

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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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Col. Creaton, Grand Treasurer, in the chair. There were also present Bros. Frank Richardson, Arthur E. Gladwell, John A. Rucker, J. H. Matthews, Thomas Massa, Frederick Adlard, Charles Hammerton, R. B. Webster, Frederick Drummond, F. R. W. Hedges (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

On the motion of Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON G.D., a recommendation of the Sub-Committee was adopted for the appointment of a sub-matron and a needlework mistress. Two of the former pupils were appointed to the respective offices. Also a notice of a motion was given by Bro. Frank Richardson that some of the salaries of the school-mistresses be slightly raised, and that some additional junior mistresses be appointed in consequence of the increased duties which will fall on the educational staff by the reception into Lyncombe House, or "the Junior School," of twenty-five more children.

Seven candidates were placed on the list for the April election, four from the provinces, and three from London.

Bro. J. A. RUCKER, P.G.D., after the candidates had been placed on the list, drew the attention of the brethren to the fact that the fathers of the candidates had been initiated respectively, nine, eight, six, five, and three years before death, and he reminded the Committee that similar cases frequently occurred. He had frequently drawn attention to the subject, and he now repeated it, not for the purpose of taking any action in the matter, but for showing the Craft that there was, unfortunately, as he thought, a habit of introducing gentlemen to Masonry who were likely to become a burden to it. He thought that members of lodges should have their attention drawn to this. He believed he was warranted in saying that if inquiries were made of the insurance offices it would be found that in seven cases of insurance, the seven insured died, one nine, one eight, two six, two five, and one three years after the insurance was effected. Before very long he thought that some step would have to be taken in the matter.

The list for the April election was then settled. There will be at that election twenty-eight candidates, and fifteen vacancies in the School.

Col. CREATON then said it would be satisfactory to the Craft to know, as it was very satisfactory to him to have to announce that he had, with the Secretary, gone into the financial state of the Institution, and he had found that, taking into consideration everything that would have to be paid, the Institution could afford to invest £1400. He had gone thoroughly into the matter, and he would, therefore, move "That £1400 be invested in 'Reduced,' and placed to the Sustentation Fund."

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, in seconding the motion, said he thought this was a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The motion was carried.

On the motion of Bro. Col. CREATON, seconded by Bro. RUCKER, it was resolved that instead of £50 the Secretary should have in hand £70 for petty cash, the £50 not being always sufficient.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and mutual wishes for a "Happy New Year."

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The New Year's entertainment, which, since Bro. Terry has been Secretary to this Institution, is annually given to the annuitants in residence at the buildings at Croydon, will take place next Wednesday. Several subscriptions to defray the expenses of the entertainment have already been received from brethren and Masonic bodies well known in the Craft for the support of our Institutions.

The annuitants will sit down to dinner at two o'clock, and for the evening there is a programme of amusements which will render the day as successful as any of its predecessors.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

At the meeting of the House Committee of this Institution on Christmas Eve, Bro. W. Roebuck in the chair, Bro. Constable and Bro. Dick Radclyffe attended at the Institution for the purpose of making a presentation to the School. The gift consisted of a very handsome silver cornet, manufactured by Besson and Co., which was purchased by subscription. The reason of the presentation is fully set forth in the following inscription on the cornet: "Presented to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys by the Committee of the Royal Masonic Pupils' Assistance Fund as a mark of appreciation of the services rendered by the boys composing the band and choir of the Institution at the bazaar held in aid of the Fund in June, 1880."

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

By Bro. G. B. A.

(Continued from page 370.)

Nicholas, 6th December. I have spoken already of the genius of Good Cheer and his installation, at this season, in the chair of state in all the lodges of Hospitality, wheresoever they may be distributed over the surface of the earth. To others I willingly leave the task of describing the good cheer provided, which is general enough in its chief constituents, but varies, of course, locally. I may, however, quote a passage from Stevenson's "Twelve Months," (1661), in which he says, "Now capons and hens, besides turkeys, geese, and ducks, with beef and mutton, must all die; for in twelve days a multitude of people will not be fed with a little. Now plums and spice, sugar and honey, square it among pies and broth." And then with reference to the general liberty accorded, the diversions, &c., he proceeds, "Now a journeyman cares not a rush for his master, though he begs his plum porridge all the twelve days. Now or never must the music be in tune, for the youth must dance and sing to get them a heat, while the aged sit round the fire. The country maid leaves half her market, and must be sent again if she forgets a pack of cards on Christmas Eve. Great is the contention of holly and ivy, whether the master or dame wears the breeches; and if the cook do not lack wit he will sweetly lick his fingers." That all this good cheer was, as it still is, the cause of much additional labour, is shown by the following doggrel lines quoted by Hone from the "Bellman's Treasury" (1707), under date of 24th December:

Up, Doll, Peg, Susan; you all spoke to me
Betimes to call you, and 'tis now past three;
Get up on your but-ends, and rub your eyes,
For shame longer lye abed, but rise;
The pewter still to scow'r, and house to clean,
And you abed! Good girls, what is't you mean?

The boar's head, however, which still figures at Windsor and Queen's College, Oxford, as a Christmas dish, must not be passed over. It was, and, doubtless, is still, usual to carry this into Hall at Queen's in solemn procession, a carol, which has been differently worded at different times, being sung the while. The version I quote will be found in Hone's "Everyday Book," and is as follows:

Bryngyng in the Boar's Head.
*Caput apri defero,
Reddens laudes Domino.*
The bore's head in hande bring I,
With garlandes gay and rosemary,
I pray you all synge merely,
Qui estis in convivio.

The bore's head, I understande,
Is the chefe servyce in this lande,
Lette wherever it be fande,
Servite cum cantico.

Be gladd, lords, both more or lasse,
For this hath ordayned our Stewarde,
To chere you all this Christmase
The bore's head with mustarde.

Brand, to whose work on "Popular Antiquities" I am so much indebted for the particulars I have given, thinks Chaucer referred, in the "Franklin's Tale," to this custom of bearing the boar's head when he wrote

Janus sitteth by the fire with double berd,
And he drinketh of his bugle horn the wine,
Before him standeth the *brawne of the tusked swine*.

Among the principal diversions of the season was mumming or masquerading, which prevailed in the early centuries of the Christian era, when the men and women exchanged dresses, the men appearing in female attire, and the women in male attire. Many an edict was issued by the Church with a view to suppress this custom, but though these had the effect of putting down the objectionable practice just mentioned, mumming survived, and, for aught I know to the contrary, still survives in some parts of the country. I remember at Christmastide 1848-9 to have seen near Alton, Hants, a band of what I presume were mummies. They were dressed in rude finery, and the performance they went through, as far as I could make it out, was a kind of melodrama, crowded with the most terrible incidents, and belonging, no doubt, to what is vulgarly known as "the blood and thunder" school of dramatic representations. Aubrey, acent this, has the following in his "Recollections for North Wilts." "Heretofore, noble-

men and gentlemen of fair estates had their heralds, who wore their coat of arms at Christmas, and at other solemn times, and cried largesse thrice. . . . In days of yore lords and gentlemen lived in the country like petty kings. . . . They always eat in Gothick halls, at the high table or oreille (oriel). Here in the hall, the mumming, and loaf stealing, and other Christmas sports were performed." In "Round about our Coal Fire," published about 1730, we read: "Then comes mumming or masquerading, when the squire's wardrobe is ransacked for dresses of all kinds. Corks are burnt to black the faces of the fair, or make deputy mustacios, and every one in the family, except the squire himself, must be transformed." Mumming, however, was not always intended as a diversion, for it is said, that in the reign of our Henry IV., a masquerade was planned, at which it was intended to murder that monarch, but the plot was fortunately discovered in time, and the mumming, which might have been attended with such fatal consequences, was stopped. Let me add a specimen of a "Somersetshire Mummer's Song," published in Brand's "Popular Antiquities," vol. 1, p. 252, Hazlitt's edition:

Here come I, liddle man Jan,
With my sword in my han!
If you don't all do,
As you be told by I,
I'll zend you all to York
Vor to make apple-pie.

Perhaps some of your readers, possessing the requisite local knowledge, may be able to explain the allusion contained in the last two lines.

Dancing and card playing have for a long time been prominent among Christmas games. Blind man's buff and similar games are not, perhaps, so highly appreciated at the present day. In "Round about our Coal Fire" occurs the following passage: "The time of the year being cold and frosty, the diversions are within doors, either in exercise or by the fireside. Dancing is one of the chief exercises; or else there is a match at blind man's buff or puss in the corner. The next game is 'Questions and Commands,' when the commander may oblige his subject to answer any lawful question, and make the same obey him instantly, under the penalty of being smaked or paying such forfeit as may be laid on the aggressor. Most of the other diversions are cards or dice." The more objectionable pastime of bear-baiting is mentioned by Pennant, who says "twenty shillings was the annual reward of that officer from his lord, the fifth Earl of Northumberland, 'when he comyth to my Lorde in Christmas with his Lordshippes beests for making of his Lordship pastyme the said twelve days'."

One of the most admirable, as it is one of the most ancient, features of Christmas, is the carol, which still remains among us, especially in the country districts. The earliest known to be extant will be found in Hone's "Everyday Book," where it is published both in the original Norman-French and in English. But it is unnecessary I should stop to add any remarks as to this or the custom of decorating churches and rooms with evergreens. Well, it may, perhaps, be well to mention that, according to an old song on the holly and the ivy, which is preserved in a MS. in the British Museum:

Holy stood in the hall, fayre to behold,
Ivy stood without the door, she ys ful sorr acold.
and further

Holy and hys merry men, they dawnsyn and they syng,
Ivy and hur maydyns, they wepyn and they wryng.

I have read also that laurel is used at our Universities for decorating the halls at Christmas, while elsewhere I have, wonderful to relate, seen "cypress" included among the materials used for this purpose. In the present day, however, evergreens and flowers are used indiscriminately, and with great effect, any prominence that may be given to any one particular kind of the former being reserved for the mistletoe. However, I think I have said enough without venturing to add anything about the Lord of Misrule, Boy Bishops, the King of Christmas Day, the King of Cockneys. But I must bear in mind the old saw about "Enough is as good as a feast." If what I have written succeeds in interesting the readers of the *Freemason*, I have my reward. If I prolong my story, I shall, perhaps, become wearisome.

I have thus far attempted to describe, within limits that were necessarily circumscribed, Christmas as it is and Christmas as it was. I will now devote a brief space to imagining what it may be, say fifty or sixty years hence, when our grandchildren have grown to be men and women and have families growing up around them. It is just possible they may find pleasure in indulging in the same kind of amusements as our grandfathers and great grandfathers did. Fashions, like comets, have the happy knack of re-appearing at intervals of time of more or less irregular duration; and it would surprise no one—if any adults now living should then survive, and be capable of experiencing any such emotion—if "Blindman's Buff," "Puss-in-the-Corner," "Hunt the Slipper," "Forfeits," "Questions and Commands" should once again be popular as Christmas diversions as they were many, many years ago. The old customs may be revived—even old superstitions may find a new generation of believers. All this is within the limits of possibility, and by no means improbable. Was not the crinoline of a few years back merely another form of the hooped dress of Queen Bess's time? Ruffs that are modest in size are now worn, but they may grow until they become as large as they were in the reign of the same Princess, when the form of salutation in vogue among the members of a family or between lovers must have been observed with difficulty. For a swain to have kissed his sweetheart when wearing a dress as large as a diving-bell

and a ruff that might have done duty as a cover for an ordinary-sized round table—why it must have been an undertaking as difficult as Jason's hunt after the golden fleece or the labours of Hercules taken singly or altogether. Yet, there are thousands of men still living who have accomplished this, as there were thousands who did so in Elizabeth's reign. So, I repeat, there is no predisposing cause why our grandchildren may not do at Christmas as our grandfathers and their grandfathers before them did at the same season. But the toddling infant of to-day may live to see another kind of future. This is a utilitarian age, and our utilitarianism is advancing with rapid strides, and more than ever impressing all things with its peculiar mark. These are the days of steam and mechanicals, of telegraphs and photographs, of telephones and photographs; and who knows but that sixty years hence we may not eat, drink, and amuse ourselves mechanically—by the aid of steam and other inventions. I do not think so meanly of mankind as to suppose the kindness which animates people towards each other, especially at Christmas, will ever be degraded into a mere mechanical operation of the mind, regulated by the pressure that is brought to bear upon it. But, even now, manual labour is in many things superseded by mechanical. Again, in respect of domestic poultry, the arrangements of Dame Nature are rendered superfluous by hydro-incubators of various kinds, and cattle, which are no longer dependent for existence on their natural food, are reared by patent foods. Well, in forty years' time we may have roast beef and Christmas pudding, turkeys, geese, poultry, and all the good things of the season supplied by certain new contrivances. Perhaps the baron or sirloin of beef and haunch or saddle of mutton will come into being already dressed for the table, just as Minerva did from the brain of Zeus, an adult and armed cap-à-pié. People may still be conservative enough to retain predilection for eating and drinking and digesting their food in accordance with "old style," but possibly contrivances will have been invented which will enable them to walk, dance, dress, and generally comport themselves by means of machinery. Churches and dwelling houses will decorate themselves with ready-grown floral devices, concerts will be given by automaton vocalists and instrumentalists; and by means of an improved telephone, one concert—say in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington—will suffice for every city and town in the United Kingdom. But it would need the imagination of the most imaginative being that ever lived to picture the possible eventualities of sixty years hence. Perhaps, therefore, I shall do well if I close my list of maybe's, and content myself with a final utterance in the form of a commonplace axiom, slightly altered to meet the circumstances—"Sufficient for the season are the good things thereof." One word more—and that one word means several—and I have done—

"A HAPPY YEAR TO YOU ALL."

FREEMASONRY IN PORTSMOUTH.

In our issue in July we gave our readers an account of the consecration of the New Masonic Hall attached to the Freemasons' Club in Commercial-road, and we are happy to note the great progress made by these several Masonic bodies which have availed themselves of the handsome accommodation provided by the Freemasons' Company. At the last meeting of the recently formed Landport Lodge, No. 1766, an interesting ceremony took place in presenting Bro. E. S. Main, P.M., who was one of the founders, with a marble clock, and his wife with a handsome trichord piano, in recognition of his services as the Honorary Secretary since its formation. Between forty and fifty brethren sat down to the supper, and the speakers dwelt on the great success which had attended the lodge, it being consecrated on the 20th of November, 1878, and on the same date in the present year the number had increased from the seven founders to over one hundred members. Although the lodge had been a success, it had been hitherto unable to devote a portion of its funds to the great Masonic Charitable Institutions, as besides the large expense in fitting up a private house as a lodge room and paying for the requisite furniture and Masonic regalia, it had devoted the remaining part of its funds in assisting in promoting the Freemasons' Company in providing proper accommodation in the centre of the borough for all the Masonic lodges in the town, if they chose to avail themselves of it. Having accomplished that purpose, and being now in a prosperous and thriving condition, we doubt not but that the same energy in providing itself a home will be used in supporting the great Charitable Institutions. In the course of the remarks of one of the speakers especial attention was directed to the desirability of establishing a local charity as a supplementary measure to the Great Metropolitan Institutions. The Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 342, holding its meetings in the new room, is the oldest lodge, and offers a brilliant example for the noble efforts it has hitherto made in its support of Masonic charity. It is still maintaining its old reputation for purity of working, harmony, and general financial success. May it still continue to flourish. The Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1834, is the youngest, and its members are, by almost unprecedented exertions, endeavouring to place it to the front—the present staff of officers is one of the most proficient in the borough. The other Masonic bodies are doing good work, and receiving increasing support in their new home. The Freemasons' Club, which occupies the front part of the building, was opened on the 16th of March last, the celebration of which took place in the evening of the same day by the holding of the most successful Masonic ball ever held in Portsmouth at the Portland Hall, Southsea. We understand that it is to be an annual celebration, and we doubt not but that success will attend the efforts of the committee. Brethren belonging to all the lodges are members of the club, which now numbers 250, and is rapidly increasing. The club building is a handsome structure, and the interior fully corresponds with the elevation; the appointments are good, and every accommodation is afforded—a spacious reading room, billiard, card, coffee, and dining rooms, are replete with every essential, and the holding of the meetings of the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce must add kudos to the undertaking.

We are asked to state that the report of the Union Waterloo Lodge which appeared in last week's issue was sent us by an occasional correspondent, and not by Bro. Jolly, to whom we are indebted for reports generally from this district.

THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE AT ROCHDALE.

The second annual performance, given by the brethren of Rochdale and district, in aid of the above Charities, took place in the Theatre Royal, in the before mentioned town, on the 22nd ult. Last year the handsome sum of £44 was realised, and this year no effort has been spared to make the performance equally successful. A dispensation being granted for Craft and Royal Arch, the brethren appeared in full regalia, and the dress circle (for which the whole of the seats had been secured about a week previously) presented one of the most brilliant pictures ever seen in this Temple of Thespis. The pit and other parts of the house, too, were well filled by a very respectable audience. The first piece selected this year was a romantic drama called "Mystery." The chief personage in the plot is Sir Phillip Deverell, who in early life was known as Percival Dalton, an impostor and a forger. In order to obtain possession of some forged bills, he murders Charles Franklin, a banker's son, who is journeying to London to place the bills in the hands of the police. His crime, however, is a fruitless one, as the bills are not secured by the murderer. Suspicion falls upon George Alymer (who was heard to threaten deceased), and who has since left the neighbourhood. The real murderer is at length discovered by Sir Phillip's confession while in a somnambulist state. *Madge Babbington* also plays an important part in the plot, as the former mistress of the baronet when he was Percival Dalton, and who follows him about in disguise. Bro. James Meadowcroft, as Sir Phillip, looked the part to perfection, and when it is remembered that this was his first appearance on the stage, and that the part is one requiring a large amount of dramatic ability, his debut may be pronounced a decided success. His cool assurance when he meets with his old companion in sin—*Dan Medlicott*—was well sustained; in the subsequent quarrel about the terms of secrecy he was quite equal to the occasion; and in the closing scene where the involuntary confession is overheard his acting was greeted with hearty rounds of approbation. If there was any fault to be found, it was in occasionally allowing his voice to fall to too low a pitch, and a certain lack of dignified repose so essential to stage effect: he would do well to study these points for his next appearance. *Medlicott*, a bill discounter, was remarkably well personated by Bro. E. T. Fletcher, who added to the laurels he won last year as the *Marquis* in the "Wonderful Woman." His free and easy style of utterance, with an occasional outburst of dramatic declamation, combined with his general stage deportment, was quite in keeping with the character, and proved most conclusively that he must have devoted much careful study to the part. Bro. James Dearden, a very popular amateur actor, scored another great success as the retired soap and candle merchant, *Montgomery Brown*; his comicalities when he essays to ape the manners of the "hupper" classes, together with the difficulties he experiences in trying to accustom himself to the wearing of tight collars and boots, and more especially when he sees the supposed ghost, excited the risibility of the audience to the utmost. Bro. Charles Collingwood made a very graceful and gentlemanly *George Alymer*; and, with a little more stage experience, Bro. Pickering, who played *Charles*, would make a very acceptable juvenile amateur artist. Bro. Wm. Swift undertook the banker, *Franklin*, and had he played the part as happily as he looked it, we should have had his success to chronicle amongst the rest. His chief fault lay in not being thoroughly conversant with his part, and in being almost inaudible—a very general fault amongst amateur actors. One of the best impersonations of the evening was that of *Sparrow*, a banker's clerk and would-be detective, by Bro. Roberts; his acting throughout was most energetic and life-like, and he was frequently rewarded with unanimous applause. To the ladies (daughters of Masons) we can conscientiously award the highest praise. It would be difficult to imagine a more striking conception of the part of the injured and noble-hearted *Madge Babbington* than that given by Miss Lillian Myers; her scenes with *Phillip Deverell* were pictures of the highest histrionic excellence. *Lucy Franklin* was beautifully, and occasionally very pathetically, expressed by Mrs. D. Moses; and as Mrs. Brown, who found the aspirated "h" a great difficulty in her otherwise glib utterance, Mrs. B. H. Lyons won a large share of the honours of the evening. Bro. Davies, who, although he only played the minor part of *James*, the servant, seemed to throw heart and soul into his expression. At the fall of the curtain the whole of the artistes were honoured with a flattering recall. The afterpiece was the farce of "Intrigue," and in this Bros. Collingwood and Fletcher and Mrs. Moses kept the house in a continual titter of pleasure. Here again, Bro. Dearden was thoroughly in his element as *Tom*, the innkeeper, and his robust manner, together with his excellent "bye-play," stamped him as an amateur possessed of more than ordinary talent. It is expected that something like £40 will be realised by the performance.

Obituary.

BRO. THOMAS PRICE.

We regret to announce the death on the 24th ult., at his residence, New Cross-road, of Bro. Thomas Price, formerly of Clifford's Inn, Past Master of the Industry Lodge, No. 186. Bro. Price was initiated in this lodge sixteen years ago, and immediately devoted himself with great energy to accomplish the working of the ceremonies. In this he rapidly succeeded, and he then went through the various offices of his lodge till he attained the distinguished position of Worshipful Master. Bro. Price had been in failing health for some months before his death, but a fatal termination of his illness was not expected so soon. Bro. Price died in his 66th year.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS combine both sanative and sanative powers in a high degree—by the former term is understood their ability to preserve health, by the latter their capability to restore health. With these remedies at hand, no invalid need be at fault to guide himself or herself safely through the many trials to which every one is subjected during our long and oft-times inclement winters. Coughs, colds, ulcerated throats, whooping cough, can be successfully treated by well rubbing this Ointment upon the chest and by taking the Pills. During damp, foggy weather asthmatical sufferers will experience the most possible relief from the inunction of the Ointment, and all tender-chested persons will save endless misery by adopting this treatment.—[Advrt.]

Reviews.

THE ODES, &c., OF HORACE. Eighth Edition. Translated into English Verse by JOHN CONINGTON. G. Bell and Sons, York-street, Covent-Garden, London. This translation of our old and valued friend Horace has reached an eighth edition. It says a good deal, we think, for the good taste of the English reading public and the value and merits of the translation itself. We are not, indeed, among those who are blind to some faults which may be fairly alleged against Professor Conington's rendering of Horace's condensed meanings and pleasant measures. As Mr. Conington truly says in the preface, it is after all "translating the untranslatable." It seems almost impossible adequately to render the concise and compact Latin, and words are forgotten or meanings are sacrificed, either to suit the looser demands of an English paraphrase, or the claims of the imperative rhythm. Still Mr. Conington's translation has many excellences, and has made, and will yet make, many friends. As an illustration of what we mean, we will take a very familiar instance—

"O Venus, Regina Gnidi Paphique,
Sperne dilectam Cypron, et vocantis
Thure te multo Glycerea decoram,
Transfer in ædem."

Conington thus renders these well-meaning and tripping words—

"Come Cridian, Paphian Venus, come,
Thy well-beloved Cyprus spurn;
Hasten, where for thee in Glycera's home
Sweet odours burn."

Lord Ravensworth thus gives it—

"Oh! Queen of Paphos, goddess bright,
Leave thy beloved Isles, and come
Where clouds of incense thee invite
To Glycera's congenial home."

It will be noted by the accurate scholar that both translations, however well conceived and carried out, fail to give us the full force of the striking original. Lord Ravensworth does not impart to his lines the effect of "transfer" by "come"; "genial" is not the true meaning of "decoram," and "invite" is hardly the explanation of "vocantis," the more so, as it is not really that the "clouds of incense invite" but Glycera, and in a ceremonial sense. It is, however, poetry, and we must make allowances. Mr. Conington misses equally the true meaning of "transfer," he leaves out all allusion to "decoram," which has a meaning, and his "sweet odours burn" is hardly a fitting representation of "et vocantis thure te multo Glycerea," &c. This shows us how difficult it really is often, if not always, to give in a translation the intenser vigour of the original version. Let us take another specimen, well known to many of our readers—

"Diffugere nives; redeunt jam gramina campis,
Arboribusque Comæ;
Mutat terra vices; et decrescentia ripas
Flumina prætereunt;
Gratia cum Nymphis geminisque Sororibus audet
Ducere nuda choros.
Immortalia ne speres, monet Annus, et alium
Quæ rapit Hora diem."

Lord Ravensworth thus translates these words, so familiar to some of us in school boy days—

"The winter snows have fled, the grassy lea
Grows green, and foliage decks the tree;
Earth feels the change, within their banks the rills
Diminished trickle from the hills.
With zones unbound, the nymphs and graces dare
To frolic in the vernal air;
Do then take warning by the fleeting year,
Nor hope for joys immortal here."

Mr. Conington's rendering is as follows—

"The snow is fled, the trees their leaves put on,
The fields their green;
Earth miss the change, and rivers lessening run
Their banks between.
Naked the nymphs and graces in the meads
The dance essay;
'No scaping death' proclaims the year that speeds
The sweet spring day."

This, no doubt, is a very literal and effective rendering of some well-known poem of always genial and pleasant Horace. We think, however, that Mr. Conington in his bolder rendering of "naked" has overrun the poet's idea, which was "lightly clothed" on account of the departure of winter and the approach of spring. Lord Ravensworth has no authority for "zone unbound," and "frolic" is not the best rendering for "ducere choros." Thus it is always somewhat difficult to "translate," though, we admit, it is much easier to criticize than to write at all. But, we repeat, we have read the book with pleasure, and can recommend it cordially to all Horatian students amongst us.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

MORIN IN 1766.

The minute of the Grand Lodge of France in 1766 (there being an error of terms in my last) was handed to me some years ago by Bro. Kenneth Mackenzie, who took it from Kloss's "Geschichte der Freimaurerei in Frankreich," vol. 11, pp. 399, 401, and was extracted by Bro. Leblanc de Marconay, 33°, Orator of the Chamber and Court of Appeal, Paris, 1852. As Bro. Mackenzie is a German scholar he will perhaps tell us more about it before we offer further remarks thereon. The minute is well known to some of the American opponents of the Ancient and Accepted Rite; but of late years I have not studied this literature.

JOHN YARKER.

RITE OF MEMPHIS.

In writing the article for "How," the amount of space allowed me was limited, and I was obliged to condense; hence I see I have been misunderstood, and which I will proceed to explain. The A. and P. Rite terms Craft Masonry "York Masonry," because the old Craft Constitutions attribute the origin of all Craft Masonry to an ancient assembly at York, therefore, I used the term York Rite as synonymous with Craft Masonry. But speaking especially of York, I admit that there are no Templar re-

cords prior to 1780, but as it was a conservative body revived I look upon it as probable that the Degrees existed there before that Grand Lodge fell into abeyance. There is mention of the Arch Degree as being practised at York in 1743 in D'Assigny's work, and though the mention cannot be taken as conclusive proof of the actual existence of the Arch Degree at York in 1743, yet I think we may accept the position for want of better proof, and that hence the Templar and Templar Priest or Knight of the Tabernacle existed there also at the same time; for I hold to the position that they were established together, but I admit that we cannot prove this by absolute documentary evidence, and have only tradition (which is worth something) to fall back upon. Nor is it probable that the four higher Degrees were established at York, the probability lies with London, but York accepted the Degrees. This tradition was embodied on old Templar Priest certificates (an old Degree in Ireland) as the "year of revival or 1686." This tradition is proved to my satisfaction by the language of 1721 in "Long Livers," which you republished some years ago in the "Masonic Magazine." It is idle to talk about the existence of an Hermetic Degree as Alchemical connected with English Masonry in 1721; there was nothing of the kind. I embodied the result of several years' study of the Rosicrucian books in my "Speculative Freemasonry," and to my mind the language of 1721 admits only of one explanation, namely, that the alchemical jargon was there employed to describe the three existing higher Degrees of 1686, and that the writer, perhaps Dr. Mead, well understood the mode in which his Rosicrucian predecessors had used that jargon to describe religious and theosophical subjects. Moreover, as one who has pored over old rituals, I can well understand that language as applied to the Arch, Templar, and Templar Priest, the most ancient of English High Grades, and it can be interpreted in no other manner. Hence "Masonic Student" will see that he has merely misunderstood my language, and is arguing against misconception. Now as to the Continental Rites, it seems to me that as "Masonic Student" is raising difficulties which he cannot solve himself, he cannot expect me to do it, off hand. The connection of the old Rite of Memphis with the Primitive Philadelphus and Philaethes, and its first establishment at Montauban in 1814, rests on the statement of Jacques Etienne Marconis, who states that he held the Archives of the 1814 Lodge, and I see no reason whatever to disbelieve his statement. He died in 1863 at the age of seventy-four years, hence he was born in 1794; there is, therefore, nothing impossible in his having been a member of the Montauban Body in 1814 and 1816, or in his having revived them, as he asserts he did, in 1838 at Paris. I have translated nearly the whole of his works for my own gratification, and have received more advantage from them than I should like to admit in your pages. I am certain that he is a truthful man, and he obligated all Masonic candidates to respect the truth in all things; but I must also admit that his mind was mystical and imaginative, and perhaps too dogmatic in his assertion that all Masonry is derived from the mysteries of the Egyptians, and this fault I have toned down where I could do so without altering the essentials of his rite. This was a fault which he was unable to correct because of his Oriental blood, for the minds of all Orientals are intuitively mystical, their nerves are more sensitive to impressions, hence they have certain faculties of perception which we duller Westerns do not possess, and they are, moreover, often right in matters where we are metaphysically wrong because of the more acute nervous organization of their minds.

JOHN YARKER.

ROYAL ARCH LAWS.

The "Masonic Student" opened the "ball," by referring to the laws of the Royal Arch A.D. 1782, and Bro. J. H. Neilson (the *Masonic Student* of Ireland) followed, by furnishing a transcript of the title of an original copy in his library. Bro. T. B. Whytehead, our able Northern Masonic luminary, has completed the *trio* by giving the title of another edition published in 1778 (A.D. 1782). The last mentioned is the *first* edition, A.D. 1782 is the *second*, and these were the only two issued prior to the Union of the two Grand Chapters under H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex as Grand Z. Those of 1778 and 1782 were for the Grand Chapter of the "Moderns," and are scarce and valuable publications. Bro. R. F. Gould, S.G.D., has proved that this Grand Chapter was formed in 1765, being a year earlier than I had thought. Though never officially recognised by the "Moderns," it was *virtually* so, as many of the chief members of the Craft were connected with it, from the Grand Masters downwards. It was doubtless started as a rival to the "Ancients," and so to enable the brethren of the "Moderns" to have a Royal Arch of their own.

W. J. HUGHAN.

LAURENCE DERMOTT.

Bro. Whytehead will find a brief outline of Dermott's career at p. 1 of my "Atholl Lodges." The dates cited were obtained from official records, and I subjoin *one* of my authorities for the statement that the Grand Secretary of the "Seceders" was born in 1720:—*G.L. Minutes—Ancients*, June, 24th, 1761:—"The D.G.M. proposed that the G.S. shall be toasted with the number of his years. Unanimously agreed that Laurence Dermott, Esq., Grand Secretary, shall be Drank in form with 39, being now in the 39th year of his Age—Which was accordingly done."

In a footnote, in the handwriting of Laurence Dermott, appears:—"The Secretary was in the 41st year of his age."

R. F. GOULD.

Red Cross of Constantine.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GENERAL GRAND CONCLAVE.

The annual assembly was holden on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street. Present: Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, on the throne; Very Illustrious Sir Knights H. C. Levander, M.A., Grand Treas., as Grand Viceroy; Cuthbert E. Peek, Int. Gen. for Cambridgeshire, as Grand Sen. Gen.; W. Roebuck, Grand Orator, as Grand Junior Gen.; Rev. P. M. Holden, Grand High Prelate; John Mason, Grand High Chancellor; W. R. Woodman, M.D., Grand Recorder; Thos. Cubitt, Grand High Almoner; J. Lewis Thomas, Grand Historiographer; Very Eminent Sir Knights: H. A.

Dubois, Grand Prefect; C. F. Hogard, Grand Assistant Recorder; E. H. Thiellay, Grand Standard Bearer; A. R. Robinson, Grand Herald; Most Eminent Sir Knight Captain Charles Hunter, Grand Viceroy of Scotland, who was received with the honours of his rank; Illustrious Sir Knight C. F. Matier, Int. General; also Sir Knight Major S. W. Taylor, R.A., Hydaspes, No. 53, India; Sir Knights R. Rintoul, P.S., No. 1, Scotland; H. Blake, No. 1; Thos. Massa, No. 1; M. Sigismund, No. 2; William Stephens, No. 2A; A. Haynes, Prov. G. Reg. (West Lancashire); John Gilbert, Grand Janitor; and other Sir Knights.

The lines having been formed the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, attended by the Grand Officers, entered the Grand Conclave, which was then opened in imperial form, and with solemn prayer to the Omnipotent Ruler of the Universe.

The GRAND RECORDER then read the following report of the Executive Committee:

Since the last General Assembly of Grand Conclave four new conclaves have been formed: the Pretorium, No. 139, Dinapore, Bengal, E. Indies; the Burdett, No. 140, Dunedin, N. Zealand; the Vignacourt, No. 141, Malta; and the St. Louis and St. Cyprian, No. 142, Tunis—the three last during the past six months. Several conclaves which had ceased working have resumed, and are making such returns as bid fair for future success. In consequence of the severance of America and Scotland, alluded to at our last assembly, the Order has not made those rapid strides which it has been our pleasure on previous occasions to announce.

Since our last General Assembly it has been our painful duty to record the heavy loss the Order has sustained in the lamented death of the Very Illustrious Grand Treasurer and acting Grand Recorder, Sir Knight Robert Wentworth Little, and the Most Illustrious Immediate Past Grand Sovereign, Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart. We also have to regret the death of two most devoted and zealous members of the Order, Illustrious Sir Knight John Boyd, Grand High Almoner, and Illustrious Sir Knight Edward Amphlett, Intendant General for Cambridgeshire.

The Grand Recorder undertook the entire duties of his office on the 1st of June, at which date he issued a circular to all the conclaves; one only of these was returned through the post, and that was from the Rose of Sharon, Birmingham, No. 19 (no returns since 1874).

The statutes of the Order, which are being enquired for, require revision, and a new edition should be published under the auspices of the Executive Committee.

Since June 1st there have been issued Red Cross certificates 125; K.H.S. certificates 40. We have one conclave in the U.S. of America, the Chicago, No. 81, Chicago, Illinois, U.S. of A., which is recognised in due form by the Grand Council of England.

Our Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, Colonel Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., has been appointed Representative of the Grand Council of the United States of America at or near the Grand Council of England.

The Executive Council have great pleasure in announcing that the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign has most graciously consented to remain in office at their urgent request, he having the wellbeing of the Order far more at heart than his own personal convenience.

We rejoice to have this opportunity of congratulating our Grand Sovereign on his recent accession to the ancestral honours of his ancient house, and greet him accordingly as a Baronet of the United Kingdom.

(Signed) W. R. WOODMAN, Grand Recorder.

December 22nd, 1880.

This report was put to the meeting and duly confirmed.

The Grand Sovereign was then duly nominated, &c., and re-elected by acclamation, and the Grand Recorder, standing at the foot of the throne, proclaimed the Grand Sovereign by his style and titles, and he was duly saluted in imperial form.

After thanking the Grand Conclave most cordially for the confidence reposed in him, and expressing his devotion to the Order, the election of the Most Eminent Grand Viceroy was proceeded with, and the Hon. W. T. Orde-Powlett, Grand Senior General, was unanimously elected to fill that important office.

Sir Knight H. C. Levander was then unanimously elected as Illustrious Grand Treasurer, after which he informed Grand Conclave that he had a balance in hand to the account of the General Fund of £70 15s. 6d., and of the Grand Almoner's Fund £107 15s. 6d. The outstanding liabilities were under £10.

The G. and Council were then re-appointed, Sir Knight J. W. Ellison Macartney, M.P., to take the vacant place thereon, and eight Grand Senators. The above were appointed by the Grand Sovereign, and then ten other Grand Senators, who had been duly nominated for the office, were put to the meeting by the Grand Sovereign. Their names were read aloud by the Grand Recorder, and, there being the exact number required, they were all elected, making eighteen in all, and their names are as follows:

Eight for appointment by the Grand Sovereign:—

1. C. H. Rogers-Harrison.
2. G. Powell.
3. H. A. Dubois.
4. Rev. Ambrose W. Hall.
5. Rev. Canon Hartford.
6. George Kenning.
7. Lieut.-Col. Peters.
8. C. F. Hogard.

Ten for nomination and election by Grand Conclave:—

9. Charles Hammerton.
10. E. H. Thiellay.
11. Herbert Dicketts.
12. A. A. Pendlebury.
13. A. R. Robinson.
14. G. A. Rooks.
15. J. T. Moss.
16. D. M. Dewar.
17. T. J. Walls.
18. George Parker Brockbank.

Sir Kts. H. A. Dubois and C. F. Hogard were then elected to fill the vacancies on the Executive Committee and Sir Knt. Hogard to fill the vacancy on the G.H. Almoner's Fund Committee.

Sir Kt. JOHN MASON, G.H. Ch., proposed that a sum of twenty guineas be given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on the ground that all former grants had been made in favour of the Girls' School. Before this was

seconded, it was proposed that a sum of thirty guineas should be given to the Masonic Charities; this was seconded and carried unanimously.

Letters were received from Sir Kt. the Honourable W. T. Orde-Powlett, G. Sen. Gen., expressing his regret at not being able to be present, owing to severe illness in his family, and from Sir Kt. the Hon. Richard W. H. Giddy, Intend. Gen. for South Africa, who was prevented from attending from severe indisposition. Letters of apology for non-attendance were also received from Jersey (Capt. de Seelaar, and others), Leicester, York, (Sir Kts. Whytehead and Cumberland), Bristol, Gloucester (Sir Kt. Capt. Irwin, Int. Gen.), Southampton, Portsmouth, Liverpool (Major Turner Int. Gen. for West Lancashire), Weston, and many other places. Also from Colonel E. C. Malet de Carteret, Int. Gen. for Jersey, Sir Kts. D. M. Dewar, Int. Gen.; C. H. Rogers-Harrison, F.R.C.S., G. Preceptor, also from Sir Kt. George Toller, jun., P.G.S.B. England, D.P.G. Master Leicestershire, G. Chamberlain, who reports the conclave at Leicester working regularly and well attended, and their financial position satisfactory, and that they have contributed twenty-five guineas to the Charities, whilst local claims have not been neglected, and with a balance left in the hands of the Treasurer.

The Grand Conclave was then closed in imperial form, and the meeting was then adjourned to march in the ensuing year.

The banquet was presided over by the G. Sovereign, the G. Treas. taking the vice-chair. The honour of proposing the toast of the evening fell to the G. Recorder, the G. Sovereign receiving an ovation for his universal kindness and urbanity, and the zeal and ability with which he had so long ruled the Order.

TUNIS.—St. Louis and St. Cyprian Conclave (No. 142).—This conclave was opened at Tunis, in North Africa, on the 17th ult., by E. Sir K. A. M. Broadley, D.I. General of Tunis and Malta. Several candidates having been received, the M.P.S. consecrated Sir K. Capt. R. A. Johnstone as Viceroy E., and appointed Sir Kts. Thomas F. Reade, P.M. 1068, P.D.D.G.M. Egypt, S.G.; Achilles Perini, M.D., P.M. 1717, J.G.; Commander W. M. Bridger, R.N., H.P.; P. Q. Puliga, LL.D., Recorder; and S. Sessing, Prefect. The conclave was then duly closed, and it was announced that the St. Augustine Sanctuary, H.S., and Commandery of St. John would be worked at an early date.

Scotland.

At a meeting of the St. John's Lodge, No. 111, held on Thursday, the 23rd ult., the following brethren were elected as office-bearers for the ensuing year, and duly installed by P.M. Bro. A. D. Turnbull: Bros. William Caldwell, R.W.M.; G. M. Campbell, D.M.; Robert Hunter, S.M.; W. P. Fisher, S.W.; James Sharp, J.V.; R. Burns, Sec.; A. S. Lawson, Treas.; Rev. John Thomson, Chap.; Dr. Brydon, M.D.; Robert Hunter, Bard; C. Williamson, S.D.; Robert Elliot, J.D.; John Fairley, I.D.G.; William Waldie, Tyler; D. Lawrie and A. Grievie, Stewards; James Rutherford, B.D.; and R. Rodgers, S.B.

A great number of the brethren assembled in full Masonic costume at the lodge room, for the purpose of celebrating St. John's Festival, and, having been formed into order, had a torchlight procession through the principal streets of the town, headed by the volunteer band, after which they went to St. John's Church. The imposing array was witnessed, as usual, by a great number of the public, the streets being lined on both sides by both young and old.

Bro. Rev. J. THOMSON, Chaplain of the lodge, addressed the assembly from the text, John iii., 18: "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth." After referring to his travels in the East, and speaking of his visit to Ephesus, to the Church of St. John, the grave of Mary, mother of Jesus, and to Diana and the Great Temple of Ephesus, he said love was the best and noblest law; in fact, they might truly say all law was summed up in one word—"love." In the Bible the Freemasons and all Christians found a perfect code of duty; not a single duty was omitted. From Genesis to Revelations the law for true worshippers was complete. By Moses the whole duty was reduced to Ten Commandments. These ten were reduced to two by the Great Teacher. The question, "Master, which is the great commandment of the law?" was well answered by the following words, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind." That was the first and great commandment, and the second was like unto it—"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." On these two Commandments hung all the law and the prophets. "They had two objects, but one law, viz.—love. Love to God and love to man. One law for both, simply love. Love was the fulfilling of the law. That was the great want of the world, the great want of each home, the great want of each heart—simply love, pure holy love. Well did Pollock sing—

"Hail! holy love, that word that sums all bliss, gives and receives all bliss, fullest when most thou givest; spring-head of all felicity;"

and Carlyle say—

There is a comfort in the strength of love,
'Twill make a thing endurable,
What else would overset the brain or break the heart;

and Tennyson—

I hold it true whate'er befall,
I feel it when I sorrow most,
'Tis better to have loved and lost,
Than never to have loved at all;

and Byron—

Love is old,
Old as eternity, but not outworn
With each new being born or to be born;

and Cowper—

Affection lights a brighter flame
Than ever blazed by art;

and Sir Walter Scott—

True love's the gift which God hath given
To man alone beneath the heaven;

and Lamb—

Man while he loves is never quite depraved,
And women's triumph is a lover saved.

These quotations might be multiplied a thousand times, but

enough had been said to impress upon their minds the value of love. Well did the apostle declare, "Now abideth Faith, Hope, Charity (or love), but the greatest of these is love." Great talents, great learnings, exquisite refinement, the most cultured taste, happiest manners, and the sweetest voice and temper, all had their value, but if the individual had no heart, no love, no friendship, he must be cold, and worthless, and perhaps even vile and mean. The world eagerly asked for greatness, great gifts, great acquirements, great abilities, great knowledge, great philosophers, but it was doubtful if their influence was always for good. Great ability was very apt to make men vain, haughty, and selfish. They were apt to despise all beneath their elevated circle, very different with the wise, the good, the humane, and the tender-hearted—they honoured all men. Love was always lowly, it ever esteemed others better than themselves. They that were guided by the mystic love of Freemasonry tried to find the good and true everywhere, among the poor as well as among the untaught. They taught and desired to practise the valuable part too much forgotten. All needed forbearance, all needed charity, all demanded loving looks, loving words, and loving actions. Suppose the jubilee of the world to begin in 1881, what was required for a consummation so devoutly to be wished? Simply, solely, and entirely the reign of love. Universal love. A great wave of love from the Eternal Throne would make a blessed heaven here below. Wars would cease, bitterness and strife would come to an end; once more the angelic host would sing over a ransomed world, "Glory to God in the highest." Christianity and the Craft, the Church and the Freemasons, agreed in the world needed aspirations.

Breathe, O breathe upon humanity
The spirit of love and good-will;
Breathe, O great Creator, upon Thy handiwork
The much-needed gift of charity;
Breathe upon all mankind peace and love,
Then we may stand erect in self-respect,
And share the teeming world together,
Blessed love for God is love.

The rev. gentleman concluded his address by quoting the words of St. John in his old age, to love one another that all might be well, and exhorted them to adopt the advice.

The brethren then proceeded from the church by way of Wilton, Buccleuch-street, and Beaconsfield-terrace, to the Masonic Hall, where a sumptuous repast, supplied by Bro. Wm. Kennedy, Crown Hotel, in his usual excellent style, was partaken of. After the cloth was removed, the usual loyal, patriotic, and Masonic toasts were heartily responded to. During the course of the evening a handsome Master Mason's jewel, together with a purse of sovereigns, was presented to Bro. Wm. Caldwell, the R.W.M., in name of the brethren, to Bro. Wm. Waldie, the Tyler of the lodge, in recognition of his long and valuable services as such, and on the occasion of his attaining his fiftieth Masonic birthday.

Bro. W. CALDWELL, R.W.M., in making the presentation, referred to the many changes which had taken place in the social and political world during the last half century, and sketched at some length the progress which the lodge had made during that period. He also congratulated the brethren on the ready manner in which subscriptions had been given for that testimonial, which was a proof of their respect for Bro. Waldie, who they were all proud of having as a member of the 111, he being the last of the members of the old lodge now amongst them, and the connecting link between the Lodge of 1830 and that of 1880. He also impressed upon the younger brethren the necessity of constant attendance, and mentioned that during the long time Bro. Waldie had been a Freemason he had never been out of office, but had nobly and faithfully performed whatever duty the lodge called upon him to fulfil. In conveying the testimonials to Bro. Waldie, Bro. Caldwell asked him to accept them as a mark of respect from the lodge on the occasion of his fiftieth Masonic birthday, and a humble acknowledgment of the many valuable services he had rendered to the lodge, and concluded by expressing a hope that although he was now past the allotted span of life in this world—three score years and ten—he might be still spared for many years to come to fill the office which he had so ably filled for the last twenty years.

An original composition by the bard proposing the health of the Tyler was thereafter sung by Bro. Thomas Scott, and responded to with great enthusiasm. Bro. WYLDIE very feelingly and appropriately replied. The jewel bore a suitable inscription.

Mr. ROBERT HUNTER, Bard, recited the following original poem:

TEVIOTDALE.

How bright are thy waters, thou fair flowing Teviot,
When summer delights thee with fragrance and flowers,
And nature combines all her art and her beauty
To twine for thy borders her loveliest bowers;
O where is the stream can compare to the Teviot,
For brightness, and beauty, and sweet flowing song.
Endeared by each story that wreaths it in glory,
It gladdens the soul as it murmurs along.
But brighter by far than thy flowers or thy fountains,
And dearer, a thousand times dearer, I ween,
Is the glad song of peace that thy woodlands re-echo,
And flows broad and deep through thy valleys so green;
O Peace! sacred trust, may we guard thee for ever,
And watch o'er thy keeping with miserly care,
Thou nation's best treasure, in thee there is pleasure
Unstained and ennobling, unfading and fair.
How changed since the time when thy valleys, fair Teviot,
Re-echoed thy slogan in wild warlike glee,
While fast from each fortress, all eager for onset,
The sons of the mighty dashed fearless and free;
Aye foremost wert thou where the fight raged the fiercest,
Where laurels were winning thy sons led the way,
Upholding their order, the pride of the Border,
Mid brave deeds of valour unequalled were they.
And now when the sword is at rest in the scabbard,
And hushed is thy slogan so stirring and bold,
Thy sons, O fair Teviot, would still be the foremost,
As e'en were their fathers in brave days of old—
The foremost in kindness in grace and in charity,
Foremost in all that ennoble the soul,
The foremost Freemason that grand time to hasten
When Peace o'er the world triumphant shall roll.

Old Matured Wines and Spirits.—J. E. SHAND & Co., Wine Merchants (Experts and Valuers), 2, Albert Mansions, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Price lists on application.—[Adv.]

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CRICHTON LODGE (No. 1641).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday, the 18th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, when the following brethren were present: Bros. Thos. Gardiner, W.M.; Robert J. Voisey, S.W.; S. H. Goldschmidt, J.W.; J. H. Maunder, Org.; David Mercer, Treas.; Thomas Weeks, Sec.; Thomas E. Heller, S.D.; David Mercer, J.D.; Perceval A. Nairn, P.M., D.C.; William Baker, I.G.; Richard Greenwood and H. A. Stunt, Stewards; George Harrison, Tyler; Thomas Griffiths, P.M.; Andrew Middlemass, P.M.; R. Stokoe, R. Vincent, J. Cross, T. Roe, H. Baker, George King, G. Hamilton, E. Janau, W. W. Cooper, M. Neville, R. Sykes, W. H. Kirby, W. T. Pink, J. Dallison, G. Collins, W. Briant, F. Calmady, Richardson, Thomas, Nettleship, J. Faulkner, and H. Maidment. Visitors: Bros. W. Ough, P.G.P.; Moritz Silbermann, P.G.D.P. of Grand Lodge of Turkey; H. Vickery, P.M. 1622; A. Bradley, W.M. Leopold; W. Cass, P.M. 1658; W. Clanson Thue, I.P.M. 1622; the Rev. H. D. Pearson, and forty other distinguished Masons. The minutes were read and signed, after which Bro. Robert H. Voisey was installed as W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. Gardiner in a most able manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. Goldschmidt, S.W.; Heller, J.W.; Mercer, Treas.; Weeks, Sec.; Mercer, S.D.; W. Baker, J.D.; Nairn, D.C.; Greenwood, I.G.; Stunt and Stokoe, Stewards; and Harrison, Tyler. The W.M. then initiated four candidates—Mr. H. Hardman, Mr. F. Kerry, Mr. V. Murché, and Mr. Charles H. Stone. The working of the newly-installed W.M. deserves especial commendation. After labour came refreshment, when Bro. Gardiner, I.P.M., was presented with a chaste and valuable P.M.'s jewel suspended from a clasp bearing the arms of the Admirable Crichton.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—Lodge of Industry (No. 48).—The December regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 27th ult., at the rooms, No. 34, Denmark-street. There was not a numerous attendance of members, the counter attractions and Christmas festivities occupying their attention. The lodge was opened in due form, shortly after seven o'clock p.m., by the W.M., Bro. John Wood, assisted by his officers as follows: Bros. R. Whitfield, I.P.M.; M. Corbitt, P.M., as S.W.; E. Liddell, J.W.; E. W. Middlemast, Sec.; John Moulst, S.D.; C. B. Ford, as J.D.; F. C. Nicholson, as Org.; R. T. Swallow, I.G.; and Joshua Curry, Tyler. The members and visitors comprised Bros. D. Sinclair, P.M.; R. Tate, J. T. Hedley, W. Towers, J. Ivion, John Page, I.P.M. 409; J. Cook, P.M. 481; John Usher, I.P.M. 481; C. B. Ford, 481; T. Dinning, J.S. 481; E. A. Gibson, 424; R. Wightman, W.M. 541; and W. Smith, J.W. 1342.

The minutes of last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for two subscribing members, who were properly elected. A petition to the Lodge of Benevolence was agreed to, and afterwards signed by the members present. Bro. W. B. Slee tendered his resignation as a member, which was accepted. A candidate for initiation was then proposed, and the lodge closed, at 8.15 p.m. The brethren present adjourned to the refreshment room, and enjoyed themselves for the remainder of the evening with the usual Masonic toasts and songs.

CHELTENHAM.—Foundation Lodge (No. 82).—The installation festival of the above lodge, which has the distinction of being the only "centenary" lodge in the province, having been founded in 1753, took place at the Masonic Hall, on Monday the 27th ult., St. John's Day. The festival possessed more than ordinary interest from the fact that the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., P.M. 10, P.G.W. of Eng., was present as the Grand Master nominate of the Province, and with Bro. the Rev. C. Raikes Davy, P.G. Chap., was the guest of the Baron de Ferrieres, M.P., the W.M. elect of the lodge. The lodge was opened in due form at half-past five o'clock, there being present Bros. W. Anslow Sole, W.M.; J. Bubb, Prov. G.S.D., P.M.; the Baron de Ferrieres, P. Provincial G.R., W.M. elect, S.W.; Colonel Basevi, P.P.G.R., P. Dy. D.G.M., Punjab, J.W.; J. Walker, M.A., P. Provincial S.G.W. Treasurer; the Rev. H. Kynaston, Provincial G. Chap.; F. Ticehurst, Secretary; J. Pearson, S.D.; the Rev. J. Churchill Baxter, J.D.; C. S. Atkins, I.G.; J. A. Matthews, Organist; G. F. Newmarch, P.M. 82 and 592, P.P.D.G.M. Gloucestershire; H. Godfrey, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; T. J. Cottle, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; L. Winterbotham, P.M., P.P.G.R.; James B. Winterbotham, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; W. R. Porcher, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; the Rev. H. E. Bayly, P.M., P.P.G.C.; Sir W. Brook-Kay, Bart.; Rev. T. M. Middlemore-Whithead, Rev. C. M. Moore, Col. Hannay, Dr. W. R. Smith, Owen Lloyd, E. W. Godfrey, Prowde Smith, and T. A. Hope.

Among the visitors present, in addition to the two distinguished Past Officers of Grand Lodge already named, were Bros. T. Taynton, P.M. 839, Prov. S.G.W.; J. L. Butler, Prov. G.J.D., W.M. 246; E. Kimber, W.M. 702; E. J. Gregory, W.M. and W.M. elect 900; H. Jeffs, P. Prov. G.S.D., W.M. 1005; S. Moss, P.M. 493; Clement Tudway, P.M. 562, P. Prov. G.D.C.; E. Crossman, P.M. 1363; J. Balcomb, P.M. 246, P. Prov. G.S.W.; H. D. Martin; J. C. Kay, S.W. 284; R. A. Matthews, S.W. 493; J. Davies, S.W. 1067; Stephens, P.M. 1005, P. Prov. G.D.C.; J. F. Stoney, 246; T. Drinkwater, 246; J. R. Elliott, S.W. 522; A. B. Sole, 859; W. R. Felton, J.W. 246; J. L. Hamilton, 379; and others.

Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach and Bro. Davy were received with the honours due to their high rank in the Craft, and the W.M. elect having been presented by Bro. H. Godfrey, the ceremony of the evening was admirably performed by the W.M., Bro. Sole, who thus closed his second year of office by installing his successor. Bros. Porcher, P.M., and James Winterbotham, P.M., occupied the Wardens' chairs. After installation, Bro. the Baron de Ferrieres appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Sole, I.P.M.; Col. Basevi, S.W.; F. Ticehurst, J.W.; J. Walker, P.M., Treasurer; Rev. H. Kynaston, Chap.; J. Pearson, Secretary; the Rev. Churchill Baxter, S.D.; C. S. Atkins, J.D.; Prowde Smith, I.G.; H.

Godfrey, P.M., D.C.; J. Walker and Atkins, Stewards; Matthews, Organist; and H. Phillips, Tyler. Letters of apology for absence were read from Bros. Brook-Smith, Prov. G.T.; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.; and Gwinnett, P.M., Senior G.W. of the Province, the announcement of whose indisposition was received with much regret by the brethren.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet served by Bro. Phillips. One of the toasts of the evening was that of "Provincial Grand Lodge," proposed from the chair. The W.M., in proposing it, congratulated the province on Bro. Sir Michael's acceptance of the office of G.M., as a worthy successor of R.W. Bro. Lord Sherborne; and, in acknowledging the toast, Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that with his many public engagements he should have hesitated to accept the high honour to which H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. had designated him, but the kindly encouragement and assurances that had been extended to him, especially by brethren between whom and himself the widest political differences existed outside the lodge room, were such that he could not decline it. He had received the kindest letters from those most strongly opposed to him in opinion; and were other considerations of no weight with him, he should be ungrateful indeed if he did not strive to take a lesson from those who had thus so generously encouraged and greeted him. In the heat and strife of political life it was pleasant to feel that they could meet in lodge free from all political feeling and influences, and he asked to be excused this one reference to a subject usually unmentioned among Masons, in order that he might make the acknowledgment he had done. Having accepted the high honour, he should strive to walk in the footsteps of his predecessor, and discharge it worthily. Following a Mason like Lord Sherborne, he undoubtedly felt great diffidence as to his own ability, but with his lordship's example to guide him, and relying on the indulgence and support of the brethren, and his own desire to promote the interest of the county and province, he hoped the charge would not suffer in his hands. The Prov. G.M.'s reception was especially cordial, as was that also of the retiring D.G.M., Bro. Newmarch, who heartily congratulated the province on the G.M.'s appointment. He referred also to the great progress which Masonry had made in Gloucestershire since it was constituted a Province under Lord Sherborne, and paid a warm tribute to the zealous interest his lordship had shown in the welfare of the Craft.

STOCKPORT.—St. John's Lodge (No. 104).

—The annual installation festival of this lodge was held on Monday, the 13th ult., at Ashton House, Greek-street, when Bro. Thomas Burrows, the W.M. elect, was inducted into the chair of the lodge, in the presence of as numerous and brilliant an assembly of the Craft as was ever witnessed in this old and celebrated lodge. Owing to a pressure of business on the agenda, the day's proceedings commenced with a morning session at ten o'clock a.m., when Bro. Henry Collier, P.G.O., the retiring W.M., completed his very successful year of office by initiating two candidates into the Order, and a third brother, hailing from Natal, who is taking his Masonic Degrees whilst on a visit to this country, was advanced a stage by Bro. C. Pearson, P.M., Sec. The more important business of the day, viz., the installation of the W.M. elect and investiture of officers, was commenced at the afternoon session, half-past two p.m. The Installing Master was Bro. Beresford, P.M., P.P.S. G.D. Cheshire, who was assisted in the investiture of officers by Bro. Finch, P.M., P.G.D.C., and in the hands of these two expert Craftsmen it is needless to say that the work was ably done. The W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz: S. Warden, W. Booth; J. Warden, W. W. Sheldermine; Chap., Rev. John Crennell, M.A., P.M.; Treas., Major Francis Preston, C.E.; Sec., Charles Pearson, P.M.; S. Deacon, T. Bullock; J. Deacon, H. W. Mather; D. of Ceremonies, G. Naylor; Org., H. Collier, I.P.M., P.G.O.; I.G., E. Johnson; S.S., J. Fox; J.S., H. Seel; Tyler, J. Meadows, 322. In addition to the brethren already named, the following members of the lodge signed the attendance book, viz.: Bros. Lieut-Colonel S. W. Wilkinson, P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire; W. Harrison, P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire; Captain Turner, P.P.G.S.W. Derbyshire; W. Schofield, P.M.; J. Kirk, P.M.; T. Torkington, W. N. Wilson, M. B. Sutton, S. J. Abrams, John Bell, C. Clarkson, J. A. Pearson, A. G. Cumming, John Kearton, W. Gleave, John Roberts, G. F. Bowden, P.M. 336; T. Davis, Joseph Wood, Robert Fox, George Gaskill, A. A. Williams, and James Stafford. The list of visiting brethren included the names of Bros. G. W. Latham, P.G.D. of England, and P.G.S.W. Cheshire; Captain C. J. Howard, P.P.G.J.W. Cheshire; Edwin Hardon, P.P.S.G.D. East Lancashire; Dr. T. Smith, P.P.J.G.D. Cheshire; J. Chapman, P.P.J.G.D. Devonshire; J. C. Chetham, P.P.G.S.B. Cheshire; J. Slack, P.M. 323; J. Cookson, 104; A. E. Ferns, W.M. 1030; Col. F. B. Staples, I.P.M. 1030; G. L. Vaughan, S.W. 1030; J. Knott, W.M. 323; Oliver Coppock, 323 and 1253; Thomas Reed, 322 (*Cheshire County News*), E. J. Edmondson, 287; R. R. Lisenden, 317; W. Alcock, 322; Mark Stafford, P.M. 361; T. Wilkinson, P.M. 1126; Donald Ross, 1077; W. H. Peak, W.M. elect 993; L. D. Bradbury, W.M. 322; Dr. Goulden, 323; C. E. Austin, P.M. and Treasurer 1009; Isaac Wild, 703; H. Beresford, 830; J. Leigh, W.M. 287; and Stephen Robinson, 322.

At the close of the installation, Bro. Collier, the I.P.M., was presented by Bro. Burrows with a handsome P.M.'s jewel, which the brethren of the lodge had subscribed for. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Installing Officers for their services, and to Bro. Finch, P.M., for preparing the annual charity report of the lodge. This was a review of the work of St. John's, 104, in relation to Masonic Charity during the last five years, from which it appeared that the lodge and its members had contributed to the Institutions the sum of £321 7s., and in relief of local cases £148 16s. 10d., or a total of £470 3s. 10d., during the five years now ending. In response to an appeal made by Bro. Finch in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, of which he is a Steward, the W.M. stated his intention of endowing his chair with a Life Governorship of the Widows' Fund, and hoped a goodly list would be sent up by the brethren of St. John's, 104. After some other routine business had been disposed of the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the adjoining room, where a most sumptuous banquet had been prepared by Bro. J. Stafford, of the Nelson Hotel, Stockport, and to which about seventy sat

down. The cloth having been cleared, the W.M. gave the toasts of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen" and "The M.W. Grand Master of England, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and Earl of Chester, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," both of which were heartily responded to. Bro. H. Finch, P.G.D.C., proposed the toast of "The M.W. P. Grand Master of England, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon; the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom; and the other Grand Officers, Present and Past." This was a toast which was always received with the greatest cordiality in St. John's Lodge and in all other lodges. But it would be more cordially received in the lodge of St. John on the present occasion, inasmuch as it would be connected with the name of Bro. Latham, one of the Past Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. He was sure he was but speaking the sentiments of every brother around the festive board in saying they were delighted to see him amongst them. He could assure Bro. Latham that his kindness in coming to visit them, and the compliment he had paid them, would not soon be forgotten by the brethren of the Lodge of St. John. He could quite understand that to a brother like Bro. Latham, who spent the best part of his life in Masonry, the attending installation meetings must be somewhat tedious, but he trusted that they had not been too tedious on that occasion, and that Bro. Latham would carry away with him some pleasant recollections of the meeting. The Grand Officers deserved well of the Craft—that they add a lustre and dignity to our Order goes without saying. Let them look at the labours of the Deputy Grand Master of England. Notwithstanding that he was at the head of the largest province under the English Constitution, they found him one week assisting the Grand Master in laying the foundation-stone of a Cathedral at Truro, another week at the Crystal Palace, as chairman of the Royal Masonic Boys' School Festival, a third week travelling to a distant province, that of Durham, to instal the Marquis of Londonderry as Prov. Grand Master. Services like these commanded the thanks of every brother of the Craft. It would be impossible to have an officer more constant in his attention to his duties than the President of the Board of General Purposes, Sir John Monckton, whose Board maintained discipline in 1900 lodges, and managed the business affairs of Grand Lodge with commendable tact and discretion. Another name peculiarly acceptable to the Masons of Cheshire was that of the G. Registrar, Bro. Aeneas McIntyre, whose expositions of the law always commanded the entire approval of the Craft. The present Grand Chaplain of England, Bro. the Rev. Spencer Stanhope, was also a Cheshire Mason. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Bro. G.W. Latham, P.G.D. of England. The toast was drunk with honours. Bro. Latham, P.G.D. England, and P.G.S.W. Cheshire, who received a very hearty greeting, assured the brethren that whether in the proud proposition he held as a Past Officer of England, or in the position of a present Provincial Grand Officer, or in that of a private Mason, or even in his individual capacity, he was heartily glad to have had the honour and pleasure of attending this meeting of the Lodge of St. John that day. He did not think, as Bro. Finch had implied, that the meeting was at all too long, nor did he hear one single word or see one single thing which could rightly have been omitted; and although he was glad at all times to see ceremonies well done, the saying so was not the special reason why he was glad to be present. He was glad to be present because he believed that St. John's was a lodge which was a strong exemplification of the practical doctrine of Charity. It was a lodge which endeavoured as much as any, and a great deal more than some, to carry out in practice the theoretical principles of Charity, which, as Masons, they all professed to admire. He hoped and trusted there was in Masonry something more even than that mere expression of charity which gave itself vent in providing education, in providing schools, and in providing institutions for old men. In Masonry he himself found a harbour in which he could take refuge from the turmoils of political life, and find one subject of agreement with his fellow-men. He was not so virtuous as the proposer of the toast had rather too flatteringly intimated, for he did not spend the most of his time on Masonry. His mind was occupied with other things, other subjects, but he did rejoice when an afternoon or an evening came when he could come out of these troubled seas and get into the peaceful harbour of Masonry. That was why he liked Masonry, because there he could find a harbour of safety and a haven of rest; and in that meeting of St. John's he found a special exemplification of this. Let them depend upon it this Government of Masonry would be a wonderful example for countries in want of a constitution to follow. They elected their Grand Master by the votes of the oldest and most experienced amongst them, and left him to choose the executive by which he would rule the Craft. The Grand Master of England had chosen him as one of the Grand Officers of England, and in that capacity he returned thanks to them. Of course it followed that some were chosen for their excellence in work, and some for their more ornamental qualities. He feared that he had been of very little benefit to Grand Lodge; he took the post not so much in the light of a reward for any work he had done outside Grand Lodge, but more as a compliment to the province with which he was connected. But if he were wanted in Grand Lodge he was ready when any difficulties arose, and if they did not arise, they might depend upon it, it was because the Board of General Purposes kept them out. He was quite sure they would have no cause to regret the choice they had made in placing their present W.M. in the chair, and that they would ably support him in preventing any schism or quarrels in the Craft over which he presided. He thanked them for the honour they had done Grand Lodge, and for coupling his name with the toast; and he thanked them for that the more humbly because he knew that he did not owe his position to any merit of his own. And as he had now to leave the meeting to catch a train he also thanked them in anticipation for two other toasts in which they would drink his health. He trusted on some future occasion, when the time might be a little longer and he had not to run away so precipitately, that he should be able to spend another pleasant evening amongst them, for he could assure them that he had seen enough and heard enough to bring him even a greater distance than he had come that day. Bro. W. Harrison, P.P.S.G.D., proposed "The Health of the P.G.M. of Cheshire, the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley." They must all agree with him that every brother of the province had a right to be proud of their P.G.M., in whom they possessed a ruler who took the deepest interest in every lodge of the province, and that

interest and feeling was reciprocated in every lodge of the province. Under his rule every lodge in Cheshire had prospered during the last ten or twelve years, not only in point of working but in fundamental principles. A great deal had also been done to support those useful institutions in connection with the Order in London and elsewhere. The local institutions had been brought to a high state of efficiency. Their Provincial Grand Master had now arrived at a ripe old age, and he was happy to know that his portrait was to be presented on his seventieth birthday, in August next. He knew they would all join with him in the fervent hope that the G.A.O.T.U. would be pleased to spare the life of their P.G.M. to preside over them for many years to come. The W.M. proposed the toast of "The D.P.G.M., Bro. the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, M.P., and the other Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." He thanked the Prov. Grand Officers of Cheshire for the manner in which they had responded to the invitations of the lodge, and was very much gratified to see so many of them present. Some of them had come a long distance to be present, and he trusted at no distant date they would be similarly honoured. Bro. Capt. Howard, P.P.G.J.W., said he must first thank the brethren of St. John's Lodge for asking him to be present, and for the way in which they had received the toast, and as there were so many Prov. G. Officers to reply he would say no more on that point. He wished more especially to thank the members of the lodge for the handsome manner in which they had contributed to the portrait of the P.G.M. of that province. He believed the contributions the St. John's Lodge had already handed in and the further contributions to be made would be larger than almost any other lodge in Cheshire. Having personally had something to do with the arrangements for the picture, and having seen it when [the face was nearly finished, he was enabled to speak very highly of it. The artist himself looked upon it as his master-piece, and for himself he might say it was one of the finest portraits he ever saw. Lady de Tabley had told him that her husband's portrait was one of the things she had set her heart upon, and it was especially gratifying to her to have it presented by the Freemasons of Cheshire. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson, P.P.S.G.D., also responded, and spoke in the highest terms of the courtesy and kindness of the P.G.M., and his accessibility to every Mason. Bro. Beresford, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers of other Provinces," to which Bro. Chapman, P.P.G.D. Devonshire, responded, speaking of the excellence of his late P.G.M., Bro. Huyshe, and paying a high compliment to the excellent working which he had that day seen in the Lodge of St. John. Bro. Haddon, P.P.S.G.D., also responded on behalf of the Province of East Lancashire. Bro. Collier, I.P.M., P.G.O., next proposed the toast of "The W.M. of St. John's Lodge," which he said might be rightfully regarded as the toast of the evening. They all wished their Newly Installed Master health and long life, and that he might have a prosperous year of office. The W.M. was happy in the selection of officers he had made, who would keep up the prestige of the lodge. He congratulated him upon the unanimity which prevailed in the lodge, and it was gratifying, as Bro. Latham had observed, to look upon the lodge as a harbour of safety. For himself, during the twelve months he had occupied the chair, he had never had an unkind word with any one. He had now the pleasure of pinning the jewel to the breast of the W.M., which he had himself worn during his year of office, and he was sure no warmer heart than that of their W.M. would ever wear it. The toast was drunk with honours. The W.M., who was warmly received, said there were three things necessary for him to possess in responding to the toast—a full head, a ready tongue, and a warm heart. To the first he could lay no claim; the second did not answer so glibly on an occasion like this; but he had led himself to believe that so far as Masonry was concerned he did possess the third qualification. He thanked them very much for the kindness they had always shown him in St. John's Lodge, more especially since he had been promoted to office, and which had culminated in the high and important position to which they had that day elected him. He felt it indeed an honour to be W.M. of the Lodge of St. John, because it had made for itself a name in the province, both for its workings and its contributions to the Charities. It would be a deplorable thing if, through any mishap, or any want in any future W.M., the lodge should lose the great name it had earned in the province. The brethren had bestowed on him the highest honour it was in their province to bestow, and he should endeavour to show his appreciation of the honour by his constant attention to the duties and his regard for the interests and prestige of the lodge. Firstly, it would be his constant care to promote the harmony which had existed for some time now in the Lodge of St. John, but he scarcely thought his services would be brought into requisition to preserve order, as there was no lodge in the town, and happily but very few in the provinces, where more unanimity existed than in that of St. John at the present time. Secondly, he should endeavour by his attention to his duties to emulate the example set by his predecessor, with regard to the tenets of the lodge and the following of the principles of Freemasonry. In doing this he should fully and solely have to rely on the co-operation of his officers, and he believed he could with confidence rely upon them; but his great tower of strength would be in the Past Masters of this lodge, amongst whom they had brethren of note in Masonic workings. If he showed any great degree of efficiency he should consider he owed it almost wholly to his Past Masters, in seeing the manner in which they had conducted the business. Thirdly, he hoped his year of office would be marked by that same response to the appeals for Masonic Charities which had characterised the appeals to this lodge in former years. He need not say more than again to thank them most cordially for the kind manner in which Bro. Collier had proposed the toast, and the reception they had given to it. He concluded by proposing the toast of "The I.P.M., and the Newly Invested Officers," to which Bro. Collier and the officers replied. The Treasurer, Bro. Major Preston, made a very amusing speech, which provoked roars of laughter. The other toasts were "The Visiting Brethren," "The Past Masters of the Lodge," "The Masonic Charities," "The Newly Admitted and Newly Passed Brethren," "The Sister Lodges of Stockport," and "All Poor and Distressed Masons." The vocalists were Bros. M. Stafford, P.M.; C. Pearson, P.M.; G. Gaskill, E. J. Edmondson, W. Alcock, T. Wilkinson, P.M.; and W. Booth, S.W. The director of music was Bro. H. Collier, I.P.M., P.G.O., who played the pianoforte accompaniments. The harmony was all that could be

desired, and very much enhanced the enjoyment of the evening.

YORK.—York Lodge (No. 239).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, on Monday evening, the 20th ult. Present: Bros. W. H. Gainforth, W.M.; M. Rooke, S.W.; J. S. Rymer, J.W.; J. Todd, P.M.; Treas., P.P.G. Reg.; G. Garbutt, S.D.; W. Draper, J.D.; W. Powell, I.G.; J. G. Hodgson, D.C.; and W. Smith, Stwd. Past Masters J. E. M. Young, P.P.G.C.; R. W. Hollon, P.G. Treas., P.G.D.C. Eng.; F. Rawling, A. Buckle, B.A., P.G.J.D.; W. Lawton, P.P.G. Reg.; T. B. Whytehead, P.P.G.D.C.; G. Balford, P.P.G. Org.; Swann Maltby, A. Haffner, C. G. Padel, P.G. Org.; Bros. T. S. Camidge, P.P.G. Org.; W. Wilson, J. Redfare, A. Hanson, G. Houlden, W. Thompson, J. Stead, A. M. White, F. H. Bland, W. Nicholson, J. Toes, G. K. Hitchcock, T. G. Turner, Geo. C. Lee, H. Churchill, T. Russell, and T. Tuke. Visitors: Bros. the Rev. C. E. Camidge, Thirsk, P.P.G.C.; A. Wove, W. Flint, R. Graham, and Dr. W. Paley, De Grey and Ripon, P.S.G.W. (W. Yorkshire.)

The lodge having been opened in due form, it was announced that the very Rev. A. P. Purey Cust, D.D., Dean of York, Grand Chaplain of England, requested admittance. A deputation of Past Masters was appointed by the W.M. to conduct the V.W. brother into the lodge, and upon his entrance he was saluted by Grand Honours. The W.M. on behalf of the lodge expressed his sense of the honour conferred upon it by the presence of the Grand Chaplain, and the gratification experienced by the members when the dignity of Dean of the ancient Cathedral City, in which they were assembled, was conferred upon a brother so eminent and distinguished in the Craft. The Dean, who was most enthusiastically received, after thanking the brethren for the cordial reception given him, said that it afforded him much pleasure to be present on that occasion to make the acquaintance of his Masonic brethren in York, expressed his regret that circumstances had hitherto prevented his attendance at the lodge of which he had been admitted a member, and assured the brethren of his deep interest in the well being and prosperity of the Craft. The minutes of the two previous lodges were read and confirmed, after which, at the request of the W.M., Bro. Todd, P.M., took the chair as Installing Master. The W.M. elect, Bro. Mark Rooke, S.W., was then presented by Bros. Holler and Lawton, P.M.s, and the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, and Bro. Rooke was duly installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Todd in his accustomed efficient and impressive manner. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.: Bros. W. H. Gainforth, I.P.M.; J. S. Rymer, S.W.; G. Kirby, J.W.; the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., Dean of York, V.W. Grand Chaplain of England, Chaplain; J. Todd, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Treas.; A. Buckle, B.A., P.M., P.J.G.D., Sec.; G. K. Hitchcock, Asst. Sec.; G. Garbutt, S.D.; W. Draper, J.D.; T. G. Hodgson, D.C.; T. Tuke, Org.; W. Powell, I.G.; W. Smith and W. Nicholson, Stwds.; and W. G. Calvert, Tyler.

The lodge was afterwards duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, and partook of supper, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured. The Dean, in reply to the toast of "H.R.H. the Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," paid a high compliment to the manner in which H.R.H. performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of Truro Cathedral, and pointed out to the brethren the great value of Masonry as tending to foster and diffuse what was so much needed in these times, a brotherly and charitable spirit.

STONECLOUGH.—Lodge of Charity (No. 350).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Grapes Inn, on Thursday, the 16th ult., when the following brethren were present: Bros. R. O. McIlwrick, W.M.; E. Stott, S.W.; E. Farrar, J.W.; W. Coope, Treas.; S. Barlow, Sec.; George Coope, S.D.; J. Lee Wood, J.D.; J. H. Watson, I.G.; Ralph Brooks, Tyler; W. Horrocks, P.M.; E. Pickston, P.M.; James Varley, P.M., P.G. Org.; Thomas Horrocks, P.M.; I. J. Whittaker, P.M., P.P.G. D. of C.; M. Thomas, jun., I.P.M.; Henry Tongue, I. Sheppard, R. W. Sutton, W. Thomas Haworth, Titus Fletcher, Albert Fletcher, Thomas Smith, Robert Septon, W. Watts, W. H. Ballard, James Garside, W. Watts. Visitors: Bros. Joseph Barrow, 678; C. Van Biemar, 993; William Rumsey, 1357; and A. T. Forrest, 1633. The lodge was opened at 4.30, and after confirmation of minutes of last meeting, the ballot was taken for Mr. J. Garside, and the same being satisfactory, that gentleman was, with all due rite and ceremony, very impressively initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by the W.M. Bros. W. Watts and W. H. Ballard were then raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. This being the night for electing a W.M. for the ensuing year the choice of the brethren fell on their S.W., Bro. E. Stott, who was declared elected. After committees had been appointed to audit the accounts and arrange for the festival of St. John, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visitors, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony. The brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial repast, when the usual toasts were honoured, the proceedings being enlivened by some excellent songs, &c.

NOTTINGHAM.—Royal Sussex Lodge (No. 402).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on Tuesday, the 21st ult., at the George Hotel, when the following brethren were present: Bros. S. Job, W.M.; C. T. Jacoby, S.W.; A. J. L. Dobbin, Chap.; W. F. Bromley, Sec.; E. Seaton, S.D.; W. H. Poyntz, J.D.; A. Stubbs, D.C.; A. Hetherington, Tyler; A. Parsons, P.M.; Neale, P.M.; Hathwaite, P.M.; Goodall, P.M.; Newton, P.M.; Rawson, P.M.; Bradley, H. O. Taylor, Parkinson, Nicholson, and Janders. Mr. G. H. Nicholson was initiated into the mysteries of the Order, and Bro. Parkinson was raised. Bro. W. F. Bromley was elected as W.M., Bro. C. T. Jacoby as Treas., and Bro. Hetherington as Tyler for the ensuing year.

ST. GERMAN.—Port Eliot Lodge (No. 1164).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday the 23rd ult., at the Lodge Rooms, Port Eliot. The W.M. elect, W. Bro. Richard Stead, was installed by W. Bro. Dr. J. Bedford Kerswill, P.P.G.S.B., assisted by W. Bro.

James Rawling, P.M. 1071, with the following board of P.M.'s: Bros. N. Henwood, P.P.G. Std.; J. P. Creber, W. F. Creber, W. H. Maynard, H. Pole, F. S. Hawke, P.M.'s 1164; J. Pearce, W.M. 1071. At the close of the installation the following officers were invested: W. Bros. Francis Johns, I.P.M.; Joseph Bassett, S.W.; Samuel Warwick, J.W.; George Barnes, Treas.; W. F. Creber, Sec.; R. O. Betty, S.D.; W. M. Forsman, J.D.; P. O'Doherty, I.G.; John Hawke, Tyler. The Treasurer's accounts were audited and passed. The lodge was shown by them to be five guineas in debt. W. Bro. H. Pole presented the lodge with that amount to pay off that debt. The lodge and its chapter were then pronounced to be free of debt. The members of the lodge, together with several visiting brethren, dined together in the evening at the Eliot Arms.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—On Saturday, the 18th ult., an emergency meeting of this lodge was convened at the Red Lion Hotel. The chair was taken by Bro. T. W. Ockenden, W.M. The I.P.M., Bro. Jessett, and Secretary, Bro. W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. Middx., represented the officers of the lodge, but the absentees in every case communicated the various reasons of their inability to attend. Bros. Jessett and Alfred Tozer were in charge of the West and South respectively. Bro. W. Hammond performed the duties of Deacon, and Bro. Messenger acted as I.G. Mr. Marcus Burr was then admitted to the benefit of Masonic light by the Worshipful Master, who also delivered the charge and lecture on the tracing board. Bro. F. T. V. Honeywell, P.M. S89, P.G.O. Middx., was unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge, and Bro. Jessett appointed Steward for the Benevolent Institution, and the lodge has subscribed twenty guineas to his list. The lodge was then duly closed. There was no banquet. Bros. J. W. Smith, 1656, and Henry Tozer, 1326, were the visitors, and amongst the members present were Bros. Knowles, M. C. Carpenter, and others.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince Arthur Lodge (No. 1570).—The annual installation meeting of members of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 21st ult., at the Masonic Rooms, North Hill-street, Toxteth Park. The lodge was opened at four o'clock by the retiring W.M., Bro. Robert Roberts, who was supported by Bros. S. Hinks, P.M.; Archibald Morrison, P.M.; H. S. Alpass, P.M., P.G. Sec.; H. Worthington, S.W.; W. W. Thomas, Sec.; W. P. Vines, S.D.; D. T. Morris, J.D.; W. Bennett, I.G.; J. Hunter, Stewd.; and P. Larsen, P.M., Tyler. The members present included Bros. John Kenwright, J. Lawson, John Porter, R. Holsen, W. Henley, T. Kendall, and Wm. Heape. Among the visitors were Bros. Jos. Skeaf, P.G.O.; T. Roberts, P.M. 673; H. Horsepool, 1094; and J. Robinson, P.M. 249 (*Freemason*).

Bro. R. Roberts, W.M., closed his year's work by installing Bro. H. Worthington in the chair. The officers invested were Bros. K. Roberts, I.P.M.; R. Webster, S.W. (by proxy); W. W. Thomas, J.W.; A. Morrison, P.M., M.C.; W. P. Vines, Sec.; D. Morris, S.D.; W. Bennett, J.D.; Hinks, P.M., Treas.; J. Hunter, I.G.; I. Turner, S.; and P. Larsen, Tyler (re-elected). An excellent banquet was afterwards served at the Canton Hotel, and a pleasant part of the after-dinner proceedings was the presentation to Bro. Roberts, I.P.M., of a valuable P.M.'s jewel, set with diamonds. The viands and wines were first class, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by those who were present.

PADSTOW.—St. Petroc Lodge (No. 1785).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms on Friday, the 24th ult., when Bro. W. H. Roberts was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The installing Master was Bro. J. Hicks, P.M., assisted by Bros. T. Hawken, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., and H. F. Whitefield, P.M., P.G.R. The visiting brethren included Bros. E. Grove, J.W. 1529; J. James, I.G. 1529; Bassett, 1529; Roberts, 1529. After the ceremony, which was most impressively performed, the W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. W. H. Martyn, I.P.M.; Frank Bray, S.W.; J. F. Clemow, J.W.; J. W. Pearce, Treas.; W. H. Pope, Sec.; James Nicholls, S.D.; C. Matthews, J.D.; A. D. Blamey, I.G.; F. G. Harding, D.C.; T. Wills, O.; J. Stribley, W. Martyn, J. R. Beatt, J. B. Williams, Stewards; W. McGregor, Tyler. Bro. J. F. Clemow was elected Steward for the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. The banquet was held at the Commercial Hotel, Bro. Wills being highly complimented by the brethren for his excellent catering. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a most enjoyable evening spent.

NORTH WALSHAM.—Suffield Lodge (No. 1808).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Angel Hotel, on Wednesday, the 15th ult., under the gavel of the W.M., Bro. G. T. Plumbly. Among the brethren and visitors present were Bros. A. R. Woolbright, S.W.; G. W. Rogers, J.W.; Donald Gaul, S.D.; H. Randall, J.D.; N. B. Webster, I.G.; E. Hollidge, Tyler; C. Barnes, Sec.; C. J. Campling, acting Org.; A. Bullard, W.M. 1500, D. of C.; F. B. Quinton, P.M. 213, 1500, 1808, P.G.A.D.C., P.G.R.; F. Clowes, W.M. 73; Rev. J. N. White, 73; P. Watson, 52; R. Kent, P.M. 93; T. W. Muskett, 943; S. Wilkin and J. W. Browne, 807; J. Cattermole, W. Sutton, R. Palmer, J. J. Harvey, E. Pugh, G. Sharley, J. Lovelace, and J. C. Firmin, P.M. A feeling of disappointment was experienced in consequence of two brethren, who were candidates for passing, not being able to attend, and enabling the W.M. to evince to the brethren his proficiency in the art. However, the ordinary business of the lodge being over, an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where Bro. Host Firmin had prepared a most *recherché* supper. The remainder of the evening was afterwards spent in harmony. This is a young lodge, Bro. Plumbly being only the second Master, but it is successfully worked, and promises in a short time to rank amongst the first in the province.

THE "LIFE OF WEBER."—The Queen has accepted the dedication of Sir Julius Benedict's "Life of Weber," which will form one of the volumes of the series of biographies of great musicians edited by Mr. Hueffer, which Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., will commence publishing early in January.

Royal Arch.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo Chapter (No. 13).—The installation of the above chapter took place on the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, when Comps. W. Western was installed as M.E.Z.; E. West, H.; and H. Shaw, J. Comps. J. Scott Mutch, and D. Deeves, both of whom were unavoidably absent, were appointed, the former, Scribe N.; and the latter P.S. Comps. C. Coupland, P.Z., and P.P.G. Officer of Kent, was appointed Treasurer, and G. Kennedy Scribe E. Comps. J. Wilkins, and J. Welding, were nominated by Comp. Deeves as his 1st and 2nd Assistants, and J. Lackland, Janitor. The ceremony was performed by M.E.C. Coupland in that grand style which is identified with his position. A handsome jewel was presented to the Immediate P.Z., Comp. W. Gamble, of the value of ten guineas, for services rendered to the chapter during his year of office; and Comp. Shaw, presented the chapter with a magnificently mounted set of working tools, Comp. Purnell also did excellent service in renovating the standard frame, and votes of thanks were accorded both to him and Comp. Shaw. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Comp. Coupland for his splendid rendering of the installation ceremony. Comp. J. Sculley, Quartermaster, R.H.A., was unanimously elected a joining member of the chapter, and there being nothing more before the chapter, it was duly closed.

The companions then adjourned to the hospitable hostelry of Comp. H. De Grey, where a superb banquet, served with all the taste and elegance characteristic of that accomplished caterer, awaited them. Among those present, besides the above-named companions were Comps. Thomas, P.Z., and a Past Grand Officer of the Grand Chapter of England; E. Denton, P.Z., and a Past Grand Officer of Kent; F. A. White, H. 907; D. C. Capon, 913; C. Boardman, W. G. R. Warrey, A. G. Saunders, T. Ovenden, W. G. Lock, and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, in responding for "The Grand Officers, Past and Present of Grand Chapter," Comp. Thomas thanked the M.E.Z. for the kindness that induced him to couple his name with so important a toast, and the cordial reception they had given it. It was a pleasant and honourable position to occupy, but it had its duties and responsibilities. When he attended Grand Chapter he always remembered that it was in that ancient and noble old Chapter, No. 13, that he was first exalted to the Sublime Degree of a Royal Arch Mason, and spoke of it with pride as one that had so long held its own among the foremost chapters in England. He could safely say for himself that it gave him unfeigned pleasure to be a member of the Union Waterloo Chapter, and he trusted its grand old name would long continue upon the muster roll of the chapters of England. Comp. Gamble, the I.P.Z., then proposed, in eulogistic terms "The health of Compt. Weston," the newly installed M.E.Z., who in reply said that nothing should be wanting on his part to make the chapter worthy of its past history, and with the hearty co-operation and assistance of his officers, he had every reason to believe that it would increase in strength materially during the coming year. The toast of "The Past Principals" followed, and Comps. Coupland and Gamble returned thanks. The toast of "The Visiting Companions" was coupled with the names of Comps. White and Jolly, and the former in reply said that it afforded him a great amount of pleasure to be present, and hear the magnificent manner in which Comp. Coupland installed the Second and Third Principals. He was also pleased to be present because he saw around the board several of his old friends in Masonry, and to be able to pass an hour with them in social converse and harmony. He trusted that ere long Comp. Coupland would visit chapter 907, and perform the installation ceremony there, and he would guarantee that companion a hearty reception should he so honour them. Comp. Jolly also returned thanks briefly. "The Health of the Installing Officer, Comp. Coupland," was drunk with enthusiasm, and responded to by that companion in feeling terms. "The Second and Third Principals" were next complimented, and Comp. Shaw briefly replied. Comps. Wilkins and Kennedy replied for "The Officers of the Lodge" and a cordial vote of thanks to the host, Comp. De Grey and his amiable wife, followed by the Janitor's toast, concluded the proceedings. We may mention that a collection was made late in the evening for the widow of a late Janitor of the chapter, the proceeds of which amounted to thirty shillings, which we feel sure would have been doubled had it been stated earlier in the evening and before so many of the companions left. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent harmony, and a very pleasant and memorable evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).

—At a regular convocation of this chapter, held at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, the 21st ult., the chairs were taken at 6.30 by Ex. Comps. John Hearne, M.E.Z.; W. Williamson, H.; Lawson Howes, J.; supported by Ex. Comps. T. B. Moutrie, P.Z. and Treas.; Dr. H. Hopkins, P.Z. 328, 578, 710; E. L. Hill, P.Z.; J. Rubie, P.Z.; S. G. Mitchell, P.Z. and Provincial Grand Reg.; Comps. Stuckey, E.; Hayward, N.; Radway, Pr. Soj.; E. J. B. Mercer, Sen. Soj.; W. Peach, Jun. Soj.; Bigwood, jun., T. E. Wilton, Graham, P. C. Young, and F. Glover. Visitors: Ex. Comps. E. T. Payne, P.Z. 53, and Prov. Grand Treas.; C. Davis, P.Z. 370, and Prov. Grand Swd. Br.; Col. Ford, P.Z. 53; Rolfe, M.E.Z. 53; T. P. Gardner, H. 53; also Comps. R. Cooke, E. 53; and J. H. Macfarlane, 103.

The Board of Installed Principals having been opened, the companions were admitted, and the chapter was opened. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The M.E.Z. announced that in the previous week a Prov. Grand Chapter had been formed and duly consecrated at Taunton by the Grand Scribe E., Colonel Adair having been installed as Grand Superintendent; that he had himself attended at this meeting, and that Ex. Comp. S. G. Mitchell, P.Z. 41, had been honoured by receiving the collar of Prov. Grand Registrar; he was also pleased at finding two other new Prov. Grand Officers present on this evening, namely, the Prov. Grand Treasurer, and the Sword Bearer, representing the Royal Sussex and the Tynte Chapters; he further stated that a Committee had been appointed to compile a code of bye-laws, and concluded by proposing Ex. Comp. Mitchell as a delegate

to act on it. This was duly seconded and carried. A discussion took place on a proposal by the Treasurer to increase the subscription, as dues would henceforward be required by Prov. Grand Chapter, consideration of which was postponed until after the arrangement of the bye-laws. The Treasurer stated that the accounts of the chapter for the past year had been duly audited, and read his financial statement, which was very satisfactory. The M.E.Z. then called on Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins to proceed with the installation of the Principals elected at the last meeting. The companions having been dismissed, a Board of Installed Principals was constituted, and the following were duly installed in their respective chairs, with the usual separate ceremonial for each: Ex. Comps. Williamson, Z.; Lawson Howes, H.; and Stuckey, J. The Board was closed, the companions were re-admitted, and the customary salutations and proclamation took place. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing year: Comps. F. Wilkinson, E.; Ch. Radway, N.; E. J. B. Mercer, Pr. Soj.; F. Glover, S. Soj.; W. Peach, J. Soj.; Bigwood, Janitor. Ex. Comp. Moutrie was re-invested as Treasurer. On the proposition of the M.E.Z., seconded by the Immediate P.Z., a cordial vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins for his services as Installing Principal, and for the efficient and impressive manner in which he had conducted the ceremonies. This was briefly acknowledged by Ex. Comp. Hopkins, who expressed his pleasure in having thus officiated in five successive years, though on the present occasion he had been somewhat incapacitated by indisposition. A vote of thanks was passed to Ex. Comp. Hearne, for his efficiency at the head of the chapter during the last year, by whose skillful management its reputation, prosperity, and harmony had been well sustained. This was acknowledged, in very pleasing terms, by him; as was also a vote of thanks to the visitors, by several of them. In doing so Ex. Comp. Gardner entered into more details as to the recent consecration of Prov. Grand Chapter, at which he was present, and announced the intention to hold the meetings of that body next year at Bath. The chapter was closed at 8 p.m., and the companions adjourned to supper at the Castle Hotel, after which the excellent spirit which had prevailed throughout the proceedings was well maintained by the skill, energy, and amiability of the new M.E.Z.

MANCHESTER.—Affability Chapter (No. 317).

—The usual meeting in connection with this chapter was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. There were present Comps. John E. Lees, Z.; W. P. Norris, H.; J. Howarth Clark, J.; Jas. J. Lambert, E.; Wm. Nicholl, N.; Henry L. Rocca, P.S.; Jno. Church, 1st A.S.; Sydney Henson, P.Z., Treas.; W. F. Towle, P.Z.; John Bladen, P.Z.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z.; Jas. Dawson, P.Z.; J. E. Steward, W. R. Sowter, C. Oldham, Robt. Tomlins, J. Summer, J. F. Anderson, J. Frausenburg, Daniel Donbavand, James W. Almond, W. J. Cunliffe, Jas. Wilson, J. W. Edwards, Mark Vickers, Hugh R. G. Bayley, Jas. Sly, Janitor, and R. R. Lisenden (*Freemason*).

The chapter was opened at 6.15, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. At 6.45 the companions adjourned to tea, and re-assembled at 7.30. This being the night for the election of officers, the following companions were elected to serve during the ensuing year, viz.: Comps. W. P. Norris, Z.; J. Howarth Clark, H.; Jas. J. Lambert, E.; Henry L. Rocca, N.; Sydney Henson, Treasurer; J. E. Steward, P.S.; W. J. Cunliffe, Org.; Jas. Wilson and Robt. Tomlins, Stewards; and James Sly, Janitor. There being no further business, the chapter was closed at nine o'clock.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.—This old established chapter met as usual at the Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, on Tuesday, the 21st ult. There was a large attendance. The officers were Comps. Lardner, Z.; R. Payne, H.; Lovegrove, J.; Pennefather, S.W.; and Dotteridge, P.S.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed in accordance with the perfect ritual for which this chapter has always been noted. Comp. Edmonds was candidate. This being election night the following companions were unanimously appointed: Comps. Bloomfield, Z.; R. Payne, H.; Dotteridge, J.; Lardner, S.N.; and Swain, P.S. Comp. W. Stephens, P.Z. 862, 874, 1365, 1489, Prov. Grand Asst. Soj. Kent, will work the ceremony of installation of Principals on the third Tuesday in January, commence punctually at six o'clock, so that it will not interfere with the usual ceremony of exaltation at seven o'clock. The attendance of Principals is invited. The chapter was then closed.

North Afr.ca.

ORDER OF SAINT LAWRENCE.

TUNIS.—St. Cyprian of Carthage Council (No. 2).—The second annual meeting of the above council was held on the 15th ult. Present: Bros. A. M. Broadley, R.W.P.G.M., W.M.; Capt. R. A. Johnstone, S.W.; S. Sessing, J.W.; S. Souiller, W.M. 1717, Conductor; Commander Bridger, R.N., J.D.; J. Barsotti, I.G.; and others.

The minutes of the last meeting and the accounts being approved, four candidates were unanimously elected, viz.: Bros. A. Andry, Sec. 1717; C. Carriglio, D. of C. 1717; P. Q. Puliga, I.L.D., Interpreter 1717; and C. Foggetta, 1717. These brethren being in attendance were admitted by the W.M. into the Venerable Order of St. Lawrence. Bros. Johnstone was then unanimously elected W.M., and Barsotti Treasurer for the year 1881. The W.M. having been duly installed, appointed the following officers, viz.: Bros. Broadley, I.P.M.; Sessing, S.W.; Souiller, J.W.; Puliga, Sec.; Barsotti, Treas.; Andry, Conductor; Carriglio, J.D.; Bridger, Org.; and Foggetta, I.G. Bro. Souiller, as a foreigner, bore eloquent testimony to the symbolic teaching of the Order, the watchword of which he remarked was hospitality, and the leading principle, to do to another as you would be done by. He hoped that in the coming year the council would take a prominent part in the cause of Masonic Charity. The W.M. expressed his approval of the ideas of the J.W., and hoped he would witness much

work during his tenure of office. A very hearty vote of thanks being offered to the P.M. and founder, the lodge was closed with the usual charitable collection.

TUNIS.—William Kingston Lodge (No. 1835).—The annual festival of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Goletta, on the 19th ult. Present: Bros. W. A. M. Broadley, P.D.D.G.M. Malta, W.M.; T. F. Reade, P.D.D.G.M. Egypt, Hon. P.M.; Curletto, S.W.; Capt. Johnstone, as J.W.; Durazzaus, Treas.; Ayra, Sec.; Attard, S.D.; Vittareale, J.D.; Catalano, D. of C.; and D'Amico, I.G.; Rombi, Plancta, Castelli, A. Castelli, Vaux, Bertoline, Angelica and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Perini, P.M. 1717; Ayra, (W.M. Italian Lodge Risorgimento); Vais, 33°; Tunaro, Sulema, 30° (Italian P.M.'s); Le Gallais, J.W. 1717; Barsotti, Treas. 1717; Audry, Sec. 1717; Sessing, Provenzal and others. The lodge being duly opened the W.M. gave a short account of the work done during the year, and especially of the steps taken to clothe several destitute boys who were now receiving gratuitous education at the Italian College. Congratulatory speeches being made by Bros. Reade, Ayra, and Perini, it was resolved to send a telegram containing fraternal greetings to the D.G.M., Bro. Kingston, in England. The charitable collection amounted to £1 8s. The lodge was closed and the usual banquet followed. The hall was elaborately decorated with flags, &c., and the Goletta band played at intervals during dinner.

Masonic and General Tidings.

We are authorised to state that the Most Worshipful the Grand Master has appointed the Right Hon. Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, Bart, M.P., late Secretary for the Colonies, Prov. Grand Master of Gloucestershire in place of Lord Sherborne.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England; Bros. the Earl Percy, R.W.G.M. Northumberland; Lord Leigh, R.W.G.M. Warwickshire; and Sir Michael Robert Shaw Stewart, Bart., M.W.G.M. Scotland, were among those that attended the funeral of the Duchess of Westminster on Wednesday week.

Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, P.G.W., accompanied by the Duchess, left Osborne, where their Royal Highnesses had been spending Christmas with the Queen, on Tuesday last, for Sandringham, on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales.

H.R.H. Prince Leopold, P.G.W., has consented to preside at the annual festival dinner in aid of the funds of the University College Hospital, at Willis's Rooms, on the 20th of May next.

Bro. the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Past Grand Mark Master Mason, consecrated the lodge bearing his lordship's name, No. 268, at Southport. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Bro. the Very Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., Dean of York, Grand Chaplain of England, was at the last meeting of the York Lodge, No. 236, invested as Chaplain.

Bro. Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., will preside at the annual dinner of the Associates and Students of King's College in the college dining hall, on January the 12th.

Bro. Henry Windybank, solicitor (Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902), has removed to more commodious offices, on the first floor of Moorgate Station Buildings, 63, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

Bro. J. B. Shackleton leaves England for Melbourne on the 18th inst.

Mrs. Cross, better known as "George Eliot," died on Thursday week, and literature thereby loses one of its brightest ornaments.

Bro. Thomas Brassey, M.P., Civil Lord of the Admiralty, on the 21st ult. inspected the Liverpool Brigade of the Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers, of which he is honorary commander.

Bro. Capt. John Knight, of Manchester, Mass., is stated to be the oldest Mason in the United States, having been initiated in 1801.

Bro. Marcus Richardson, of Bangor, Me., is the next oldest, having seen the light in 1803.

Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.M., has been elected W.M. of the Montefiore Lodge, No. 1017, for the ensuing year.

Bro. Henry A. Isaacs has been re-elected a representative of the Aldgate Ward in the Court of Common Council.

Bro. E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., distributed the prizes to the 6th Surrey Rifle Corps on Tuesday night week.

The West Smithfield Lodge of Instruction will meet at the New Market Hotel on Monday, the 3rd inst., at eight o'clock p.m., when brethren are earnestly invited to be present, that a goodly company may begin the New Year.

We are indebted to Bro. George Kenning, London, for a copy of the eleventh volume of the "Cosmopolitan Calendar," which, we note, increases in interest and exactitude each year of its publication. It is a perfect *volume*, and at its small price, 2s. sterling, we should think would have an extended sale. We acknowledge our indebtedness to it on various occasions for information we could hardly have reached in any other way.—*New York Dispatch*.

Mr. Campbell writes asking the attention of our readers to the claims upon their sympathy and support of the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind, which is earnestly in want of funds. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received and promptly acknowledged by the principal of the college, Upper Norwood, S.E.

Three hundred and twenty thousand immigrants are estimated to have arrived at New York during last year.

The Empress of Austria has definitely abandoned her intention of visiting Kilkenny during the hunting season.

Over a quarter of an inch (.27) of rain was measured at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, within the twenty-four hours ending three o'clock p.m. on Tuesday last.

Baron Rothschild succeeds the Empress Eugenie as tenant of Camden House, Chislehurst, taking the same from Lady Day next.

The *City Press* almanack is presented with every copy of the *City Press* of this day's date.

The Gaiety Theatre completed its twelfth year on Monday last.

ALLIANCE LODGE, No. 1827.—The first balance sheet of this flourishing young lodge shews a balance in hand of over two hundred pounds.

Bros. Dickinson and Malthouse have been elected Common Councilmen for the ward of Farringdon Without.

Mr. Quinten Hogg's residence at Holly Hill, near Southampton, has been totally destroyed by fire.

Bro. W. S. Daniel having taken the premises lately occupied by the proprietors of the Land Agents' Record, states that on and after January 1st, his Advertising and Reporting business will be conducted in those offices, at No. 84, Fleet-street, London, also at Station Approach Road, Loughborough Junction, London, S.W.

A Masonic Ball in connection with the City of London Lodge, No. 901, will take place on Wednesday next, Jan. 5th, in the large hall, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bro. Dan Godfrey's quadrille band will be in attendance.

Bro. Thomas Brassey, M.P.'s, screw steam yacht, "Sunbeam," which left Birkenhead on Tuesday for Portsmouth, had to put into Holyhead owing to the bad weather. After leaving Holyhead the "Sunbeam" had carried away her foretopmast and jibboom. Her defects will be made good at Portsmouth, previous to taking Mrs. Brassey to the Mediterranean for the benefit of that lady's health.

Captain Gildea, 20, Stafford-terrace, Kensington, W., will be glad to receive the names of all women and children (officers as well as men) who have lost their husbands in Afghanistan since the commencement of the war in 1878, and who have not already communicated with him. The names and ages of the children should be stated.

The late Sir Fitzroy Kelly's personalty has been sworn under £60,000; that of Sir A. G. Cockburn, G.C.B., under £40,000.

Bro. Mansfield has been elected W.M. of the Emulation Lodge, No. 21, for the ensuing year.

One of the oldest Freemasons on record is Bro. John Stephen Witherden, of Albion-hill, Ramsgate, who has now reached his ninety-first year. He was initiated into the Order when in Holland, in the year 1816 or 1817, and a few days since H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of England, sent him a hamper of game, as a present. It was accompanied by a letter, containing wishes of every happiness and enjoyment for Bro. Witherden at this glad season of the year.

In our summary, published last week, of the amount voted by the Lodge of Benevolence there is an error in the two sums forming the total of £9223. This amount is made up by deducting from £9303 £140, the balance of a sum of £150 recommended by the meeting of the 18th August, but afterwards withdrawn.

Lord Warkworth Lodge, No. 1879, will be consecrated at Amble, Northumberland, on Monday week, the 10th inst. The two principal officers designate are Bros. A. Robertson, P.M. 1167, Past S.G.W. Northumberland, W.M., and John Grey, S.W.

The *Freemason* has just issued an excellent Christmas number, containing a selection of well-told stories, a concentrated novel in about four chapters, and several poetic effusions, some of which are of more than average merit. The general appearance of the number is worthy of its contents.—*Land and Water*.

Bro. Bedford Lemere will be installed W.M. of the Confidence Lodge, No. 193, at Anderton's Hotel, on Monday week.

MASONIC SERVICE AT ST. CLEMENT'S, LONG-SIGHT, MANCHESTER.—The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire has granted a dispensation, under the warrant of the Lodge of Truth, No. 1458, for the Fraternity to appear at the above in Craft clothing. The service will be held on Sunday, the 23rd inst., at three o'clock p.m. The offertory is for the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The prayers will be read by the Rev. Bro. S. Bradshaw, P.P.G. Chap. E. Lanc. and Northumberland, and the sermon preached by the Rev. Bro. H. Cottam, M.A., Prov. G. Chap. E. Lanc. The musical arrangements are under the direction of Bro. James Varley, P.M. 350, who will also preside at the organ as Provincial Grand Organist of the province. Bro. W. Dumville, P.M. 1011, an eminent tenor, connected with the noteworthy vocal organisations of Manchester, has secured the voluntary services of vocal ability in the Craft—Bros. Hudson Lister, P.M.; M. Thomas, P.M.; M. Stafford, P.M.; and others. The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire (Bro. Geo. Mellor) and many of the Provincial Grand Officers will (D.V.) be present. The occasion of the gathering is to celebrate the anniversary of the consecration of the Church of St. Clement's. A goodly gathering, we trust, will be present, for a good cause.—*Charity*. The Rev. W. Fraser, M.A., the incumbent of the parish, has placed the church at the disposal of the Craft for this special service, at the express desire of his Warden, Bro. John Edward Iliff, I.P.M. 1458. We trust the object in view will meet with fraternal support.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—The annual Twelfth-night entertainment to the children remaining in the School during the holidays will not be given this year.

Bro. Sir Michael Costa asks "Atlas," of the *World*, to state that there is no authority for announcing his name "as one of the Provisional Committee of a new club, to be called the Falstaff."

The installation meeting of the Lodge of Joppa No. 188, will be held at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, on Monday, the 4th inst. A report of the proceedings will appear in the next number of the *Freemason*.

The Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction has been removed from the Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea, to the Duke of Cambridge, 216, Bridge-road, Battersea Park. The first meeting in the new quarters will be held on the 4th inst., and it is intended to present the late Preceptor, Bro. King, with a testimonial, as a small token of the esteem in which he is held.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the members connected with the Grand Chapter of the Province of West Lancashire was held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., under the presidency of Comp. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Grand H., Provincial Grand Supt. of the division. His lordship was supported by a numerous and influential attendance of R.A. chiefs, and this would probably have been much larger but for the fact that business of importance connected with the election of Hon. Treasurer of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution kept many companions away, an election which will be referred to hereafter.

Amongst those present were Comps. the Earl of Lathom, Grand H., Prov. G. Supt.; H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.E.; J. Wells, P.G.D.C.; P. Bell, P.G.J.; T. Buxton, P.P.G. Sec., Assist. S.; John Chadwick, P.G.S.E. East Lancashire, J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z. 1357, P.P.G. First A.S.; H. W. Johnston, P.P.J.; J. Bowes, P.Z. 148; J. W. Finney, P.P.G.A.S.; S. G. Sinclair, 32; R. Stanton, A.S.; C. Raymond, 203; H. Vollmer, P.Z. 1375; W. J. Kewman, H. 680; E. J. Edleston, P.Z. 148; W. A. Lake, 673; T. A. R. Littledale, 32; J. W. Burgess, Z. 1094; Joseph Wood, 249 and 1094 (*Freemason*); M. George Turner, P.Z. 823; H. Firth, J. 249; W. Thomson, Z. 86; J. Leece, J. 1086; Coxon, 292; T. Roberts, P.Z. 673, Z. 220; J. Hayes, Z. 594; T. Chesworth, P.P.G.R.; J. W. Ballard, Z. 823; J. Ellis, Z. 1086; J. Pemberton, P.P.G. S.B.; S. Wylde, P.P.G.S.B.; W. B. Ackerley, Z. 680; J. E. Jackson, P.Z.; J. Lunt, P.Z. 1086 and 241; J. Bell, P.Z. 1356; H. Williams, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; J. S. Russell, P.Z. 292; G. F. Smith, P.Z. 1375; J. B. Mackenzie, 1356; and others.

After the transaction of some preliminary business, the following were appointed officers for the ensuing year:

Comp. Colonel Stanley, P.G.H.
 " H. Vollmer, P.G.I.
 " H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.E.
 " W. B. Ackerley, P.G.S.N.
 " J. F. Newell, P.G.P.S.
 " R. Brown, P.G. Asst. Soj.
 " Joseph Bell, P.G. 2nd Asst. Soj.
 " Major Turner, P.G. Treas.
 " R. Washington, P.G.R.
 " J. Hayes, P.G.S.B.
 " J. E. Jackson, P.G. St. B.
 " J. Wells, P.G.D.C.
 " J. Skeaf, P.G.O.
 " J. W. Ballard, P.G.S.
 " P. Ball, P.G. Janitor.

A vote of thanks was given to Comp. T. Armstrong for his services as Treasurer, and the sum of £20 was voted in aid of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

A grand banquet was subsequently served in the large dining hall, and during the evening a choice selection of music was given under the direction of Comp. Skeaf, a prominent feature of the programme being the "Fairy Bells" of Comp. Hargreaves, 1086.

THE NEW YEAR OF 1881.

All hail! the New Year, which has dawned to-day,
 Farewell the Old Year, which has passed away;
 Such seems to be great Nature's calm behest,
 "Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest."
 As years on years fleet by, and time departs,
 One truth affects all minds and bows all hearts.
 How all things weaken, crumble, fade away,
 The Old Year tells, bears witness New Year's Day.
 We, who are old, were young some short years told;
 We, who are young, will soon in time be old.
 Childhood and youth and manhood's manly way,
 Yield soon or late to earth's unchecked decay,
 Telling a tale which like a dream has fled
 Of hopes long faded, joys buried with the dead.
 Alas! how sad is Time! how ill it fares,
 Alike with all it takes, and all it spares!
 A few short years and vanish'd then and gone
 Are earthly joys and pleasures one by one.
 We find to-day how little now remains
 Of all our strivings and of all our pains;
 How all is perishing—how everything does fade
 Of what our wit can plan, or hands have made.
 Such is the end of human trust and fears,
 Of earthly smiles, gay laughter, bitter tears,
 All but a darkening chaos seem to be,
 As we look back, a sad epitome!
 And thus we meet, as hurrying on our way,
 An Old Year's warning on a New Year's Day.
 Yet like fair youth exulting in its play,
 Let's seek to put such gloomy thoughts away.
 For as the New Year comes with pleasant greeting,
 With childhood's joys, with genial friendship's meeting,
 With all that makes us happy for a space,
 As once again we see each much lov'd face,
 And kind affection's voice and tender smile
 Bid us forget each care and cross awhile;
 So as the Old Year once more slips away,
 Let's welcome in another New Year's Day.
 London, New Year's Day, 1881.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.

PATRONS :

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.
President.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., on Saturday, the 8th day of January, 1881, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the List for Election in April next, and to declare the number of Girls then to be Elected; also to consider the following Notice of Motion :

By Bro. JOSHUA NUNN, V.P.—

"That the following words be added to Law 72, after the word 'provision,' viz., 'and in cases of exceptional merit and necessity the General Committee are authorised to increase the sum to an amount not exceeding £40.'"

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Office:—5, Freemasons' Hall, Se y.
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
January 1, 1881.

The Ninety-third Anniversary Festival will take place in May next. Names of Stewards will be gratefully received by the Secretary.

FREEMASONS' CLUB, PORTSMOUTH.

Offers especial advantages to Commercial Gentlemen and Visitors to Southsea. It is pleasantly situated in the centre of the Borough, close to the Railway Station, and Tram Cars pass it every few minutes to all parts of the Town.

Entrance Fee, One Guinea; Annual Subscription for Resident Members, One Guinea. To Visitors, etc., who are non-resident in the immediate district, the Annual Subscription is Ten Shillings and Sixpence.

Three Craft Lodges, a regular Lodge of Instruction meeting every fortnight; a Royal Arch Chapter, Mark Lodge, and a Conclave of Rome and Constantine meet in the handsome Hall attached to the Club.

For further particulars and forms of nominations apply to the Secretary, 79, Commercial Road, Landport.

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.

To Correspondents.

The EDITOR of the *Freemason* returns his fraternal thanks to the EDITOR of the *New York Dispatch* for the duplicate copies of his valuable paper just to hand.

W.M. No. 1491.—We apprehend that the writer's words must not be scanned too closely. It is a tale! though it may have happened.—ED. F.M.

T. B. W.—In our next.

Owing to pressure on our columns the following stand over:—

All Souls' Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth.
Phoenix Lodge, No. 257, Portsmouth.
Pomfret Lodge, No. 360, Northampton.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Sunday Times," "City Press," "Citizen," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Hull Packet," "The Christian," "The Masonic Herald," "Le Monde Maconnique," "Jewish Chronicle," "Broad Arrow," "Croydon Guardian," "New York Dispatch," "La Chaine d'Union," "Night and Day," "The Egyptian Gazette," "Masonic Review," "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, and the Grand Chapter of the United States of America," "Der Long Islaender," "The Freemason's Monthly," "Land and Water," "The Sydney Freemason," "The New Zealand Freemason."

THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1881.

WITH this, the first number of the *Freemason* for the New Year of grace and light, 1881, certain thoughts and prevailing associations supervene, which it would seem neither desirable nor expedient altogether to ignore or discard. For each year as it passes over our heads reaches, as it were, a new milestone on our journey of life, and there come to us some affecting memories, or some seasonable thoughts, which it may do us all good for a little while to try to realize and dwell upon. It is very easy for the mere willing, or for the sciolist, to laugh at and

ridicule all serious thoughts and all healthy moralizing. Nothing is so common as for the person who never thinks to deprecate all thought in others. We have sometimes seen remarks on the unwisdom and absurdity of dwelling on such topics, as uncongenial to the season, and out of harmony with common sympathies. But, luckily for us all, there are times when we have to be serious, whether we will or no, and one of those very times and seasons is the commencement of a New Year. We admit at once that such views and feelings are out of tune and tone with those shriller and louder voices, which would declare all such seasons as the present to be opportunities for saturnalian license, and nothing more, which represent too fitly, alas, those hurtful tastes, and those frivolous temperaments, which nothing but material ineptitude can please, which can only be really amused, excited, and gratified by the empty platitudes of an unmeaning philosophy, or by the "emptier" mists of earthly gratification. If to any such our remarks appear too serious or too severe, too moralizing or too metaphysical, we can only beg them *not* to read them, and to spare themselves the infliction of perusing what will neither please them, nor affect them. And though we are aware that there is sometimes a danger lest, with the best intentions in the world, we should seem to "sermonize" on topics which are so grave and so important in themselves; yet as such is altogether most remote from our present intention, we hope that our readers will give us credit for seeking to put before them some few thoughts and memories which may be worth consideration, which it may benefit us all alike to read and to realize, and meditate upon. For we hold it is a great mistake merely to write "ad hominem," or, as they say, "pro tanto" only. It may be all very well for the ephemeral struggle, or for the passing fancy, but if you re-read it all after a few years, how jejune and how vapid it appears. Its interest has passed away, its life has gone, its salt has evaporated. If then in the *Freemason* we worked merely to write to "please," or to tell always of "smooth things,"—if we had nothing higher, no truer aim in all we put forth week by week, than the common passing shadow of Freemasonry, personal feelings or childish inanities, probably the less thoughtful and the less serious our leaders were the better they might please a class, and not a little class, which desires to read without trouble, and grasp without mental labour, which prefers the surface to the depth, the glitter to the gold. Luckily the *Freemason* has always sought to appeal to the thinking, the serious, the educated of its great Fraternity, and as it has never written for applause or a party, as it has never sought to gain an end, or subserve a job, it has had the compliment paid to it of being perused by very many Masons all over the world, who have entered, and warmly entered, into the spirit which has prompted its utterances, who have approved, and warmly approved, of the Masonic principles and sentiments which have invariably characterized its pages. A New Year always seems to strike a vibrating chord in the harmony of humanity, inasmuch as it recalls memories of the past, and surrounds us with anticipations for the future. We are none of us, be we who we may, quite as young as once we were, and a New Year reminds us of a journey so far accomplished, and seems to point in pleasing or ominous whispers, as the case may be, to the journey still before us. If we are still full of vigour of body and mind; if ours are the happiness of a domestic circle, the success of a prosperous life, the warm sympathies of true-hearted friends; if no clouds darken our pathway, then hope seems to speak in halcyon tones of happy and pleasant days to be to us, as in the past, so in the future hidden from our gaze. If, on the contrary, we find each New Year but witness of the increasing "infirmities of the flesh," or of those "evils" to which it is indeed ever heir; if health has given way to despondency, and strength has yielded to weakness; if gloomy and discoloured the clouds are hovering over our road, once so lightened up by the sunshine of friendship and affection, then the New Year can hardly come to us with a rejoicing aspect, it is but a reminder of past trials, it is but a harbinger of future "evil things." No doubt the religion of true philosophy can come in here, to soothe, to cheer, and to uphold, as it ought always

to do; but we are rather talking of the "way of the world" as it is, not as it ought to be. And we repeat that the New Year has always two aspects, so to say, for us all, dependent on the contingent and customary circumstances of our own mortal life—one of cheering hope, another of warning reminder. No doubt, in one sense, the "recollection of all past time" is melancholy. We recall the friends, the scenes, the voices, the joys of the past; they are gone, never to return. The home we loved, the gardens we planned, the trees we planted, the books we read, the companions and mates of many a pleasant hour, all leave us, as old HORACE sang of old, and after a few years seem little specks in the dim distance of awakened and grieving memory, which we have left far behind us, and here shall never see or meet again. In one of CAMPBELL's poems there is a touching description of a garden revisited after a lapse of years, once trim and cared for, fragrant with gay and sweet-scented flowers, and now all left to ruin, run to seed, gone to decay. So it is with such epochs in our lives. They are parts of our past, forgotten, neglected, left to silence and decay, and to-day we know them not, and they know not us. Hence as we seek to grasp the measure of time, as the golden sands of the great river all come down to the sea, as the particles and atoms in the hour glass drop down, one by one, there must come to us all, there must crowd over all thoughtful minds not a few depressing memories and not a few saddening thoughts. Our past is faded and gone. How much of the fabric remains for us and ours? Have we seen our last old year? Are we entering upon our final new year? Surely we are not wrong any of us in treating a new year, even from a Masonic point of view, as a somewhat serious reality. We say nothing of higher considerations, and nothing can be in worse "form or taste" than that affected jocosity which, stringing together a few commonplace truisms, affects to deprecate any more severe dealing of the subject as pharasaical or ascetic. On the contrary, the voice which is ringing in our ears and hearts, if we think, is that of the poet, in those moving words of his, well known and often quoted as they are:

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.
Footprints, that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
Seeing, shall take heart again.

THE old year has passed away for Freemasonry—a new year lies before it. Its work, though ever going on, seems to gain fresh life and energy as year succeeds to year, and these "particles of time" tell of its struggles and proclaim its triumphs. It is a very wonderful fact the continuation and development and rejuvenescence of Freemasonry. The "world is growing old," says a poet, but Freemasonry is as young as ever; more full of life, more abounding with energy, more compact, and more adhesive as years follow years, and century succeeds to century. What, for instance, is the analogy between the Freemasonry of 1780 and the Freemasonry of 1880? Is it not merely the difference between sleep and waking—life and death—vigour and weakness? Such is the wonderful and inexplicable reality as regards Freemasonry, which has puzzled the sagacious, and is still a "crux" for the historian, that, though "Nations and thrones and reverend laws have melted like a dream," it outlives the fall of Empires and the decadence of Republics. On it the "encroaching hand of time" leaves no mark, as passing through the ages of man's walk and man's weakness, it endures and survives, and is "ever to the fore." At this moment there is hardly a portion of this great earth's surface where lodges, or chapters, or councils do not congregate. As JOHNSON said of old, or if he did not, as "ARTAGNAN" says in the "Mousquetaires," he ought to have said,

"Survey mankind from China to Peru,
A Mason's lodge and Masons meet your view."

And there certainly never was a period in Masonic history when Freemasonry was so widely extended,

or so "well considered." Indeed, were it not for the "vagaries" of some jurisdictions, and the childish "imitations" of others, we cannot affix any limits to what the possible and probable and rapid extension of Freemasonry would be, the proportions it might assume, or the influence it could exercise. But in some jurisdictions the extreme folly and recklessness of what is termed by misnomer the "movement party," is not only driving good men and loyal citizens out of Masonry, but, as we well know from personal assurances, indisposing and alarming those who are well affected to our principles and admire our proceedings. It is very difficult indeed to estimate correctly, as a matter of true and dependable statistics, the number of Freemasons in the world, but allowing for what we do not know, and relying on what we do, we think we can make a fairly approximate estimate of the numbers of our Order when we say, without any wish to exaggerate on the one hand, or unduly depreciate on the other, we arrive, we think, at the following satisfactory total of 1,175,000. This is, of course, widely different from those wonderful statistics we have sometimes read, which frighten our Ultramontane friends so greatly, and which make up a "buckram" Masonic array of four or five millions. As far as we know these do not exist, but we again repeat our Masonic statistics are by no means clear or perfect. These 1,175,000 Masons are divided as follows:—America and Canada claim 630,000; Great Britain and her Colonies and Dependencies, 370,000; France, Belgium, Holland, Spain, and Portugal seem to have about 52,000 members; and Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Denmark, and Sweden about 60,000 more; Greece, Egypt, and Turkey possess about 21,000 Masons; and South America about 19,900. If to these figures we add "unattached Masons," and "irregular Masons," and "detached bodies" 20,000; and if we take into account "unreliable data" and "unavoidable omissions," we reach a fair approximate estimate of 1,173,000, or in round numbers, as we said before, 1,175,000. Now this result has been reached after all the opposition, vituperation, ridicule of centuries, political persecutions, and religious (?) excommunications. What then may we expect in the future? If Freemasonry, we make bold to say, will but adhere to its own good and sacred principles; if it will but continue to remain cosmopolitan in practice as in theory; ever tolerant, liberal, considerate, and yet reverent, religious, and independent; practising what it professes, and adhering to its wise old landmarks—we may safely leave its work, its mission and career, to the good Providence of T.G.A.O.T.U., without fear and without misgiving, as to its onward march, its increased extension, its safe and certain triumph over the prejudices and bigotry arrayed against it. That it will never be popular with a certain class of minds, a certain section of intolerant thought, we do not care to admit, and we do not think it needful to conceal. But strong in the attachment of its friends, admired by the world, and even feared and respected by its foes, both for what it teaches, and for what it does, we can only bid it "God speed" in the name of the Most High, and urge it to adhere under all circumstances, through evil and good report, to those sacred principles which it still happily and unchangingly proclaims as generations of men come and go, and year succeeds to year in the ceaseless crumbling away of Time.

THE *Freemason*, with the beginning of a new year, has naturally a few words of special utterance and bearing to offer to its numerous and kindly readers. It has had a most prosperous year in 1880, and has seen its circulation increasing week by week, though, of course, there is still a very large margin of sympathetic support to be gained by a Masonic newspaper. It is no doubt true that special journals are at a disadvantage in the great open struggle of literary competition. They appeal, in the first place, to a limited number of readers; they deal with subjects which only have an interest for the few, comparatively speaking, and which are as "caviare" is said to be, (though very mistakenly,

by the way), to a large number of general readers. With the daily information and able competition of low priced papers many of all classes, especially in the country, content themselves; and, as the *Freemason* only comes out once a week, and costs threepence to boot, unless brethren are interested in this event, or that report, they content themselves with what they find so ready to hand and, above all, so well worth reading. The habit also of printing Masonic intelligence in a Masonic column in some non-Masonic papers, (though it is happily, we think, not gaining ground), also interferes with Masonic journalism. And when to this you add the indisposition manifested by some to all Masonic publication, it is not difficult to conceive or understand that Masonic journalism is not, "per se," a "bed of roses," or a "venture" bringing in large and sterling profits. In America Masonic journalism has even a harder struggle than here, though there are 600,000 Freemasons, and very few papers survive an ephemeral existence; indeed, how many we can ourselves remember to have gone down since we first took part in Masonic editorship! Our admirable contemporary the *Philadelphia Keystone* still carries its flag, bravely and manfully; and long may it flourish, for it is a credit to Masonic journalism; and we read with pleasure the Masonic page of the *New York Dispatch*, which is most ably edited by our respected confrere Bro. SIMONS. The *Freemason* has, however, as we have said before, nothing to complain of, but everything to be thankful for. It has been favoured from its first appearance to this hour with the support of numerous kind friends and zealous correspondents, and it has sought to maintain a thoroughly independent tone on all subjects, and to open its columns freely and fairly to all legitimate discussions. Probably one of the great reasons of its success has been the straightforward and business way in which it has come before the Craft. It has never sought to puff its own wares at the expense of another, or to allow any personal feelings to tinge its estimate of other Masonic literature. It has offered, fraternally and honestly, the best "goods" it had at its command, and it has simply commended them in the open market of literary venture, if to indulgent critics, yet at the "market price," and for "value received." It may not have always been free from those unavoidable blemishes which mark all Masonic journals, and most unaccountably so, considering Masonic professions, personality of tone, and acerbity of argument, but it has striven carefully for some time to use freely the editorial privilege of excision and suppression. Few persons, until they try their "prentice hand," can have any idea of two difficulties which accompany all Masonic journalism—the eagerness to rush into print with personal complaints, the readiness to explain ritual proceedings. It is not without some just pride that the *Freemason* can say to-day, the task has been an uphill and distasteful one for many reasons, that though it has been carried through with much success in 1880, and will, we trust, be still more successful in 1881. It appears to us that much of the verbiage of reports of lodges might be judiciously altered in our columns, as far too much of technical proceedings there finds an entrance. So, in 1881, we shall, we think for the best interests of Masonry, still more closely watch over all correspondence and ritual reports, as we think they should be so penned as to be, while perfectly intelligible to the initiate, not so easy to the uninitiated. One other point we may well allude to before we close. Though always independent, the *Freemason* equally wishes to support authority, and it has always discountenanced, and will continue to do so, all mere fault-finding, as nothing is so bad for Freemasonry as a spirit whether of cabal or clique, the proffering of idle charges, or the fulfilment of petty complaints. We say nothing now of the support the *Freemason* has given to all archaeological research, in which it has been cheered by the contributions of a HUGHAN, a D. M. LYON, a GOULD, a "MASONIC STUDENT," a WHITEHEAD, a NEILSON, and many others. But with this New Year we think it well to avow our principles, to show our "flag," to return our hearty thanks for the past, and to leave in the hands of our numberless good friends our usefulness, our progress, and our prestige for the future.

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 MASONIC ROBBERY AT NEWPORT.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Permit me through the medium of your columns to direct the attention of your readers to the loss the members of three of the Monmouthshire lodges have sustained by the wholesale and destructive robbery at their Masonic Temple at Newport. Doubtless many like myself read the account in the columns of your last publication with mixed feelings of surprise, pain, and regret.

We, the Masonic body throughout the country, have gained something by this robbery, namely—experience, as we know it is not an unusual practice for brethren to leave their clothing and jewels at the lodge between meetings. If the practice is to be continued every lodge should be supplied with a large safe or strong room for depositing the jewels belonging to the brethren and other valuables.

In your report of the robbery which I have before me, you state that the silver jewels belonging to Lodges 471, 683, and 1429 are stolen, besides a quantity of P.G. Lodge clothing, presentation and other jewels; you also give the names of the Past Masters who have lost their presentation jewels. Now we may naturally conclude that the clothing and jewels of these P.M.'s would not have been on the lodge premises were they not good hardworking brothers, who, although they had worked hard in the past for the benefit of Freemasonry in general, and their own lodges in particular, in no way had withdrawn their interest in the Craft, as, alas, too many do after a certain number of years; but were supporting it by their presence, and they especially deserve the very deepest sympathy at the present time. In consideration of this experience, which we have certainly gained, and as brethren, I consider that we should, as far as possible, "bear one another's burdens," and assist in repairing that loss for our suffering brothers, who, "unfortunately, have fallen amongst thieves who have stripped them of their raiment" in the Masonic world.

I venture to propose, Mr. Editor, that every reader of this letter should send some small sum to you towards providing a fund for replenishing the jewels, &c., which you might acknowledge in your columns weekly, and if this scheme was carried out, I have not the slightest doubt that in a very few weeks we should be able to supply the sufferers with new clothing and jewels, to replace those which have been stolen from them and so wantonly destroyed. The W.M. of every lodge should bring the matter before his brethren, and get a small sum voted towards this object. A P.M. could not look upon a jewel he had purchased himself to substitute the one stolen with any amount of pride or respect, but to have one replaced on his breast subscribed for, to repair the loss by the Masons of England, would indeed be a pride, and it would be treated with veneration and as a mark of fraternal affection in the true spirit of Freemasonry. I sincerely hope, Mr. Editor, that you will open your columns for this worthy object, and that you and your readers will embrace the opportunity of exercising that virtue we all profess to admire—I mean "Charity."

I would also suggest that any sum that should be over, after supplying the loss to each of our suffering brothers, should be divided amongst the three Masonic Charities, viz., the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the Home for Aged and Decayed Freemasons.

It may not be generally known, but, nevertheless, it is a fact, that the Province of Monmouthshire is one of the most flourishing of small provinces, and of late years has very largely supported the Masonic Charities. A couple of shillings from each of your readers would replace many a lost jewel and much clothing which is reported to have been destroyed, and I have not the slightest doubt would gladden the aching heart of many a brother Mason who has lost all his possessions in the Masonic world.

By inserting this fully in your next publication you will greatly oblige

Yours fraternally,
MASONIC CHARITY.

AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "*Freemason*."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

A good deal is often said by uninformed writers especially about American Masonry. I, who have studied it a good deal lately, have come to the honest conclusion that it holds a very remarkable position in America, one of much good, utility, and benefit to others and to itself. It has, no doubt, some weak points—and we in England, I fear, are not strong on all; and the severe critic might discern some feeble crevices in our armour, and touch upon some "spots in our feasts of charity."

In one point the American Freemasons undoubtedly excel us—in discipline. Their Masonic system is much more organized than ours, and its shortcomings are inherent from the existence of so many State Grand Lodges, each sovereign and independent. Hence a variety of judicial decisions, some antagonistic and not a few hasty and without good precedent. It has often occurred to me that American Masonry would be stronger if the American Grand Masters had a yearly or biennial meeting, and reduced judicial decisions to a coherent and consistent system.

As regards discipline, which I have just mentioned, I take the following extract from the *Canadian Craftsman*: "The *Essex (Mass.) Mercury* states 'that the Rev. Mr. Chainey, pastor of the First Unitarian Church, of Evansville, Ind., having become a Rationalist, and startled his congregation by publicly denying the existence of God, and asserting that prayer was a hideous mockery, in consequence charges were preferred against him in his Masonic lodge, and he was expelled for un-Masonic conduct.' The excellent Canadian paper adds: 'This is as it should be, for as no Atheist can be made a Mason, so if any member of the Fraternity subsequently lapse from the Masonic creed, which especially declares a belief in the existence of the Supreme Being, he should at once be excommunicated from the Society.'

I fancy that in England we shall all agree with these remarks, and, therefore, I think well to call attention to them. The *New York Dispatch* tells us moreover that "the anti-Masonic party didn't meet with astounding

favour in this State. Its candidate, Gen. Phelps, received the not very cheering vote of seventy-five. The days for narrow bigotry proving successful in this country have passed away for ever. We shall all in England be very happy to hear of this result, as anything more absurd than this anti-Masonic cry and electioneering movement in America I have never yet before realised.

We can hardly believe in England, I venture to add, that respectable American citizens should make such "geese" of themselves; but I presume it is the "outcome" of some very irreligious attacks on Freemasons and Freemasonry in America. Freemasonry in America has had a great trial and persecution, and has come out of it unscathed and triumphant. On these grounds and many more even, I venture to think that American Masons and Masonry deserve well of the Cosmopolitan Fraternity.

I am, yours fraternally,
P.S.—I am aware that it is sometimes harshly alleged that American Freemasons do nothing for Charity. This, I apprehend, is a complete misapprehension; they do it differently from us.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Bro. Gould denies, I see, in your last impression Sir Christopher Wren's membership of the Lodge of Antiquity, and even that he was a Freemason at all. In a previous letter I had corrected an error of the non-Masonic press, relative to our esteemed Bro. Letchworth's position in the Lodge of Antiquity. What that fact has to do with Sir Christopher Wren I know not; or how I "strained at a gnat and swallowed a camel," because I corrected one patent error, and did not allude to Sir Christopher Wren, who was not in question, I cannot profess to understand. But as Bro. Gould sees something in it, I suppose there is something.

With regard to Sir Christopher Wren and his Masonic membership in general, and of the Lodge of Antiquity in particular, the whole argument of Bro. Gould rests, I beg to observe, on a pure assumption. "Non constat" it is not a logical consequence, that because Sir Christopher Wren's membership generally and particularly is not proved by existing evidence, that, therefore, there was no evidence formerly to prove both propositions, and consequently all that Bro. Gould can fairly say is, that at present the fact either way cannot be evidentially proved. If I admit, for argument's sake, that saving some old lodge traditions that are very strong, there is no historical evidence of the fact, yet a good deal may be said inferentially in favour of such traditions, and such is probably the reason which induced Anderson in 1738 to number Sir Christopher Wren among the rulers of the Craft. It seems pretty clear that at one time there were earlier records of the old Lodge of St. Paul's, and which seem to be those alluded to by Preston as destroyed by "scrupulous brethren."

The Lodge of Antiquity has wisely, and as is most consonant with its dignity and position, always declined to enter upon such discussions, and, so far, no one has been authorised to speak for it. In all I say I do not, therefore, profess to speak officially or to commit the lodge in any way, but simply to express my own opinion in answer to the hasty remarks of Bro. Gould. He seems to forget that before 1717 we have only one lodge minute book so far extant, as far as research has extended. The York minute book of 1705 is missing, and I know of no other so far than the Alnwick minute book, to which Bro. Hughan called attention some time back. We must not, therefore, be too hasty in rejecting long continued TRADITION.

I am, yours,

A MEMBER OF THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I note Bro. R. F. Gould's remarks in this week's *Freemason* respecting the doubt of Sir C. Wren having belonged to the Masonic body. I note in Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry" (my copy published in 1846), page 163, "That Thos. Savage, Earl of Rivers, having succeeded the Earl of St. Alban in the office of G.M. in June, 1666, Sir C. Wren was appointed Deputy under his lordship; in which office he distinguished himself more than any of his predecessors in promoting the prosperity of the few lodges that occasionally met at this time, particularly the old Lodge of St. Paul's—now the Lodge of Antiquity—which he patronised upwards of eighteen years."

Fraternally yours,

Birmingham, Dec. 24th, 1881.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your "Summary for 1880" you state that "on the 29th of June, Lord Holmesdale, Provincial Grand Master for Kent, laid the foundation-stone of a new Masonic temple at Canterbury." This is an error which I am sure you will be glad to have corrected. The foundation-stone was laid on the 4th of March by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Canterbury, Bro. John Hemery, P.M. 31, P.P.J.G.W. Kent, and on the 22nd of June, Lord Holmesdale, P.G.M. Kent, performed the ceremony of consecrating the same.

Faithfully and fraternally yours

JOHN R. HALL,
P.M. and Hon. Sec. 31, P.P.A.G. Sec. Kent.

A WORD OF WARNING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

As robberies like that of the Masonic Hall, Newport, seldom come singly, it behoves all lodges who have jewels or valuables in their charge to be especially careful of them during the next few months.

I am, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

December 15th, 1880.

F. F. 1792,

THE CITY COMPANIES.—The *Citizen* states:—"Seventy-eight of the eighty-nine Livery Companies of the City are in possession of over 1000 trusts, representing a capital of half-a-million of money, or an income of nearly £190,000 a year. Considerably more than half of this sum is spent in pensions and special gifts of money, coal, food, and clothing."

Literary, Art, and Antiquarian Notes.

The Dials of the Clock Tower of the House of Parliament are now illuminated by the electric light.

Native Girls in Bombay are slowly but surely taking their place in the public educational examinations. Recently a pupil of the Government Girls' School at Karelwady was the only Gujarati student who passed the examination for admission to the public service, and a young Parsee lady has just gone in for matriculation at the Bombay University. The native journals in general are very severe on what they style this "indelicate forwardness" of Parsee females.

A GERMAN TRANSLATION of Lord Beaconsfield's "Endymion" is being prepared at Leipsic.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TELEPHONES.—The *Electrician* says that the Post Office authorities have given an order for 20,000 Gower-Bell telephones.

THE SCHLIEMANN COLLECTION OF TROJAN ANTIQUITIES.—This collection, which has been lent for the last two years by Dr. Schliemann for Exhibition in the South Kensington Museum, will be removed after the Christmas holidays.

THE PARIS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.—At the sitting of the Académie des Sciences, Paris, on the 27th inst., Mr. Warren De La Rue, F.R.S., was elected corresponding member for the section of astronomy.

ARMY COFFEE TAVERNS.—The Duke of Connaught has graciously consented to act as president of the Council for establishing coffee taverns for the army and auxiliary forces. General Sir Charles Daubeny and Colonel Sir J. Stokes have joined the Council.

CHRISTMAS CORRESPONDENCE.—Over and above the ordinary correspondence passing through the Liverpool Post-office, the number of Christmas letters posted was 402,402, while the number delivered was 396,100. The aggregate is 157,016 in excess of last year's Christmas correspondence.

The Austrian artists' wedding present to Prince Rudolph and Princess Stéphanie of a splendid album of original water-colour drawings is nearly finished. It contains sketches of the fiancés' respective homes, of historical episodes in the Belgian and Austrian Royal Families, and of the noted buildings and landscapes in the two countries, while one of the most prominent designs is the conservatory at Laeken, where the young couple were betrothed.

THE PADDINGTON STATION.—The Paddington Station of the Great Western Railway was lighted for the first time on Friday last by the Brush electric light. Thirty-four lamps have been hung from the roof of the station over the various platforms, but only thirteen were lighted. The experiment was made under the supervision of Mr. Spagnolletti, telegraph superintendent of the Great Western Railway; Mr. Allen, engineer of the Anglo-American Electric Light Company; Mr. Kirtley, locomotive superintendent; Mr. W. J. Gooch, Mr. Hart, and Messrs. Brotherhood and Oughterson. At half-past eight the wires were attached to the terminals of one of the dynamic machines, and the terminus in a moment was illuminated amid the cheers of the spectators.

THE SADLERS' COMPANY.—The Sadlers' Company have made grants enumerated in the accompanying list:—Pen-y-Craig Colliery Explosion, Mansion-house Relief Fund, £26 5s. Royal Free and other Hospitals, including St. George's and Charing-cross; National Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children, Destitute Children's Dinner Society, £21 each; Victoria Hospital for Children, Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital, and several other hospitals, Royal Alfred Aged Seamen's Institution, Convalescent Home for Children (St. Leonards), Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, Earlswood Asylum for Idiots, Providence Row Night Refuge, Brixton Orphanage for Girls, Convalescent Home (Seaford), Orphan Working School, (Haverstock-hill), London Orphan Asylum, Infant Orphan Asylum (Wanstead), Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, Clergy Orphan Corporation, National Truss Society, City of London Truss Society, Convalescent Home, Mansion-house Poor Box, Guildhall Poor-box, Worship-street Poor-box, Thames Poor-box, £10 10s. each; Royal Hospital for Women and Children, City Dispensary, Home for Little Boys (Farningham), Farringdon Within Ward Schools, Aldgate Ward Schools, Field-lane Ragged School, King Edward's Ragged School, Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress, Thames Church Mission, Tower Hamlets Mission, Cripples' Home, £55s. each; Stanhope-street Dispensary, Finsbury Dispensary, Fox and Knot Ragged School, £3 3s. each. Total donations £712 19s.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.—On Bank Holiday the Agricultural Hall opened with the usual "Christmas Entertainment and Fair," and was very largely patronised. From ten o'clock in the morning visitors flocked to the hall from all directions, and by noon it was difficult either to obtain entrance or exit. Amongst the greater novelties was Sharman's circular railway, the carriages being drawn by a small locomotive, which is said to travel at the rate of twenty miles an hour. Suitable mountain scenery is erected to make it appear as much like a real tunnel as possible, and behind this scenery or through this imaginary tunnel the train passes, emerging at the other side after the interval of a few seconds. Bailey's steam yachts, or "Sea on land," Manley's Continental Circus, Richardson's Theatre, with a "thrilling and sensational drama," Wombwell's menagerie; and amongst the other objects of interest are wax-work shows, marionettes, shooting galleries in strong force, coconut-shying, portraits taken by aid of the electric light, performing dogs and monkeys, ghost illusions or spiritualist exposures, magic and sleight of hand, the mystic chamber, and Beckwith's swimming tank. The number of persons who passed the turnstiles on Monday was 47,363, and there seems every probability that the fair, which is to be kept open for six weeks, will be a great success.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, January 7, 1881.

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, JANUARY 1.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1622, Rose, S.M.H., Camberwell.

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.
Alexandra Palace, Masonic Club, Loughborough, at 7.30.
King Harold, Britannia Hot., Waltham New Town, at 7.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

Lodge 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
" 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 144, St. Luke's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
Chap. 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.
Prince Leopold, Mitford Tav., Sandringham-rd., Dalston, S. London Masonic Club.
Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
St. John, Gun Hot., Wapping, 8 to 10.
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., Amherst-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.
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.
St. Mark's, S.M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood T., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Metropolitan, "The Moorgate," Finsbury Pavement, 7.30.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

Colonial Board, at 4.
Lodge 9, Albion, F.M.H.
" 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle.
" 166, Union, The Criterion.
" 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
" 705, St. James, Bridge House Hot.
" 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
" 1381, Kennington, Surrey Club, Kennington Oval.
" 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., Woolwich.
" 1688, Samson, F.M.H.
Mark 1, St. Mark's, Freemasons' Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, 7.30.
Pilgrim, F.M.H., 1st and last Tues.
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.
Royal Arthur, Duke of Cambridge, 216, Bridge-rd., Battersea Park, 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 Tav., 15, Finsbury Pavement.
Leopold, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., Bermondsey, at 8.
Mount Edgecumbe, 19, Jermy-st., St. James's, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, 8.
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 of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5.

Lodge 1687, Rothesay, Inns of Court Hot.
" 1707, Eleanor, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1827, Alliance, Guildhall Tav.
Chap. 55, Constitutional, Private Rooms, Leytonstone.

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, 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
Burdett Coutts, Lamb Tav., Bethnal Green Railway Stn.
La Tolerance, 2, Maddox-st., W., at 7.45.
Peckham, Lord Wellington Hot., 516, Old Kent-rd., 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, 8.
United Strength, Hope & Anchor, Crowndale-rd., N.W., 8.
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.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith-rd., at 8.
Zetland, King's Arms Hot., High-st., Kensington, at 8.
Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.
Creston, Prince Albert Tav., Portobello-ter., Notting hill, 8.
Stockwell, Crown, Albert Embankment, at 7.
Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

- Lodge 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
 " 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
 " 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
 " 554, Varborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
 " 1288, Finsbury Park, Cock Tav., Highbury.
 " 1360, Royal Arthur, Village Club, Wimbledon.
 " 1445, Prince Leopold, Mitford Tav., Dalston.
 " 1672, Mornington, London Tav., Fenchurch-st.
 " 1681, Londesborough, M.H., S. Air-st., W.
 " 1708, Plucknett, Railway Hot., Finchley.
 Chap. 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Mark 199, Duke of Connaught, Bell Hot., Shoreditch.

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.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue, 6.30.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank, at 8.
 Highgate, Boston Hot., Junction-rd., N., at 8.
 Wandsworth, East Hill Hot., Alma-rd., S.W., at 8.
 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.
 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.
 Royal Oak, Lecture Hall, High-st., Deptford, at 8.
 Capper, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.
 Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amburst-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., Ealing, at 7.30.
 St. Michael's, The Moorgate, 28, Finsbury-pavement, at 8.
 Guelph, Oliver Twist, Church-rd., Leyton.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

- Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
 " 1815, Penge, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 Chap. 3, Fidelity, F.M. Tav.
 " 1489, Ezra, 90, Balls Pond-rd., N.
 Mark 223, West Smithfield, New Market H., W. Smithfield.

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.
 William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
 Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Golborne-rd., Notting-hill.

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.
 Clapton, White Hart Tav., Clapton, at 7.30.
 Stability, Masons' Hall Tav., Masons' Avenue, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 8, 1881.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3.

- Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
 " 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
 " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Manchester.
 " 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
 Chap. 1496, Trafford, Alexandra Hot., Moss-side.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4.

- 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.
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5.

- Lodge 1013, Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
 " 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
 " 1620, Marlborough, Derby Hot., Liverpool.
 Mark Lodge 65, W. Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.R., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

- Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1473, Bootle, A.R., Bootle.
 Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
 Harmonic L. of I., Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7.

- Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
 " 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
 Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BROWN.—On the 23rd ult., at 8, Regent-street, Nottingham, the wife of the Rev. John Brown, Vicar of St. James's, of a son.

TYSON.—On the 25th ult., at the Woodlands, Lawrie-park, Sydenham, the wife of Mr. T. R. Tyson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BENNETT—BARKER.—On the 27th ult., at Taunton, J. A. Beresford Bennett, B.A., B.Sc., of Birmingham, to Annie, daughter of Mr. James Barker, of Obridge, Taunton.

DOWNING—KIESER.—On the 24th ult., at Calcutta, Mr. John George Downing, Lieut. 72nd Highlanders, to Alma Catherine, daughter of Mr. Wm. Kieser, M.A., Percival House, Blackheath, S.E.

DEATHS.

ALLCROFT.—On the 15th ult., at Lower Wick, Worcester, in her 74th year, Mrs. Allcroft, widow of the late J. M. Allcroft, Esq.

MOSS.—On the 24th ult., Jessie, the wife of Mr. J. T. Moss, of 38, Gracechurch-street, aged 31.

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(Payable by the first 250 Members; after this number, the Entrance Fee will be raised to Five Guineas).

AN EXHIBITION will be opened on the Ground Floor, for the Display of all Manufactures connected with the BUILDING TRADE, the admission to which will be Free on presentation of an Address or Business Card.

The Terms for Floor Space in the Exhibition have been fixed at ONE POUND PER ANNUM PER SUPER FOOT. Renters of ten feet and

upwards being entitled to the use of the EXCHANGE without additional charges. A special feature will be the

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The Wall Space will be let for Advertising neat announcements at 5s. per super foot per annum in any part of the Building. The Proprietors reserve to themselves the right to determine what advertisements shall appear, in order to preserve uniformity.

A Postal Telegraph and Money Order Office immediately faces the Exhibition Floor, greatly contributing to the commercial facilities of the Exchange.

Manufacturers, by the medium of this Exchange, will be put in direct daily communication with an important body of Buyers, and will save thereby considerable expenses incurred by Travellers. Goods can be seen and judged of from the Exhibits to better advantage than by the most descriptive Circular.

Steam Power will be provided on the Basement Floor for working such Exhibits as require Motive Power, the extra charge for which will be regulated according to each individual circumstance.

Private Desks and Single Offices may be hired at an additional Annual Rental of from Ten to Twenty Guineas. This feature will

offer to Country Manufacturers many advantages, combining a London Office with a Sample Room. Letter-Copying Presses will be supplied for use of Members. Headed Paper and Stationery may be obtained from the Secretary. The Daily Papers and Trade Periodicals will be taken and regularly filed for reference. Directories, London and Provincial, will be found in the Reading Room.

Consulting Rooms for private conference may be engaged at a moderate fee per hour.

The Smoking Room will be on the Top Floor, thereby avoiding any inconvenience. This room will be fitted with lounges, and be in communication with the other floors of the "Exchange" by Telephones.

Mortgages and Advances upon House Property can be carried out through the medium of the "Exchange," with considerable advantage to Members; large funds being available for this purpose. Amounts required and sums disposable will be posted, from day to day, in the Contract Room, where will also be prominently displayed all contracts announced during each week.

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