoming a Mason. We call it a mistake because he is not suited to such an association—to the genial intercourse and harmonious conditions of a well-regulated lodge. He is argumentative and contentious, never so well pleased as when, in earnest discussion, giving or receiving the blows of a wordy combat. Of such an one it was said; "Brother — is so argumentative that he will dispute with a guide post about the distance to the next town, and he will argue upon a tombstone as to the truth of the epitaph inscribed upon it."—*Freemasons' Repository*.

The report of the Second Tottenham, Enfield, and Edmonton Masonic Charitable Association has just been issued, by which it appears that the sum of £371 0s. 6d. has been subscribed, out of which thirty-one appropriations have been made to the three Charities. We think Bro. Garrod, the Secretary, and the Committee may be congratulated upon the success of the Association.

The needle question is now agitating the minds of England as well as of America. A correspondent of the *London Builder* presumes even to query as to whether Dr. Fenton is not an "infatuated" rather than an "instructed" Mason, and states that he expects soon to hear of a Masonic degree "with an unbroken lineal descent from the great Rameses." That would be refreshing. Rameses, you know, reigned B.C. 1492, and built the Great Pyramid. Won't someone please discover some emblems—dogs, spoons, and the like at the base of the Pyramid? It wouldn't be a bad idea to move the Great Pyramid to America, and set it up in Philadelphia, in opposition to Cleopatra's Needle at New York. Why this has not been thought of before is, in the language of a distinguished Englishman, "something that no fellow can find out."—*Keystone*.

Bro. Captain Webb is desirous of making a match to keep afloat in the sea for as long a time as that in which he swam in the whale tank at the Royal Aquarium.

The Lord Mayor, Bro. Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, has consented to preside at the anniversary festival of the Infant Orphan Asylum, to be held at Wanstead on Friday, June the 25th, when his lordship will be accompanied by Bro. Sheriff Woolton and Bro. Sheriff Bayley.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS
For the Week ending Friday, April 9, 1880.

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, APRIL 3.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1194, Villiers, Albany Hot., Twickenham.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd., at 7.
Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico.
Sphinx, Stirling Castle, Camberwell.

MONDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, 129, Leadenhall-st.
" 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 69, Unity, Inns of Court Hot.
" 83, United of Prudence, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 256, Unions, F.M.H.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
" 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd.
" 1669, Royal Leopold, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1670, Adelphi, Crichton Club, 4, Adelphi-terrace.
" 1745, Farringdon Without, Holborn Viaduct Hot.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 1196, Urban, F.M.H.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Neptune, Warrior Hot., Brixton, at 7.
Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.
London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st., E.C., at 6.
Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 to 10.
Prince Leopold, Mitford Tav., Sandringham-rd., Dalston, 7.30.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.C.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station, at 7.
Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.
Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd., at 8.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe, at 8.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., at 8.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amberst-rd., Hackney, 8.
Loughborough, Cambria Tav., Loughborough Junc., at 7.30.
Hyde Park, The Westbourne, 1, Craven-rd., at 8.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
West Kent, Forest-hill Hot., Forest-hill, at 7.30.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich, at 7.
Doric Chapter, 248, Globe-rd., Mile End-rd., at 8.
Royal Commemoration, R. Hot., High-st., Putney, 8 till 10.
British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tav., Mile End.
Eastern Star, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd., 7.30.
High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8.
St. Mark's, S.M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Plimsoll Arms, St. Thomas-rd., N., at 8.
Kilburn, South Molton Hot., South Molton-st., W., at 7.30.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6.

Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
" 18, Old Dundee, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 765, St. James's, White Hart Hot., High-st., Boro'.
" 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope, Commercial-rd., E.
" 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., Regent-st.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, Up-st., N.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
" 1693, Kingsland, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
Chap. 169, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
Mark 236, Clapton, White Hart Hot., Lower Clapton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Pilgrim, F.M.H., 1st and last Tues.
Metropolitan, Moorgate-st. Station Restaurant, at 7.30.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 7.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st., S.W., at 8.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 7.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., at 7.30.
Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., 7.30.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hot., Wandsworth, at 7.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-rd., Battersea, at 8.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe, at 8.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping, at 8.
Islington, Moorgate Station Restaurant, at 7.
Leopold, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., Bermondsey, at 8.
Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, S.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8.
St. Marylebone, Eyre Arms, Finchley-rd., at 8.
Corinthian, George Hot., Millwall Docks, at 7.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
Eleanor, Angel Hot., Edmonton.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7.
Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1491, Athenæum, Athenæum, Camden-rd., N.
" 1549, Abercorn, Abercorn Hot., Great Stanmore.
" 1585, Royal Commemoration, Fox & Hounds, Putney.
" 1685, Guelph, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
" 1766, St. Leonard, Town Hall, Shoreditch.
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Room, Leytonstone.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury.
K.T. Precep. 129, Holy Palestine, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Confidence, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-st., 7 till 9.
New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Newington Causeway, S.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
Burdett Coutts, Salmon & Ball, Bethnal Green-rd., at 8.30.
La Tolerance, 2, Maddox-st., W., at 8.45.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-rd., Peckham, at 8.
Finsbury Park, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edwd. Hot., Mare-st., Hackney, S.
United Strength, Hope & Anchor, Crowndale-rd., N.W., S.
Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre, at 8.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford, at 8.
Temperance in the East, Geo. the Fourth, Ida-st., E., at 7.30.
Thistle, M.M.M., The Harp Tav., at 8.
Eleanor, Trocadero Hot., Liverpool-st., Edmonton.
Zetland, King's Arms Hot., High-st., Kensington, at 8.
Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8.

Lodge 19, Royal Athelstan, Cannon-st. Hot.
" 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, F.M.H.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark.
" 1076, Capper, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1216, Macdonald, Hd-qtrs., 1st Surrey Rifles, Camb.
" 1425, Hyde Park, 1, Craven-rd., W.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tav., Highbury, N.
" 1523, St. Mary Magdalen, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, S.M.H., Camberwell.
" 1598, Ley Spring, Red Lion Tav., Leytonstone.
" 1599, Skelmersdale, M.H., Mason's Avenue.
" 1791, Creaton, F.M.H.
Chap. 140, St. George's, Green Man, Blackheath.
" 619, Beadon, Horns Tav., Kennington.
" 813, New Concord, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
Mark 86, Samson and Lion, M.H., Basinghall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark, 7.30.
Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.C., at 8.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank, at 8.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd., at 8.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-rd., at 8.
Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-st., W., at 7.45.
Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
United Mariners, Three Cranes Tav., Mile End-rd., at 8.
Vitruvian, White Hart, Belvedere-rd., Lambeth, at 8.
Pannure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.30.
Royal Oak, Lecture Hall, High-st., Deptford, at 8.
Capper, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amhurst-rd., Hackney, 7.30.
Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Victoria Park, The Two Brewers, Stratford, at 8.
West Middlesex, Feathers Hot., Faling, at 7.30.
North London Chap., Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9.

Lodge 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
" 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
" 1702, Sub-Urban, Abercorn Hot., Great Stanmore.
Chap. 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
Rose Croix 4, Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H., at 7.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford, at 8.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 8.
United Pilgrims, S.M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7.
Doric, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N., at 8.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith-rd., at 8.
Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-rd., Holloway, at 8.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up-George-st., Edgware-rd.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Golborne-rd., Notting-hill.
Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6.30.
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30.
Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hot., Wandsworth, at 7.
Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton, at 7.30.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, April 10, 1880.

MONDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
" 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.

Lodge 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
" 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
Red Cross Conclave, Skelmersdale, M.H., Liverpool.
Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6.

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 161, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7.

Lodge 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Liverpool.
" 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
" 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
" 1620, Marlborough, Derby Hot., Liverpool.
Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead, Liverpool.
" 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
De Grey and Ripon, L. of I., So, N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8.

Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 333, Royal Preston, Royal Hot., Preston.
" 477, Mersey, M.R., Birkenhead.
" 786, Croxteth, United Service, M.T., Liverpool.
" 1035, Prince of Wales, M.H., Kirkdale.
" 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1213, Bridgewater, Cross Keys, Eccles.
" 1384, Equity, Alford Crumbers, Widnes.
Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9.

Lodge 15, Pa. severance, M.H., Liverpool.
" 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE

For the Week ending Saturday, April 10, 1880.

MONDAY, APRIL 5.

Lodge 381, Harmony and Industry, Shirey Bank, Over Darwen.
" 1009, Shakespere, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 1077, Wilton, Red Lion Hot., Blackley.
" 1519, Albert Edward, Albion Hot., Clayton-le-Moors.
" 1798, Zion, Hulme Hall, Hulme.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6.

Lodge 226, Benevolence, Red Lion Hot., Littleboro.
" 1134, Newall, F.M.H., Salford.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7.

Lodge 298, Harmony, M.R., 23, Ann-st., Rochdale.
" 645, Humphrey Chetham, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 678, Earl Ellesmere, Church Hot., Farnworth.
" 992, St. Thomas, Griffin Hot., Lower Broughton.
Chap. 54, Hope, Spread Eagle Inn, Rochdale.
" 300, Perseverance, Pitt and Nelson Hot., Ashton.
Mark 36, Furness, Hartington Hot., Barrow-in-Furness.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8.

Lodge 191, St. John, Knowsley Hot., Bury.
" 1055, Derby, M.R., Bedford-st., Manchester.
" 1144, Milton, Commercial Hot., Ashton.
" 1145, Equality, Red Lion Hot., Accrington.
" 1147, St. David, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 1607, Hospitality, Royal Hot., Waterfoot.
Chap. 462, Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms, Accrington.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9.

Lodge 815, Blair, Hulme Town Hall, Hulme.
Precep. 9, St. Joseph, F.M.H., Manchester.
" 17, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Todmorden.
" 43, St. George, F.M.H., Oldham.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

LEARMOUTH.—On the 26th ult., at 45, Gloucester-gardens, Hyde-park, the wife of Mr. Thomas Livingstone Learmonth, of a son.
SMYTH.—On the 24th ult., at Ashmansworth, Hants, the wife of Mr. Arthur Vereker Smyth, surgeon, R.N., of a daughter.
SUGG.—On the 26th ult., the wife of Mr. W. Sugg, of Westminster, of a son.
WEBBER.—On the 25th ult., at 111, St. George's-road, S.W., the wife of Mr. Felix H. Webber, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GOSNELL—HELLABY.—On the 25th ult., Alfred E., third son of she late Mr. J. Gosnell, of Lombard-street, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr. R. Hellaby.
HARRISS—GREEN.—On the 26th ult., at St. Luke's Church, Lower Norwood, Arther John, son of Mr. Charles Silvester Harriss, of Crown-hill, Lower Norwood, to Alice, daughter of Mr. Robert Green, of Elm grove, Lower Norwood.
STAFFORD—PRICE.—On the 25th ult., John S. Stafford to Fanny, daughter of the late Mr. John Price and Mrs. Price, Jutlands, Forest-hill.

DEATHS.

DICKINSON.—On the 15th ult., at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, Mr. William Arthur Dickinson, of 42, Cambridge-street, Hyde-park.
GARDNER.—On the 25th ult., at Stone House, Rugeley, Mr. James Gardner, aged 64.
HOLLINGS.—On the 23rd March, the Rev. Richard Hollings, incumbent of St. John's, Newport, Isle of Wight, aged 74.
KERSEY.—On the 22nd ult., at Ovington-square, South Kensington, Emma, widow of the late Mr. Thomas Kersey, of Fakenham Hall, aged 87.