

# 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.

VOL. XIV., No. 649.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1881.

[PRICE 3d.

## CONTENTS.

LEADERS .....	363	Reviews .....	366
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.....	364	Masonic Notes and Queries .....	366
Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution .....	364	Provincial Grand Lodge of Devonshire .....	367
Masonic History and Historians .....	364	Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and	
Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.....	364	Isle of Wight.....	367
Address of Bro. the Right Hon. H. T.		Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex.....	368
Prinsep, D.G.M. to the District Grand		Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex.....	368
Lodge of Bengal.....	365	Grand Lodge of Canada.....	369
CORRESPONDENCE—		The Masonic Veterans.....	370
Precedence of Provincial Grand Officers	366	REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—	
Masonic History and Historians .....	366	Craft Masonry .....	370
The First and Most Eminent Mason in		Mark Masonry .....	370
the World.....	366	Masonic and General Tidings .....	371
Bradlaugh Under a Wrong Denomination	366	Lodge Meetings for Next Week.....	372
Elias Ashmole.....	366	The Late Bro. A. G. Mackey.....	372

THE following passage in a letter from the *Times* correspondent at Paris last week seems to us deserving of "note and comment," in that it is so historically incorrect as to fall into the region of "muthos" entirely. The writer says, in reference to some Napoleonic history, to which we need not further allude, as far outside our boundary line: "The Empire was Democracy with the purple in addition for those who like to be dazzled. It was the only dangerous rival of the Republic; nay, it had the advantage over it of being double-faced, of offering one hand to the Church and the other to the Freemasons, and of flattering Democracy by creating marquises and dukes. The Empire's last champion has retired, and, contrary to the cry of the Roman gladiator, those who see him go say, 'Ave Cæsar moriturus! victores te salutant.'" We only give the whole "extract" at all like as we "bid" at a sale, for a whole lot of rubbish for one little book of rarity or value, on account of the allusion to the Freemasons. We are amused to note "en passant," that the printers of the *Times*, like other printers, have made a "hash" of the Latin. What the writer says of the "Freemasons" is clearly historically incorrect. In the first NAPOLEON'S time the French Freemasons, who were recovering from the "Slough of Despond" of the French Revolution, had very little power in France, and never were high in favour with NAPOLEON himself, though he allowed them to meet and put first CAMBACERES, and then his brother JOSEPH, at their head. In the last NAPOLEON'S reign the Freemasons were latterly at open war with the Government, in our opinion most unwisely; and the theory that at any time they are a political power in a State is fatal to the genius and mission of Freemasonry, and, as far as France is concerned, is indeed a "myth of myths." It may flatter the vanity of some, that love of public discussion which is the bane of true Freemasonry, and in which our French brethren too much indulge, but as Freemasonry has suffered equally from "panegyrist and calumniators, each equally mendacious," (these are Mr. HALLAM'S words, not ours), we think it well to protest to-day against a mis-reading of Masonic history in France, which may do much harm. The other remarks apply to an eminent French Statesman, M. ROUHER, on his avowed retirement from public life.

\* \* \*

THE train of thought into which the foregoing article has led us is this—that we may rejoice to think that we English Freemasons have nothing to do with either political, or religious discussions. So far, happily, our Order has been kept free—truly free, perfectly free—from the excitement of political discussions, or the outflow of acrimonious controversies; and long may this "golden age" for us as Masons continue. In public life we are often worried and jostled angrily by heated combatants and unreasoning controversialists, but in a Masonic lodge all is peace and calm, mutual consideration, and fraternal respect for others. We "honour all men," and so long as our brother is neither a stupid Atheist nor an irreligious libertine we forbear all questions as to his creed, and welcome him as a brother of our Order. We are absolutely so far exempt from the untoward knowledge or discussion of sectarian differences, and any one who hastily lightens any torch of discord or throws down a gauntlet of animosity in our midst is not fit to remain in our peaceful, tolerant, charitable, and kindly Order. We see every now and then "loose words," and read apathetic statements on this vital principle of Freemasonry, and we think it right to raise our humble note of friendly warning and sympathetic concern.

\* \* \*

A LETTER we published last week, signed "A Rough Ashlar," raises a very serious question. Undoubtedly since 1813 we in England must honestly

admit that the teachings and proclamations of the Grand Lodge have been non-denominational, and the entire ritual has been simply Theistic, though there has remained in our midst, and probably always will remain, a limited Johannite School, which finds Christian symbolism in Freemasonry. In Scotland and Ireland Christian prayers can be used; but the general use in England (though there is no rule, it is said, without an exception), since 1813, has been what may be fairly termed "universal," in opposition to "particular." Of late on several occasions we have noted that Christian prayers have been used; and we presume that the instance referred to by our correspondent is one of these cases. Remembering JEREMY TAYLOR'S eloquent and indignant claim for "liberty of prophesying," we are not ourselves inclined to take much notice of such little deviations from our well-known formularies, and we often think that about such matters, and many more like them, the old proverb still holds good emphatically—"The least said, the soonest mended." Still, our correspondent was in "his right" in calling attention to the fact.

\* \* \*

WE have always boasted that Freemasonry knew neither political prepossessions nor sectarian controversies. It seems, however, that some worthy brethren, under the Scottish Constitution, in New Zealand, from a paragraph in last *Freemason*, are about to prove the incorrectness of such constant declarations by the formation of a political lodge. We can hardly believe the statement, and think that it must be an Antipodean "canard." But we know enough of the Masonic principles and spirit of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to feel persuaded that any such perverse parody on Masonic teaching will at once be repudiated and condemned by its distinguished authorities.

\* \* \*

WE are pleased to note that the Everton Lodge, No. 823, added to the pleasure of its annual recreation gathering by making an excursion to Llandudno. This is a most sensible proceeding, and one to be imitated by other lodges.

\* \* \*

WE have heard, though we can hardly credit the report, that Grand Lodge is again to be distressed and annoyed by some absurd personal questions, arising out of some petty matters in the Committees of the Girls' School. We beg to express our hope that steps may be taken in some way or other officially, to put a stop to proceedings which make Freemasonry a subject of ridicule to all outsiders. It is a little too bad.

\* \* \*

VERY soon on the Victoria Embankment the bronze Sphinxes will flank "yon stately obelisk," to its manifest improvement, and we are forcibly reminded whenever we see it of the patriotic munificence of our esteemed Bro. ERASMUS WILSON, whose zeal both for Masonry and philanthropy is well known, and, in our opinion, highly commendable. The noble work which he is so liberally carrying on at the Sea Bathing Infirmary, Margate, is one entirely characteristic of himself, and is certain in every way to be a lasting aid and blessing to our common and suffering humanity.

\* \* \*

WE are much struck by the number of good brethren and true who transact the routine, but needful, work of "Masonry" while every one is "out of town." We think especial praise is due to our GRAND TREASURER, always ready for duty, and who certainly deserves the sympathy and regard of all his brethren for what he does so zealously and consistently for the welfare in every way of our Ancient Craft.

\* \* \*

WE have often said that we are but at the threshold of our Masonic studies, and we repeat the assertion to-day. The fact alluded to by "Masonic Student" in regard to ASHMOLE'S initiation opens out many questions, and suggests numerous considerations. So far from investigation upholding the so-called 1717 theory, it entirely upsets it, and we feel assured that present investigation will result in the certainty of an existing Freemasonry in the 17th century in this country, entirely akin to the revival of 1717.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

A meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held in the Board-room at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart in the chair; and there were also present Bros. Alfred Williams, Donald M. Dewar, R. B. Webster, Rev. Dr. Morris, Arthur E. Gladwell, Richard Tyrell, Alexander Wallace, S. Rawson, James Winter, Frederick Adlard, Edward Baxter, F. Binckes (Secretary), and E. C. Massey (*Freemason*).

The minutes of the last General Committee were read and confirmed. The minutes of the last General Court of the House Committee, &c., were read for information. The report of the Audit Committee was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Three petitions for candidates for election were deferred, two because certificates were incomplete, and one on account of the candidate's inability to read.

A grant of £5 was awarded a former scholar upon a satisfactory certificate from his present employer.

The SECRETARY reported that the Charitable Trusts Bill introduced into the House of Commons had been withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN said that he regretted to inform the brethren of the decease of Bro. Moutrie and Bro. Meggy, members of the House Committee.

The SECRETARY reported that the new offices would be ready in about a fortnight, and received authority to expend a sum not exceeding £50 in the purchase of additional furniture for the same.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

### ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons Hall, Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., in the chair. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, G. Bolton, J. A. Farnfield, William Clarke, J. M. Case, C. G. Dilley, C. J. Perceval, F. Adlard, John M. Stedwell, Charles Daniel, Thomas W. C. Bush, Edgar Bowyer, Charles Atkins, W. F. Nettleship, W. Hilton, and James Terry (Secretary).

After the reading and verification of the minutes of 23rd July, the Warden's report for the last month was read, and the Chairman was authorised to sign cheques for the annuitants, &c.

The SECRETARY read letter announcing the withdrawal of the Charitable Trusts Bill from Parliament.

Two petitions were examined, and the candidates were placed on the list for election next May.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

### MASONIC HISTORY AND HISTORIANS.

BY MASONIC STUDENT.

A very important "factor" in the whole history of Freemasonry, at any rate during and since the Middle Ages, is the question of those wandering bands of Freemasons who built in this country, and other countries, those mighty structures which still attest their constructive skill, adorn architecture proper, and are the admiration and astonishment of successive ages and of our own times.

Earlier writers, as Hope, Gunn, Dallaway, Poole, &c., have alluded to the "Freemasons" as "builders" in express terms, and though the fact, as a fact, has been questioned by some and denied by others, I apprehend that there can be little doubt but that in some sense, at any rate, those writers were correct in their assertions founded on fact. Mr. C. J. Ferguson, an architect well-known in the north of England, in an interesting publication on Lanercost Abbey, assumes that the work of the Freemasons was a real work.

Recent researches, like Sir Gilbert Scott's Fabric Rolls of Westminster Abbey, the Fabric Rolls of York Minster, and of Durham, published by the Surtees Society, the Register of Wm. Molash, Prior of Canterbury, and numerous extracts from older documents, seem to demonstrate unmistakably that some Master Masons and Masons worked consecutively in the north and in the south, and that most of the great abbeys had a skilled staff or "lodge" of workmen attached to them. Sir Gilbert Scott asserts that there were Masons and a Master Mason in the King's pay, and the power of the Crown to impress Masons for special service is proved by undoubted authorities. In the lists of names of Masons preserved as working both at St. Stephen's Chapel, and at Durham, the former of which has been published in the "Masonic Magazine" some time back, we note the fact of the great preponderance of English and local names, with a small admixture of foreign Masons. The German theory, that at one time the Masons in England were mostly foreigners or Germans, is nowhere proved, so far as any list of names has yet been published, though we undoubtedly find names of Flemish or German origin among well-known and undoubted English names. But then the question comes in—Who were these Freemasons?

Why were they termed Freemasons? Was it because they worked "free stone," and were Masons "de Franche Pierre," in opposition to rough Masons; or were they called Freemasons because free of their guild, chapter, or lodge?

The argument, as regards the derivation of "Freemason" from "Franche Pierre" has always appeared to me to be particularly weak and haphazard. It is the "post hoc, propter hoc" with a vengeance. Neither philologically nor realistically could we get Freemason from "Free-stone Mason." There is no meaning, to my mind, in any such derivation.

The Act, often quoted, of Edward III., talks of "Mestre Macon de Franche Pierre," "Master Mason of Free-stone," but it is an unique use of the word, and no traces of any distinction between those Macons who worked in Free-stone and those who did not anywhere else appears.

In all the Fabric Rolls and Lists, though the Masons are sometimes termed "Masons of the Lughe or Loyge," they are not distinguished from one another.

There is the "Magister Cementariorum," the "Mestre Macon," the

"Mayster Mayson," the "Cementarii, Latomi, Latami, Lathomi," also "Operarii, Operantes, Laboratores," Masons called setters, ligiers, tegulatores, and other specific names, but they are all of quite late use.

Indeed, the intense simplicity of the early term "cementarii" is very remarkable. Strictly speaking, "cementarii" are not Masons in any sense of the word.

"Latomii," from the Greek "Lithos and temno;" "Lithotomi, Lapidarii," from the "Lapidinæ, a quarrier," are, properly, stone cutters, stone hewers. "Latomii" are said to come from Latomæ. The "Cementarii" are probably the users of "cementum" or cement, and are, strictly speaking, perhaps, as Mr. Britton said, "Bricklayers," really doing the "Romanum opus" in brick, that being, of course, carefully cemented.

I have not "Pacciolati" at hand, but, if I remember rightly, such is his use, though the word is used for Masons; and Pacciolati knows nothing of "Latomii," which is, I apprehend, a word of pure monastic use. If, also, I remember rightly, Pacciolati spells the word "cæmentum," but of this I am not quite sure.

In the early 15th century ordinances of the Dean and Chapter of York, and those of the 14th century, a Mason to be admitted to work must be admitted with the consent of the Magister and Guardiani, (Wardens), and Majores, (Elders), of the lodge, and take the "corporal oath" of fidelity to his "work" and the Dean and Chapter of York.

I think, then, though it is still, so far, only the evidence of inference, that we may fairly contend that Freemasons were called Freemasons because they were members of a Free Guild, either incorporated by Royal Charter, or, like Bishop Lucy's Fraternity at Winchester, or the Confraternity at Glasgow, by a religious authority.

It seems that in England, if Toulmin Smith be correct, the "Royal Licence" for a Guild was always needful, and probably one of the reasons for the return of the Guilds in Richard the Second's time, was to ascertain how many were merely ecclesiastical Guilds, as well as for the question of "property" held by "Mortmain," for at that time, as we know, the contest between the Papal and Regal power was coming rapidly "to the fore."

But here we are "estopped" by want of evidence, and the "crux" endures, and must do so, until further facts are before us—1. What is the history of the Guilds from Richard II. to their suppression in Edward VI.? 2. What is the connection between them and the operative lodges existing in 1646? and what, again, is the "link" which binds the speculative Masons of 1717 with those of Ashmole's days, and, above all, with the Mediæval Guilds of Freemasons?

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The children, to the number of nineteen, of this excellent Institution, left behind for their holidays, were on Tuesday last taken to Brighton, under the care of Bro. H. A. Dubois, Chairman of the House Committee. They left Clapham Junction at a few minutes after nine o'clock, in a six-wheeled carriage specially provided by the Railway Company, and on their arrival at Brighton proceeded at once to the Old Ship, where refreshment was promptly served, under the superintendence of Bro. Bacon.

The children were then taken to the beach, where they, the whole morning, "battled with the waves" to their heart's content, a strong breeze blowing.

At one o'clock the company returned to the Ship, where a capital dinner was served. At its conclusion the young ones were taken through the whole of the rooms and private apartments of the Royal Pavilion—a privilege obtained through the kind influence of Bro. V. P. Freeman, the Prov. Grand Secretary of the Province of Sussex.

The children next visited the Aquarium, and appeared highly delighted and amused with the objects exhibited therein. After tea, which was provided at half-past six o'clock, the company repaired to the Pier. During the day the children met many of their old schoolfellows, a fact which added considerably to their enjoyment. The happy and healthy appearance of the young folks elicited many complimentary remarks from the Brightonians, the universal opinion being that their behaviour and appearance altogether reflected the highest praise upon all connected with the Institution.

Unfortunately few of the Sussex brethren were present, owing to a prior engagement with Bro. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., at a dinner at West Grinstead.

The children returned to Battersea in the evening, thoroughly well pleased with the change in the trip, which has heretofore been to Hampton Court. The weather was all that could be desired. The company in attendance upon the children included Bro. and Mrs. H. A. Dubois, Miss Buck, Miss Shepherd, Miss Barrett, Mr. Peachey, and Bro. F. A. Kelly (*Freemason*).

LEGEND, THE, OF FREEMASONRY.—Legend, which comes from the Latin "legenda," seems to take its actual meaning from the old "Legenda Sanctorum," and the like, which, preserved in MS., were read sometimes at meals in the monasteries. But a "legend" may also be oral—a story preserved traditionally; and there is also a meaning, formerly apparently, and latterly certainly, attached to "legend," which would seem to imply a narrative, whether true or false, or even what has been termed a "fiction, with a pretension to truth," as Mackey properly reminds us. One common use of the word seems to be a national chronicle or a religious tale which professes to be true, but is not actually so; hence our frequent use of the word "legendary" in this sense. "Legenda" is clearly of monastic and mediæval, not classic, use. Some, like Mackey, have divided legends into mythical, philosophical, and historical, but we do not think that such a division of the subject can be accepted, as we thereby exclude alike the mystical, the religious, and the romantic. In old days, most of the "Mysteries" or "Crafts" had some favourite Saint, whose legend was bound up with its history and rules; and the operative Freemasons had, undoubtedly, that Legend of Freemasonry which may be called the "Legend of the Guilds" (see Guilds), which is found in what we term the "Constitution of Masons," or, as in the Masonic Poem, the "Constitution of Geometry." We need not dilate upon it here, as it is now well known to us, thanks mainly to the publications of Bro. W. J. Hughan. We shall hope that some day a "Magnum Opus" may appear of all the existing Constitutions and Legends.—*Keuning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry.*

ADDRESS OF BRO. THE HON. H. T. PRINSEP, D.G.M., TO THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

We acknowledge with thanks a copy of "Report of Proceedings at a Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, held on the 21st March, 1881." To do justice to it, we have embodied the whole of the excellent address.

BRETHREN,—In the discharge of my duties as District Grand Master of Bengal, I have found considerable difficulty in tracing the progress of Masonry in this district because we have no periodical statements of the strength of the several lodges, or indeed of their very existence. Our records contain only correspondence and returns submitted as a rule with some irregularity, and therefore I have been obliged to abandon any attempt to trace the origin, decadence and extinction of some lodges whose names are no longer on our rolls, and the successful career or varying fortunes of those now working. Such a state of affairs has convinced me that it is my duty to endeavour to repair this deficiency of the past by transmitting to my successors the results of my tenure of office. But, though I am unable to give you any detailed information of by-gone years, as has been correctly observed by one of my predecessors, Rt. Wor. Bro. Sandeman (see proceedings 21st March, 1867), "the progress of Masonry in the Province may always be tested in a measure by the sums received by the District Grand Lodge on account of fees." I have therefore prepared a statement of the receipts of District Grand Lodge for funds for the maintenance of establishment, &c., and on account of the fund of benevolence for the last twenty years, and my excellent Secretary has prepared a statement of the work done by each lodge within the district, and its strength at the commencement and at the end of the past year. I propose in future at each succeeding March meeting to provide you with this information for permanent record for the use of our successors, and I have little doubt also that such information will incite lodges to a laudable emulation to maintain their position in the district, and to compete with other lodges in working strenuously for the furtherance of our Order; but I must take this opportunity of expressing an earnest hope that such zeal will be tempered with discretion, and that in the desire to excel, brethren will be mindful of the wholesome rules laid down in the Constitutions and traditions of our Order, that no person can be made a Freemason without due enquiry into his character and qualifications, and that it is not lawful for us to press our friends to become members of our Order.

From the statement prepared by the District Grand Secretary, which will be printed in our proceedings, it will be seen that at the end of 1880, there were nine lodges on our roll. Since then, I have much satisfaction in announcing a new lodge, Faith, has been opened at Saharunpore, which raises our number to thirty. Of these, Beauchamp Lodge, No. 1422, was in abeyance in consequence of the departure of nearly all its members on service in Afghanistan, but as I announced to you at our last meeting on St. John's Day, it has now resumed work. Lodge Star of Orissa, No. 1106, at Cuttack, which has for some time been in abeyance, has now re-opened, for which our best thanks are due to W. Bro. Col. C. T. Hitchens. On the subject of this lodge, I must mention to you, that I have allowed its warrant to be returned, and the lodge to resume its work, though more than two years have passed since it first went into abeyance. It will, therefore, be necessary for me to ask you to confirm my proceedings in the matter, as there has been a transgression of the bye-laws by me in this respect. I must explain that this lodge went into abeyance because the last Master elect could not get a Board of Installed Masters to put him into the chair. I expected him to come to Calcutta for the purpose, but there was some difficulty about it, and at last I had to look around me to make other arrangements, when luckily an opportunity was offered me of resuscitating the lodge through our W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. C. T. Hitchens, who is a Past Officer of this District Grand Lodge, and it has now been re-opened and is working successfully. I mention this because it will be necessary for you to consider whether my action, and the steps I have taken, thus explained, are such as to induce you to confirm them, for they are really a transgression, and I am afraid a very great transgression, of the bye-law of District Grand Lodge, which requires the District Grand Secretary to return to England the warrant of any lodge which had been in abeyance for more than two years. On the other hand, I regret to announce that Chota Nagpore Lodge, No. 1352, has been placed in abeyance, and, as I have already stated, I doubt whether, from the reduced condition of Hazaribagh, it will be possible to maintain a lodge in that station. The district, therefore, now consists of twenty-nine lodges, all in full work, and to the best of my belief, in excellent order.

I have, as I have already said, been unable to ascertain with accuracy the state of this district at any particular period for purposes of comparison. I learn, however, from the proceedings of this District Grand Lodge (see proceedings of 21st March, 1861), that R.W. Bro. Hoff stated that the number of working lodges in 1851 was twenty, and in 1860, thirty. At that time, it must be remembered, the district included the territories which were formed in 1868-69 into the separate districts of British Burmah and the Punjab. But on a careful examination of the lists of these lodges, I find that several of them were not then working. This is clear from the fact that in later proceedings of District Grand Lodge it has been reported that some of these lodges had submitted no returns for 1859, and that they were at that time reported to be in abeyance, and that their names do not afterwards appear as working lodges. Bro. Hoff's statement is, therefore, somewhat incorrect, and this is likely owing to the irregularity with which returns used to be submitted in those days, and the delay and difficulty in communicating with distant lodges. At present, thanks to the excellent system of accounts introduced by W. Bro. Locke, in 1873, and the improvement in our communications by means of railways and the telegraph, every thing is well up to date. In proof of this I have only to point to the fact that at the present moment we have received the returns and dues of every lodge in this district for the year 1880, except one, Mount Everest, No. 1525, and the delay in that case is owing to the incapacity of the Treasurer through illness of a very distressing nature.

I next find that in 1863 (see Proceedings, 21st March, 1863) R.W. Bro. Sandeman announced that there were twenty-seven lodges working under the District Grand Lodge of Bengal. The further statement made by R.W. Bro. Sandeman regarding the strength of these lodges unfortunately affords us little reliable information. He states that the number of subscribing members at the end of 1862, was 544, and he adds to this that "as only one-half of the lodges have submitted their returns for 1862, these returns may be deemed satisfactory." The accounts, however, show that at that time sixteen lodges had submitted their returns for 1862, so that the statement I have quoted is not altogether correct. I have also reason to believe that the figures themselves are not free from error. At all events this is beyond doubt, that at the end of 1862 there were twenty-seven (more or less) working lodges in Bengal. I make the number to be twenty-five, two lodges having ceased to work, and therefore having returned their warrants as was afterwards announced by R.W. Bro. Sandeman. I have taken some pains to verify these figures on careful examination of the accounts up to 1867. In 1868 the District of British Burmah was formed, by which six lodges were lost to this district, and in the following year by the formation of the District of Punjab, six more lodges were lost to us. From 1869 to 1873, the Bengal Freemasons' Diary affords us some guide for tracing the number of the lodges of this district, and from 1873 to the present day, the new system of accounts gave the requisite information.

It appears then that in 1869 there were 20 lodges; 1870, 21; 1871, 22; 1872, 23; 1873, 24; 1874, 26; 1875, 28; 1876, 27; 1877, 20; 1878, 25; 1879, 25; 1880, 27; and 1881, 29.

This is all the information that is readily available regarding the state of this district up to the present time. A careful examination of a large mass of records would no doubt give further details of much interest, but neither I nor my laborious Secretary can devote sufficient time for this purpose. I shall, however, be most glad to afford the means of collecting this information to any brother who may have the inclination and leisure to devote to this labour.

We have at the present time 29 working lodges and one lodge in abeyance. At the commencement of last year we had 612 subscribing members on our roll, and at the end we have 701. During that time 199 brethren have been initiated, 178 passed, and 169 raised, making in all 546 Degrees conferred.

Of individual lodges, St. John, No. 486, a Calcutta lodge, is our foremost lodge in the number, both of its members and of the Degrees conferred. The other lodges come in the following order as regards their strength: Morning Star, No. 552, Lucknow; True Friendship, No. 218, Calcutta; Humility with Fortitude, No. 229, Calcutta; Independence with Philanthropy, No. 391, Allahabad; and Dalhousie, No. 639, Mussorie. But all these are eclipsed in work by True Freemasonry, No. 1865, Saidpore; Courage with Humanity, No. 392, Calcutta; Kumaron, No. 1870, Naini Tal; Light in Ajoodha, No. 836, Fyzabad; and Rohilla Star, No. 1843, Bareilly; three out of these five last named being our youngest lodges. It will also be seen from the statement that in the course of the year our lodges have had 1078 members, 377 having left us, owing to resignation, exclusion, death, or being transferred to the absent list. Under ordinary circumstances this loss would be exceedingly unsatisfactory, as it would seem to show that our operations have been unsuccessful in retaining amongst us those who have joined our lodges or become members of our Order; but those losses can almost entirely be otherwise explained. Very many of our brethren must every year leave us in India, owing to sickness, to transfer in the service of Government to other parts of the country, and to departure from India altogether. It must always be remembered that we are nearly all of us not colonists, but temporary residents of India—visitors, all looking to return to Europe at some future time. Of the 701 subscribing members belonging to 27 lodges of this district 280 belong to 10 metropolitan lodges and 421 to 17 country lodges.

I will now turn to the financial figures of this district. I must, first of all, repeat emphatically what has often been said from this Chair, that not one piece of these funds has been spent on any kind of refreshment, on eating and drinking.

To the minutes of the proceedings of 27th December, 1873, a statement was appended showing the receipt of fees to District Grand Lodge and to the Fund of Benevolence since 1850. I have completed this statement up to the end of 1880, and I have corrected in some respects the former statement. I have had some difficulty in excluding mere items of account, loans from one fund and repayments, and items such as subscriptions to memorials collected through the District Grand Treasurer which should obviously not appear in our Masonic accounts; but I think I may safely say that my figures are very nearly correct. These will also show that Masonry in this district has by no means retrogressed. The figures in recent years exhibit more correctly the state of the district, because, as I have already pointed out, in former days collection of dues were made with some irregularity, and, therefore, the amount of one year never showed the working of that year or of any particular period. In all these calculations the receipts during each year have been entered.

To represent the operations of the past year I have taken the figures from 1st March, 1880, to 28th February, 1881, from the actual returns and payments of the several lodges for 1880, so as to show accurately the result of the work of that year. I have excluded all minor funds from these calculations. We have thus the following general results:

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE GENERAL FUND.		
Receipts	...	Rs. 5852 2 11
Disbursements	...	4980 12 6
FREEMASONS' HALL SUSTENTATION FUND.		
Receipts	...	Rs. 6970 7 0
Disbursements	...	7678 1 4
BENGAL MASONIC FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.		
Receipts	...	Rs. 4814 10 3
Disbursements	...	4494 4 4

to which I would add that in the same period we have paid into the Bengal Masonic Association for the Education of Children of Indigent Freemasons Rs. 8801-0-1, of which we have expended in the education of fifteen children Rs. 5923-6-9, and have invested the sum of Rs. 3994-5-4, making our invested capital amount to Rs. 37,300.

During the year 1880 our working Masonic Funds have realised Rs. 12,822-9-11 and our Charity Funds have realised Rs. 13,615-10-4, making collections amount to Rs. 25,990-4-3.

I do not desire to make these statements with any wish to claim credit to myself as your local ruler, but to place on record the progress made during the past year, and to satisfy those who do not belong to our Order that we are not idle in furthering the principal object of Freemasonry—Charity—though we must all of us admit that much still remains to be done to meet the calls made on us.

I am afraid I have too long trespassed on your patience. I have to express my sincere thanks for the attention you have bestowed on my lengthened address. If I have interested you, and if I have furnished you with information regarding the state of this district which will stimulate you in your exertions on behalf of our Order, I shall feel that the labour that has been bestowed in placing these facts before you has been well expended, and that I need no apology for the time I have to-day occupied in addressing you.

I have next to draw your attention to the tablet which has been placed outside the lodge to the memory of our late W. Bro. J. B. Roberts. There is a surplus left after providing for the cost of that tablet, and it is proposed to devote that surplus to procuring a portrait of our late lamented brother, which may remind us in future of one who for so long laboured with us for the good of Freemasonry in this district. The sum which we have left is almost adequate for the purpose, but not quite so. We shall therefore be glad to receive subscriptions from any of the brethren who have not already subscribed.

W. Bro. J. B. KNIGHT, C.I.E., P.D.D.G.M., then addressed the lodge as follows: Brethren—I think no one here present can have listened to the exhaustive and interesting statement which our R.W. District Grand Master has read to us regarding the state of Freemasonry in this district without being struck with the great earnestness he has thrown into the working and ruling of Freemasonry in Bengal, or with the remarkable way with which that earnestness has communicated itself to all the lodges working under his Hiram in Bengal. I remember well when W. Bro. Prinsep was elected District Grand Master we expected great things from his known ability and his known thoroughness; but we are more than gratified with the results of that appointment. We have seen lodges heretofore in a state of disorder brought into order, and we have seen accounts hitherto neglected kept in a satisfactory way. The account as to the state of Freemasonry in Bengal, which has now been placed before you, with respect to the present is thorough and complete; and as to the past as complete as the great industry of a man occupied in many other ways can make it. I think that we should not let such a statement as the one we have had placed before us this evening pass without acknowledging in most cordial terms the gratification it has given us, and the indebtedness under which we stand to our R.W. Bro. Prinsep for the work which he has done for Freemasonry in this district.

If we all think that Masonry is a good institution, it is right and fitting that it should be conducted in the best way possible. We must all feel that, under the kindly and strong rule of Right Worshipful Bro. Prinsep, Freemasonry will flourish and progress in Bengal, and will still more extend its beneficial influence throughout the district.

I, therefore, propose that the cordial thanks of the District Grand Lodge be formally voted to Right Worshipful Bro. the Hon. H. T. Prinsep for the efforts he has made for the good working of Masonry and of this District Grand Lodge.

This resolution having been seconded by Wor. Bro. J. W. BROWNE, District Grand Senior Warden, was carried by acclamation.

The RIGHT WOR. DISTRICT GRAND MASTER replied as follows: Brethren, I am very grateful for the kindness which you have always shown to me, and the assistance I have received from those of you who have influence among the younger brethren, for without such influence and such interest it would be quite impossible for me to discharge the duties of my present office. I have done little to deserve the high terms of praise bestowed on me by Wor. Bro. Knight. I am barely through the half of the five years of office which every District Grand Master is expected to fill, and I trust that in the remaining half you will have no cause for being dissatisfied with my work. I take this opportunity of expressing my great obligation to Wor. Bro. Rustomjee, for the care and labour he has always bestowed in carrying on the duties of his office. I am sure his excellent work has been fully recognised by you in all your dealings with the District Grand Secretary's office.

Mr. Arthur Chappell has arranged the next series of Popular Concerts as early as the latter part of October.

The committee of the "National Eisteddfod of Wales," to be held at Merthyr Tydvil at the end of the present month, have published an extensive programme of their proceedings, which include competitions for prizes of poetry, prose, musical composition, instrumental and vocal proficiency, painting, sculpture, and carving. The "chair subject" is an "Ode on Love," for which a prize of twenty guineas is offered. A Welsh operatic libretto also figures in this department. Altogether sixty-four prizes, ranging from two to twenty guineas, are to be awarded by the adjudicators.

The German papers state, we know not whether on good authority, that the Queen, on the suggestion of the Crown Princess, has presented to the Museum of Berlin a picture by Rembrandt of "The Money Changer," formerly in the Royal galleries at Windsor. Special interest attaches to this picture from the fact that it is dated 1627, when the painter was only nineteen years old. The only other picture by Rembrandt known to be of the same early date is the "Paul" at Stuttgart.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—For bad legs, gathered breasts, and scrofulous sores these are genuine specifics. The grateful and earnest gratitude of thousands who have experienced their unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon their extraordinary virtues. The parts affected should be bathed with lukewarm water, and when the pores are thereby opened the Ointment should be well rubbed in at least twice a day. It is always advisable to take Holloway's Pills in these disorders, as they greatly assist the Ointment's action. The Pills check the fever and inflammation, purify the blood, and eject all morbid matter from the system.—[ANON.]

## To Correspondents.

J.W.—We will enquire.

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

"The Sunday Times," "Broad Arrow," "Masonic Token," "Der Long Islaender," "New York Dispatch," "The Citizen," "Die Bauhütte," "Keystone," "The Hull Packet," "The Jewish Chronicle," "Orient—Bulletin du Grand Orient de France," "Bollettino Ufficiale del Supremo Consiglio del 33 per La Tunisia," "The Northern Advance," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Boletín Oficial del Grand Orient de España," "The Mystic Tie."

## THE FREEMASON.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1881.

## 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.]

## PRECEDENCE OF PROVINCIAL GRAND OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

During the course of my Masonic career, which has now extended over twenty-eight years, during which period I have been continuously in office, it has often surprised me to observe how lengthened disputations and even acrimonious disputes grow out of mere quibbles.

With regard to this prolonged correspondence as to the status of Grand Officers with reference to Prov. Grand Officers, let any brother read, without bias, the paragraph relating to Prov. Grand Officers in the Book of Constitutions, page 51, section 2, and he will find the question is there determined. In line five from the top of the page it says "but they are not by such appointment members of the Grand Lodge." If they are not members of Grand Lodge how can they take precedence of Grand Officers?

Bro. the Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G. Chaplain and Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Surrey, is quite right. Provincial Officers are Grand Officers in their own province, but they are not Grand Officers of England, and therefore in the presence of Grand Officers should willingly yield their precedence. A little common sense, but above all true Masonic feeling, would soon end this and similar discussions. Is it too much to ask of Freemasons to remember that the "sweet small courtesies of life make pleasant the path of it?"

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

ANOTHER DEP. PROV. GRAND MASTER.

## MASONIC HISTORY AND HISTORIANS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your July 16th number, referring to my communication of July 2nd, Bro. "Masonic Student" takes me to task for having done something very naughty. "I think (says 'Masonic Student') that our esteemed Bro. Jacob Norton in his impeachment of Bro. Dr. Anderson has found what is commonly called a 'mare's nest,' &c."

Now, I have more than once impeached Anderson's history, but in my article of July 2nd I have not only *not impeached* Dr. Anderson, but, on the contrary, I have vindicated Bro. Anderson's character from the imputations of Masonic *landmark sticklers*, and have demonstrated that he (Bro. Anderson) was much more rational than they thought he was, and more rational than they themselves were—and that's all.

I have certainly proved that Bro. Anderson did not care for sticking to laws; he did not believe in the nonsense that "once a law, is always a law;" he had no scruple in modifying and changing a majority of the laws passed in 1723; and I have no doubt whatever that his Constitution of 1723 no more resembled Bro. Payne's Constitution of 1721 than Payne's Constitution resembled the Constitution in Halliwell's Poem, or than the Constitution of 1738 resembled that of 1723. That the 1721 and 1723 Constitutions differed may be proved from the fact that the latter, while it empowered the Grand Lodge to confer the Second and Third Degrees, withheld from it the right of making Masons, while that of 1721 allowed the Grand Lodge to make Masons; thus, June 24th, 1721, the Grand Lodge "made some new brothers, particularly Lord Stanhope, now Earl of Chesterfield." Now, if the two Constitutions differed in one thing, why could they not have differed in others?

As far as I can *guess* from the meagre account furnished by Anderson, I think that, whereas the four old lodges were ruled by what is called "Gothic Constitutions," the Lodge of Antiquity is still in possession of its old MS., hence the two or three lodges that were organised before Payne's Constitution was adopted must also have furnished themselves with similar documents; and I must here add that I strongly suspect that the MS. most recently discovered, called the "Inigo Jones' MS.," though dated 1607, was probably got up for one of the new lodges between 1717 and 1721. Well, then, from those MS. Constitutions, Bro. Payne compiled his Constitution of 1721, and, as far as we

know, it may have contained the old charge, "To be true to the Church, and to entertain no heresy."

He doubtless added new regulations; such as the titles of the officers of the Grand Lodge, how they were to be chosen, the necessity of lodges holding charters from the Grand Lodge, &c. All this we may conjecture; but how those laws were worded, and what they were, it is impossible to know. One thing is certain, viz. that Bro. Payne's Constitution must have been considered unfit and useless for the government of the new organisation, and Bro. Payne himself must have been satisfied that the Constitution was not what it ought to have been; hence, within a few weeks after the Grand Lodge adopted the said Constitution, Anderson was invited to re-write it, and just six months after June 24, 1721, or more properly on the following Evangelist's day, Bro. Anderson presented his new MS. Constitutions to the Grand Lodge, when a Committee was appointed to examine it, &c., and Bro. Payne does not seem even to have been offended that his Constitution was so short lived. But that is not all. On a page at the end of Anderson's Constitution of 1723, headed "Approbation," Bro. Anderson referring to the author, meaning himself, says: "He has examined several copies from Italy, and Scotland, and sundry parts of England, and from thence (though in many things erroneous) and from several other ancient records of Masons, he has drawn forth the above written *new Constitution*."

Now mind, "New Constitution" as above, was printed in capital letters by Anderson himself. If that had not been true, why did not Payne attack Anderson in the Grand Lodge or elsewhere for his assumption? That Payne found no fault with Anderson shows that the new Constitution of 1723 was *new*—to all intents and purposes. Why then did "Bro. Masonic Student" feel annoyed at my previous conclusion, that what with Anderson's fondness for *altering* and *explicating*, he probably retained very little of Payne's Constitution in his own of 1723.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JACOB NORTON.

Boston, U.S., July 30th, 1881.

## THE FIRST AND MOST EMINENT MASON OF THE WORLD.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I read in your issue of the 23rd ultimo, an exposition that a brother, "Friendly Protest," makes to my assertion as to Bro. Pike's being the first and most eminent Mason in the world. Such is and will be my opinion till the reverse be well proved and settled. My brother "Friendly Protest," in opposing my affirmation and denying such a qualification to Bro. Pike, must have some other brother in view who is worthier of this distinction; if so, he has only to name him, to prove all his rights to a preference, and I of course shall gladly bow my humblest assent and plead guilty. But, till then, no "Friendly Protest" whatsoever shall have the privilege to impose on others his own way of thinking and judging persons.

I am also happy to tell him I am neither an American nor a Britisher, but merely a Cosmopolitan Mason, who is a friend to all nationalities and a steady admirer of great men, wherever and whenever they may be found.

Fraternally yours,

A. 33.

Cairo, August 1st, 1881.

## BRADLAUGH UNDER A WRONG DENOMINATION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have to acknowledge the courtesy of your correspondent "South London" in exonerating the Surrey Masons from complicity with an individual on whose merits we are both agreed. But I submit that the lessee of the room in letting it to Bradlaugh should not have allowed the word *Masonic* to be used, as outsiders, and even brethren not connected with the Southern lodges, might thereby have been led to believe that the junior M.P. for Northampton was acting under the *prestige* and patronage of the Craft. Indeed, such is the impression left on the mind of a distinguished Provincial G.M., who, writing to me, says: "The use of the Surrey Masonic Hall for a Bradlaugh meeting is most improper, and I think Grand Lodge ought to take *serious notice* of the matter."

Surely, "Surrey Hall, Camberwell New-road," would have been sufficiently indicative of the locality appointed for the meeting, and would have averted an unpleasant misapprehension. I quite concur with "South London" as to the propriety of the erection of a smaller structure devoted exclusively to Masonic gatherings; and, moreover, think Kennington or Brixton would be preferable to and more central than the present locality.

I am, yours fraternally,

HERCULES.

## ELIAS ASHMOLE.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

I alluded to Ashmole's initiation at Warrington in a communication I sent to the *Freemason* last week, and to the general impression that all those named, except Ashmole himself and Col. Mainwaring, were members of the Operative Craft. I have received since I wrote, from a friend of mine, a most promising and intelligent Masonic

student, the following remarks, the importance of which, as regards our Masonic history, both Bros. W. J. Hughan and Gould will see at once:

"The names given in Ashmole's diary are all local. The Penkeths, of Penketh, and the Sankeys are well-known ancient gentle families, now long extinct or reduced to poverty. The Ellams are an old yeoman family, resident in the adjoining parish of Warwick for centuries."

If five of the band were "speculative" what a question is opened as to the existence of "Freemasonry," as Plot suggests, in the 17th century. I leave this passage to the appreciation of Bros. Hughan and Gould, of my Masonic student confreres generally, and am, yours fraternally,

MASONIC STUDENT.

## Reviews.

## THE MAGAZINES.

"All the Year Round," for July, with its ordinary and Summer Number combined, is, indeed, a good fifteen-pennyworth. We can cordially recommend it to all our friends, whether wandering in holiday zest over Cumberlan hills, or sauntering by the seaside, as an excellent companion, not only to read and enjoy, but to read out to an enthusiastic circle. All the stories are good, some specially so. We particularly like "Aunt Agatha's Conversion," "A Barrow of Primroses," "An Out of the Way Story," and "Camelot."

"Temple Bar" is very readable and pleasantly gossipy. We like "Personal Reminiscences of the Crimean War" and the "Carlisle Controversy" much; the latter is a most sensible article. We have laughed heartily at the "Major's Monkey," and read with interest "The Freres." "The Awakening" is a little "unreal," though well written. But why will writers always "pose?" The author of this "historiette" is clearly capable of better things.

"Scribner's Monthly Illustrated Magazine," though, as usual, admirably edited and illustrated, strikes us, perhaps unfairly, as being beneath its normal level of excellence. "At the Sea in Normandy" is charming alike to study and realize, and makes one wish to be loitering amid "Normandy Pippins," or watching the bathers at "Etretat." "A Little World" is also very good reading, and so is the "Isle of Peace." The claims of "Fulton" deserve attentive consideration. He clearly never has had justice done to him. "Scribner," which, by the way, is soon to change its name, undoubtedly stands A1 among magazines, and gives each month matter for serious thought, as well as gratified perusal.

"The Antiquary" pursues the even tenour of its way—a most useful monthly serial for animated and energetic "Dryasdusts." We, however, grumble a good deal at the late Wm. Henty's unnecessary paper, to prove that Shakespeare did not "poach" the "deer," and above all, his defence of him if he did. It seems to us that Shakespeare in his complex character is rather more interesting than otherwise by his early "escapades," and that at this time of day to think it necessary to whitewash "our William" of an offence in the hot days of his youth, is carrying puritanic scruples to an absurd extent. Who thinks worse of him for his encounter with the "three Luces?"

## Masonic Notes and Queries.

## THE ROSICRUCIANS.

Izaak Walton, as I once before observed in these columns, talks of the "Rosicrucians" as an existing body in 1653, and in Jesse's edition of the good old angler of 1861 I find a footnote to this effect: "The title of the Rosycrucians, or the Brothers of the Rosy Cross, was first assumed by a sect of Hermetic philosophers in Germany about the commencement of the fourteenth century. They professed to have a knowledge of all the occult sciences—as the working of gold, the prolongation of human life, the restoration of youth—from which they were also called Immortales—and the formation of the Philosopher's Stone; but all these secrets they were bound by a solemn oath to reveal only to the members of their own fraternity, and it is to this custom in particular that Walton alludes." Their founder was a German gentleman, named Christian Crux, who had travelled to Palestine, where, falling sick, he was cured by Arab physicians, who, he asserted, revealed to him their mysterious arts. He died in 1484, and the name of the Society was composed of the words "Ros," dew, and his own name "Crux, or Cross," the old chemical character for light. "Tennemann's Manual of the History of Philosophy," Bohn, 1854, is credited with this statement, which I have not seen, though some of my readers may have done so. Tennemann is in error on two points. (1) The earliest traces of the older Rosicrucians do not antedate the beginning of 15th century, not 14th. (2) Christian Crux, Crux, a Cross, is not represented by Christian Rosenkreutz, is believed by some to be a pseudonym of Cornelius Agrippa.

MASONIC STUDENT.

## MASSONÉ.

In Coates's "New Dictionary of Heraldry," London, printed for Aaron Ward, at the King's Arms, in Little Britain, 1747, the word "Massone," or "Massoned," is represented to be an heraldic term, and to mean "when an ordinary is represented in the nature of a stone wall, with all the joints between the stones appearing, as they generally do in stone buildings, as the word implies, being as much as done in Maçons' work." My query is—Where is the earliest heraldic use of this word, which clearly comes from the Norman French Maconner or Maconer?

MASONIC STUDENT.

## FREEMASONRY IN JAMAICA.

Referring to Bro. Burger's interesting sketch of "Freemasonry of Jamaica," I hope to be able in your next to produce one or two facts directly bearing on the subject in the year 1775.

W. F. LAMONBY.







R. T. Walkem, Kingston; Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound; B. Saunders, Toronto; and J. M. Meakins, Hamilton. The Grand Master appointed Bros. M. Murray, Hamilton; L. H. Henderson, Belleville; Dr. Carscadden, Iona; P. J. Brown, Ingersoll; and D. Glass, London.

The following are the Chairmen of Committees: Audit and Finance, Bro. H. Murray; Benevolence, Bro. Otto Klotz; Condition of Masonry, Bro. P. J. Brown; Jurisprudence, Bro. Henry Macpherson; Grievances and Appeals, Bro. H. Robinson; and Warrants, Bro. D. Ross. The Committee on Credentials reported, and the report of the Committee on Grand Master's address was presented.

The newly-elected officers were installed. After transacting some further business, Grand Lodge finally adjourned at 7.30.

### THE MASONIC VETERANS.

We take this report from our contemporary the *New York Dispatch*, as we think it may interest our readers:

We trust to the sympathy of the brethren, wherever dispersed, to pardon us for giving in this issue of the *Dispatch* the place of honour to the annual meeting of the venerable brethren known by the above title. We speak not so much for ourself as for the rest, but at the same time there is something connected with this gathering that ought to, and we believe does, appeal to the best sentiments of the Craft, and lead them to understand that age and long service only makes more evident the devotion of these brethren to all that tends to magnify the offices of Masonry, and to encourage all who have entered its mystic temple so to walk and act that when years have whitened their hairs and crowned their services they shall find in the membership of this association the chief reward of their zeal, and the best proof that they have loved Masonry because it is the true exemplification of all that tends to raise us above the common level, and to make our labours the demonstration of a robust manhood, and the reward of just, upright, and generous devotion to principle—not so much for ourselves as that those who are to come after us may know that, having earnestly and faithfully discharged our duty, the love and respect given to us will later come to them, and we being at rest and forgotten, they will inherit the love given us, and transmit to their successors the same admiration of the Institution we have tried to inculcate and exemplify, and thus, from generation to generation, from age to age, will the fire upon our altars be kept burning, and the *esprit du corps* be maintained.

The annual meeting was held on the Wednesday evening of Grand Lodge week, and after the admission of a number of aspirants, the brethren were formed in procession, and proceeded to the place selected for the banquet.

When all were seated it was found that eighty-six of the veterans were present, and that the average age was sixty years, with a slight fraction over. The *menu* furnished was all that could be desired, being choice, but at the same time such as would become old men, loving each other rather than what they could eat.

A Masonic choir furnished some of the choicest music, and made itself especially noticeable by its selections between the different addresses.

After the removal of the cloth, President GEORGE H. FISH made the following address: Venerable brethren, one year more has the Great Architect consented to our living, and allowed us again to meet at our annual feast. Thanks to God for his care and kindness. Life to us is pleasant. It is worth our while to live; then let us so live that death shall lead to abiding peace. Changes must come to us each year. Some who sat with us at our last feast are gone—whither? It is well that we know not, and you can all join with me in remembering our dead, and trusting in that mercy "which falleth like the gentle rain from Heaven," rejoice with them in their new and better life. The contemplation of death should be no bar to enjoyment like this. Scarcely a meeting that we are not reminded of it, never a feast that places are not vacant. It is only bringing us nearer to Him, in whom we avowed our trust so many years ago. This is our annual feast, a time for entertainment and delight; then let us rejoice. Rejoice that, when our names are held "in memoriam," there will be one place from which our Guardian Angel can bring the testimony of loving words from fraternal hearts. Rejoice in the fact that, amid the turmoil and strife incident to earth, there are so many glad trusting brothers who delight to meet, and with speech, song, and good cheer, brighten these twilight hours of life. In listening to some remarks made last year by Ven. Bro. Pike, I was surprised at their tenour. To think that that grand old man, who loves now "to sit in his chimney corner and cheerily chirp," should have taken so sombre a view of his Masonic life as to question whether it was not a failure! Could he have looked into the hearts of the thousands who have listened to his sound advice and treasure his words of wisdom, and who feel that their lives are better from the influence of his silver tongue, he could have read his answer there, graven in letters of living love upon hearts ever responsive to his slightest wish. In a moment of despondency he forgot that—

"He who plowed and who sowed is not missed by the reaper;

He is only remembered by what he has done."

"Man shuts the door against the setting sun," said a philosopher of the olden time. Human nature still remains the same. There have undoubtedly been times during our Masonic lives when loss of station, business cares, family troubles, or the tongue of misrepresentation have vexed and wearied until, in despondent thought, we too have felt that the teachings of our Order were as a myth, and personal friendship a farce, that our brothers were "shutting the door against the setting sun." It is not until the zenith of life is passed, and rank and title have ceased to be an aspiration and become a memory, that we fully appreciate the strength of friendship, and can see the welcoming hands which have always been outstretched, only hidden by the gloom of our own despondency. It is then that the tendrils of sympathy reach out towards each kind word and friendly glance, until, entwined in each other's affection, we realise the fruition of hope and the harvest of our earlier teachings. Venerable brethren, what brings you here to-night? Not an epicurean feast; for we are frugal; not a convivial revel, for we are temperate. "The hearts of men vibrate in answer to one another like the strings of a musical instrument," and is

not this the secret of your presence here to-night? The echo in your own heart of the wish of some brother that you may meet and exchange the fraternal greeting, and by the warmth of your welcome assure him that the pleasure he feels is but a vibration in unison with your own. Music and flowers have been brought in as aids to brighten and cheer us on this occasion; to help, by appealing to our finer sensibilities, to draw our thoughts from self and individual ends to the more noble fraternal purposes for which we meet. I know there is not one here whose eye does not brighten as he looks upon these art colourings from Nature's studio, or whose pulse does not quicken at the concord of sweet sounds. We can feel kindlier, look kindlier, and speak kindlier, when affected by such influences; and can any of us say we need them not? Are our tempers always under curb, our minds free from imaginary grievances, our tongues never forgetful that we are brothers, and our thoughts ever ready to acknowledge the care and goodness of the Grand Architect? Then let us welcome these, or any aids, that can serve to keep back the grosser parts of our nature and bring into the fuller light all that in us is ennobling. There are many present this evening for the first time, and it may not be amiss to say a few words to them. We are an organisation of old men, who having laboured for the Craft for twenty-one years or more, are anxious to preserve the friendships of past time, and willing to form new ones. Many, in fact most of you, have ceased from your especial labor for the fraternity, and are enjoying that well-earned rest which belongs to the faithful. We are in a great degree social. Yet in this as in all organisations, there is work to be done, and we trust that you will not be content to sit quietly down and drift along, satisfied so long as some one has the helm. You can all find something to do to assist your officers in making our meetings pleasant and attractive, and you will find that the more interest you take in this Guild the more satisfaction you will derive from your membership. I will not detain you longer, for there are those present whose ready wit and fluent tongue will fill the coming hours with gems of thought, so rare that memory will ever love to revert to the feast of 1881, and so, venerable brethren, I bid you all a most sincere and fraternal welcome, and extend to each that soulful greeting which is the distinguished mark of our grand old brotherhood.

Then followed the regular toasts, the first being: "The memory of our Dead." Silent and standing.

"The Grand Lodge; the parent whom we still obey." To this sentiment Bro. M. W. C. F. PAIGE responded in an address replete with mother wit; his allusions to the living landmarks being filled with remarks in the happiest of vein.

"The Literature of Masonry." M.W. Bro. ALBERT PIKE responded to this sentiment in grand and poetical language, and made all those privileged to hear him feel that thus was furnished an opportunity to know and appreciate the thoughts of a scholar who had given his life to the philosophy of Masonry, and who was prepared to make evident to his hearers the result of his long years of study and application.

"The Ethics of Masonry." To this sentiment the M.W. Bro. MARSHALL B. SMITH, P.G.M. of New Jersey, responded in his best style.

"The Sentiment of Masonry." To this toast M.W. Bro. JOHN W. SIMMONDS responded.

"The Universality of Masonry." To this sentiment Right Worshipful Bro. CHARLES T. McCLENACHAN responded. He said: Venerable brethren, the closing toast of the evening's festivities demands our serious consideration. Were all the finer sentiments and abilities with which the Creator has imbued man called into requisition and concentrated to frame an association that should embrace every tribe and every nation in indissoluble bonds—that should touch every chord within the human breast—it would not be within the scope of heart or intellect to organise and perfect an institution that would meet every such requirement as the universal Fraternity of Masonry. It is the blessed tie that binds our hearts in friendship's love. Of the myriad sacraments that the Creator has spread before the creature—man—it would seem as if the Divine Will had finally imposed that an universal link should bind them in a brotherhood, whereby they should enjoy and partake of all these sacramental blessings in unison, and drink from the fount of His love with thanksgiving and praise. The bond of Masonry extends to infinity. Would we feast our mental eyes on the glories of the Creator, Masonry presents the vision. Would we feed the intellect on the knowledge of things visible, Masonry opens the Book of Nature. Would we sanctify the lips in speech as to the longing of the soul, in praise and prayer, in gratitude and supplication, Masonry in its universality unfolds the Divine Word as the greatest light and guide. Do we crave for greater wisdom, strength, and an harmonious bond? Masonry points to the principles of the new law, to faith, to hope, and the divinity of love. All our powers of action, our intellect and reason, and the passions of the soul are purified and sanctified through the teachings of God's blest institution that enfolds the world.

"Before our Father's throne  
We pour united prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares."

To those who are the devotees of Masonry—who have scored the toils of passing years—what garlands are too fresh, what strains of harmony too sweet, what zephyrs wafted from angelic wings too soft, what praises from the trump too great for services rendered mortal man in sowing the undying seed taught as none others can? But those of this assemblage are growing old, and we are looking back upon the days of "Auld Lang Syne." I know you long and love to sing the good old song, and so I close, quoting the lines of the poet, the illustrious Albert Pike:

"For the truer life draws nigher  
Every year;  
And its Morning Star climbs higher,  
Every year;  
Earth's hold on us grows slighter,  
And the heavy burden lighter,  
And the Dawn immortal brighter  
Every year."

Altogether the occasion was most enjoyable, and will certainly live in the memory of the participants surrounded by pleasant thoughts.

The association is now in the full tide of success. Each

year enlarges the number of its members and the circle of its kindly influence, and each annual feast adds increased approval of the happy thought that brought into existence the Association of Masonic Veterans.

## REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

### Craft Masonry.

**FARRINGDON WITHOUT LODGE (No. 1745).**—This lodge held a regular meeting on the 25th ult. at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn. Among those present were Bros. H. J. Lardner, W.M.; J. Strugnell, S.W.; W. Williams, J.W.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., I.P.M.; W. H. Jackson, jun., P.M. and Sec.; Good-enough, S.D.; T. Simpson, J.D.; H. B. Marshall, C.C. &c., I.G.; Hart (Hon. Organist); and Parkinson, Tyler. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Skelthorne having proved himself duly qualified for preferment, was passed to the Degree of F.C., the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M. Several communications having been read, the lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren separated. There was no banquet.

**GREAT STANMORE.**—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on the 30th ult., and, the day being delightful, passed off with great success. The W.M., Bro. Roy, opened his lodge punctually at 3 o'clock with the assistance of the following brethren: Bros. C. Long, S.W.; E. Bamford, J.W.; Dr. Royers, Treas.; C. Veal, Sec.; A. Goldsmid, S.D.; T. J. Villiers, J.D.; W. G. Loe, I.G.; G. Tidcombe, P.M.; J. Middleton, Tyler; Sherbrook, Puckett, Dalzell, Paten, Haynes, Biggs, and Felton. Visitors: Bros. F. H. Wilson-Iles, 404, D.P.G.M. Herts; Clement Heaton, 404; W. H. Norris, 404; F. A. Vansetter, 404; J. Shepherd, P.M. 27 and 201; Williams, D.C. 975; and Schartan, 1549.

The minutes of the previous meeting, and the report of the Audit Committee were then duly confirmed, the latter this year giving more than usual satisfaction, from the fact of the lodge releasing itself of its many liabilities, which by unavoidable misfortune had previously accumulated, thus giving the new W.M. every prospect of a prosperous year, and to speed on in the cause of charity. Bro. Geo. Tidcombe introduced his old friend and brother Mason, Bro. Francis Antoine Vansetter, who was initiated at Antwerp, at the Lodge Les Amis du Roi et de la Patrie, in 1825. In October of that year he came to England and became a teacher of languages in many of the best families and schools in the neighbourhood. He passed through the English Degree of Freemasonry at the Watford Lodge some years after. He descends from a well-known old family of Antwerp and Brussels, and with wonderful animation he vividly described to some of the brethren of the Abercorn Lodge the scenes he witnessed at Brussels at the time of the Battle of Waterloo. On his way to the field after the battle, at five o'clock in the evening, he met an aide-de-camp of Sir Colin Halket—Capt. Alexander Home—who hurriedly told him the glorious news that he was taking to Brussels—that "The Prussians arrived in time! The English have won the battle! The French are in full retreat!" Bro. Vansetter is one of the brethren of Carthusian Friars of the Charterhouse in London, and is one of the happiest there, full of spirits, and interesting anecdote, in his eighty-sixth year, having been a M.M. fifty-six years. Bro. Sherbrook was raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., and Bro. Dalzell was also passed in the same effective manner to the Second Degree. A candidate for initiation not appearing, the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Dr. Wilson-Iles, who, on presentation of Bro. C. Long by Bro. Tidcombe, P.M., most impressively performed the ceremony of installation. After the customary salutes and investing the I.P.M., the following were selected as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Bamford, S.W.; Goldsmid, J.W.; Rogers, Treas.; Veal, Sec.; Villiers, S.D.; Loe, J.D.; Schartan, Org.; Puckett, I.G.; Tidcombe, D.C.; and Middleton, Tyler. The addresses having been listened to with great enjoyment, the W.M., in the name of the lodge, then presented the I.P.M. with the handsome jewel, which he had so well earned and was most unanimately accorded to him, for which he appropriately responded. The customary "Good wishes" from the visiting brethren, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Installing Master, concluded the business, and the lodge was closed in peace and harmony at six o'clock p.m.

The banquet, of the usual *recherché* character, passed off admirably, many expressions of satisfaction being accorded to Bro. C. Veal for his efficient catering. The usual time-honoured toasts were given and responded to; and most worthy of special praise were the musical contributions of Bros. Schartan and Dalzell, of Westminster Abbey, both initiated in this lodge. The W.M. having passed the little Charity-box most successfully, the Tyler's toast, at ten o'clock p.m., concluded one of the most enjoyable gatherings for which this lodge is becoming famous.

### Mark Masonry.

**WORKINGTON.**—Derwent Lodge (No. 282).—The first monthly meeting of this new lodge, which was consecrated on the 12th ult., was held on Wednesday evening, the 3rd inst., in the Masonic Hall, Portland-square. The whole of the members were present but two, they being out of town. Bro. T. Dixon, W.M., P.G. Reg., presided, supported by Bros. Rev. E. M. Rice, M.A., S.W., P.G. Chaplain; J. J. Coverdale, J.W., P.G. Steward; J. A. Salkeld, M.D.; D. B. Winston, S.O.; E. G. Burrows, J.O.; W. Carlyle, R.M.; J. Thompson, Sec.; F. Paul, J.D.; J. J. Little, I.G.; J. Lewthwaite, Steward; W. Wagg, Tyler; and W. Smith. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the business before the lodge was the confirmation of the draft bye-laws, which were ordered to be printed, and a copy forwarded to London for the approval of the General Board. On the proclamations being put, Bro. I. Evening, I.G. Faithful Lodge, No. 229, Cocker-mouth, was proposed as a joining member, after which the lodge was closed. Next meeting it is expected several candidates will be proposed for advancement.



**Masonic and General Tidings.**

Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary, will consecrate the Gallery Lodge, No. 192S, at Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton, this day (Saturday) at half-past three o'clock p.m.

Bro. Major-General Brownrigg, C.B., Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, consecrated the Mozart Lodge, at Croydon, yesterday. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Bro. F. Binckes, Secretary Royal Masonic Institution, announced at the meeting of the General Committee of that Institution on Saturday last that the new offices will be ready in about a fortnight.

Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, presided on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge at the Lecture Hall of the Soldiers' Institute, Grand Parade, Portsmouth, when a testimonial was presented to Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, of Southampton, in recognition of services rendered by him as Provincial Grand Secretary, from which office he has recently retired; he was also appointed Prov. Grand Senior Warden.

Lady Monckton and Sir Charles Young added to their long list of successes on Friday week, by their efforts in connection with the entertainment given at Hampton Court in aid of the Convalescent Home, which the Princess Frederica is endeavouring to establish. The performance was a very brilliant affair, and attracted more than usual attention from the fact that something like 150 years had elapsed since any entertainment of the kind had been given at the Palace.—*City Press.*

The seventh International Medical Congress concluded its labours on Tuesday, after sitting in six general meetings and in fifteen sections daily from August 2nd to August 9th inclusive. In the course of the concluding ceremonies medals of honour were presented to members who had rendered prominent services to the Congress. The question of the next place of meeting for the Congress was left to the judgment of the Executive Committee. In the course of the evening the members and their friends, including the ladies of their families, dined together at the Crystal Palace.

At a meeting of the Irish peers, held at the private residence of Bro. the Duke of Abercorn on the 3rd inst., Lord Headley was unanimously selected to fill the next vacancy in the Irish representative-peerage.

The Masonic bazaar, held at Padstow, last week, in the beautiful grounds of Prideaux Place, produced the amount of £155.

Bro. Captain Bedford Pim, speaking at a meeting at Dulwich on Thursday night, the 4th inst., said that the various abortive schemes issued by the Charity Commissioners for Dulwich have cost £50,000.

On Saturday, the 6th inst., the firm of Messrs. Janes and Son, of 101, Aldersgate-street, and 4, Eagle-place, Piccadilly, held their twenty-sixth annual dinner at the Old Red House, Woodford Bridge. After spending a most enjoyable day they returned to town in good time. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. T. M. Janes, Mr. G. Downing presided.

Bro. Lord Rosebery has accepted the Under-Secretaryship at the Home Office, in the place of Mr. Courtney, who goes to the Colonial Office.

Among the presents to the Hon. Arthur Saumarez and Miss McGarel-Hogg was a handsome chiming clock (after Westminster Palace chimes), bearing a suitable inscription, from the colleagues of Bro. Sir James McGarel-Hogg, Bart., M.P. Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and a diamond pendant from the officers of the Board.

**THE CHATHAM MURDER.**—Notwithstanding the increased reward offered by the officers of the Royal Engineers, amounting, with the Government reward, to £600, for the discovery of the murderer of Lieutenant Roper at Chatham, the Scotland-yard authorities, who have visited Chatham, have not gained any fresh information. The Engineer officers purpose, it is said, to make the reward a thousand pounds, in the hope that, if there was an accomplice, he may be induced to divulge.

Bro. Sir John Bennett presided on Wednesday evening, the 3rd inst., at the distribution of prizes to the successful competitors at the fourth annual flower show of the Pioneer South Bermondsey Amateur Floral Society.

On the proposal of his Excellency Dr. Baccelli, Minister of Public Instruction, and in consideration of special merits, his Majesty the King of Italy has nominated Professor Leone Levi, Cavaliere (Knight) of the Order of the Crown of Italy, to be Cavaliere of the Order of SS. Maurizio and Lazzaro.

Sir George Rose Sartorius, G.C.B., the senior Admiral of the Fleet, attained his 91st year on Tuesday, having been born on August 9th, 1790. The venerable admiral is the eldest son of the late Colonel John Conrad Sartorius, an Engineer officer in the Hon. East India Company's service, by his marriage with Anna, daughter of Mr. George Rose. Sir G. R. Sartorius is one of the few survivors of Trafalgar, having taken part in Nelson's memorable victory as midshipman of the *Tonnant*, and was also engaged in many other naval operations in the early part of the century.

**COMMITTEE FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE KING OF THE HELLENES.**—At a meeting of the members of this committee, held on Friday, the 5th inst., it was resolved unanimously: "That this committee desires to place on record its sincere and hearty recognition of the admirable services of its Chairman, Bro. Sir John Bennett, in connection with the visit of the King of the Hellenes to the City of London, and to mark its appreciation of the judgment, energy, and courtesy which throughout characterised his fulfilment of the duties of the chair.—*City Press.*"

At a meeting of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, held on Thursday, the 4th inst., it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Alderman Stone, seconded by Mr. E. Gregory, that this company do contribute to the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education the sum of £105 for this year, and a like sum for each of the two following years.

Bro. G. R. Stone was installed W.M. of the St. John and St. Paul Lodge, No. 615, at the Avenue Hall, Erith, on Monday last.

The annual installation meeting of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1182, which closes another year's experience of prosperity, took place on Thursday afternoon, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where Bro. John Barclay was duly placed in the chair of W.M. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next.

Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P.G.M. Cornwall, has appointed Tuesday, September 27th, for holding the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall at Liskeard, and on the following day (Wednesday) his lordship will hold a meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Cornwall at St. Austell.

The hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Pennsylvania Masonry is to be celebrated June 24th, 1882, at Philadelphia, and a committee of twenty-one will have charge of it.

The Masonic Temple, Washington, D. C., was badly damaged by a storm on June 27th.

Lanhydrock House, the Cornish residence of Lord Robertes, which was burned down recently, is to be rebuilt on the old site and in the old style at a cost of £40,000.

The dramatic performance lately given by Lady Monckton and Sir Charles Young at the Grosvenor Hall, in aid of the Funds of St. Gabriel's Home, Herne, near Worthing, realised a net sum of £120 for the charity.

Bro. A. Brookman, of 19, Noble-street, will be a candidate for a seat in the Court of Common Council for the ward of Aldersgate at the next election.

Bro. Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., is among the subscribers to a fund for the relief of the families of pilots and pilots' apprentices recently drowned off Cawsand Bay.

Bro. the Rev. Dr. P. H. Ernest Brette, of Christ's Hospital, was one of the examiners of Grosvenor School, Twickenham, of which the Rev. L. M. d'Orsey is principal.

Bro. Sir Frederick Roberts has been sitting to Mr. Oules, R.A., for a portrait destined for Eton.

A Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the province of Berks and Oxon, will assemble by command of the Prov. Grand Master Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, in the Abbey Council Chamber, Abingdon, on Tuesday, August 30th, at three o'clock p.m., under the banner of the Abbey Lodge, No. 225, when the Provincial Grand Master will appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing year. A collation will be provided in a pavilion in the gardens of the Provincial Grand Treasurer (W. Bro. E. J. Trendell), at five o'clock p.m.

Bro. Justice Cave commenced sitting on Tuesday as vacation judge at Judges' Chambers, where there will be a judge in attendance during the vacation on every Tuesday and Thursday until further notice.

Bro. Lord Rosebery presided on Monday last at a meeting held at the hall of the Society of Arts, with the object of obtaining increased support from the public for the Trades Guild of Learning, and reorganising it on a larger basis. Resolutions were unanimously passed, pledging the meeting to support the objects of the Guild and urging trade societies to co-operate as far as possible in organising the proposed lectures and classes.

The Marquis of Hartington, K.G., has consented to preside at the twenty-sixth annual festival of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, to be held in the early part of next year.

Bro. Professor Emmanuel Galani, Ph.D. 33°, Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer of the Supreme Council of Greece, has been appointed Grand Secretary for Foreign Correspondence of that body.

Three hundred and forty-four of the Masonic works in the library of the late Bro. Albert G. Mackey, M.D., have been catalogued, numbered and priced, with view to their private sale. Many valuable books are included in the list. For copy, address E. W. M. Mackey, 1339, Q. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.—*Keystone.*

Bro. Emra Holmes, Collector of her Majesty's Customs, Fowey, member of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, and of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland, author of "Notes on the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital," &c., has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

E. Sir Robert L. McCormick has just been elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Minnesota. The annual Grand Conclave took place at Stillwater. The knights had an encampment and competitive drill. E. Sir A. T. V. Pierson was re-elected Grand Recorder.

**SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.**—Her Majesty the Queen, the patron of the society, has just contributed a special donation of £25 to the fund being raised for this society, *Hibernia-chambers, London-bridge*, on behalf of the Local Relief Committee in the Shetlands to assist those afflicted by the recent disastrous storm in the Shetlands.

**THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.**—A competition, open to foreigners as well as Russians, is announced for the erection of a monument to the late Emperor Alexander II. in the Kremlin at Moscow.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond's statistics, reported to the Grand Lodge of Maine for 1881, shows that fifty-four Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada have 507,128 members against 573,317 in 1880. There are 21,883 candidates against 19,685; 18,746 affiliations against 17,523; 17,362 dismissals against 17,102; 808 expulsions against 929; 257 suspensions against 464; 19,250 suspended from membership against 23,210; 6800 deaths against 7113; 3,434 rejections against 3615. Although there are 6189 less members, the suspensions from membership being 4000 less, indicates a healthy gain, and we may soon look for an advance again.

The Salford Liberal Association held their annual picnic in Bro. Lord de Tabley's park on Saturday, the 6th inst.

**DEATH OF A LADY 102 YEARS OLD.**—Mrs. Anne Webb, relict of Mr. Thomas Webb, J.P., has just died at her residence at Ledbury. The venerable lady was in her 103rd year, and the dates of her birth and marriage are beyond dispute. When Mrs. Webb attained her hundredth birthday the Queen sent her a letter of congratulation and Her Majesty's portrait, with a request that the photograph of Mrs. Webb might be forwarded to the Queen. Her eldest son was born in 1812. The deceased lady was possessed of all her faculties to the last.

Bro. G. Lambert has made a donation of £100 to the City of London General Pension Society.

Bro. E. G. Legge, of 5, Philpot-lane, Fenchurch-street, has been appointed a commissioner to administer oaths in the Supreme Court of Judicature in England. Bro. Legge was admitted a solicitor in 1872.

The annual excursion of the Friars Lodge of Instruction, No. 1349, will take place on Tuesday next, the 16th inst. The party will visit the Crown Gardens, Broom-bourne, where they will banquet under the able presidency of their Preceptor, Bro. W. Musto, P.M. 1349. We trust the weather will prove propitious, that the brethren and their ladies, who will accompany them, may have a thoroughly enjoyable outing.

Bro. Emmanuel Galani, Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Greece, has been appointed Grand Secretary for Foreign Correspondence of that Grand Lodge.

Bro. A. E. Brewis, I.P.M. of the De Ogle Lodge, No. 636, Morpeth, was presented by the brethren of his lodge with an apron and a jewel on the occasion of his leaving the town for an appointment in Liverpool.

Bro. C. Long was installed W.M. of the Abercorn Lodge, No. 1549, Great Stanmore, on the 30th ult.

Bro. Holland will hold a show to illustrate the manufacture of hats, &c., at the North Woolwich Gardens on the 15th inst.

The oldest known Masonic medal, according to Bro. Marvin, is one in silver, struck in 1733, to commemorate the founding of a lodge at Florence, by Lord Charles Sackville. The oldest English medal is probably of 1755. One of the best collections of Masonic medals is that of the Lodge Pythagoras, in Brooklyn. The largest cabinet known is that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mecklenburg, at Rostock, which contains over 300 specimens. There are in this country several considerable private collections.—*Keystone.*

Bro. Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, received the members of the International Medical Congress at a *conversazione*, given by that Institution on Monday last.

Bro. Frederick Binckes, P.G.W., Grand Secretary, will instal Bro. Sir Charles Brune Graves-Sawle, Provincial Grand Mark Master Mason of Cornwall, on Monday, the 15th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Turo.

The *Keystone* (Philadelphia) commenced its fifteenth volume on the 2nd July.

Bro. the Right Rev. the Bishop of Peterborough has left England on a trip to Norway.

Bro. the Rev. Marshall B. Smith, Past Grand Master of New Jersey has had the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred upon by the Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

The American papers announce the death of Dr. Tanner. It is stated that his death was accelerated by the injury received to his constitution in his celebrated forty days' fast of last year.

Alderman Sir A. Lusk, Bart., M.P., will be the Lord Mayor's *locum tenens* during this month, and will preside at the special meeting of the Court of Common Council to-morrow.

**THE VALUE OF CITY LAND.**—The value of the unoccupied land at the Blackfriars end of the Thames Embankment is stated, on the authority of Sir Henry Hunt, consulting surveyor of her Majesty's Office of Works, to have risen since 1870 from £40,000 to £84,825 an acre.—*City Press.*

The annual exhibition by the Turners' Company will take place at the Mansion House on Tuesday, October 11th, and the two following days.

A cricket match between the Gentlemen and Players, for the benefit of J. Lillywhite, jun., was brought to a close on Wednesday, at Brighton, the professionals winning a most exciting match by a single run. The totals were: Gentlemen, first innings, 204; second, 111. Players, first innings, 204; second, 112.

The Philharmonic Society has been actively arranging the business of its seventieth season. The opening concert will take place on February 9, at St. James's Hall, at which the *pièce de résistance* will be Beethoven's Choral Symphony, originally composed for the Society, Rubinstein's "Paradise Lost" is underlined for one of the concerts and Herr Joachim-Raff has been requested to compose a work for the season.

Miss Jacoba de Graaff, of Rotterdam, whose "Primula Veris" was admired at the late Exhibition of Living Masters at the Hague, is engaged on a picture of English life for exhibition in this country.

Miss Gennadios, the only Greek lady who has devoted herself to sculpture, has received from the Prime Minister of Greece a commission to execute a bust of Canning.

**WHAT SHALL WE DRINK?**—No summer beverage so refreshing, so wholesome, none so delicious and grateful to the taste, when hot, tired, and thirsty, as a glass of Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy taken with aerated waters or lemonade. Ask pointedly for it by name, as substitutes and mixtures abound, report adulterations to the manufacturer, Thomas Grant, Distiller, Maidstone. Sold at the Crystal Palace, and by Bertram and Roberts everywhere, also at the clubs, the hotels, and all noted places of refreshment.

£20 TO £500.—TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—A pamphlet; how to open respectably from £20, post free. Address H. Myers and Co., 1031, Euston-road, London; and at Birmingham. Established 1855. Wholesale only.

