

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in

FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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; THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1883.

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THE Agenda Paper must strike us all as being unprecedented. If we may judge by previous discussions, both from the length, and, must we not add? tediousness, of certain excellent brother orators, we have not only a hard night's work before us, but we may find ourselves in the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal" before we have come to the end, if we ever do get to the end, of the liberal menu of business provided for us.

We trust that all members of Grand Lodge will attend to certain leading points, keep them before them, and not allow themselves to be diverted by ingenious side-questions, or "go a-hunting" after numerous amusing, but elusive, "hares." One of the great objects of our gathering will be to non-confirm the alteration in the "status of Past Masters," and also that hasty legislation as to liability for joining fees. There are grave objections to giving the provincial authorities the right of altering the days of lodge meetings. If any such power is to be granted, it must be on a dispensation from headquarters, for a small fee to go to the Benevolent funds. We do not think there are any other points of much importance. The great necessity is to confirm the revision, so that the Book of Constitutions may be printed, and that we may see the end, at the same time, of impossible propositions and sterile discussions.

It is so easy to be wise after "the event," and so common to be profuse in proposals of alteration, when the need or the opportunity for such changes has passed away. Every lodge in the Craft has had full time given for sending up suggestions; every member of Grand Lodge has had ample opportunity allowed for depositing crude or sensible propositions, as the case may be. The patience of those who have sought to digest and assimilate the chaotic mass of alterations, reasonable and unreasonable, possible and impossible has been very great indeed, and the "residuum," after the purifying and sifting process, is, to our minds, highly satisfactory. We shall possess in our revised Book of Constitutions a code of English Masonic law, lucid, simple, and straightforward. No one, we think, can deny that it is a patent improvement on our old and cherished Book of Constitutions, which certainly ought to preserve the memory of Bro. WILLIAMS ever green amongst us. We hope to be permitted in our next to record a completed revision, and the close, whether of wise or unwise changes, of hasty or mature legislation. One point we sometimes forget in the heat of our personal views or anxiety for favourite "fads," and the acerbity of polemical discussions, that it is not one body, or any one or any number of brethren, whose welfare and rule we seek to uphold and control for many years to come, but that of the English Craft. Private fancies and subjective ideas must yield to the general good, and we appeal to the Masonic patriotism of many of us to allow simply what is for the lasting welfare and true harmony and wise government of the Craft to dominate our theories and distinguish our words.

We regret to see by the Agenda Paper that the Building Committee persists in attempting the carrying of an impossible and impracticable report upon Grand Lodge. Such an unwise course of action places all its members in a very delicate position. We feel and feel strongly that a grave blunder has been committed by some one, and can only hope that the sound and safe advice of a true "Amicus Curie" may yet be taken in time, and so prevent an angry discussion, a very decisive expression of opinion, and for the Building Committee assuredly a complete "Fiasco." We are told that though everybody agrees that the report is a mistake and a "forlorn hope," "it cannot be expected that those who drew it up are to retrace their steps, or recall their words." But why not? The whole scheme was hastily entered upon, and certainly not exhaustively dealt with. It betrays both in its composition and suggestions the marks of hurry and limited time, and an inexact and incomplete acquaintance with the bearings of the case. In private business no such proposition could ever have been made, and why in public? It would almost seem so, and we feel that we are warranted in saying that there is no one brother of business habits outside the Committee who approves of the financial sacrifices demanded therein of often a too willing Craft. We have heard rumours that the whole matter is to be treated as a

"question of confidence" in the Committee. Let us hope it is not so, and that such is a pure "canard." No more serious mistake could be made, and to such an announcement there could be from Grand Lodge but one reply? That body, singularly conciliatory and considerate, will certainly never brook anything like minatory dictation; and we trust most sincerely, and earnestly, that wiser counsels will yet prevail, and that we may have to announce next week a pacific and sensible solution of the whole "vexed question."

We never could profess to understand on what "data" or experience of facts the Building Committee drafted and issued that remarkable report, for which, like the Roman gladiators of old, they seem to say to our Royal Grand Master "Ave, CÆSAR, te morituri salutamus." There can be no doubt if Grand Lodge has to choose between the resignation of the Building Committee and the rejection of the report which alternative they will accept. One great objection to the report is the financial one. It is both in the abstract and concrete positively unsound. It purposes to give a premium unheard of, even in London, for buying up our own property; to bind the Grand Lodge hand and foot for nearly two generations of brethren, and to spend an enormous sum of valuable and hardly-obtained money, not to benefit the Craft, not to advantage Grand Lodge, but to render a good "take" still better for, no doubt, excellent lessces. But why should we go out of our way to do all this? The policy seems alike very strained and abnormal, and we have never yet heard from any one, least of all from any one conversant with finances, the slightest approval of the proposition, or any explanation of proposals which must strike all interested in the property of Grand Lodge as generally improvident, to say the least. The whole returns to Grand Lodge on outlay will not be more than one and a quarter per cent., and all we shall get for our expenditure of £40,000 (if that amount will suffice) will be a magnificent supper-room, an unuseable Masonic Hall, a vast expenditure of valuable money, and a settling down in Great Queen-street, "willy-nilly," for 50 years. As all these arrangements constitute a "consummation" not "devoutly to be wished for" by any of us, we beg once more to protest against a hasty, injudicious, and unsatisfactory proposal we fear to the Craft, and in no sense helpful to the interests of Grand Lodge. We believe we are expressing the sentiments of all unprejudiced brethren in the metropolis and the provinces when we say "let this wide and ill-advised proposal be at once withdrawn, and a plan submitted simply to reconstruct the Hall with such improvements as science and experience can suggest or demand safely." In this way, and only in this way, will the great body of Grand Lodge be pacified and contented.

We have not seen the amended plans for the new Hall. The original plan was condemned at the first glance, but as we understand it has been withdrawn it is useless and impolitic to "slay the twice slain." We wish to ask this question. Has anything been done to remove our objection to the impossibility of constructing a hall to seat 1500 brethren on the floor, in which speakers can properly be heard. We are told that this objection is to be met either by a gallery or an amphitheatral form with a "tribune" for the speakers, as it is admitted a level room to seat 1500 brethren is, for acoustic purposes, impossible. No such room exists for an assembly like ours, involving the reading of reports, and in the case of debate. But does not this very uncertainty display the haste and inexperience, we hardly like to say "insouciance" with which such plans have been prepared and promulgated. No one who knows anything of the tenacity with which our Grand Lodge adheres to old forms, customs, and the "norma vivendi" would propose arrangements which must entail a revolution in our Masonic business and habits of thought. We hope to have heard the last of such idiosyncratic general suggestions and unhealthy abnormal arrangements, and feel sure that Grand Lodge will require a more ship-shape plan for the seating and convenience of its members.

We agree with Bro. JAMES STEVENS's proposal in the abstract, but think it a little premature, and we advise him to withdraw it until we have settled what the real plan is to be. He can always add it as a "rider," a wise, reasonable, and salutary "rider" in our opinion, and which will commend itself to Grand Lodge if for no other reason than that we have many distinguished architects amongst us, like Bros. BARRY, WHICHCORD, Professor LEWIS, and others, whose opinions ought to be taken, and whose advice ought to be solicited, in a matter so affecting the prestige of Grand Lodge, the furtherance of the great art of architecture, and the convenience and comfort of the Craft.

We think that our distinguished Bro. HORACE JONES has been placed in a very difficult position by the demand upon him for a plan, practically gratuitous. We think the Book of Constitutions only contemplates his giving a general sort of advice to the GRAND MASTER and the Craft. We

ourselves do not believe in amateur architects, unpaid professional advice, just as we hold a legal opinion without a retainer to be generally and practically valueless.

No Chairman has yet been definitely appointed for the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Bro. TERRY is still in correspondence on the subject. No doubt the number of Stewards is somewhat affected by that fact, but the inherent claims of that remarkable Masonic Charity are so many and great as we think to induce brethren *at once* to send in their names for the office. The claim is a claim of Masonic Charity, not only of merely personal good feeling for this Chairman or that.

We understand that Bro. J. D. ALLCROFT, the present Grand Treasurer, will be renominated as Grand Treasurer, on the ground of unwillingness to sanction constant changes, and a yearly agitation. Our readers will note a circular elsewhere.

We have also heard the name of a younger brother likely to be nominated for this office, but as we have no public announcement of the fact we think it better for the present *not to say* we do.

MANY of our readers will regret to hear that Bro. EVANS, connected with the press, is said to have perished amid the terrific slaughter in the Soudan.

It is only a few weeks since that H.R.H. the Prince of WALES, in accordance with an announcement made on his behalf by Lord HENNIKER, M.W.G.M.M.M., at the summer half-yearly Communication of the Mark Grand Lodge in June last, was advanced to that degree at a meeting specially convened for the purpose at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, the ceremony of advancement being performed by the Duke of ALBANY, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS being afterwards regularly installed by Lord HENNIKER, as Worshipful Master of a Mark Master Masons' Lodge. On Saturday, the 8th inst., a special meeting of Mark Grand Lodge will be held in the Great Hall of Freemasons' Tavern, when the PRINCE will be installed with all due ceremony as a Past Grand Mark Master Mason and will be assigned the place of honour at the head of the Past Grand Masters of this highly popular degree. So auspicious an event as the enrolment of the GRAND MASTER of the United Grand Lodge of England among the chiefs of the Mark Grand Lodge has necessarily excited a considerable amount of interest in the Masonic world, and doubtless the muster on Saturday will be in all respects worthy of the occasion. It is true the PRINCE is not the first member of the Royal Family who has expressed a wish to become acquainted with the mysteries of Mark Masonry, his brother, the Duke of ALBANY having for some time past been a member of this Degree. But his position as chief of constitutional Freemasonry gives greater *éclat* to the enrolment of HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS under the banner of the Mark Grand Lodge, and this, notwithstanding the desire expressed by HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS that his taking the Degree must not be construed into a wish on his part to see the Mark and Craft Masonry amalgamated, and that his joining the former order must not be used as an argument in favour of such amalgamation. However, while we cordially recognise the justice of—we will go further, and say the necessity for—this proviso in the case of our GRAND MASTER of Craft Masonry, we must not deny ourselves the pleasure of congratulating the Mark Grand Lodge on this additional evidence of the high appreciation in which the Mark Degree is held, as well among our most distinguished constitutional Masons, as among the supporters of Degrees lying outside the pale of Antient Free and Accepted Masonry.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following business is on the agenda for transaction at the Quarterly Communication to be held on Wednesday next, the 5th inst. :—

- 1—The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 5th September, 1883, for confirmation.
- 2—The minutes of the two Special Grand Lodges of 29th June and 8th August, deferred from the last Grand Lodge, for confirmation.
- 3—Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.
- 4—Appointment of a President of the Lodge of Benevolence.
- 5—Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.
- 6—Election of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence for the year ensuing.
- 7—Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz. :

A brother of the Derwent Lodge, No. 40, Hastings	£50 0 0
A brother of the Castle Lodge of Harmony, No. 26, London, a Past District Grand Master for China, £150	20 0 0
NOTE—This brother died on the 10th October, consequently this recommendation has lapsed with the exception of £20 paid to him on account of such recommended grant.	
A brother of the Acacia Lodge, No. 1314, Bromley, Kent	50 0 0
A brother of the Belgrave Lodge, No. 749, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 309, Fareham	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Temple Lodge, No. 101, London	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Mizpah Lodge, No. 1671, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Confidence, No. 193, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Doric Lodge, No. 933, London	150 0 0
A brother of the Lodge Star in the East, No. 650, Harwich	75 0 0

8—REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES :

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England. The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows :
The Isca Lodge, No. 683, Newport, Monmouthshire, having balloted for, and admitted a Joining Member at a Lodge of Emergency, contrary to Art. I., page 83, of the Book of Constitutions, the Board have censured the Lodge for the irregularity, and have fined it the sum of One Guinea.
The Members of the Crusaders Lodge, No. 1677, London, having reported that

their W. Master, Brother Arthur Millward, had, on the 17th October last, wilfully burned the Warrant of the Lodge; the Board investigated the matter, and Brother Millward having admitted the offence, but having pleaded extenuating circumstances, the Board severely reprimanded him, and ordered that he pay the cost of a Warrant of Confirmation—viz., Two Guineas—and further, that he be suspended from all his Masonic functions for a period of six months."

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON, President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 20th November, 1883.

To the Report is subjoined a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts, at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 16th day of November ultimo, showing a balance in the Bank of England of £3,643 2s. 11d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash, £75; and for Servants' Wages £100; and Balance of Annual Allowance for Library, £18 12s.

9—Report of the Special Building Committee, the consideration of which was deferred from the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

10—Application from a body styling itself "The Grand Lodge of Victoria," Australia, requesting their recognition by the United Grand Lodge of England as a regular Grand Lodge.

11—Appeal from the Reunion Lodge, No. 1956, Blenheim, New Zealand, against certain comments made by the Colonial Board when cancelling the exclusion of Bro. William Benjamin Earll from that Lodge, relative to the conduct of Bro. Christopher J. W. Griffiths, of the same Lodge, in the matter.

N.B.—The papers relating to this appeal will be in the Grand Secretary's Office till the meeting of Grand Lodge, and open for the inspection of the Brethren during office hours.

12—NOTICES OF MOTION :

(1) By Bro. JAMES STEVENS, P.M. No. 1216 :

(a) That, when the general scheme for the reconstruction of the present damaged Temple, or for the erection of a new Temple, shall have been decided upon by the Grand Lodge, Architects, who are Freemasons, shall be invited, under the direction and authority of the Grand Superintendent of Works, to submit plans and designs for the reconstruction or new erection, as the case may be, to the Committee already constituted, or to be constituted, for the purpose of carrying out the intended work.

(b) That the foregoing be agreed, prizes of money value, to be subsequently determined, be offered for the three most approved designs.

(2) By V.W. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, President of Board of General Purposes :

That so much of the Report of the Building Committee as refers to the enlargement of the Temple, and the arrangements consequent thereon, be adopted, and that on such adoption and the confirmation thereof at the next succeeding Quarterly Communication, it be referred to a Committee of twelve to carry the same into execution, and that such Committee consist of the eight members of the recently appointed Building Committee, and four additional members, to be appointed by Grand Lodge.

(3) By Bro. GEORGE EDWARD WEBSTER, P.M. No. 139 :

To move as an amendment to the report of the Special Building Committee :

That the Ancient Temple be reinstated out of the funds received from the Insurance Companies, and that no extensive building operations be undertaken until the expiration of the lease of Bacon's Hotel. And that no part of the premises of Grand Lodge be leased for a longer period than seven years.

(4) By Bro. HENRY SMITH, P.M. No. 387 :

That this Grand Lodge is of opinion that the leasing of any property of Grand Lodge, except for a very limited period, is, under any circumstances, highly objectionable, and may prove, as in the cases of the three leases now existing, extremely inconvenient, and that the question of rent is quite a secondary consideration compared with the retention of full control of the premises and the tenants of Grand Lodge. And this Grand Lodge decides on the preservation of the Antient Temple in Great Queen-street, and that it be immediately restored, the cost to be paid out of funds received from the Fire Insurance Offices : and further, that no extensive building operations be undertaken until the expiration of the lease on Bacon's Hotel—which will afford a favourable opportunity for the consideration of a comprehensive scheme for an additional Hall, and the rearrangement of the premises of Grand Lodge.

(5) By V.W. Bro. LIEUT.-COL. JOHN CREATON, Past G. Treasurer :

That the sum of £70 be given from the Fund of General Purposes ; that the money be placed in the hands of the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution of Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, to supply the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season.

(6) By Bro. EDWIN T. BUDDEN, P.M. No. 622 :

In the event of Article 80 of Revise of Book of Constitutions not being confirmed, to move that the Article shall stand as follows :—"So—A Provincial or District Grand Master, the Present and Past Provincial or District Grand Officers ; the Provincial or District Grand Stewards for the year ; the Master, Past Masters and Wardens of all Lodges in the Province or District ; and Past Masters of any Lodge under the English Constitution, if Members of Grand Lodge. But no Brother can be a Member of a Provincial or District Grand Lodge unless he is a subscribing Member of a Lodge within such Province or District."

(7) By Bro. JOHN E. LE FEUVRE, P.M. No. 130 :

To move—That in Article 119 of the Revision of Book of Constitutions, the following words be added in brackets after the words "Regular Lodge," viz. :—"This qualification is only essential in the case of a petition for a new Lodge in England."

(8) By V.W. Bro. Rev. CHARLES WILLIAM ARNOLD, P.G. Chap. :

In the event of Article 186 of the Revision of the Book of Constitutions not being confirmed, to move—That the following words, "Every such Member, if an installed Master, may, by a vote of the Lodge, have a position assigned to him amongst the Past Masters of the Lodge, provided that he has not ceased subscribing to a Lodge for twelve months," be substituted for the words, "Every such joining Member, if a Past Master, shall have the rank of a Past Master of the Lodge, ranking next after the then Junior Past Master and the Worshipful Master of such Lodge, provided that he has not ceased subscribing to a Lodge for twelve months," and that the paragraph do now stand as so amended.

(9) By W. Bro. HENRY C. TOMBS, P.G.D. :

In the event of Article 130 of the Revision of Book of Constitutions not being confirmed, to move—To omit clause added by Special Grand Lodge in June, to follow the words "antient usage," and instead thereof, to insert the following :—"If in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold either or both of such meetings upon the day named in the Bye-laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces and Districts the Provincial and District Grand Master, may grant a dispensation for the holding of such meetings, or either of them, upon a day not more than seven days before or after that fixed by the Bye-laws, which day shall, for all purposes, be deemed the regular day of meeting," and that the paragraph do now stand as so amended.

(10) By R.W. Bro. The Hon. Mr. JUSTICE PRINSEP, D.G.M. Bengal :

To move—That in Article 190, the following words be added after the word "Fees," viz. :—"in England, nor for less than three guineas, exclusive of Registration and Certificate fees, abroad."

(11) By V.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, President Board General Purposes :

To move—That in any case where an amendment to any rule provided for in the Revise of the Book of Constitutions shall have been carried at the special meetings of Grand Lodge in June and August last, but shall not be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of Grand Lodge, the law shall stand as proposed in the Revised Book of Constitutions, and without such amendment.

- (12) By Bro. EDWIN T. BUDDEN, P.M. No. 622 :
To move—That the regulations as to Masonic Funerals, contained in page 136 of the present edition Book of Constitutions (1873), stand part of the Revised Edition.
- (13) By W. Bro. THOMAS WM. TEW, S.G.D. :
To move—That in Art. 129 of the Revise of the Book of Constitutions the following words be added at the end of the paragraph : “ Except that of Treasurer.”
- (14) By V.W. Bro. Rev. JOHN STUDIOLME BROWNRIGG, P.G.C. :
To move—To omit in Article 186, Revise of the Book of Constitutions, the words “ ranking next ” to end, and to insert “ but junior to all who at that time shall or at any future time may be installed in the Chair of that lodge.”
- (15) By V.W. Bro. Rev. HERBERT GEORGE MORSE, G.C. :
To move—To insert in Article 146, Revise of the Book of Constitutions, before the word “ present ” the words “ past or.”
- Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., is nominated for election to the office of Senior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.
Bros. Henry Garrod, P.M. No. 749; James H. Matthews, P.M. 143; and Charles Alexander Cottebrune, P.G.P., are nominated for election to the office of Junior Vice-President of the Lodge of Benevolence.
The twelve Past Masters nominated to serve on the Lodge of Benevolence are as follows :—Bros. George Pole Britten, P.M. 183; Thomas Cull, P.M. 1446; Charles Dairy, P.M. 141; Henry Garrod, P.M. 749; George P. Gillard, P.M. 657; Charles F. Hogard, P.M. 205; William Mann, P.M. 186; Henry McPherson, P.M. 890; John Noble, P.M. 975; William H. Perryman, P.M. 3; Frederick R. Spaul P.M. 1768; and Edward Francis Storr, P.M. 22.

LIST OF LODGES

FOR WHICH WARRANTS HAVE BEEN GRANTED BY THE M.W. GRAND MASTER SINCE THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF GRAND LODGE.

- No. 2016.—The Shalden Lodge, Alton, Hants.
 „ 2017.—The Duke of Portland Lodge, Nottingham.
 „ 2018.—The Nipal Lodge, Gorakhpur, Bengal.
 „ 2019.—The Crook Lodge, Crook, Durham.
 „ 2020.—The St. Botolph's Lodge, Aldersgate Street.
 „ 2021.—The Queen's Westminster Lodge, 8A, Red Lion Square.
 „ 2022.—The Haven Lodge, Ealing.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

(Continued from page 591.)

At an emergency meeting of the Board of Stewards held on the 31st May, 1837, Bro. Moran, Hon. Sec., reported that, in reply to his letter to the Deputy Grand Master he had received the following communication :

Palace, Kensington, 28th May, 1837.
 Sir and Brother,—I have laid before H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. your letter, upon which his Royal Highness was pleased to remark that, as Grand Master, he can recognise no body of Masons as a regular Board or Committee, for whatever purpose they may profess to be assembled, who have not previously stated to him the specific object of their meeting, and obtained his sanction thereon. Under these circumstances, I consider myself restrained from answering you further than as an individual, and as such to state to you that his Royal Highness had hoped that, after what had passed personally between him and Bro. Crucefix in a communication about a year ago, he had convinced that brother that the measure ought not to be brought forward, in a Masonic point of view, until it could be presented under more auspicious circumstances, by having in hand such a fund as would authorise the just hope of its final and ultimate success.

I remain, &c.,
 (Signed) R. J. SPENCER CHURCHILL, D.G.M.

To E. K. Moran, Esq., &c.

When this had been read, Bro. Crucefix, who was present, immediately made, in writing, the following declaration :

Feeling myself forcibly called upon to reply to such part of the letter from Lord John Churchill, wherein it is stated that a personal conversation had taken place on the subject of the Asylum between H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. and myself, I most unequivocally declare that his Royal Highness must have been mistaken, as, to my perfect conviction, that subject was especially avoided, although many other topics were discussed at length; and, further that, on a careful examination of the notes I took relative to the interview immediately at its termination, I find no reference whatever to the Asylum, and also that I have upon every occasion publicly declared that so marked an avoidance of the subject by the Grand Master was, I considered, favourable to the cause. All these circumstances I have explained to Bro. White, the Grand Secretary, and an audience has been graciously granted me by his Royal Highness on Sunday next.

(Signed) ROBERT THOS. CRUCEFIX.

May 31st, 1837.

To the Chairman of the Board of Stewards of the Asylum.

On this, the meeting unanimously resolved that Bro. Crucefix's declaration was perfectly satisfactory, and that it saw “ additional reasons in the communications made for continued exertion in aid of the approaching festival.” With respect to Bro. Crucefix's promised interview with the Grand Master, we glean the following information from the statement made by that brother himself, at the request of the Stewards present, at a meeting on the 9th June following :

I have the high gratification to report that the interview appointed by H.R.H. the Grand Master having been postponed from Sunday to Tuesday last, I waited upon the Grand Master on that day and was most graciously received.

I confine myself at this moment to the reporting upon matters solely relating to the Asylum, and beg to state that H.R.H. has authorised me to announce to the Craft at large that he has not been and is not now in any manner, either directly or indirectly, opposed to the contemplated Asylum, and that he shall be most happy to learn that the present and presumed means may meet the supposed exigency, and with this feeling he cordially wishes us success.

(Signed) ROBERT THOMAS CRUCEFIX.

To the President and Brethren of the Board of Stewards.

After an interview, the result of which was so satisfactorily described, it must have been indeed a bitter disappointment to Bro. Crucefix when, as has been already stated, he attended the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in September, 1837, and was peremptorily given to understand that H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. was opposed to the establishment of the Asylum. The situation in which he found himself, with no choice open to him but to press or postpone his motion, was an extremely delicate one, and it is not surprising if, in the following letter which he addressed to the Grand Master, Bro. Crucefix should have exhibited considerable warmth of feeling in what he wrote.

To his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, M.W. Grand Master, &c.

Most Worshipful Sir,—Presuming that a summary of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Wednesday last has been laid before your Royal Highness, I hold it to be my

especial duty to entreat permission to advert to one portion of those proceedings that I may stand justified in my conduct to the Grand Master, to the Masonic world, and—what must be of the deepest importance to every individual, however humble in his position, however limited in his usefulness—to my conscience.

In the very last interview which your Royal Highness graciously vouchsafed me, I gathered this grateful avowal that your Royal Highness was not and had not been opposed to the Aged Masons' Asylum.

These glad tidings were delivered with that simplicity which characterises the language of your Royal Highness, and which rendered it impossible for the most homespun mind to mistake its purport, and left me, as I rejoice to feel, at full liberty to bring the important subject of the contemplated Asylum before the Grand Lodge on Wednesday last. Animated by this assurance on the part of your Royal Highness, I was about to enter the Grand Lodge to fulfil what I deem a sacred duty—a duty I must ever feel to be associated with my Masonic existence—when to my dismay, and to my sorrow (and I may add to the subsequent sorrow of a great majority of the assembled brethren) I was abruptly informed that your Royal Highness was opposed to the measure.

I was not actually commanded to withdraw the motion, but the terms in which the message was conveyed left me no alternative between postponing or pressing the motion, to have withdrawn it would have been disgraceful. With the words of your Royal Highness—a Prince's words—still beating in my mind, I nevertheless bowed to the imperative suggestion of the Deputy Grand Master (if I may use the term suggestion, wanting one to explain the anomalous nature of things), for I could not but believe that such suggestion must have proceeded from some extraordinary error, some unhappy misrepresentation, which it is my present object, with the gracious permission of your Royal Highness, to endeavour to explain and remove, to the end that I may in December next be enabled to redeem the pledge which hundreds of my brethren consider that I have in a great measure disregarded, and which nothing but a desire to prevent a too ardent expression of their feelings justified me in encountering so severe a trial as the disappointment at such a moment (however only for a time) of their honest and long cherished hopes.

With the most profound respect for the person of your Royal Highness, with the deepest loyalty to your high office, I have humbly to solicit that you will be graciously pleased to grant me, at any befitting time, the condescension of an audience or a reply.

September 8th, 1837.

I have the honour, &c.,
 (Signed)

R. T. CRUCEFIX.

Notwithstanding this untoward event, which, as Bro. Crucefix suggested, was no doubt due to some misapprehension the recognition by Grand Lodge of the scheme for establishing the Asylum was only deferred and a resolution to that effect having once received the sanction of the supreme authority, the prosecution of their labours by Bro. Crucefix and his coadjutors became a comparatively easy task.

In the meantime, while this correspondence was in progress, the Committee of the Asylum were receiving additional evidence of the interest it was exciting among the members of the Fraternity, among the new subscribers entered on the roll being the provinces of Devonshire and West Yorkshire, each of which contributed the sum of twenty guineas towards the funds of the proposed Institution; the Prov. Grand Lodge of Somersetshire unanimously voting £25, while a two nights' benefit at the Strand Theatre, which had been granted for the purpose by Bros. Hammond and Jerrold, yielded upwards of fifty guineas. At the festival for the year 1837, which had been originally fixed for the 21st June, and had to be postponed in consequence of the precarious state of the King's health—it will be in the recollection of the reader that William IV., who departed this life on the 20th June, had been a Freemason for half a century, and Grand Patron of the Order since the death, in 1830, of his brother George IV. However, it was held on the 19th July, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bros. John Chanter, George Price, S. Staples, and E. K. Moran being respectively President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary of the Board of Stewards. Owing to the inability, as already described, of Bro. James Pattison, M.P., P.G.J.W., to occupy the chair, Bro. J. Copeland Bell presided. The gentlemen guests present, among whom were several non-Masons, numbered 153, and the total of the subscriptions announced, including the annual receipts, was £610, an amount sufficiently large to amply justify the self-congratulations of the Committee on the success of their labours; the more especially as it rendered it possible for them to purchase a further sum of £500 Three per Cent. Consols, making a total of £1100 Government Stock, yielding a small but fixed annual income sufficient to cover the current expenses. This was set forth in the audited statement of accounts submitted at the meeting of the General Committee at Radley's, on the 28th November, while there appeared to be a cash balance in the Treasurer's hands of close on £79. It was also announced on this occasion that a sum of £20 had been received from two lodges at the Cape of Good Hope, which were to be placed to the credit of the Asylum, but subject to the approval of the Grand Master. On the 11th April, 1838, at the usual monthly meeting of the Sub-Committee, a letter of thanks for this contribution was directed to be sent to Bro. Clerke Burton, Prov. Grand Master of the Cape of Good Hope, a similar letter to be sent to the Friendly Lodge, No. 539, now No. 383, Jamaica, for their contribution of £50 in aid of the Asylum. A resolution was also unanimously passed to the effect “ That although the existence of the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Freemasons is partly known in the provinces, it is probable that many lodges are not sufficiently acquainted with the objects of the Institution, as well as its present situation and prospects, and that it is desirable an address embodying such information, together with the fact of its having been unanimously sanctioned by Grand Lodge, be sent post paid to all the country lodges.” Bros. Dr. Crucefix, Moran, Sangster, and Field being appointed a Committee for the purpose of carrying it into effect. At the next meeting in May, this Committee brought up the address they had prepared for submission to lodges in the provinces, and from this we glean the following interesting explanations as to the origin and purpose of the proposed Asylum :

It seemed to the original promoters of this much wanted Charity almost a disgrace to the wealthy, extensive, and intellectual body composing the Masonic Craft that their Charities should be limited to the care and instruction of the young, while for the aged Mason himself, who had passed his youth amid the enjoyment of those happy associations which belong to our society, and contributed in the hour of his social enjoyments to the maintenance of those deserving Charities, no Asylum reared its head to give shelter to the decayed and worthy brother, when age and misfortune came to diminish his enjoyment, and add to the pangs of want and misery the recollection that nearly every other body afford to their aged and distressed the solace of a home and a resting place in the decline of days, ere the final departure to where troubles can come no more, and tears are for ever wiped away.

For many years past the established Masonic Charities in England have been the Board of Benevolence and Schools for the education and clothing of the sons, and the

maintenance, education, and clothing of the daughters of Freemasons; the former supported by the Craft in general, the Schools by individual subscriptions with some public aid.

Of the two latter Charities little need be said. They have obtained the patronage and support their excellence so fairly deserves, and it is confidently hoped that any new Charity will aid rather than interrupt their well-earned prosperity.

Of the Board of Benevolence it is necessary to say a few words. By this Board sums of money, varying in amount, are given to deserving Masons upon the production of proper certificates and sufficient evidence of the applicant's character and wants. It is one of the laws of this Board that no Mason can be relieved more than once in a year, and it is rare to relieve any one more than twice in his life.

It is evident that, for temporary relief in cases of urgent distress, this Board is calculated to be of essential service; for, although inconvenience is occasionally felt from its meeting only at stated periods and from the delays and trouble consequent upon applicants being ignorant of the necessary forms, yet these delays and inconveniences are reduced as much as due caution in the selection of proper objects imperatively requires.

Still a very little reflection will convince all that such a Board, framed only for temporary relief, is totally inefficient in cases where age and infirmity require continual support, and yet it is this very age and infirmity that give the applicant so strong a claim upon our Charity. Who that has seen old men totter into the lodge to receive their £5, £10, and £20 has not felt that such a sum was too much for their present wants, and far too little to be of any permanent service?

It is to remedy this anomaly that the Aged Masons' Asylum has been suggested, and it will be seen that it is not so much in the nature of a new Charity, as a modification in part of the Board of Benevolence, which, by removing many of the present applicants, it will leave at liberty to devote its resources, where those resources only can be of use, to cases of temporary assistance.

The object of the proposed Charity is to erect, either in one building, or as attached cottages, dwellings for worthy Aged and Decayed Freemasons and (if the funds will permit) the Widows of Freemasons, to be elected by the subscribers in such manner and after such examination of their character as may be agreed upon, and to pay them a weekly stipend for their support. Proper officers will be appointed to watch after their comfort and morals, and the Committee will have the power of expelling anyone for misconduct.

This is the plan which was suggested three years since, and has made such astonishing progress that at the Grand Lodge in December last there was not an opposing vote to its adoption.

The Committee have the pleasure to report that the result of the two last years' labour is that there is now in the hands of the Trustees the sum of £1200 Three per cents., and in the Treasurer's hands £200 in cash, and they have sufficient grounds for stating that this sum will at the next festival be increased to upwards of £2000. It is gratifying to observe that, during the whole period, the annual subscriptions have regularly increased, and the liberal donations from Provincial Grand and other lodges, not only in England but in the East and West Indies, assure them of the warm support the cause has received wherever it has been proposed.

It is, of course, impossible at present to state the amount which would be required to fully carry out the intention of the subscribers; but it is evident that a building or buildings could be commenced at a small sum, which should be capable of being enlarged to any extent, and it is fairly estimated that for £3000 or £4000 a building could be raised worthy of the cause, which would shelter 30 or 40 aged men; and no man acquainted with Masonry will doubt that the brethren would furnish annually sufficient for their support.

The Committee do not wish to conceal that our Illustrious Grand Master, who has ever been at the head of numerous institutions for charity, has doubted whether the Craft possesses sufficient resources to carry the plan into effect. It is for us, brethren, to prove that he has not sufficiently calculated the liberality and perseverance of Masons. It is for us to exert ourselves and by one simultaneous effort to raise such a sum as will enable the Committee to enter into immediate arrangements for selecting a plot of ground, and commencing an Asylum which, increasing from year to year, shall prove an ornament to our Order, at once the boast of the rich and the solace of the poor.

Encouraged by and acting on these considerations, the Committee earnestly entreat of you, Worshipful Sir, to bring under the consideration of your lodge "the Asylum for the worthy Aged and Decayed Freemason," and they make this appeal to its members with the confidence the unanimous recommendation of Grand Lodge cannot fail to give them, hoping that either as a lodge or as individual members, you will come forward and aid them in an undertaking, the successful carrying out of which will remove from the Masonic body something of a disgrace, and thus entitle yourselves to the consolation that you have aided in a work the benefits of which will cause your name and Masonry to be blessed hereafter among those who, in their day, have discharged their duty like good and faithful servants.

The Committee further request, Worshipful Sir, that you will cause this circular to be read in open lodge and that you will yourself personally aid them in their efforts to attain so desirable an object as the erection and endowment of an Ark of Refuge for the worthy Aged and Decayed Freemason.

It will be readily admitted that the foregoing explanatory statement could scarcely have been made clearer or more concise, and that it was admirably calculated to attract towards the proposed Asylum the active interest and support of the brethren in the provinces. It is also satisfactory to note that the prediction as to the funds of the Institution being increased by the proceeds of the festival to be held in June to upwards of £2000 was fulfilled to the letter. The festival took place at Freemasons' Tavern on the 20th of the month named, under the presidency of Bro. Alderman Thomas Wood, a Past Master of the Tuscan Lodge, No. 14, and the total of subscriptions announced, including the current receipts by the Treasurer since the previous meeting, as well as a contribution by the Bank of England Lodge of £100 invested under certain conditions in the Savings' Bank, exceeded £806. On this occasion the practice of reading an address, written especially by some brother in aid of the Asylum, was adopted, the author of the lines, which were spoken by Bro. Geo. Bennett, of the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, being Bro. John F. Smith, of the Bank of England Lodge, who likewise composed the following glee, which was set to music by Bro. Hawes:

THE THREE TASKS.

Though, brothers, we have built our shrine*
And rear'd the Altar's cubic stone,
Craved on its front—the mystic sign—
Known to our ancient Craft alone:
Not yet our crowning work begun,
The Mason's labour is not done.

Though Charity hath found a pile†
Where breathes her orphan children's prayer,
Whose grateful hearts, whose happy smile,
Reward our deeds, and bless our care:
Not yet our crowning work begun,
The Mason's labour is not done.

When we have reared a home‡ for those
Who of their plenty freely gave,
Whom Poverty, at life's late close,
Hath left no shelter but the grave:
Then may we boast a race well run,
Then will our crowning work be done.

At the meeting of the Sub-Committee on the 11th July, honoraria of £15 each were voted to the Secretaries, Bros. Farnfield and Pitt—the latter of whom at the same time tendered his resignation, which was accepted—"as a complimentary acknowledgment of their services in behalf of the Asylum

* Freemasons' Hall.

† The Masonic Schools.

‡ The proposed Asylum.

from its formation in June, 1835," while a sum of £10 10s., was voted to Bro. Begbie for his services as Collector. It was also resolved that from and after the meeting to be held on the 8th August the Secretary should be paid for the full performance of the duties of his office an annual stipend of £20. But the most important resolution passed at this meeting was one providing that for the future the conduct of the Asylum should be placed in the hands of the Trustees, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and a Committee of 21 to be elected annually at the general meeting in August, or, as subsequently altered, in July, and that of this Committee five brethren should be chosen amongst themselves to be Auditors.

At the general meeting of subscribers on the said 8th August, the Auditors' statement of account to the 20th November, 1837, showed a balance in the hands of the bankers and Treasurer of only a fraction short of £500, the incidental disbursements having been slightly in excess of £50, and a sum of £92 2s. 6d. having been expended in the purchase of a further £100 Three per cent. Consols, raising the total Government Stock to the credit of the Asylum to £1200. The resolutions passed by the Sub-Committee were confirmed on this occasion. Bro. Alderman Thomas Wood was unanimously elected a Trustee in the place of Bro. George Henekey, deceased; the officers and committee for the ensuing year were elected as usual; and the Treasurer was empowered to purchase a further £500 Stock out of the moneys in his and the bankers' hands, the purchase being made forthwith and announced at the Sub-Committee's meeting in September.

In October, initiatory steps were taken to increase by other means than annual festivals and circular addresses the funds of the intended Institution, and a Sub-Committee consisting of Bros. Bell, Crucefix, Stevens, and Turner was appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the probable benefits that would arise from a concert or concert and ball together. In the result it was determined that a ball should be given and a Board of Stewards having been formed for the purpose, it was resolved that the proceeds should be divided equally among the three Masonic Charities—the Committee of the proposed Asylum having taken upon themselves to include their own Institution, though as yet only in embryo, in such designation. The proposal did not find favour with the Grand Master, but the Committee persevered in their design. The ball was held at Freemasons' Tavern, on the 11th of January, 1839, under the patronage of Aldermen Johnson and T. Wood, Sheriffs, with the result that a profit of £75 was made, one third part of which was severally allocated to the Girls' School, the Boys' School, and the Asylum, the first two recipients experiencing some difficulty in wording their respective acknowledgments so as to satisfy the self-respect of the Ball Committee.

At a special general meeting of the subscribers, held at Radley's Hotel on the 22nd December, 1838, under the presidency of Bro. Crucefix, measures were adopted for the purpose of giving effect to a resolution passed at the meeting of the Sub-Committee on the 12th of the same month, to the effect "That, under the circumstances in which the Institution is now placed, it is deemed advisable that some decisive step should be taken to prove its utility, and that the Charity should immediately commence by granting annuities to worthy Aged and Decayed Freemasons." The Chairman having addressed the meeting on the urgent necessity there was for giving effect to some such resolution, and having stated he had been in communication with the provinces and with lodges in London, whose unanimous opinion it appeared to be "that the erection of the Asylum should on no account be abandoned," resolutions were passed—

(1) "To lay apart the subscriptions already received, and such as may accrue, until the sum of £2000 has accumulated, which, with the interest thereon and the additions hereafter mentioned, shall be held sacred as a fund for the erection and endowment of the Asylum."

(2) "That an amount at least equal to the interest on the sum invested shall be applied out of the current collections of the year by way of annuities amongst destitute and deserving brethren in London and the provinces."

(3) "That the remainder of such collections shall be added to the Asylum Fund."

(4) "That when the Asylum shall be erected, the existing annuitants shall be held to be qualified candidates for admission, having the option, however, to retain their annuities or enter the Asylum."

It was also resolved "that the Committee of the Asylum be requested to suggest the proper qualifications, and prepare such regulations, as may be necessary to carry out the objects of the preceding resolution, and report thereon to a special general meeting." And the determination having once been adopted that it was necessary to demonstrate forthwith the practical utility of the intended Charity, it followed almost as a matter of course that, at so opportune a moment, occasion should be taken to place on record the thanks of the subscribers to the brother who had so well and worthily laboured, in season and out of season, in the teeth of strenuous opposition, and unmoved by circumstances calculated to excite feelings of the utmost despondency, to ensure the success of the contemplated Charity. Hence the following resolution may be looked upon as most appropriate, namely—"That, taking a retrospect of the extraordinary efforts of Robert Thomas Crucefix, Esq., M.D., the Treasurer, generally in aid of the principles of Freemasonry, and more especially as a strenuous and untiring supporter of this Institution—his patience and forbearance under the annoyances to which in the latter capacity he has been unnecessarily subjected—his fortitude under all difficulties, and his persevering determination to carry out the object with which his and their warmest feelings are identified, the heartfelt thanks of this meeting be given to him, not as a commensurate return, for as such they would be inadequate, but as a simple and honest expression of gratitude and esteem."

At the meeting of the General Committee on the 9th January, 1839, and at successive adjourned meetings, on the 18th and 24th of the same month,

and the 8th and 13th February following, the resolution of the 22nd December previous, to determine and arrange the qualifications of candidates and other incidental matters was taken into consideration, with the following results. Brethren, to be eligible as candidates for election as annuitants, must have attained to sixty, or, in cases of total blindness, fifty years of age; they must not be in receipt of an income in excess of £20 per annum; and must have been Installed Masters for at least seven years, as well as subscribing members to a lodge or lodges during the whole of that period; or, they must have been registered Master Masons for twenty years, during at least ten years of which they must have been regular subscribing members to some lodge or lodges. The following were likewise accepted as being eligible, namely, any brother who, having served the office of Steward to two of the three Masonic Charities, shall have paid ten guineas to each of such two Charities, and at the same time has been a regular subscribing member to some lodge or lodges for seven years; and also any brother who, having served as Steward to the Asylum for Aged and Decayed Masons, shall have constituted himself a Life Governor of the same by a donation of twenty guineas, provided further that he shall have been a registered Mason and a regular subscribing member to some lodge or lodges during a period of seven years. In all cases the candidature was to be supported by a petition; Grand Lodge or other satisfactory certificates; certificates of birth or baptism, or other satisfactory evidence of age; testimonials verifying the case; and recommendations from the lodge or lodges to which the petitioner had been a subscribing member, which recommendations, in the case of country lodges, were to be confirmed by the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy, and countersigned by the Provincial Grand Secretary. It was further resolved that the elections should be held in July, and the petitions be sent in to the Secretary on or before the first Wednesday in May; that the annuities should be of £10 each, and that only six be granted for the first twelve months; and in the event of there being a sufficient number of candidates for the said six annuities, that three should be allocated to the provinces and three to the metropolis. The votes and mode of voting were also settled, the former ranging from one vote for a guinea donation to four votes to a Life Governor (twenty guineas), with two votes for every additional ten guineas, Stewards contributing ten guineas when serving as such, or within the next twelve months, receiving one additional vote. Lodges received the same voting privileges as subscribers, but for fourteen or twenty-five years only, according as they subscribed ten or twenty guineas, or as Life Governors, so long as the lodge remained in existence, in the event of their contributing fifty guineas. As to the mode of voting, every one possessing such privilege might vote by proxy, provided the proxy were a subscriber, all proxy-papers to be numbered, signed by the Secretary, and forwarded by post, while no second proxy-paper was to be issued except with the concurrence of the Chairman on the day of election. Moreover, each subscriber, for every vote he was entitled to, had as many votes as there were vacancies to be filled, which votes he might give to one candidate, or distribute at pleasure. Subscriptions declared and paid on the day of election entitled the parties so paying them to votes, but subscribers in arrear of payment were deprived of their voting powers till such arrears were paid up. In the case of equality of votes, the Chairman of the day had a second or casting vote.

At the meeting on the 8th of May, six petitions for election were submitted, of which three were approved and two deferred, but afterwards accepted, while the remaining one, that of an out-pensioner of Chelsea Hospital, was rejected in the absence of any proof of the applicant's allegations. Of the five accepted and ultimately elected, three were from Metropolitan and two from Provincial brethren. When this portion of the business had been disposed of, Bro. John L. Stevens drew attention to the very satisfactory statement made by the M.W. Grand Master at the Grand Festival which had been held a short time previously, when his Royal Highness was "most graciously pleased to declare his willingness to patronise 'the Institution,' provided it were so regulated as to afford the fullest means for the application of the Annuity principle; and that in such case he was not desirous that the management of the Institution should be taken out of the hands of those who had projected and thus far supported it." It may be imagined that such an expression of goodwill coming from such a quarter—though, as will be seen later on, the goodwill was but transient—gave the liveliest satisfaction to the Committee, and it was at once arranged that a deputation consisting of Bros. Bell, Crucefix, and Watkins should wait upon his Royal Highness for the purpose of thanking him for his kindness and explaining to him the present position of the Charity. The hope was also expressed that so gracious a statement would serve to stimulate the Stewards at the festival fixed for the 19th of June, to make additional efforts to promote the success of the Asylum.

The first result of the statement made by his Royal Highness as just referred to was that a special general meeting of the subscribers was called for the 17th May, when an attempt was made to induce the brethren to abandon their plan for the erection of an Asylum in favour of the principle recommended by his Royal Highness of granting Annuities. However, the meeting was adjourned, without any resolution being adopted, till the 24th of the month, when it was unanimously agreed, "that this meeting acknowledges with equal satisfaction and gratitude the declaration of his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master in favour of an Annuity Institution for the relief of Aged and Decayed Freemasons; and most strongly recommends the adoption of his Royal Highness's suggestion by carrying out the annuity principle, and that the erection of an Asylum be deferred until the sum of £7000 shall have been received and invested, the interest of such sum to be applicable to the purposes of Annuities. All moneys collected beyond the above sum to be set aside expressly as a Building and Endowment Fund, the interest thereof to accumulate and be added to the principal."

It was also resolved that a copy of the resolution, which was confirmed at another special meeting held the week following, should "be embodied in a memorial to the M.W.G.M. praying that he will be pleased to extend his protection and support to the consummation of this truly Masonic Charity." At the regular Committee on the 12th June, it was further resolved "that the several laws and regulations as promulgated on the 22nd December, 1838, with the additional one of 8th May last (giving one vote to a lodge subscribing £1 1s. annually) be the laws and regulations for governing this Institution on the Annuity principle," and Bros. Bell, Crucefix, and Sangster were appointed a Sub-Committee to draw up a memorial for presentation to the Grand Master. At a special meeting on the 26th of the month the Sub-Committee reported that they had prepared the memorial in which the question of trusteeship was necessarily referred to, and as a consequence of this reference, Bro. J. C. Bell formally submitted the resignation of his office as Trustee, as Bro. Joseph Partridge had done at the preceding meeting, the consequence being the unanimous adoption of a resolution to the effect "that, in consequence of certain of the Provisional Trustees having tendered their resignation, a special general meeting of the Governors and subscribers be called for the 17th July next, for the purpose of appointing Permanent Trustees, and also for carrying into effect the previous resolutions for the future government of this Institution, and of considering and determining on the plan to be laid before the M.W. Grand Master." Previous, however, to this important meeting taking place as arranged, the regular meeting, changed for the occasion to the 3rd instead of the 10th July, was held, and after the failure of an attempt to non-confirm a resolution adopted on the 12th June, rendering any brother ineligible as a candidate who had "received parochial relief within a period of two years prior to his application," Bro. Crucefix, as President of the Board of Stewards at the festival on the 19th June, reported that the chair had been taken by Bro. Rowland G. Alston, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Essex, that the event had passed off most successfully, and that the subscriptions announced amounted to £534, including, as usual, the Treasurer's receipts since the previous report. As a matter of course, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to all who had had a share in bringing about so satisfactory a result.

At length the day fixed for the special meeting arrived, and a letter from Bro. Z. Watkins, resigning his trusteeship having been read, the brethren at once proceeded to the important business which had called them together. The first point to be considered was how to reconcile the resolution passed on the 24th May previous, in which the principle of granting Annuities as suggested by the Duke of Sussex was accepted, and the erection of an Asylum deferred until certain conditions had been fulfilled, with the resolutions passed on the 22nd December, 1838, and to this end it was proposed, seconded, and carried affirmatively

That it is expedient to explain and reconcile those resolutions, so as to admit of their being carried into operation without vitiating the principles respectively involved, and that for this purpose it be strictly understood and determined—

1st. That the said sum of £2000 already invested shall remain intact, without diminution or increase, as the nucleus of a fund for the erection and endowment of the Asylum, and until a subsequent sum of £7000 has been raised.

2nd. That the interest on the said sum of £2000, together with all receipts beyond that sum, shall be applied in making good the Annuities to be granted and in accumulating the said sum of £7000.

3rd. That until the said sum of £7000, clear of the said sum of £2000, shall have been accumulated, the erection of the Asylum shall be deferred, and that the interest only of the said sum of £7000 shall be applicable to the purposes of Annuities.

4th. That in and from the accumulation of the said sum of £7000, the said sum of £2000, together with all other moneys received by this Institution, and all accumulations of interest respectively, shall be applied as a fund for the erection and endowment of the Asylum.

As will be seen hereafter these resolutions were confirmed at the annual meeting on the 31st July. In the meantime steps were taken to elect Permanent in lieu of Provisional Trustees, and at the adjourned meeting on the 24th of the month, a ballot for the purpose was taken with the result that Bros. Richard Percival, Grand Treasurer; Benjamin Bond Cabbell, P.G.J.W.; Charles Grote, John C. Bell, and Z. Williams, were declared elected. Difficulties, however, arose in connection with this step, and it was some time before the question of Trusteeship was settled. It was further arranged that the Annuitants about to be elected should be paid quarterly in advance, and likewise that the General Committee should hold their regular meetings on the second Wednesday in February, March, May, June, August, September, and November, while the quarterly general meetings to be convened by advertisement should take place in January, April, July, and October, the annuitants and officers to be elected at the meeting in July.

The annual meeting was held on the 31st July, when Bros. Geo. Colcott, William Povey, John Dyson, Nathaniel Pearce, and Wm. Johnson were elected Annuitants, after which the memorial to his Royal Highness the Grand Master was submitted. The greater part of this important document was occupied with a statement of particulars of the amount of contributions already received and of the various resolutions which from time to time had been passed by the governing body and have already been detailed. It then proceeded as follows:

Your memorialists having thus stated to your Royal Highness a short outline of their proceedings, beg leave most dutifully to state that the regulations adopted apply solely to the immediate object of granting Pensions or Annuities, and although these regulations have been adopted after much and anxious consideration, and with an earnest and unanimous desire to carry out the proposed object in the most beneficial manner, yet they are aware they are open to great improvement to be obtained by the benefit of your Royal Highness's judgment and advice, and from the experience to be derived from the practical working of the system.

Your memorialists have not yet thought it necessary to form any code of regulations for the government of the proposed Asylum—an Institution which they have much at heart—except so far as the present regulations may be considered applicable, and they have abstained from framing these regulations, not merely on the ground that it would be premature at present so to do, and with a view to avail themselves of the advantages of future experience, but also from an anxious desire and a warmly-cherished hope that they might be favoured with your Royal Highness's patronage, advice, and directions—a hope in which they now venture most ardently to indulge.

The investment of the Committee's funds in the names of certain Provisional Trustees, and the appointment of Permanent Trustees, form the subject of the concluding paragraphs, and the whole memorial having been fully considered, it was resolved that it should be fairly transcribed for presentation, and that Bros. Joseph C. Bell, R. T. Crucefix, John C. McMullen, and Z. Watkins be a deputation to wait on His Royal Highness for that purpose.

(To be continued).

**GRAND LODGE OF MARK
MASTER MASONS
OF ENGLAND AND WALES
AND THE
COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE
BRITISH CROWN.**

THE RIGHT HON. LORD HENNIKER,
M.W. Grand Master.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE,
R.W. Deputy Grand Master.

THE WINTER HALF-YEARLY
COMMUNICATION
OF THIS GRAND LODGE

Will be held

IN THE LARGE HALL, FREEMASONS' TAVERN,
GREAT QUEEN ST., LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS,
LONDON,

On **TUESDAY, 4th of DECEMBER, 1883,**

When and where all Grand Officers (Past and Present), W. Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Overseers of Private Lodges are hereby summoned to attend, and at which, by permission, all regularly registered Mark Master Masons may be present. Grand Lodge will be opened at five o'clock p.m.

A MEETING OF EMERGENCY
will be held

On **SATURDAY, 5th DECEMBER, 1883,**

At Three o'clock in the Afternoon precisely, at
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET,

By Special Dispensation from the M.W. Grand Mark
Master Mason, to confer on

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES,

Who has signified his intention to be present,

THE RANK OF MOST WORSHIPFUL PAST
GRAND MASTER.

MORNING DRESS.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master,
FREDERICK BINCKES (P.G.J.W.),
Grand Secretary.

P.S.—After the Meeting of Emergency,

A BANQUET

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To Correspondents.

The following communications have been received, but
are not inserted in this issue owing to want of space:—

Craft Lodges—St. John's Lodge, No. 221; Nelson
Lodge, No. 706; Lewis Lodge, No. 872; Ebury Lodge,
No. 1348; Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382; Ivy Lodge, No.
1441; Clapham Lodge, No. 1818; St. Augustine's Lodge,
No. 1941.

Instruction—Hyde Park Lodge, No. 1425; Covent
Garden Lodge, No. 1614; New Finsbury Park Lodge,
No. 1695.

Royal Arch—Caveac Chapter, No. 176; Ley Spring
Chapter, No. 1598.

Mark—East Sussex Lodge, No. 166.

Rose Croix—St. Peter's Chapter, No. 31.

York Rosicrucian College.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Allen's Indian Mail," "Jewish Chronicle," "Citizen,"
"Broad Arrow," "Court Circular," "La Abeja," "American
Freemason," "Die Bauhütte," "Tricycling Journal," "La
Escuadra," "Tapis," "Bulletin Maçonnique," "Brown's Pho-
nographic Monthly Reporter," "Keystone," "La Monde Maçon-
nique."



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1883.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even approving of, the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish in a spirit of fair play to all to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.]

THE STATUS OF PAST MASTERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the notice of motion by Bro. Arnold I presume the indefinite expression "a position" to mean any position of precedence amongst the Past Masters which the lodge may choose to assign to him. A position of precedence being synonymous with rank, the proposed resolution, if passed into law, would give to private lodges the power of conferring past rank. This would be a dangerous precedent, for if private lodges may give past rank why should not Provincial Grand Lodges do the same? Why should not a Provincial Grand Lodge give to a Past Warden of a neighbouring province who has joined their Provincial Grand Lodge by becoming a subscribing member of one of their lodges, the position or rank of a Past Warden of their province? I hardly think Grand Lodge will be willing to sanction such an innovation. Lodges can make any joining Past Master a member of their Committees or place him at the table where they like without any general law on the subject, and while lodges are left to themselves any such distinction is confined—as it should be—to the four walls of the lodge, but when a position of precedence is given under the powers of a general law the rank thus conferred is no longer confined to the lodge but becomes rank in the Craft. I trust Grand Lodge will not encumber the Book of Constitutions with so vague and unnecessary a law as that about to be proposed.—Yours fraternally, T. FENN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

"Experientia docet" is a sound old adage. The following case which occurred in the mother lodge of the writer is somewhat analogous to one given in your last issue; and whilst illustrating the "old saw," may also instruct "A Perplexed Past Master."

Bro. X. was initiated in 1857; in due time he passed through the Worshipful Master's chair into the venerable phalanx of the Past Masters of the lodge, and so continued for about ten years. Bro. X., for some reason or no reason at all then withdrew from the lodge, and after a "secession from the Craft" of about 18 months, was proposed as a joining brother, and re-admitted to membership.

But Bro. X. had "for 12 months ceased to subscribe to any lodge," and had therefore, forfeited his membership of Grand Lodge, and as a corollary, was no longer a member of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. X. was not satisfied with his reduced position, and occasionally vented his discontent by grumbling at everything, and blaming everybody but himself. Last winter he brought his "case" formally before the lodge; the lodge brought it formally before the Prov. Grand Master; and the Prov. Grand Master brought it formally before the Grand Registrar, who ruled "that Bro. X. must rank immediately below the junior Past Master of the lodge, and could only regain membership of Grand Lodge by again filling the chair of W.M. for one year.

But sir, why should Bro. X., or "A Perplexed Past Master" complain? As Masters they knew, or ought to have known, that, as without membership they never could have gained office, rank, and privileges; so, without membership they never could retain them.

By voluntary withdrawal, whether from caprice or indifference, they justly and deservedly forfeited their status and privileges as Past Masters, and they suffer the consequences of their own conduct. Continuity of membership would have saved them from all the "disagreeables" which now vex and chafe their spirits.

The other case cited by "A. B." may be perhaps illustrated by what happened to myself many years ago when the first lodge in December was the lodge appointed for election of Worshipful Master. I was duly elected, though not present, being laid up by a sudden and severe sickness, from which I did not recover soon enough to be installed at the "next regular lodge," viz., the first Monday in January. I just managed to get to the first lodge in February and was then installed. The question soon arose as to the years' office. But "all the king's horses and all the king's men" could not make one year out of eleven months; and there were only two ways by which to secure past rank, either to re-elect at the usual time or to alter the day of election by a change in the by-laws. As there were behind me a number of earnest and excellent workers we decided on the latter course; altered the bye-law by making the first lodge in January the lodge for electing future W.M.s., thus giving me a year of office, and my rank as P.M. without appreciable delay in the advancement of my successors.

In a case of non-confirmation of minutes, lodges would avoid the difficulty by electing a Past Master to the chair, as no loss of past rank would follow. But if a brother is elected who has not previously filled the chair he cannot acquire past rank by eleven months' service, and should therefore be re-elected, or the same course be taken as in my illustration. A lodge cannot, any more than an individual brother, escape the consequences of its own actions. To "A. B.'s" questions, a and b there can only be a negative answer. Question c is answered by Constitutions (p. 18, art. 1) and the installation service. "A. B.'s" question about the ballot raises an interesting point. There appears to be nothing relating to such a point in the Constitutions, which assume throughout that in so important a matter as the admission of candidates into the Order, every brother will express his approval or disapproval by his vote. I know many lodges where the balls are counted by the W.M., to see that they correspond in number with the brethren present. I should say that no brother ought to shirk his duty, for to do so is certainly un-Masonic.—Yours fraternally, E. T. BUDDEN.

* Constitutions, p. 89. † Ibid., p. 18. ‡ Ibid.

RECOGNITION OF NEW GRAND LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, I see an application is to be made at the ensuing Grand Lodge by a "body styling itself" the Grand Lodge of Victoria for recognition as a regular Grand Lodge. Without entering into the merits of the application, I simply write to point out that what is known as the "American doctrine" as respects the formation of new Grand Lodges is never likely to be tolerated in England, Scotland, or Ireland.

To establish any Grand Lodge on fair Masonic grounds, the movement should be supported by the great majority of the lodges and members to be affected by the change; the talk about any three lodges having such a right (or indeed the minority, no matter of how many lodges) is simply contrary to Masonic usage and equity. Even if legally formed, the rights of the majority must not infringe upon those of the minority, for so long as the minority of lodges refuse to countenance the new Grand Lodge, they must be perfectly free to continue under their own Grand Bodies which warranted them. This has been the practice of the Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland from their formation early last century.—Yours, &c. W. J. HUGHAN.

BRO. JOHN HAVERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

There is a paragraph in your issue of to-day which I would beg your permission to allow me to correct, or rather to modify. It is there stated that "I hope to take a more active part in Grand Lodge business than I have been able to do of late years, and by my presence and advice there aid in the discussion of our agenda papers," &c.

It would seem from the above that this were my wish and my hope. Let me say that this is rather a misunderstanding. It is true that, at the request of many and valued friends, I have attended several lodges and meetings of late, have heard many opinions, and have discussed many subjects of great interest in Masonry. I am still in bad health, and have no wish to return to work; it would not be a hopeful subject to me, and I certainly have no wish to take an active part, especially in the discussions in Grand Lodge.

All that I have said is this—and it was said under some pressure—that if it be thought that I can by my advice, or by my attendance if that be necessary, assist in carrying out the general wishes of my brethren and the general welfare of the Craft, I am bound by my love for that Craft, by my duty and allegiance to our chiefs, and especially by the kindness shown to me by my brethren, and the confidence which so many of them still seem to place in me, to do my best so long as my health will permit me—and this I will try to do.

Thanking you for the more than kind way in which you have been pleased to speak of me, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally, JOHN HAVERS. November 24th.

BOYS' PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am of opinion that a special meeting of Governors should be called to arrange something definite, and a Building Committee be elected, to obtain plans for a school which will give the required accommodation for the stipulated sum, the House Committee not being particularly qualified for such work.—Yours, &c.,

LIFE GOVERNOR.

REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have had the opportunity of conversing with a number of brethren in London and one of our largest provinces, and am convinced that the general opinion is: the Temple should be restored and the larger scheme postponed.

Allow me to suggest the formation of a gallery over the entrance of the Temple, and if found practicable (I have not examined the premises) let this gallery be carried over the corridor as far as the wall of the room which is used as a tea room on festival evenings.—Fraternally yours, 26, Budge-row, E.C. HENRY LOVEGROVE.

IMPOUNDING MASONIC CERTIFICATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Although I do not sign my name to this letter, still, as a Mason of 37 years, and with a varied experience of the "uses and abuses" of our Craft, I would much wish to see amongst the rules and regulations for our guidance something plain and unmistakable as to impounding Masonic certificates found in possession of itinerant beggars, on persons convicted of felony or other serious crimes.

I have during a long official career had such cases before me, and on one occasion particularly in my memory I applied to the lodge named in such a certificate, noting for the information thereof the "un-Masonic position" of the holder, but nothing came of it. I had no power to impound the document, which may still be used for a very different purpose than the original issue from Grand Secretary's office intended it to fulfil, and to the great discredit of our noble Craft.

Yours fraternally, C.

THE TRANQUILLITY LODGE.—A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you kindly correct a mistake in the amount named in your issue of to-day as collected in the Tranquillity Lodge on the 19th inst. It should be "voted by W.M. £3 3s.; sum collected, £7; total, £10 3s.," which sum has been acknowledged by the distressed brother. I am, dear sir and brother, yours faithfully and fraternally, A. STALEY, W.M. 26 and 27, Milk-st., Cheapside, Nov. 24th.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF LODGES.—A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to ask your readers whether they are acquainted with any lodge where the members are allowed on payment of a lump sum to become life members?—Fraternally yours, T. GARRET HORDER, W.M. 36. Cardiff, November 10th.



LUTHER VINDICATED. By CHARLES HASTINGS COLLETTE. Bernard Quaritch, 15, Piccadilly, W.

Amid the Luther celebration and commemoration in Germany and in the world many works and tractates come to the fore. Unfortunately the absolutely neutral position of the *Freemason* in all such discussions renders all but useless the kind remembrance of publisher and the best efforts of writers. We cannot in the *Freemason* touch upon topics which infringe, either on the right hand or the left, on religious controversies or controversial positions. Luther, like Freemasonry, was undoubtedly an advocate for freedom of thought and liberty of conscience, for the cessation, whether of the horrors of the Inquisition or the claims of an Infallible Body, which condemned and excommunicated all outside its fold, Freemasons not excepted. But further than this we cannot safely advance or conveniently dilate. Into the peculiar merits of the case we cannot dive, nor can we express our opinion one way or the other. In so doing we should ignore that fundamental rule of Freemasonry, entire absence at all times, and in all places, and under all circumstances, "ubique, semper, et omnibus," from political discussion, or so-called religious squabbles. Luther, if Mr. Collette's commentary is correct, as it would appear to be, had "hard lines" meted out to him. His words were perverted, his opinions misrepresented, his table talk and his very utterances, theological or normal, garbled and falsified, and, no doubt, from an historical, or artistic, or matter of fact point of view, little can be said for earlier opponents, or later assailants. They all, both of the ancient and modern schools alike, seem to have forgotten the "abstract importance of truth," and in their unseemly haste to bespatter Luther, rough, untutored, and free-spoken as he was, and using the free idioms of his generation and age, have certainly manifested their perfect acquaintance with those most detestable Jesuit maxims, "the end justifies the means," "we may do evil that good may come," "the right sanctifies the wrong," and have endorsed that lying wordly aphorism that "all is fair in war, love, and controversy." In so far and in as much as Luther vindicated liberty of thought and liberty of conscience; in so far as he upheld how debasing is persecution, and how absurd is concrete vice amidst abstract professions of virtue; in so far, we repeat, he deserves the thanks and gratitude of every Freemason. The Church of Rome has thought well to excommunicate Freemasons over and over again, by Bulls, Allocutions, Mandemans, "en bloc" and singly and individually. And yet Freemasonry seems none the worse for it, but, if truth be told, better, a good deal better. Without endorsing all that Luther said or did in a long, bitter, controversial life, like Professor Dollinger we must admire his intellect and his great powers, his love of truth and toleration, and above all the noble and the needful stand he made for the possibility of an acceptable belief outside the conventional limits of an assumed infallibility, his denial of the pure Roman Catholic dogma "extra ecclesiam nulla salus," which would except on the mere possibility of an "Invincible Ignorance," dismiss from the pale of salvation all except its own professing members. However here we must stop to-day. For those who are attracted by such "burning questions," though we confess the experience of years teaches us to look on nearly all controversy as most unprofitable reading, this well printed work will have contemporary attraction and peculiar interest.

THE COSMOPOLITAN CALENDAR. George Kenning, Freemason Office, 16 and 16a, Great Queen-street, W.C.

It has been objected to us reviewing Bro. Kenning's "Calendar and Pocket-Book" in the *Freemason*, just as in younger days an objection was taken to a gentleman who ate his own cakes at his own Ball. But why? What is the real objection, either in positive propriety or possible good form? The "Cosmopolitan Calendar and Pocket-Book" is an entirely separate publication from the *Freemason*, has a different editor, and we may fairly notice it in this column, for the information of the Craft, unless indeed Masonic charity has fallen so low as neither to realize the actuality of honest criticism or the fact of unsordid interest. We review the "Cosmopolitan Calendar" from long acquaintance and "Auld lang syne." In its fourteenth year of issue it has won for itself, under very difficult circumstances, the goodwill and patronage of countless Masons at home and abroad. Being a collection of Masonic names, dates, statistics, and information procurable in no other shape, accessible in no other form, especially as regards the High Grades, it is a most useful compendium, year by year, of Masonic rites and Masonic brethren everywhere, as well as of those Chivalric Orders which now are so popular, and enroll in their ranks some of our very best Craft Masons. It has its distinct field and its proper aim, and as it interferes with none, antagonizes none, and has been put together with great care and at much expense, it becomes a useful "Vade Mecum" for many, a useful reminder for more, and ought to find a regular and fitting place in all Masonic libraries and bureaux, in the collection of the student, and in the pocket of the wandering Freemason. It is something to know wherever you are on the earth's surface where a lodge, a chapter, an encampment, a Mark body, a consistory, a council may be heard of. We may wish honestly therefore all success to our old friend the "Cosmo," without being found fault with, without being accused of egotism or adulation.

BOOK CATALOGUES.

Mr. Stihbs, of 32, Museum-street, W.C., has just put out a most interesting catalogue, No. 40, which is full of valuable and scarce works, and very reasonable in price, on every page. We recommend all book buyers and book lovers amongst us, at once to send for, to peruse, and to patronise it.

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Masonic Notes and Queries.

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FREEMASON, &c.

Mr. John Britton's "Dictionary of the Architecture and Archaeology of the Middle Ages," published by Longman and Co., London, 1838, occur several important allusions for us. Britton seems to adopt the Dugdale-Wren theory that the "French Accepted Masons" are the outcome of certain Italian artists patronized by the Popes and incorporated by Papal Bulls. Unfortunately history, critically severe, and which rejects alike the "ipse dixit" and the "dogmata" of egotistical or inaccurate writers, knows nothing of these fraternities of Italian artists or of these Papal Bulls, at least which is practically the same thing, these statements cannot be verified or identified. At one time a great running was made on the "Magistri Comacenses," the Masters of Como, but it is quite clear now they were local not general. Mr. Britton, though incorrect in his main theory, is invaluable as an evidence and as a contributor of facts. For instance, he tells us that as to Mason from the French Maçon the derivation is uncertain. Some take it he says from Macio, or Maceria, and others from Mas, an old word for a house. To this associated body of Free and Accepted Masons Mr. Britton ascribes all the great mediæval buildings. He remarks that the Latin word "Extructor" just as Structor, Edificator, like Architector, Architectus, is used for an architect or builder in ancient records. He mentions Henry the Latomus, or "the Lathom," at Evesham Abbey, in the end of the thirteenth century. He also alludes to Rosslyn Chapel, and states that in Arch. Antiqs., vol. iii., are "some interesting particulars relating to the Freemasons who built that edifice." Can any student brother help us with the words of the reference? MASONIC STUDENT.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of this Institution was held on Thursday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall, Col. Creaton, Past Grand Treasurer, presided. The other brethren who attended were Bros. J. H. Matthews, E. H. Finney, A. H. Tattershall, Col. James Peters, G. Svd. Br.; E. Letchworth, Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Thomas Kingston, Arthur E. Gladwell, John J. Berry, C. H. Webb, Robert Grey, P.G.D.; William H. Bateman, George Gravely, J. J. Cascley, Samuel H. Parkhouse, John Mason, George Nickley, W. H. Rudderforth, E. Spooner, F. R. W. Hedges, Secretary, and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the former meeting Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., moved that the salary of Miss Redgrave, the first assistant governess, be increased from £75 to £90 a year. The matter had been discussed by the House Committee, who had recommended the proposition unanimously, and he hoped it would be adopted unanimously by the present committee. When Miss Davis was taken ill last year and was away this year for six months Miss Redgrave was put in authority, and he did not think it was saying anything in derogation of Miss Davis to say that her place was so well filled by Miss Redgrave that anyone could hardly tell that Miss Davis was away, everything going on the same as before. It ought to be a matter of great congratulation to the subscribers to the Institution that when any emergency like the illness of Miss Davis occurred they could find from among the children educated in this school a governess who could at a moment's notice take the place of the head governess, and not only of this Institution but of any other. Looking at it in another light, they ought to be just. If they lost Miss Redgrave, and sought for a governess in her place outside this Institution they would not get the services of anyone so able for the same amount of money. Having discovered what her value was he thought it was only an act of justice to Miss Redgrave to raise her salary as proposed by this resolution.

Bro. ARTHUR E. GLADWELL, P.M. 172, seconded the motion. He had been to the Institution and seen how admirably it was managed by Miss Redgrave.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Notice of motion was given for next meeting that the salary of the Secretary be increased.

Authority was given to the Chairman to sign cheques in discharge of liabilities, and two petitions of candidates for next election were approved. One was deferred.

The Committee then adjourned.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The first of a series of entertainments with which it has been determined to enliven the winter months, and to relieve the necessary monotony attending school work, was given to the pupils of the Institution at Wood Green, on Monday, the 20th ult. The programme was an interesting and diversified one, in which the vocal and instrumental talent of the pupils had fair opportunity for display, while the assistance of Bros. John Hodges, Hanson, and Edward Wharton (of the Orpheus Lodge) was warmly appreciated. The concert was organised by Bro. Joyce Murray (V. Patron, and member of the House Committee), Bro. Charles E. Tinney (Musical Instructor) conducting, and also contributing to the general effect by his valuable assistance throughout.

Votes of thanks were proposed and enthusiastically supported to those who by their kindness and thoughtfulness had enabled all present to participate in a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Amongst those present we noticed Bro. and Mrs. Edgar Bowyer and party, Bro. Joyce Murray, Bro. and Mrs. H. S. Goodall and party, Bro. and Mrs. Matier and party, Bro. G. J. Row and party, Bro. R. W. Stewart, Bro. W. Willey, Mrs. Jno. Constable and party, Mr. Cubitt and party, Rev. Dr. Morris (Head Master), Mrs. Hogard and party, with several other friends, and Bro. J. Binckes (Secretary).

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, which works under the sanction of the Lodge of Unions, No. 236, was held on Friday, the 23rd ult., at Freemasons' Tavern. Preceding the festival the lodge of improvement met as a lodge in the Crown Room of the Tavern, and worked the Second Lecture. The Stewards for the festival were Bros. Thos. Fenn, P.G.D., Treas.; E. Almack, 1768; J. E. Anderson, J.W. 18; J. J. Black, 1564; G. Brown, P.M. 140; H. Bué, J.W. 1820, Sec. 1965; F. J. Bennett, 211; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sec.; W. A. Dawson, P.M. 1768; G. Drysdale, P.M. 222; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; R. R. Davis, P.M. 236; A. Escott, P.M. 1593; A. Fyson, 1768; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; H. C. Heard, P.M. 449, P.P.G.J.D. Herts; E. B. Holloway, P.M. 108; A. Heyes, 1567; J. R. Jones, J.W. 1768; W. H. Johnston, S.D. 1925; J. W. Jones, G. Stwd.; W. G. Kentish, P.M. 1293; C. Lowther Kemp, 63, S.W. 1924; P. de L. Long, P.G.D.; G. F. Marshall, S.D. 69; A. Marvin, W.M. 1768; E. M. Money, J.W. 28; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; J. H. Matthews, P. Dist. G.D. Bengal; T. W. Ockenden, S.W. 1768; F. W. Prior, 90; G. C. Pulsford, W.M. 1593; H. Pritchard, J.D. 1415; A. A. Richards, P.G.S., P.M. S., P.P.G.J.W. Middlesex; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; A. C. Spaul, P.M. 1768; F. R. Spaul, P.M. 1124, Sec.; W. H. Spaul, P.G.S. North Wales and Salop; R. C. Sudlow, P.M. 1965; S. W. Shaw, W.M. 1965; W. Smallpeice, P.M. 1395; J. T. Tanqueray, S.W. 1965; E. L. Walford, 905; and S. B. Wilson, P.M. 59.

Among the brethren who attended were Bros. the Hon. Mr. Justice Prinsep, Dist. G.M. Bengal; Rev. John Sedgwick, Prov. G. Chap.; Raymond H. Thrupp, Asst. G.D. of C.; J. H. Devonshire, G.J.D.; Rev. W. Oswell Thompson, G. Chap.; Ralph Gooding, M.D., D.D., S.G.D.; Rev. C. W. Arnold, P.G. Chap.; Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; James Lewis-Thomas, F.S.A., P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. Thos. Cochran, P.G. Chap.; John Messent, P.G. Svd. Br.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; J. Sampson Peirce, P.G.D.; J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; Robert Grey, P.G.D.; C. A. Murton, P.G.D.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chap.; Rev. A. W. Hall, P.G. Chap.; H. J. Bing, George Drysdale, James Gladwell, George Graveley, Arthur Proudfoot, J. W. Ockenden, Alexander Higerty, Thos. Francis Peacock, Chas. J. S. Ayling, St. Leonards Chubb, Frederick William Smith, Rudolph G. Glover, P.G.S., John Skinner, G. Houlder, Bishop, Frank A. Abraham, W. J. Spratling, Arthur Reynolds, W. Winnett, 59; Alfred Richards, 1759; H. L. de Montmorency, No. 1; Thomas Yeo, 905; C. E. Mortimer, 1584; George Baker, I.G. 503; J. W. Ford, 1348; George Freeman, 1409; Robert R. Dickinson, 832; W. Howell Walters, 464; Isaac Paddle, 715; James Paddle, P.M. 715; G. W. Wigan, 1954; R. Goodchild, 554; Athelstan A. Angier, 19; E. B. Ingham, 823; A. Baumann, 238; A. Auerbach, 1839; C. G. Eastman, 179; Maitland H. Dicks, 1470; J. C. Lerner, 1586; F. A. Pullen, S.W. 742; John R. Maples, 211; W. F. Bloomfield, 910; Lewis Jones, 720; Hugh H. Riach, 1523; J. F. Norbury, 1523; W. Rowley, 1924; Ernest H. Morrison, 416; J. F. Abraham, 539; Captain A. Nicols, W.M. 1074; Henry Venn, 23; J. P. Clayton, 263; Joseph Russell, 59; Sidney E. Yates, 59; D. W. Pearce, 1293; Tyson Crawford, 1708; J. E. Sheffield, 1897; G. J. E. Marsh, 1586; B. P. Jesse, 1536; T. H. Hicks, 1597; Wm. Chew, 1470; B. de Lanompierre, 1900; H. Rose, 1470; S. Spokes, 1470; A. Morcom, 1470; H. J. Walter, 890; F. E. Percival, 475; H. Weld, 1820; F. H. Williams, 18; A. M. Catling, 1579; G. Willcocks, 1924; W. N. St. Alphonse, 108; W. F. Denman, 1924; W. Simpson, 1924; C. Smith, 416; G. Harrison, 416; G. G. Barham, 256; C. J. K. Tyon, Sec. 1804; G. Cowley, 1044; C. Ellis, J.D. 1044; J. W. Hulseberg, St. John's; J. V. Morgan, 374 and 818; G. Shearman, 898; A. Walter, 554; G. T. Austen, 1457; A. H. East, 1457; A. C. Wood, 1506; J. Fahey; E. B. Holloway, P.M. 108; W. W. Green, P.M. 108; J. D. Tarr, I.G. 1293; G. Kennaby, C. J. Smith, P.M. 417; T. F. Lloyd, 416; J. B. Glenn, 19; W. G. Sams, 180; J. Hutt, F. Pendered, J. W. Gordon, Wm. Hicklin, S. S. Hasluck, C. B. Cooper, G. Stacey, Wm. Sworder, A. A. Coster, J. P. Houghton, T. H. Edmonds, J. Chapman, W. P. Brown, W. Saints, J. J. Craske, F. J. Vialis, F. A. Warner, F. Knipfer, W. S. Dunkley, W. Hollingworth, J. Brignall, J. O. Abbott, C. E. Wilson, J. Phillips, G. S. Bigley, J. D. Sykes, E. T. Smith, D. F. Wilson, J. D. Langton, J. W. Sacon, T. Johnson, J. Adie, 1474; W. McLaine, 1182; P. Howard, 1673; J. H. Garland, 1673; E. J. Walford, 905; and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D., presided as W.M.; Bro. A. A. Richards, P.G.S., P.M. S., P.P.G.J.W. Middlesex, acted as P.M.; Bro. R. C. Sudlow, P.M. 1965, as S.W.; Bro. W. A. Dawson, P.M. 1768, as J.W.; Bro. F. R. Spaul, P.M. 1124, Sec.; Bro. A. Marvin, W.M. 1768, as S.D.; Bro. F. J. Bennett, 211, as J.D.; and Bro. J. T. Tanqueray, J.W. 1965, as I.G. After the formal opening of the lodge in the Three Degrees, the Second Lecture was worked as follows: First Section, Bro. F. J. Bennett, 211; Second, Bro. J. T. Tanqueray, S.W. 1965; Third, Bro. A. Marvin, W.M. 1768; Fourth, Bro. J. J. Black, 1564; and Fifth, Bro. F. Marshall, S.D. 69. The whole of the work was most admirably performed, and at its conclusion

The Hon. Mr. Justice PRINSEP moved a vote of thanks to the working brethren. The excellent work which the brethren had witnessed, which had imparted instruction to all, but particularly to the younger members of the Craft, deserved some recognition, and therefore he proposed a vote of thanks to the Preceptor and officers of the lodge who had officiated that evening.

The Rev. C. W. ARNOLD, P.G.C., seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, in acknowledging the vote, said that although he was not, properly speaking, one of the working officers that night, he would thank the brethren for the vote, as it was usual for the presiding officer to do so. He was sure that all the working brethren felt highly gratified that they had worked to the satisfaction of those who were assembled at the lodge.

Before the lodge was closed a large number of brethren gave in their names to be balloted for as joining members of the Lodge of Improvement. The lodge was then closed in the Three Degrees, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to the large hall of the Tavern, where a bountiful supper was provided by Messrs. Spiers and Pond, under the superintendence of Bro. Dawkins. The usual toasts followed.

The toast of "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," having been disposed of, and the toast of "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been proposed,

The Rev. W. OSWELL THOMPSON, Grand Chap., in reply said it was an honour which any Mason might well be proud of to stand up in such a company and in such a time honoured building to reply to this toast, and more especially did he think it so when he was surrounded by so large a body of Grand Officers. It had been a great pleasure to him to receive the invitation to the ceremonies, and he had been very much delighted to see the work so admirably performed. Emulation working might generally be considered a model for all Masonic lodges, and all the Grand Officers had been highly pleased with what they had seen. The rev. brother next proposed "The Chairman." It was the custom at these annual festivals to invite some brother of eminence to preside, and on this occasion the invitation had been accepted by a brother from the far eastern portion of the Empire, who was very much distinguished in his own province, who ruled that province with very great wisdom, tact, and judgment, and who was over here for only a few weeks, it might be to refresh his knowledge of the old country, to see some old friends, and more than all to keep his brethren "au courant" with the times in Masonry. Bro. Prinsep was a Judge of the High Court of Calcutta, a place where great interest was felt in Freemasonry; and if the Emulation working was to be taken as the model of working for all Masonic lodges under the banner of England the brethren would hail with delight the presence of the Grand Master of Bengal who would take that working over there. If the District Grand Master of Bengal had been instructed by what he had seen that evening he (the Grand Chaplain) ventured to prognosticate that he would carry with him a lively sense of the hospitality shewn him and the zeal with which it was carried out. It was not for him just now to refer to the revision of the Book of Constitutions, but he would say that as long as the lodges of England would conform to the ritual of the ceremonies which had been worked continuously for 60 years, and probably before that, whatever the final revision might be the lodges would still flourish as long as they were endued with the spirit which they drew from this centre.

Bro. Mr. Justice PRINSEP in reply said he felt deeply the honour conferred upon him both in asking him to preside on so memorable an occasion and in proposing and drinking his health in so flattering a manner. He felt very much the inadequate manner in which he had filled the chair which had been so ably filled by many eminent predecessors. But he was supported by the consciousness that whatever might be their eminence he was second to none of them in his admiration of Freemasonry and also in his earnest desire to carry it out and assist its working in every way among his people afar off. Meetings like the present of a cosmopolitan lodge like the Emulation carried out to the fullest extent the principles of Freemasonry, not only in exciting emulation and a desire of improvement in working among brethren generally, but in bringing together members of many lodges in distant parts of the country, who would, except for the existence of such lodges, never meet together. He had frequently in his own person recognised the benefits of such associations. As District Grand Master, and also in humbler positions, though occupied in an official capacity as a representative of Government in various places, he had had the means offered him of associating and becoming acquainted with brethren with whom otherwise he might never have met, and he had, he hoped, acted on all occasions Masonically in all such interviews as he had had with them. Therefore he fully appreciated the existence of such a lodge as the Lodge of Emulation, as having the power of bringing people in so many walks of life together; but the existence of a lodge and the prosperity of a lodge must entirely depend on the way it was conducted. There could be no two opinions, and especially among those present that night, as to the way in which the Lodge of Emulation had been conducted for years past, and at the present time it maintained its old reputation. Therefore, he wished it success, and he proposed as the next toast "Success to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," coupling with it the name of Bro. Thomas Fenn.

Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., responded in the name of the Committee for the kind wishes expressed towards the lodge in which they entertained so deep an interest. The President had on two occasions that evening made use of the word "Preceptor." It was right that it should be pretty generally known that the Lodge of Emulation differed in many respects from ordinary lodges of instruction, in that it had no Preceptor. It originated from a lodge of instruction which was formed in 1818, under the sanction of the British Lodge, No. 8, and in 1823 a number of the members of that lodge of instruction, together with many other pupils of the famous Peter Gilks, united together and formed the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, in order to illustrate the working of the ceremonies and the lectures strictly according to the system which had been taught to them by their Preceptor, Bro. Gilks. On the occasions when they met the work was perfectly performed by all those members who occupied the different offices in the lodge, and they were really the Preceptors while they occupied the offices. The Emulation Lodge of Improvement in like manner endeavoured, so far as they could, to carry out the original intentions of the founders of this lodge. They had their own bye-laws, one of which said that no brother should be eligible for the office of Master unless he was able to perform the ceremonies in the working according to the recognised system of this lodge; and, therefore, when the Master took the chair under that principle which they knew to be accepted, he was for the evening the Preceptor of the lodge. The duty of the Committee was to see that the principle was carried out in its integrity, and that the ancient working of the lodge was maintained to the letter. Since they last met there were three of the pupils of the late Stephen Barton Wilson among the Committee, so that the traditions had been handed down only through three generations—Peter Gilks, Stephen Barton Wilson, and the members of the Committee who were absent on the last occasion. It must be a subject of regret to all present that one of their brethren had retired from them, Bro. Murton. They would all agree that the services which that brother had rendered to this lodge for more than a quarter of a century quite entitled him to a repose from his Masonic duties, which they hoped he would enjoy for many years to come. The two remaining pupils of S. B. Wilson were Bro. Richards

and himself (Bro. Fenn). In the course of nature they could not expect to be very much longer amongst the brethren, for having served the lodge for more than a quarter of a century, they might perhaps wish to indulge in the repose of Bro. Murton. However, it must be a source of satisfaction to Bro. Murton, as it was to Bro. Richards and himself (Bro. Fenn), that they had elected in Bro. Murton's place Bro. Sudlow. (Loud cheers.) He need hardly say after that reception of the name that Bro. Sudlow was very popular among the brethren for the way in which he superintended the lodge. It was a great satisfaction to Bro. Richards and himself, who must in the course of time retire from their active labours, to know that the ancient traditions of the lodge were well kept up by the members of the Committee who succeeded them. When they had such brethren as Bros. Sudlow and Dawson on the Committee they could have no fear for the future prosperity and success of the lodge, such prosperity and success as it had experienced in the past, and he had no doubt the good wishes of the brethren would be realised.

The Rev. AMBROSE W. HALL, P.G.C., proposed "Success and Prosperity to the Lodge of Unions." Although it had not been his privilege in any way to be associated with the lodge—and he regretted to say he could not enlarge upon its merits, because he knew very little of it—he knew it was the mother of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and it must be a good lodge when such a lodge had such a strength. Union meant strength, and the Masonic strength that was shown in the Lodge of Emulation showed that the reputation of that old Craft must be good. If it brought perfect Masonic children to do the work in the way it had been done that evening, to inculcate those truths that were taught by the beautiful rites and ceremonies of Masonry, when they came to consider how well and ably that had all been done, he was sure they would drink this toast heartily. A great deal might be said upon Masonry, a great deal more might be said upon Masonry as shown in their meeting that day, and he congratulated the Lodge of Emulation and the R.W.G.M. in the chair upon the number of brethren who were present to meet him, and he trusted his health would be such that some day or other they might again see him in the chair.

Bro. R. R. DAVIS, P.M. 256, replied. He regretted the absence of the Master of the Lodge of Unions, from circumstances beyond his own control. Had the W.M. been there he would have replied more eloquently, though not more sincerely, than he (Bro. Davis). The Lodge of Unions was of old age; it was within two years of completing its hundredth year, having been memorable for another circumstance—it was at that time the *Times* newspaper was established. There must be many circumstances in connection with the lodge of a gratifying nature. But there was nothing which had afforded its members more satisfaction than the knowledge that for 50 years this Emulation Lodge of Improvement had worked under its banner. Every one connected with it was proud of the connection that had existed within the two lodges, which he hoped would continue uninterrupted for many years.

The Rev. R. J. SIMPSON, P.G.C., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and observed that he need scarcely say how truly he sympathised with his old friend and brother Mason, the Grand Chaplain, in acknowledging the happiness they had derived from the hospitable reception they had met from the Lodge of Emulation; but he would add that "the feast of reason and the flow of the soul" which they supped upon before they sat down to banquet was a matter of great congratulation to every Mason in the room. The beautiful ritual was there delivered and rendered in a manner which must go home not only to the minds, but to the hearts of them all. But they must remember that the ritual was after all but the emblem of things present, the shadow of good things to come, and that the real landmarks of Masonry might be classed under two heads—its principles and its Charities. Its principles were admirably illustrated in the ceremonies which they had seen that evening with so much pleasure. Its Charities were so well known that it would be simply platitude if he were for a moment to tell the oft-told tale not to young Masons, but to Masons older than himself and still more experienced. But he was sure the brethren would feel with him that the Masonic Charities were the tiara—the triple tiara—which crowned the head of every true Mason. The Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the Institution for Aged Masons should be borne upon the head and heart of every true Mason. He felt sure the present company most thoroughly appreciated and supported him. Of this fact many of the brethren were perhaps well aware, that after paying off all the expenses of the lodge everything went to the Masonic charities. That was the principle on which this Lodge of Emulation had acted, and therefore in that hall and under present circumstances the charities could not possibly be proposed more appropriately. He would fain hope that emulation might extend still further, and that other lodges might possibly find such a principle to be admirably calculated to carry out Freemasonry in its entirety; at any rate, the Lodge of Emulation in this respect as in others set them all a bright example. He need hardly say that no human institution was perfect, and probably it might be that the Masonic Charities were not quite perfect either. They should not enter for a moment upon anything like controversy; it would be out of place and out of time; but this he was sure they would all agree with him in, that they must try as far as possible to make their Masonic charities without reproach and to be carried out as justly, as benevolently, and as impartially as they possibly could; and if only they worked out the principles of Masonry and the charities of Freemasonry as thoroughly as the Emulation Lodge worked out its beautiful ceremonies, he then was quite sure they would toast and drink "The Masonic Charities" with all the more gusto on the present occasion. He had great pleasure in coupling with this toast the name of Bro. Matthews, who held high provincial rank in a foreign land, but who was thoroughly at home with the brethren here in regard to their Masonic Charities.

Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS in reply said he did not know why he had been asked to return thanks to this toast except that it was out of compliment to the R.W. brother in the chair, he (Bro. Matthews) holding past rank in Bengal. Since he had returned to England he had taken considerable interest in the Charities of Masonry, and by good luck he had been made a member of the House Committee of one of the Charities. He was happy to say that this was not the occasion on which he had to ask the brethren to put their hands in their pockets, and he would simply say that they must bear in mind that the festival of the Masonic Charities were approaching—that the Bene-

volent Institution was in February, the Girls' in May, and the Boys' in June, and he hoped on those occasions the brethren would assist them to the best of their ability. There was one thing he thought would induce them to do so; if they would kindly go down and visit the Institutions there was nothing in his opinion more calculated to incite them to putting their hands in their pockets than the satisfaction they would feel at the way the Institutions were conducted. He regretted that his name had been coupled with the toast as he saw around him so many brethren who had sat on the Committees of the Charities many, many more years than he.

Bro. J. C. PARKINSON, P.G.D., proposed "The Health of the Working Officers of the Evening." Speaking as an old working officer of this lodge, as a Mason of 25 years' standing, as a member of this lodge for more than 20 years, it gave him profound gratification to be able to congratulate the brethren present and the Craft at large upon the unimpaired efficiency of this great Masonic Institution. And looking back on that lapse of time to which he had referred it seemed to him on anniversaries of that sort that it was fair to himself, and fair to those by whom he was surrounded, fair to those to whom they might hope in some sort to give an example, or at all events to point a moral, to ask oneself what was the outcome of the long period, of the great absorption of time and of other forms of expenditure—what was the outcome of 25 years of Masonic life? Were he cross-examined upon the point he would divide his experience into three heads. He would say, first, Masonic life taught minutely and intimately the advantages and the working of constitutional government. Secondly, that it enabled the brother who entered the Craft to at once feel the enormous advantage of association—the great boon of rubbing shoulders with his fellows, of ascertaining where he was, and what he was, in his own little world, perhaps of lessening his self-esteem, or of increasing his confidence. Thirdly, it gave the inestimable boon of all the reverence and knowledge of one of the most beautiful rituals that had ever been created since language was formed. As regarded constitutional government, they all knew from the moment a man was initiated in a Freemasons' lodge he learned he was a mere cog in the wheel; he was at the same time an individuality, and step by step, first, by his vote for the Master; secondly, by the knowledge that his Master and Wardens represent the lodge of which he is a part, that he himself as soon as he votes for the Master has through his lodge a direct influence in the election of those brethren who represent him in Grand Lodge, and therefore that he is an integral part of that great institution called the Craft; thirdly, the advantage to individual character of becoming a Mason. He would ask them to picture to themselves a youth or young man belonging to no public school, having the advantage of no university education, belonging to no powerful family, having no strong connections and few friends; such a man entering a Masonic lodge, from the moment of becoming a Master Mason and knowing his brethren, from that moment that friendless young man had opportunities which would have been denied him by the circumstances of life thitherto, and become a possessor of those great advantages which his fellows in the struggle of life had from family, education, or other circumstances. In that sense Masons were deeply indebted to their Order for a training and education which fitted them in a great measure for the battle of life. Coming to the last point—the great advantage of maintaining pure and unsullied that beautiful ritual which had been handed down to them, and which he prized and cherished as one of his most valued privileges—they all knew one of the greatest of living orators owed much of his power over his fellow citizens to his close and intimate study of the Sacred Volume. Next to that Sacred Volume, as a mere matter of literary style—and he put it no higher—next to the Sacred Volume and the English Prayer Book he knew of no ritual and no variety of language in which the English tongue was set before them so purely or grandly. As a mere study of style for a man who had a taste for literary exercises, there could be no better study than the stately ritual of Freemasonry. In the race and work of life, in the trials which beset us all, in the hours of temptation, whether in prosperity or adversity, there were times when the word in season came in, and the language they had learned in the Masonic lodge, though we might not have thought of the application of it when we heard it, had come home to us, and it would come home to the youngest brother, whether in trials or success. There was no more powerful teaching or stronger appeal to the human heart than in our Masonic ritual. The brethren, the working officers of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, were the conservators of that magnificent ritual. Long might it be preserved by them and their successors; and might the principles and tenets of Freemasonry which they had all been taught be transmitted pure and unsullied through these brethren and those whom they had taught from generation to generation.

Bro. SUDLOW, S.W. for the evening, in reply said it must be very gratifying to the members of the lodge who had worked sections that night to have listened to the commendations which had been so freely expressed on their working, and he was quite sure they felt amply repaid for any trouble they had taken in rendering themselves perfect. It was a very proud thing to be chosen to exemplify the working of this lodge at their annual festivals. At the same time he was quite sure the brethren who had worked that night did not wish to make it too long a habit, but were glad to see their places filled with other brethren, and among those brethren would be found the names of some who had come before them that evening as candidates for joining. If those brethren would but attend they might by that means catch something of the spirit of emulation.

Bro. J. SAMPSON PEIRCE, P.G.D., proposed "The Stewards." The toasts that had been given as yet had not forgotten any one who ought to have honour in connection with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The Charities had not been forgotten; the Masonic ritual had had every honour paid to it by the last speaker; and he (Bro. Peirce) now stood at the flag end of the evening with all the wind taken probably, but he hoped not altogether, out of his sails when he proposed one more toast. Instead of going again upstairs he was going to bring the brethren down into that very room. He was not allowed, because it had been already spoken to so ably and admirably, to say more about the working upstairs; but what he had to say dealt with the working in the banquet room and at the banquet table. At that table they had had abundance of hospitality, not the least probably of the great Masonic virtues of which they were all possessors. The brother who preceded him spoke of being

enrolled in this grand old lodge of improvement many years ago. He (Bro. Peirce) was proud to say he was enrolled among its members in 1859, and perhaps he had not been so good a member of it as the lodge deserves. Still he was not unmindful of those who after their work upstairs came down stairs. They had to deal with good and true Masons who knew their business down below as well as those above. He had to propose "The Stewards of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement," for he intended to couple with it the health—might he be allowed to say the renewed health, and the continuance of renewed health—of the Secretary, Bro. F. R. SPAULL, who he feared was not that day in the health they would be most delighted and glad to see him in. Bro. Spaul was a most valued member of the lodge, as they all knew, and if he (Bro. Peirce) were to speak a volume or indulge in any amount of praise, it would not endear him to the brethren more than he was endeared already. Might the lodge lodge never be worse served than it was that day; because he was quite convinced in his own mind that there would not be a visitor or member sitting there who did not feel in his heart that he owed some debt of gratitude, be it great or be it small, to those who had looked to their creature comforts on the present occasion.

Bro. F. R. SPAULL, Sec., in reply said this was the first time he had had the honour of replying as Secretary of the lodge. The worthy brother who proposed the toast of the Stewards had very kindly said he wished him better health. He (Bro. Spaul) also wished he was in better health. As for the Stewards he was sure when they saw what they had been instrumental in bringing together on this occasion they would be satisfied with what they had done. One remark he should like to make. Bro. Sudlow had spoken of the brethren attending the lodge and trying to emulate their predecessors. It was when the late Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey, was presented with a testimonial through the hands of the Earl of Carnarvon, that he (Bro. Spaul) first came in. He little knew then that he should work up. He did however work up until he attained the high position he was so proud of that evening. He begged that the brethren would attend the lodge and try to emulate the conduct of their predecessors.

GRAND TYLER then gave the Tyler's toast and the brethren separated.

FREEMASONRY IN TURKEY.

In Constantinople there are two English lodges and one Irish lodge—the Oriental, which is the mother lodge of Freemasonry in that capital; the Bulwer, founded by the famous diplomatist; and the Leinster. Until within a few years past there was also a Scotch lodge, the Caledonian; but, owing to certain administrative measures adopted by the Turkish Admiralty, the British colony was so thinned out that that lodge had to amalgamate with the Irish lodge.

At the last meeting of the Bulwer Lodge, held on the 13th ult., Bro. Otto Dingler was unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, in place of the W.M., Bro. B. H. HANLY. The lodge being closed the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

The W.M., Bro. B. H. HANLY, in proposing the toast of "The Sultan," remarked upon the great administrative capacity, love of work, and the marvellous tact which distinguished the Sultan. But his Imperial Majesty had a far higher title to the admiration of Freemasons, for his Majesty had constantly—and more especially recently, in the matter of the earthquake at Tchesme—given proofs that he had at heart the fundamental principle of Freemasonry—Charity. Political questions being interdicted in a meeting of English Masons, he could not go into particulars as to his Majesty's diplomatic qualities; but perhaps the brethren present would allow him to remark that the promotion of W. Bro. Woods Pasha—(loud applause)—proved that the sympathy which existed between Turkey and England at the time of the Crimean War still existed. That promotion occurred at a time when Englishmen had commenced to entertain some doubts on the subject, and it had dissipated those doubts not only in Constantinople, but elsewhere. The honour conferred upon Woods Pasha, however, had been well earned by many years of loyal service. (Applause.) Therefore, in proposing the toast of the Sultan the W.M. called upon Bro. Woods Pasha to respond.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm. W. Bro. WOODS PASHA in reply said that he was not only surprised but overwhelmed by the honour which had been conferred upon him. He could, however, say from his own personal experience, for since his promotion he had had the privilege of having interviews with his Imperial Majesty, that what Bro. Hanly had said about the Sultan's personal qualities was true. He could also add that what had struck him most was the charming affability of the Sultan and his marvellous knowledge of details on technical questions. He was sure that the only wish of his Majesty was that his people, without distinction of race or religion, should be prosperous. He felt also sure that his Imperial Majesty would be pleased to hear that the brethren of the Bulwer Lodge, comprising as it did so many different nationalities—he could count nine amongst those present—had drunk to his health so sincerely and so enthusiastically. He thanked the brethren, as an officer in the service of the Turkish government, for the toast which they had just drunk, and in conclusion he thanked the W.M. for the signal honour he had done him in calling upon him to respond to such a toast and for the fraternal remarks he had made about him. This speech was loudly applauded and after the usual toasts the brethren separated, thoroughly satisfied with their evening's entertainment.

Baron Reichenbach, a German, after devoting some years to the study of the subject, maintains that improperly made or placed beds will shorten man's life. If a mere magnet exercises an influence on sensitive persons, the earth's magnetism must certainly make itself felt on the life of the nervous. While sleeping, the feet should always be towards the equator, and the body "true as the needle to the pole." This position of the body is of the utmost importance for the proper circulation of the blood, and many disturbances in the organism have been cured by simply placing the bolster in a different point of the compass from that it had occupied. The late Dr. Elschwester, of Magdeburg, who died recently at the age of 109 years, is an example of having put into practice this theory. The most unhealthy position, we are told, is when the body lies due east and west. Some observers assure us that to sleep in such a posture is tantamount to committing suicide, and that diseases are often aggravated by deviations from the proper postures.



Craft Masonry.

UNION WATERLOO LODGE (No. 13).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge took place on the 14th ult., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. The W.M., Bro. R. A. Smith, was supported by Bros. G. Masters, S.W.; W. Akers, J.W.; T. Hutton, P.M., Treas.; N. Brown, P.M., Sec.; A. Cleal, S.D.; J. G. Melbourne, J.D.; W. Tailby, I.G.; H. Grice, D. of C.; and J. Bell, W.S. The ballot was taken for Mr. G. Smith, and proving unanimous he was initiated. The W.M. did this his only work splendidly. Among the other brethren present were Bros. T. Hosgood, I.P.M.; H. S. Syer, P.M.; G. B. Davis, P.M.; R. Hodgkinson, P.M.; J. H. Roberts, W.M. 700; G. Beaver, P.M. 700; H. Mason, P.M. 913; J. A. Elder, P.M. 1476; R. Hanson, P.M. 829; and others. After the lodge was closed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and a truly Masonic evening was spent in harmony.

WILLIAM PRESTON LODGE (No. 766).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at Cannon-street Hotel. Bro. Wm. Drake, W.M., presided, and passed Bro. C. T. Hitchens to the Second Degree. He afterwards installed Bro. William James Collens, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge for the year ensuing. The brethren appointed to office were Bros. William Drake, I.P.M.; A. Le Grand, S.W.; J. H. Brookes, J.W.; W. J. Miller, P.M., Treas.; W. Worrell, P.M., Sec.; A. C. Rees, P.M., S.D.; J. Turtle Lee, J.D.; C. Pay, I.G.; E. Kidman, P.M., Stwd.; W. Johnson, Asst. Stwd.; Heath, D.C.; G. F. Edwards, Asst. D.C.; and Reinhardt, Tyler. Bro. W. J. Miller, P.M. and Treas., delivered the addresses.

Bro. F. Henry Heck afterwards presented to the lodge a handsome painting of the late Bro. Past Master Kain, in a beautiful frame, and in doing so said: *Worshipful Master and Brethren: I beg to address a few words to the brethren. For the first place I beg to offer my sincerest apology for my prolonged absence from the meetings and my apparent disobedience to the command of our Worshipful Master to attend to these meetings. I infinitely regret that my occupation has taken me away for a long period to the Continent on affairs which I was compelled to attend to and I hope that none of the brethren will ascribe it to my neglect as it would give me the greatest satisfaction were I able to attend to every meeting regularly. I will now proceed to the object of my address. When last I had the pleasure of attending the meeting, as near as possible 12 months ago, we were very much afflicted by the sad news of the loss of our Past Master Kain, with whom disappeared from our midst the last connecting link of the old and new chain. On that occasion the Past Master Pringle, had the kindness to make the proposition to present each brother with an enlarged copy of a photo he possessed of the lamented Past Master Kain, and that also one copy should be suspended on the wall behind the chair of the Worshipful Master, which proposition was then accepted. Taking in consideration that it is the fatal nature of all photographs to change and lose colour sometimes even after a short interval, and certainly in the course of time, and having myself some idea in consequence of my occupation with a number of distinguished artists, I was bold enough to propose having the photo in question copied in oil painting, and to present it to the lodge for the purpose of being suspended by the side of the photo; which proposition was then accepted as well. I have now the pleasure and honour to present the painting for the approbation of the Worshipful Master and brethren, and it will be the highest satisfaction for me if I have succeeded in contributing to the presentation by a life-like portrait of the memory of our beloved and esteemed Past Master.*

Bro. George Newman, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Heck, and also that authority be given for hanging the portrait on the walls of the lodge.

Bro. Miller, P.M., Treas., seconded the vote, but thought that it should be left to another meeting to arrange the hanging of the picture on the wall. The vote was carried unanimously, and the brethren expressed a general opinion that the likeness of Bro. Kain was perfect and the painting a superb work of art.

Bro. G. Newman, P.M., asked that the permission of the lodge might be given to hang the picture on the walls of the William Preston Chapter, of which the late Bro. Kain was the originator and one of the Principals, and he moved to that effect.

Bro. W. Worrell, P.M. and Sec., seconded the motion, which was carried, the provision being added that the picture should be exhibited in the William Preston Chapter so long as the chapter met under the same roof as the lodge. The W.M. then offered to take the Stewardship for the lodge of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at its next festival, a circular having been sent by the Secretary of that Institution asking for a Steward.

Bro. Newman, P.M., moved that ten guineas be placed on the W.M.'s list, and Bro. Smart, P.M., seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The brethren then closed the lodge, and adjourned to banquet. The Past Masters present were Bros. George Newman, John Pringle, A. Braun, Charles Catmore, and W. F. Smart. The visitors were Bros. H. Bowman Spratt, P.M. 177; Walter Mitchell, P.M. 1558; Henry Garrod, P.M. 749, &c.; E. Bithray, 15; Charles Hunt, P.M. 191; G. J. E. Marsh, S.D. 1586; W. C. Worley, R. J. Brand, 25; Robert T. Pierce, 250; W. H. Kempster, P.M. 890; Charles Bates, 907; J. L. Apey, 534; Henry Vompell, J.W. 957; J. W. T. Chapman, W.M. elect 1922; R. J. Taylor, W.M. 1922; C. Barnard, 1558; E. Chamberlain, 87; Frederick Bevan, 1706; Walter Hopkirk, W.M. 1986; and H. Massey, P.M. 619, 1928 (*Freemason*).

After the banquet the usual toasts were proposed, and after the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M.," and "The Pro G.M., the Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," had been duly honoured, the I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in doing so said that Bro. Collens had performed his duties in the lodge in a most masterly manner. He was an initiate of the lodge, had passed through all its

offices, and had now arrived at the proud position of W.M. The brethren all knew Bro. Collens's good qualities, and therefore it was not necessary to say more about them, the brethren being perfectly able to appreciate them.

The W.M. in reply said the position he had been placed in that evening was one that was quite new to him, and it was one which required a great deal of care and attention on his part to—even in a slight degree—follow in the footsteps of those who had preceded him. He could only say that he brought to the position every desire to do all that could be done by mortal man for the purpose of upholding the name and fame of the William Preston Lodge. He was an initiate in this lodge eight years ago; when he was raised he hoped one day to attain the position of Master of the lodge. He had done all he could to achieve his end, but he could only suppose that it was by the favour of the brethren he had succeeded. His aspirations, and his endeavours to bring those aspirations to a successful issue, had at any rate been successful. He had attained to the position he had aspired to, and he hoped he should in the course of time satisfy the brethren that they had made no mistake, but that he had done all he could for the welfare of the lodge. He would now pass to another subject. He had to present to Bro. George Newman a testimonial, for which the brethren had subscribed in acknowledgment of his services as Steward of the lodge. It had been proposed that he should have a jewel; but Bro. Newman had expressed a desire that it should take a different form, and the brethren had acceded to his wish to give him a timepiece. He had now to request Bro. Newman to accept it as a slight token of the regard in which he was held by the brethren of the William Preston Lodge, for the great services he had rendered the lodge as its Wine Steward.

Bro. George Newman, P.M., in acknowledging the toast and the testimonial, said that from his earliest years he had been associated with the William Preston Lodge, as his family had been associated with it, and he thought that by having a timepiece it would be a memento in the family of the esteem in which he was held by the lodge. He was extremely grateful to the brethren for their kind and thoughtful recognition of what he had done for the lodge. He had desired to leave something behind him to remind his family of the lodge's esteem, and he hoped he should be spared to see this clock for many years, which would remind him of the many pleasant hours he had spent in the lodge. At any time and at all times he hoped to be ready to serve the lodge.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The I.P.M.," and said the brethren knew how able he was, and that it was only by the accident of his being Master of another lodge that he was not Master of the William Preston before. He had conducted the work of the William Preston Lodge during the last 12 months to the satisfaction of all the brethren, and they were satisfied that they took a right step in electing him. He (the W.M.) only hoped during his year to emulate Bro. Drake's efforts, and get through the work in the same efficient manner. He then presented Bro. Drake with a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted by the lodge in recognition of his services, at the same time thanking him for the able way in which he had performed the installation ceremony that evening.

Bro. Drake, I.P.M., briefly thanked the brethren for their kindness and for the way in which they had supported him during his year of office.

The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. H. Bowman Spratt, P.M. 177, who said he knew the brethren had made no mistake in electing Bro. Collens as their Master, who was excelled by none in his working of the ritual. He was sure he would bring credit to the lodge. He was pleased to visit lodges, and thought it had a good effect. His own lodge, the Domatic, was a numerous, and some said a noisy, lodge, but it was an influential lodge, and always had visitors to the delight of the members. He was sure brethren of the William Preston Lodge hailed visitors with the same spirit.

Bros. Dr. Kempster and Walter Hopkirk also responded. A special toast was proposed in honour of Bro. Heck, who had presented the lodge with the portrait of Capt. G. J. Kain. The brethren, the W.M. said, were only too pleased to have this "counterfeit presentment" of such an old Past Master, now deceased. They knew the admirable likeness it was, and they appreciated the kindness of Bro. Heck in presenting it. It was a most valuable present, and would always be esteemed by the brethren.

Bro. Heck in responding said he was only too happy to have contributed a memorial to the late Past Master Kain. If the artist had succeeded in producing a life-like portrait it would be the greatest satisfaction he could have. For himself, he might say he had spared no pains or trouble in rendering the frame a fitting border for the portrait. If he had succeeded to the satisfaction of the brethren it was the greatest reward he could have.

The toast of "The Past Masters and the Treasurer and Secretary" followed, and the W.M. in giving it complimented those brethren on their exertions on behalf of the lodge, and attributed to them the setting anything right if it went wrong.

Replies were made by the Treasurer and Secretary, and the toast of "The Officers" was next proposed.

To this the Senior and Junior Wardens and some of the other officers responded, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Several brethren contributed some excellent songs and recitations during the evening.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the November meeting of this lodge, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 13th ult., one brother was raised, two brethren were passed, and five gentlemen initiated, and amongst the latter was the son of the W.M., Bro. Gulliford, also the son of the Secretary of the Lodge of Instruction, Bro. G. Reynolds. Bro. E. Jacobs, P.M., presided in the unavoidable absence of the W.M.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE (No. 1563).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Rooms of the Café Royal, Regent-street, when the brethren of the lodge assembled in force to see Bro. T. W. Eastgate installed into the chair of K.S., while in addition a goodly number of visitors came to witness the ceremony, to offer their congratulations to the new Master, and to enjoy the hospitality of their Westminster brethren. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. J. A. Hammond, and after the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the report of the Audit Com-

mittee was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The ballot was then taken for Mr. E. Hicatt, Mr. Christo Jonnadis, and Mr. G. Lefort, and being declared in favour of their admission, these gentlemen were thereupon initiated, and Bro. H. J. Smith was afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The lodge having been resumed to the Second Degree Bro. T. W. Eastgate, the W.M. elect, was presented, and after giving in his adhesion to the ancient charges, and taking the customary obligation, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, in whose presence he took the further obligation as Master of the lodge, and was then formally installed into the chair of K.S. Bro. Hammond, the outgoing Master, performed the impressive ceremony with the neatness and precision with which he performs all his work. Having invested Bro. Hammond with the collar of I.P.M., Bro. Eastgate declared the Board of Installed Masters closed, whereupon the other brethren were readmitted, and the new W.M. proclaimed and saluted in the Three Degrees. The W.M. then invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. Jones, S.W.; Lee, J.W.; Hammond, Treas.; Shand, Sec.; W. C. Smith, S.D.; Hill, J.D.; Cox, I.G.; E. H. Hoare, Org.; Durant, D. of C.; Brander, W.S.; and Potter, Tyler. Bro. Hammond brought the ceremony to a close by reciting the usual addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, and the general body of members of the lodge. Letters were read from Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, regretting his inability to attend the meeting, and from Bro. Terry, asking for a Steward for the next festival of the Benevolent Institution. The lodge was then closed in due form.

Among the visitors present were Bros. C. F. Matier, P.G.S.W. Greece; Enos Andrews, Prov. G. Org. Cheshire; T. Smith, 1656; J. Hooper, 1515; Meliger, 1855; R. Penstone, 84; W. S. Cutler, W.M. 715; Fitzgerald, W.M. 1364; J. H. Scott, 1765; S. Dicketts, 103; W. Land, P.M. 742; De Leliva, 1425; E. Faring, P.M. 180; Stedman, W.M. 1765; G. F. Smith, 1839; Novokowsky, P.M. 534; Rev. Bonavia Hunt, P.M. 1765; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188; and E. C. Massey (*Freemason*).

After the banquet which followed the lodge meeting the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to with the warmth and good feeling which always characterise meetings of this description, and in the intervals various vocal and instrumental performances were contributed by Bros. Howard, Hammond, Hoare, Andrew, Polt, and Stedman.

After the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," had been proposed without comment,

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Grand Officers," merely remarking that the manner in which the work of Freemasonry was directed and carried on by the Grand Officers was such as to deserve the confidence of the whole Craft.

Bro. Hammond, I.P.M., said that the next toast was "The Health of the W.M.," and it was the privilege of the I.P.M. to propose it. He was quite sure they would not quarrel with the toast, more especially as Bro. Eastgate was initiated in that lodge, and having gone through the various offices under the observation of the brethren, they were as able as himself to judge of Bro. Eastgate's competency to take the chair. He asked them to drink the health of their new Worshipful Master.

Bro. Eastgate in responding said that he rose with great diffidence to respond to that toast, because he felt that words could not express the gratitude he felt to the brethren for having placed him in the chair of that lodge; but he hoped that he should be able to show them by deeds if not by words that he was worthy of their confidence.

The next toast he had to propose was "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Hammond, the I.P.M." Bro. Hammond had had a long and arduous task to perform that evening. He had conferred the First Degree upon the initiates, he had performed the ceremony of raising Bro. Smith, which was a long piece of work at any time, and in addition to that he had done the installation ceremony in a way that would do credit to any one. Remembering Bro. Hammond's past year of office, he looked back with gratitude and admiration at the manner in which Bro. Hammond had done his work. He claimed of the brethren a hearty toast for Bro. Hammond, but before resuming his seat he had a pleasant duty to perform. It gave him exceeding gratification to pin upon the I.P.M.'s breast the jewel with which he now invested him.

The toast was received with applause and heartily responded to, and Bro. Hammond in returning thanks said that he was much impressed, and felt deeply the very kind manner in which his health had been proposed, and the hearty cordiality with which the brethren had responded to it. It was very pleasant upon going out of office to find that his efforts had been appreciated. He thanked them for the honour they did him by voting him that jewel at the last meeting, and he would like to take that opportunity of assuring them that he should not only look at it as a recognition of services given to the lodge to the best of his ability, but also as an acknowledgement of favours to come in the performance of future duties which the lodge might select him to fulfil. He would take this as the most fitting time to thank them for the consideration and assistance that had been afforded to him during his year of office, and he congratulated the W.M. he would have practically the same officers to carry out the duties of the lodge under his superintendence.

The Worshipful Master said that he had now to propose the most important toast of the evening. It was necessary for the success of every lodge that they should have fresh blood. The City of Westminster Lodge was never behindhand in that respect. He would ask the brethren to drink to "The Initiates" in the heartiest manner. They had taken the first step in Freemasonry that day, but before forming an opinion of the Craft they must wait until they were Master Masons, when they would understand more perfectly what Freemasonry was.

The Initiates having briefly responded, the Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Visitors," coupling with it the names of Bros. Cutler, Stedman, and Fitzgerald. Bro. Cutler said he rose to return thanks with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret—pleasure at seeing an old friend installed Master of the lodge, and regret that this was the first occasion on which he had been to the City of Westminster Lodge to enjoy their splendid hospitality.

Bros. Fitzgerald, Farwig, Bonavia Hunt, Andrews, and Matier also acknowledged the compliment.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was briefly proposed by the Worshipful Master and was responded to by Bros. Hammond and Shand.

The next toast was that of "The Treasurer and Secretary," who, the Worshipful Master said, were two of the most important officers in the lodge. It was necessary that they should have for their officers brethren in whom they had perfect confidence. Bro. Hammond, their Treasurer, had the interest of the lodge at heart; he had filled the office of Master with satisfaction to the lodge, and he would perform any other office equally well. Bro. Shand was Treasurer before he undertook the much more arduous duties of Secretary. The W.M. said he should have to depend upon the Secretary in many matters and should frequently be guided by his advice.

Bros. Hammond and Shand again responded, after which "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was proposed by the W.M. and briefly acknowledged, and the Tyler's toast brought a very successful meeting to a close.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).

A capital meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on the 22nd ult., at Freemasons' Hall, W.C. Bro. H. J. Lardner, W.M., was and numerously supported by Bros. G. H. Stephens, S.W. (*Freemason*); J. G. Howes, J.W.; W. Malthouse, P.M.; E. Mallett, P.M.; Sec.; R. B. Greenwood, S.D.; J. King, J.D.; R. F. Brickdall, I.G.; N. Mackay, W. Stwd.; Egbert Roberts, Org.; J. F. Rumball, D.C.; S. Renaut, C. Stwd.; H. J. Clisby, Asst. Stwd.; T. M. C. Butt, I.P.M.; J. Howes, P.M.; W. Pennefather, P.M.; C. J. Smith, W. Worrell, A. Silver, A. Sutton, M. C. Brasher, H. Taylor, G. Higgins, J. Maris, S. H. C. Rumball, B. C. Clisby, H. Linnett, A. W. Price, J. Gaudin, W. Smith, Tyler. Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. J. A. Bridges, 898; L. Lardner, W. Stwd. 1745; E. Gilbert, P.M. 1326, P.G.S.; W. T. Davis, S.D. 87; H. J. Alexander, P.M. 1425; E. Oppenheim, 1306; J. Mason, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Middx.; E. Lott, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Surrey; and others.

The auditor's report was brought up as printed and unanimously adopted, and Bros. Maris and Taylor were passed to the degree of F.C. in the W.M.'s usual able style. Messrs. Arthur W. Price and Frederick Haddon Linnett having been well vouched for as candidates for the privileges of Freemasonry, a ballot was taken with a favourable result, and these gentlemen were duly admitted into the mysteries of the Order in a most impressive manner.

All business being harmoniously ended the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant, where a capital banquet was disposed of, giving entire satisfaction. After the banquet Bro. Lardner introduced the usual toasts, all of which were well received. The proceedings were capitably enlivened with songs, Bro. Edwin Lott, P.M., Past Prov. G. Org. Surrey, kindly accompanying (in the absence of Bro. Egbert Roberts, who had gone to sing at a concert), in his usual able and obliging manner. Bro. Bridges, a visitor, varied the proceedings with a most able and powerful rendering of the Poet Laureate's "Revenge," a poem founded upon a stirring incident in one of England's great sea battles. This was very much enjoyed, and the entire evening passed most pleasantly till the Tyler's toast gave the signal for dispersion.

SELWYN LODGE (No. 1901).

This prosperous lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 15th ult., at the East Dulwich Hotel, East Dulwich. There were present Bro. A. J. Bellis, W.M.; Burnett, S.W.; Powles, J.W.; E. Eagle, Treas.; W. H. Hook, P.M., Sec.; Anderson, S.D.; Bullimore, J.D.; L. Eagle, I.G.; Wimble, Stwd.; and Bowler, Tyler; and the following brethren, Gauntlett, Phillips, Andrews, A. Campbell, Collins, Wills, Layland, Tarrant, Sweeting, H. S. Campbell, Deane, Bridgland, J. S. Gurney, J. A. Gurney, F. Dadd, Palmer, Seaby, Beck, Stevenson, and others. Visitors: Bros. Taffs, W.M. 186; Johnson, S.W. 1320; Bridger, 72; Shorter, 213; Wallis, 901; and Dale, 540.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Palmer and Seaby were raised to the Third Degree, Bros. Beck and Stevenson passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. Hansen and Christiansen having been previously balloted for were initiated into the mysteries of the Order, the whole of the ceremonies being very impressively performed.

The lodge was then closed in due form and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room and partook of an excellent repast prepared by Bro. Gurney.

After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured "The Health of the W.M." was proposed in a felicitous speech by Bro. Hook, P.M., who, in the course of his remarks, said that it afforded him great satisfaction to see how well the lodge was flourishing under the care of Bro. Bellis, the present W.M.

The Worshipful Master in responding said that he always thought it one of the most difficult duties of the W.M. to reply to remarks made about himself, but he trusted that so far he had carried out the duties of Master to the satisfaction of the lodge, and that he considered was the aim every Master should have in view, and hoped that the lodge would continue to be prosperous.

"The Health of the Past Masters" was then proposed, and the Worshipful Master said that Bro. Hook, the first Master of the lodge, had always taken a deep interest in its working, and as Secretary of the lodge at the present time showed that he still continued to have its prosperity at heart, and he (the W.M.) hoped that Bro. Hook would long be spared to be among them.

Bro. Hook having replied,

"The Health of the Initiates" was proposed by the Worshipful Master, who said that it had been a source of great gratification to him, inasmuch that he had had the pleasure of proposing the health of an initiate at every meeting at which he had presided, and he was quite sure the brethren would join him in welcoming the two initiates of the evening, viz., Bros. Hansen and Christiansen.

The Initiates having returned thanks in a very able manner,

"The Health of the Visitors" was proposed and responded to by Bros. Taffs, W.M. 186, and Johnson, S.W. 1320, who expressed the pleasure it had afforded them to be present and more especially eulogised the excellent working of the lodge.

"The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was then given, the W.M. stating what great assistance he had received from them one and all, and having been replied to, the Treasurer informed the brethren of the good financial position in which the lodge stood.

The Tyler's toast then brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Bros. Hook, Dadd, L. Eagle, Wallis and Dale sang some excellent songs during the evening.

SAINT MARY ABBOTT'S LODGE (No. 1974).

A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at the Town Hall, Kensington. Present: Bros. Capt. A. Nicols, W.M.; Capt. C. Compton, S.W.; the Rev. W. Francis, J.W.; the Rev. C. Darby Reade, Chap.; James Green, Treas.; Geo. Capper Harding, Sec.; Alfred Williams, S.D.; Reuben C. Green, J.D.; Francis Compton, D. of C.; H. Rockingham Gill, I.G.; E. L. Cleaver, Steward; T. Friend, Tyler; D. Shorter Skinner, P.M.; Alfred J. Pritchard, P.M.; William Weaver, W.M. 1238; Capt. H. S. Andrews, Wm. Beavis, Irwin E. B. Cox, H. Oliver Smith, M. Whitley Williams, J. H. Townsend-Green, John Peacock, Rich. C. Halse, and the following visitors: Bros. the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, P.G. Chap.; F. T. C. Keeble, W.M. 1426; A. McDougall, P.M. 3; Sydney Pitt, 1537; Henry Bohn, 255; and E. W. Owles, 227.

The lodge was opened by the W.M. and the minutes were read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for three candidates for initiation and for a joining member from Lodge 1383, which proved unanimous in each case. The agenda paper showed a long array of work, viz., three initiations, two passings, and one raising, besides the election of Master and Treasurer for the ensuing year. It was, however, satisfactorily performed within two-and-half hours, which speaks well for the smartness of the executive of this lodge. Bro. Irwin E. B. Cox was raised by the W.M., who afterwards vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Dr. Skinner, P.P.G.D.C. Dorset. Bros. J. H. Townsend-Green and J. Peacock, after proving their proficiency in the First Degree were admitted and passed by Bro. Skinner in a very pleasing manner, and so proving that the reputation he brought with him from Lyme Regis was deservedly earned. The W.M. having resumed the chair proceeded to initiate Messrs. C. B. R. Hunter, C. W. Stephens, and C. E. Baker into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry, which ceremony he performed in his usual perfect and impressive style. The next business before the lodge was the election of W.M. and Treasurer, which proved unanimous in favour of Capt. Charles F. Compton, as Master, and James Green, P.P.G.D. Middx., as Treasurer. A date and place having been appointed for holding the Audit meeting, the business of the evening was concluded by Bro. Francis Compton proposing that a Past Master's jewel be prepared and presented to the retiring W.M., Bro. Capt. A. Nicols, in recognition of his zeal and successful management of Saint Mary Abbott's Lodge ever since its formation.

Bro. Geo. C. Harding in seconding this motion said that he did so with very great pleasure, and he wished the brethren to know that in addition to his work in the lodge, which was admirable, Bro. Capt. Nicols had done much of the outside work also; as for instance, when he (Bro. Harding) became Secretary he found a complete set of books started in the W.M.'s own writing. In many similar ways the W.M. had lightened his duties. The proposition was carried with acclamation.

Bro. Capt. Nicols very briefly replied, and having closed the lodge the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which as usual was held at Bailey's Hotel.

Upon the removal of the cloth the time honoured loyal and Masonic toasts were given in succession by the W.M. In proposing "The Grand Officers, Present and Past" he paid a graceful tribute of respect to his kind hearted friend the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, P.G. Chap., whose name he coupled with the toast.

V. W. Bro. Ambrose Hall in reply said: In responding to this important toast I feel as I always do a certain want of eloquence adequately to do justice to the great Masonic names it embraces. The officers of Grand Lodge have one and all the interest of our great cause at heart, and it gives me peculiar gratification to offer on their behalf thanks for your good wishes, for had any others been present to-day they would like myself, have been greatly interested in the working of the Saint Mary Abbott's Lodge, as well as the way in which our beautiful ceremonies were rendered. I congratulate you, my brethren, most heartily upon this; and you, W. Master, do I most especially congratulate for the zeal and energy you throw into all you do in Masonry. I also thank you for the intellectual treat you have given us by the way in which you conferred the several degrees this evening. I am sure those who were present to hear you can but look forward to the next day of meeting, when there will devolve upon you the high and exalted service of installing your successor in the chair of K.S. This, your past work must assure us will be performed with that impressiveness which the beauty of the ceremony deserves and which your own Masonic lore can so well infuse into it. Brethren, for the Grand Officers of England and on their behalf I cordially thank you.

The W.M. in replying to the toast of his health assured the brethren of his earnest zeal and love of Freemasonry which had stood the trial of only a year less than a quarter of a century, and he hoped that as long as life and health lasted he should be on or near the spot to render his best services to Saint Mary Abbott's Lodge, and to the Master in the chair.

"The Visitors" were represented by Bro. Keeble, W.M. of the Great City lodge, No. 1426. He expressed his gratification in attending Saint Mary Abbott's Lodge not only on account of the admirable working they had witnessed, for that they expected, but for the genial hospitality which the W.M. and brethren had shown them.

The remaining toasts, "The Initiates," "The Officers," having been proposed and responded to, the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a conclusion.

WIGAN.—Harmony Chapter (No. 178).

The usual convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, King-street, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., when, owing to the unavoidable absence of Comp. G. L. Campbell, M.E.Z., the first chair was taken by Comp. C. B. Holmes, P.Z., and supported by Comps. J. Phillips, S.W.; H. D. Croft, J.; J. D. Murray, S.E.; W. M. Wylde, S.N.; J. M. Ashurst, P.S.; J. Browne, A.S.; John Preston, George Airey, Alex. Weir, James Holmes, Wm. Dean, A. Ainsworth, James Nixon, J. Hodgkinson, Thos. Milner, James Wilson, A. H. Crossley, Wm. Worsley, and Thos. Hunter, Org. The visitors present were Comps. J. H. Sillitoe, P.G. J. E. Lanes; R. Martin, jun., P.Z. 1356; and A. W. Hesketh, Z. 1356.

After the minutes of the last regular meeting had been read and confirmed, the ceremony of the exaltation of the following brethren was proceeded with: Bros. Thos. E. Skidmore, P.M., Prov. G. Swd. Br., and Leonard Waller Marsh, both of No. 428, the work being done in a manner which reflected great credit on the M.E.Z. and his officers. The admirable way in which the visiting Comps. J. H. Sillitoe and A. W. Hesketh discharged the duties of the second and third chairs seemed to make a very great impression on the exaltees, who listened along with the companions in the chapter to the different lectures which were given with marked correctness. Comp. C. B. Holmes then moved "That the sum of ten guineas be given from the funds of this chapter to the West Lancashire Educational Institution for the purpose of endowing the chairs of the Second and Third Principals in perpetuity." This was seconded by Comp. J. Phillips, and heartily supported by the companions. "Hearty good wishes" having been tendered by the visiting companions, the chapter was closed in due form.

In order to accommodate several companions the banquet was served in a substantial manner at 5 p.m. previous to opening the chapter. After closing an adjournment was made to the ante room, where the usual Royal Arch, loyal, and Masonic toasts were given and responded to in that manner peculiar to the Wigan Masons. The duties of President being ably discharged by the highly-esteemed E. Comp. H. D. Croft.

In replying to "The Health of the Visitors," Comp. Martin improved the opportunity by thanking the companions for the donation given to the West Lancashire Institution, and placed the claims of that Institution prominently before the companions in an able appeal, for without doubt Comp. Martin has the interest of the widow and orphan thoroughly at heart, and our prayer is may the Most High aid and bless him in his work.

Comps. Sillitoe and Hesketh also tendered thanks for their hearty reception.

A most enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).

At the last ordinary meeting of this lodge, held at the Middleton Hotel, the members were honoured with the presence of the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Fred. A. Philbrick, O.C., P.G.D. The chair of K.S. was occupied by the W.M., Bro. W. D. Merritt, Prov. A.G. D.C., and the following officers, brethren, and visitors also attended: Bros. W. G. Brighten, P.M. 72, Prov. G. Org., S.W.; F. Dorrell Grayson, W.M. 160, J.W.; F. Wood, P.M., P.P.G.W., Treas.; A. Lucking, P.M., P.Z., Prov. G.D.C., Sec.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G. Chap., Chap.; G. R. Dawson, S.D.; J. F. Harrington, P.M. 160, P.P.G.P., J.D.; C. Floyd, I.P.M. 1817, I.G.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M., P.P.G.D., M.C.; E. E. Phillips, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.D., Org.; A. W. Martin, I.G.; F. F. Barrett, P.P.G.R., I.P.M.; G. F. Jones, P.M., P.P.G.W.; J. R. Hemmann, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. W. Harris, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; G. Berry, P.M.; W. Greyson, J. Girling, S. Penny, G. L. Wood, G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P. G.S.B.; J. Taylor, jun., S.W. 1817; E. F. Wood, C. F. Worsnam, L. Warren, jun., H. Luken, J. A. Withers, J. R. Brightwell, W. J. Chignell, W. H. Lockey, and W. Lloyd Wise. Visitors: Bros. Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.M. and P.Z. 276, P.P.G.W.; Rev. T. W. Herbert, P.M., P.P.G. Chap.; Colonel the Hon. O. G. Lambert, I.P.M. 1460; T. W. Eastgate, S.W. 1563; H. Harper, P.M. and Sec. 160, Prov. G.S.B.; W. M. Peasey, 163 I.C.; W. Bridgeland, J.W. 933; S. Smith, S.D. 1734; and H. Philcox, 1343.

Lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last lodge having been confirmed, the D.P.G.M. was received according to ancient custom with the salutations of the brethren. The ceremony of raising Bro. Wm. Lloyd Wise to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason was then impressively performed by the W.M., and Mr. Henry Hales and Mr. Thomas Ambrose Robert Whistler having been balloted for and unanimously approved, the W.M. proceeded to initiate them into the mysteries of the Craft, the charge being delivered by Bro. F. Dorrell Grayson, J.W., and the musical portions of the ceremony admirably sustained by Bros. E. E. Phillips, J. R. Hamman, and C. F. Woosman.

The Worshipful Master then rose and said it was his pleasant duty to propose a vote of thanks to Bro. Philbrick for his kindness in attending the lodge—a kindness which he said all the brethren highly appreciated.

Bro. F. Wood seconded the proposition, which was declared carried, amidst applause, and

The D.P.G.M. in responding said he did not intend inflicting a long speech upon them, but their kindness in passing the resolution certainly demanded a most grateful acknowledgment from him. His only regret was that he was unable to be present when their W.M. was placed in the chair, the duties of which he so worthily discharged. He again thanked them very much for their reception and assured them it was always a pleasure to find himself amongst the brethren of the Priory Lodge.

Bro. E. E. Phillips having proposed a candidate for initiation said that as that was the first lodge that had been held since the death of their late esteemed Bro. Pissey, P.M.,—who was not only the father of the lodge at Rayleigh, but also acted as the first Installing Master of that lodge—he thought it would only be showing him proper respect if they requested the Secretary to address a letter of condolence to his widow, expressing the individual and collective regret the brethren felt at losing him.

Bro. Lucking seconded the proposition. The Worshipful Master also added his personal testimony to the interest Bro. Pissey exhibited in everything connected with the Craft.

Lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where, under the presidency of the W.M., an excellent repast was admirably served. The usual loyal and preliminary toasts having been proposed and duly acknowledged, the Worshipful Master proposed the toast of the evening—that of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master," &c.—which was enthusiastically drunk.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master in responding said: Someone once said somewhere that "suffering is the badge of all our tribe," and I really begin to think, for one moment speaking personally, that modesty is the hindrance and stumbling block that stands in the way of all my profession. (Laughter and cries of "Oh, oh.") Our good friend, the Worshipful Master, probably has been to the Fisheries Exhibition. Last week it fell to my lot to

attend there officially on the occasion of closing. On going out I was anxious to obtain a little souvenir of the Exhibition; and apart from official catalogues and things of that kind, I came upon a publication which evidently your Worshipful Master has bought and studied. It was on the outside got up most attractively, although it was sold at the remarkably low price of 1d. It contained, however, 964 different receipts of how to cook fish, and you know your Worshipful Master has arrived at a very successful result from his perusal, for he has found a flat fish in me to-night, and on reference to the book he has contrived to serve up the same fish in quite a new style, and I trust he has provided that the sauce shall be of quite another kind, just as the honest roast fowl of to-day comes up to-morrow as a mayonnaise or fricassee of chicken in such a disguise that even its own mother would not know it. Now if you will kindly forgive me for these remarks I am sure I shall feel very much obliged; but the manner in which your W.M. has been good enough to propose the toast adds one more to those claims which he possesses in so high a degree in being able, out of nothing, to extract something; and of being at the head of such a distinguished lodge as the Priory. In concluding an amusing speech, the D.P.G.M. dwelt, at length, upon the universality of Freemasonry, and referred to the forthcoming consecration of new lodges at Tilbury and Chingford, as evidencing the growth it was making in the province.

The remaining toasts having been proposed and acknowledged, a very pleasant and most successful evening was brought to a close sometime after midnight. The whole of the arrangements were admirably carried out under the energetic personal superintendence of W. Bro. Albert Lucking, P.G.D.C., &c., who has since received from the D.P.G.M. a pleasing memento of his visit.

LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).—For several years this lodge has held a prominent position in the Province of West Lancashire as a representative Masonic combination specially intended for the accommodation of Hebrew brethren in Liverpool and district. The members celebrated their annual festival at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Monday evening, the 19th ult., and the prestige which has marked the whole of its successful existence was again conspicuous in connection with the whole of the business proceedings. While chiefly intended for Jewish brethren, the lodge numbers amongst its members many esteemed Christian brethren, thus illustrating the catholic character of the Order of Freemasonry.

The lodge was opened by Bro. Ralph Robinson, P.P.G. Reg., the retiring W.M., and his chief supporters were Bros. M. Aronsberg, P.M.; S. Schonstadt, P.M.; A. Jones, P.M.; Henry A. Tobias, S.W., W.M. elect; S. J. Henochsberg, J.W.; Maurice Hart, P.M., Treas.; D. Gabrielsen, Sec.; Philip S. Levy, I.G.; J. Asher, S.; E. Capstick, S.; and J. P. Bryan, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treas.; Dr. Bailey, P.G.S.D.; W. J. Lunt, P.G. Treas.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Martin, P.M. 1182; R. Wilson, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Brassey, W.M. 823; J. Winsor, P.M. 241; B. Ripley, W.M. 1547; W. C. Freeman, I.P.M. 1354; H. H. Smith, I.P.M. 1505; N. Eaton, P.M. 613; R. Wood, S.W. 1713; A. H. Corelli, 537; E. King-Ellison, J.D. 1350; J. B. Mackenzie, P.M., Treas. 1609; D. Cumming, 1609; P. Stern, 249; B. J. Davis, 1675; and I. Woolf, 1393.

Bro. Henry A. Tobias, P.P.G.S. of W., who has already occupied the chair of the Lodge of Israel, after being presented by Bros. M. Hart and A. Jones, was again installed Worshipful Master by Bro. R. Robinson, P.P.G. Reg., who performed the ceremony in a highly effective manner. The officers invested were the following: Bro. R. Robinson, I.P.M.; D. Gabrielsen, S.W.; Philip S. Levy, J.W.; the Rev. Dr. W. Stern, Chap.; S. J. Henochsberg, P.M., M.C.; Maurice Hart, P.M., Treas.; H. Archer, Sec.; E. Capstick, S.D.; A. Kirkpatrick, J.D.; D. Stern, I.G.; J. P. Bryan, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the business the brethren adjourned to a banquet, which was capitally prepared and served by Bro. Casey, the House Steward. A pleasant part of the evening's proceedings was the presentation of an illuminated address to Bro. R. Robinson, I.P.M., embodying a resolution of the members expressive of their high regard and appreciation of his services as W.M. for the second time, and the great interest evinced by him as the first Master and one of the founders of the lodge. The following were the terms of the address:—"To Bro. Ralph Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.R.: Dear Sir and Brother,—The brethren of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, in open lodge assembled, desiring to express their high regard and appreciation of your services as W.M. for the second time, and the great interest evinced by you as the first Master and one of the founders of the lodge, beg your acceptance of this token as an evidence of the esteem in which you are held by them. They also feel gratified in being the medium of conveying the kindly feelings entertained towards you by all who have had the privilege of your services to them personally and to the Craft in general in this province. The brethren further hope that the G.A.O.T.U. will spare your valued life to them and to your family for many years to come to reflect further lustre on the cause you have so much at heart. Liverpool, October 18th, 1883. S. Schönstadt, P.M., Proposer; Barnard, Sec.; Second; Henry A. Tobias, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks., W.M. elect, Maurice Hart, P.M., P.G.S. Treas.; S. J. Henochsberg, P.M., M. Aronsberg, P.M., and D. Gabrielsen, Sec., Committee." The address was artistically illuminated by Bro. J. O. Marples, I.G. 1609. The presentation was made by the W.M., and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Robinson. An excellent musical programme was provided by Bros. D. J. Davies, D. Williams, J. T. Jones, and O. J. Rowlands, the Cambrian Quartet members of the Ancient Briton Lodge, No. 1675; and Bro. J. P. Bryan, P.G.O., was the musical director.

INSTRUCTION.

NEW FINSBURY PARK LODGE (No. 1695).—The usual weekly meeting was held on the 20th ult., at Hornsey Wood Tavern, when there were present Bros. H. Morris, W.M.; Gush, as Preceptor; Bolt, S.W.; Smethurst, J.W.; Berry, Sec.; Scott, S.D.; Moon, J.D.; Haynes, I.G.; Fenner, Hall, Follett, Fitch, Oldis, Knights, Lewin, Flack, Snelling, Gregory, and Hoare.

Lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Lodge was then opened

in the Second Degree, and Bro. Snelling, as candidate for raising, answered the usual questions and was entrusted. Lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and the First Section of the Third Lecture was worked by Bro. Fenner. The ceremony of raising having been rehearsed, the Second and Third Sections of the Third Lecture were worked by Bro. Fenner. Lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and Bro. Bolt was elected to take the chair of W.M. at the next meeting. A vote of thanks to Bro. Morris for his able conduct in the chair was unanimously passed, and all business being ended the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

DOMATIC CHAPTER (No. 177).—This old chapter met at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 22nd ult. Among those present were Comps. Harrison, M.E.Z.; T. Cubitt, P.Z., acting H.; Briggs, I.P.Z., acting J.; Cottebrune, P.Z., P.P.A.S. Kent, S.E.; Noton, S.N.; H. Buss, P.G.S.B., P.Z. &c., Treas.; Buckhurst, P.S.; Hubbard and Austin, Assists. P.S.; Foulger, P.Z.; Sutton, P.Z.; Hill, P.Z.; and others. The visitors were Comps. Sillitoe, P.G.J. Lanc., &c.; T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C. Middx., &c.; and Jackson, P.Z. Polish National.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. H. Wood, 1309; W. Thomas, 1853; J. H. Lewis, 1853; and T. C. Thomas, 1853; and it proving to be unanimous in each case the three latter brethren being in attendance were duly exalted to the Supreme Degree of the R.A. Apologies were received and read from Comps. McLean, H.; W. P. Webb, J.; and others.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet. Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts followed.

Comp. Buss responded upon behalf of "The Grand Officers."

"The Health of the M.E.Z." was given by Comp. Briggs.

The M.E.Z. having replied, then gave "The Exaltees," which toast was acknowledged by Comps. W. Thomas and J. H. Lewis.

"The Visitors" followed, and was replied to by Comps. Sillitoe, Walls, and Jackson, the former companion making a long and highly-interesting speech upon the history of the Degree in this country.

"The First and Second Principals," "The Treasurer and S.E.," acknowledged by Comps. Buss and Cottebrune.

"The Past Principals," coupled with the names of Comps. Briggs and Foulger, who replied.

"The Officers" toast, responded to by Comps. Buckhurst, Hubbard, and Austin, brought the proceedings to a close.

WANDERERS' CHAPTER (No. 1604).—A regular convocation of this well established chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday evening, the 20th ult. There were present on the occasion Comps. Geo. Boulton, M.E.Z.; Wm. Vincent, H.; F. J. Wray, J.; W. H. Baker, S.E.; Chas. Fuller, Treas.; G. Coop, acting S.N.; J. Gibson, P.S.; Edmund Scale, 2nd Asst. P.S.; C. Smith, I.P.Z.; T. H. Meredith, P.Z.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.Z. (hon. member); W. Swingle, A. Woods, W. G. Hanson, E. Cole, G. Hamilton, Horace White, J. Dallison, W. Brindley, P. Ogg, and others.

After the chapter had been opened in due form, the minutes of the September convocation were presented and passed. Bros. H. W. Shartau, 1549; George Perugia, 1744; and James Wade, W.M. 1604; were afterwards exalted to the Degree. The ceremony was excellently rendered, each Principal and each officer fulfilling his duties in a very able manner. The M.E.Z. having intimated to the companions his desire to represent the chapter at the next Festival of the Girls' School, the sum of five guineas was voted as a donation to the Institution. Scribe E. then read a communication which had been received from a much respected member of the chapter, the acceptance of the writer's resignation being deferred until January next.

Other business having been discharged the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant where an excellent banquet had been provided. The customary Royal Arch toasts were duly honoured and a very enjoyable evening spent by the company. The visitors were Comps. J. H. Sillitoe, P.Z. 116, 645 and 1387, P.G.J. East Lanc.; J. C. Shand, H. 25; C. Taylor, S.N. 1624; J. Bond, P.S. 619; and R. Goffin, 1572.

DIDSBURY.—Architect Chapter (No. 1375).—The annual meeting of this chapter was held on Monday evening, 19th ult., at the Town Hall, Withington, when Comps. J. Garland Bromley was installed Z.; and A. G. Collins, H.; and Wood, J. Ex. Comp. G. D. Pochin, P.Z., was the Installing Officer, and Ex. Comp. H. Völlmer, P.Z., presented the companions named. The Board of Installed Principals consisted (in addition to the two last mentioned) of Ex. Comps. Salmon, P.Z.; Glendinning, P.Z.; E. Pike, P.Z.; Peel, P.Z.; H. Marshall, Z.; and J. Oswald, the retiring Z.

The officers invested were Comps. J. Warburton, S.E.; A. P. Graves, S.N.; Wilson, P.S.; G. D. Pochin, P.Z. Treas.; and H. Heap, Janitor. Among the visitors were Comps. Senior and J. Lloyd White. The balance sheet was submitted and passed, it being considered of a satisfactory nature.

The chapter was closed in ancient form and the companions retired to the adjoining room to supper, after which the usual Royal Arch toasts were given and responded to. The companions of this chapter are to be congratulated on the very handsome rooms it is their privilege to occupy, as well as upon the beautiful furniture and appointments throughout the chapter. A word of praise should not be omitted on behalf of Ex. Comps. G. D. Pochin, P.Z., and H. Völlmer, P.Z., to whose untiring energy and zeal is due the satisfactory position the chapter now holds in the province of West Lancashire.

THE CHAMPAGNE VINTAGE.—The report of this year's vintage is, we hear, satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality—Messrs. Moët and Chandon have made of their own growth 6000 Hogsheads (2200 of which are the produce of their celebrated *Ay Wineyards*)—which, with their purchases from other growers of fine wines, form a total value of close upon half-a-million sterling. [ADVT.]

Mark Masonry.

HAMMERSMITH LODGE (No. 211).—This lodge met for the dispatch of business at the Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith, on the 23rd ult., when there were present Bros. Goodall, P.G.D.C. Middlesex and Surrey, W.M.; Lawson, S.W.; Rickwood, acting J.W.; Harris, S.O.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., Treas.; T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B., P.G.J.W. Middlesex and Surrey, Sec.; J. Taylor, S.D.; Sims, I.G.; J. Mason, P.P.G.O. Middlesex and Surrey, P.M.; and Bro. F. Walters, P.G.I.G., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler then took place, and resulted unanimously in favour of Bro. Lawson, as W.M.; Bro. Baldwin, as Treasurer; and Bro. Potter, as Tyler. The ballot was taken upon behalf of Bro. Babb, 1326, and it proved to be unanimous in his favour. The Audit Committee having been appointed to audit the accounts in January next, the Worshipful Master's notice of motion, "as to the advisability of removing the lodge to Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, was discussed, seconded, and eventually carried. The W.M. then gave a notice of motion, "That the annual subscription be increased to £1 10s., the same to take effect from the commencement of the next financial year." Previously to the lodge being closed a jewel was voted to the outgoing W.M. The brethren then separated.

TWICKENHAM.—Sir Francis Burdett Lodge (No. 181).—This lodge met at the Albany Hotel, on the 21st ult., among those present were Bros. T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B., P.G.J.W. Middx. and Surrey, W.M.; E. Hopwood, P.P.G.O. Middx. and Surrey, P.M., acting S.W.; Handel, J.W.; Briggs, S.O.; W. Hammond, P.G.S., P.M., Sec.; Sanders, P.P.G.S. Middx. and Surrey, I.P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed the election of W.M. for the year ensuing, resulted unanimously in favour of Bro. Handel, J.W. Bro. W. Taylor, P.P.G.D. Middx. and Surrey was again re-elected Treas., and Bro. Harrison, Tyler. Previously to the lodge being closed a vote of condolence was passed and ordered to be entered on the minutes and a copy directed to be forwarded by the Secretary to Bro. W. Taylor, commiserating him for the loss he has recently sustained by the death of his wife.

A jewel having also been voted to the outgoing Master the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Upon the removal of the cloth a few toasts were given. Bro. W. Hammond responded upon behalf of "The Grand Officers;" and Bro. Sanders replied to the toast of "The Prov. Grand Officers;" "The Health of the Past Masters" was acknowledged by Bro. Hopwood, and "The Officers" by Bros. Handel and Briggs. The proceedings then terminated.

THE ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

The following circular, which is in circulation among the Craft, has been sent to us for publication:

"We, the undersigned, have heard with concern that there is an intention on the part of some of our London brethren to propose a new candidate for election to the office of Grand Treasurer in March next, and to follow the same course in succeeding years.

"It appears to us that such a proceeding is very undesirable. The present Grand Treasurer, Bro. J. D. Allcroft (who was elected in April last), is a brother who commands the good opinion of all; he is a man of good means and position, has been a most liberal contributor to our Charities, and has not only the leisure but the inclination also to assist in their work.

"The Grand Treasurer is *ex-officio* a Trustee, and as such a member of all our Charity Committees. We think this a great advantage when such officer will attend, and we need hardly urge that it would be most unwise to remove a brother from his office just at the time when he has made himself thoroughly qualified to perform its duties; and surely nothing can be more important than that we should have brethren of position taking an active share in the management of our Charities.

"We would further urge that it is very undesirable that a yearly canvass should be made, that the Craft should be divided into parties, and (new) elements of discord introduced by the efforts of different sections to secure the election of their particular candidate.

"In no other instance in Masonry is it usual or would it be considered advantageous to change the Treasurer every year. We desire to express a very decided opinion that it is improper as well as impolitic for any section of Grand Lodge to call upon any brother to pledge himself that, if elected, he will only serve for one year; and we deprecate the splitting up of the Craft, which must inevitably arise if such a course of action is pursued.

"We by no means desire to keep any such officers in place for a long series of years, because we believe that it is good to have fresh blood, which is always to be found when the necessity for it arises; but we do think that it is desirable that the Grand Treasurer should hold office for, at any rate, a few years; and we believe that it will be found that as it has been heretofore, so it will in the future, be to the advantage of the Craft and of its Charities.

"It is clearly to be understood that we have no party motive. We disclaim, wholly and entirely, anything approaching party action. Our object is solely the welfare of the Craft generally, which should be, and is, the chief consideration of every good Mason.

"We have learned that Bro. J. D. Allcroft will accept the office if elected; but it must be understood that he does not come forward of his own accord; but is recommended by us. Personally he is unknown to many of us; but, believing him to be a thoroughly good man for the office, and because he has already held it for nearly a year, we have determined for the reasons given to support him; and we earnestly beg all those who have the interests of the Craft solely at heart to help us in our exertions.

"Any brethren entitled to a seat in Grand Lodge, who may think it right to assist us in what we believe to be a good work, will oblige by writing to Bro. Frank Richardson, 23, Golden-square, W., and inform him of their intention to support Bro. J. D. Allcroft; and, if they think proper, also to authorise Bro. Frank Richardson to append their names to the above, in conjunction with the following members of Grand Lodge.—November, 1883."

MASONIC AND GENERAL NOTICES

Bro. H. B. Marshall, C.C., has been elected a member of the Board of Management of the Earlswood Asylum.

All vessels of the Indian Marine will in future hoist the blue ensign, with the Star of India in the fly as the distinguishing badge.—*Broad Arrow*.

Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey's yacht Sunbeam sailed from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 14th ult., for Bermuda, all well. She was at Ocho Rios, a port on the North coast of Jamaica, on the 17th ult.

Comp. Andrew Middlemass was installed First Principal of the Caveac Chapter, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on Saturday last. We are unable to publish a report this week owing to pressure on our space, but it will appear in our next.

Bro. Alderman Hadley presided at a complimentary dinner given to Bro. Alfred Best, late of the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday evening, on the occasion of his becoming proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

The ceremony of installation will be worked this (Friday) evening at the Doric Lodge of Instruction, No. 933, held at the Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, by Bro. W. Musto, P.M. 1349, &c. Brethren are cordially invited.

The Annual Assembly of the Grand Conclave of the Masonic and Military Orders of the Red Cross of Constantine and St. John will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday next, at five p.m. A meeting of the Original or Premier Conclave takes place previously at the same place.

There are 15,000 Masons in Georgia. Now, isn't it just possible that the startling spectacle of a column of men in high hats and embroidered bibs, marching down the street in broad daylight, carrying clothes-props and map-rollers, has given also rise to the rumours of a revival of the Ku Klux organisation?—*New York Dispatch*.

As will be seen by an advertisement in another column a Special Grand Lodge of the Mark Degree is called for Saturday, the 8th inst., at Freemasons' Tavern, at three o'clock in the afternoon, when the Prince of Wales will attend to be installed as a Grand Master of the Order, and afterwards have conferred upon him the rank of Past Grand Master.

A petition is about to be presented to the Grand Master for a warrant of a new lodge to be styled the Abbey Lodge, and to meet at the Town Hall, Westminster. It is to be formed out of the parochial bodies meeting at that place. The first Master recommended to the Grand Master is Bro. William L. Ashmead-Bartlett-Burdett-Coutts, who was initiated in the Apollo University Lodge of Oxford; Mr. W. H. Baker to be the first Senior Warden; and Mr. Frederick Seager Hunt the first Junior Warden. Mr. J. E. Shand, Past Master of the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, is to be the Secretary. The names of several highly influential brethren in Westminster are appended to the petition.

Bro. Lord Tollemache, who has taken a deep interest in the subject of ensilage one day this week opened the first of four capacious silos he has had constructed on the Horsley Lane Home Farm of the Peckforton estate, Cheshire, in the presence of a large number of agriculturists, dairy farmers, and others. The appearance of the ensilage was that of a dark brown compact mass with a sweet and pleasant aroma. About three inches of the top were found to be mouldy and spoiled. A young mare ate the ensilage eagerly, as also did cattle in the yard. Another silo was afterwards opened, which had been filled when the grass was dry. The contents were critically examined by the agriculturists present, and pronounced everything that could be desired. The entire experiment was regarded by practical men as a complete success.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked in the Corinthian Lodge of Instruction, No. 1382, at the George Hotel, opposite Millwall Dock Station, Millwall, on Tuesday next, at seven o'clock. Bro. B. Stewart, I.G. 1278, will preside, and the working will be as follows:—First Lecture—First Section, Bro. J. L. Dale, 933; Second, Bro. J. W. R. Hammond, J.D. 1278; Third, Bro. Moore, P.M. 20; Fourth, Bro. R. F. E. Hopkins, 749; Fifth, Bro. Musto, jun., 1349; Sixth, Bro. Richardson, 174; Seventh, Bro. Cundick, P.M. 1421. Second Lecture—First Section, Bro. R. Brittain, M.C. 1278; Second, Bro. Moss, J.W. 1275; Third, Bro. Pringle, J.W. 781; Fourth, Bro. W. Musto, P.M. 1349; Fifth, Bro. McDonald, W.M. 1445. Third Lecture—First Section, Bro. W. H. Myers, P.M. 820 and 1425; Second, Bro. West, J.D. 933; Third, Bro. G. H. Stephens, S.W. 1623 and 1382.

Lord Ripon's placidity seems equal to that of the French King who, when the Phrygian cap had been forced upon his head by the "roughs," laid his hand upon his heart complacently and remarked, "This does not beat quicker!" There are some men who gain the reputation of martyrs through constitutional peculiarities; and now it is reported that the Past Grand Master of English Freemasons having been sacrificed to the Mephistopheles (Mr. Ilbert) of Indian policy, is on his return home in order to harmonise the mission of Messrs. Errington and Cartwright, as well as to make way for the popular ex-Governor-General of Canada to be appointed Viceroy of Ireland. Lord Ripon's rank and wealth fit him admirably for so high a post; and yet many have an indefinable suspicion that failure would result from the exposure of so plastic a statesman to the wiles of the histrionic performers in the tragic-comic opera of "Erin." This would be extremely regrettable to Lord Ripon's friends, who would be sorry to see his amiable qualities again turned to his own disadvantage.—*Broad Arrow*.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SON'S EXHIBITION.—Portrait Models of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, President Grey, the Comte de Paris, Duc de Nemours, late Comte de Chambord, and M. Waddington. Costly Court Dresses from the first Parisian houses. Captain Webb (taken from life). Mr. Charles Parnell, M.P. Also James Carey, the Informer. MARWOOD (taken from sittings just prior to his death) now on view. Admission 1s. Extra rooms 6d. Open from 10 till 10.—[ADVT.]

Bro. Captain Charles F. Compton was elected W. Master of Saint Mary Abbott's Lodge, No. 1974, on Thursday, the 22nd ult.

At the meeting of the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, held on Thursday at the Freemasons' Tavern, Bro. R. A. Meyer was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

It is noted as a curious historical coincidence that General Washington and General Sherman issued their farewell orders to the army on the same day a century apart, 1st November, 1783-1883.

Bro. John G. Horsey, P.M. 1619 and 1892, P.G. D. of C. Surrey, was on Tuesday last elected W.M. of his mother lodge—Industry, No. 186—meeting at Freemasons' Hall. The installation takes place in January.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire was held at Preston on Thursday, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Lathom, Deputy Grand Master, Prov. Grand Master. A report of the proceedings will appear in the *Freemason* in due course.

Out of the twenty-four members comprising the municipal body of Hastings no less than nine belong to the Masonic Fraternity. The brethren last elected to the council being Bros. Charles W. Duke, P.P.G.D. Sussex, P.M. 40, 1184, P.Z. 40; Edward W. J. Hennah, I.P.M. 40; W. Carless, 1842; William H. Russell, S.W. 40; and John Howell, P.M. 40.

The Great Northern Railway Company are certainly doing all in their power to promote the comfort and convenience of the travelling public. As previously stated in our columns the journey from London to Manchester and vice versa, is performed in exactly four and a half hours, the only stoppages being at Grantham and Sheffield. Instead of five minutes only being allowed for obtaining refreshments at these stations, conjointly the company now arrange for their trains to stop five minutes at each station, while they arrive at their destination punctually at the advertised time.

The Fifteen Sections will be worked at the St. John's Lodge of Instruction, No. 167, held at the Red Cap, Camden Town, on Friday, 14th inst., as follows: First Lecture—First Section, Bro. R. Fendick, J.W. 1426; Second, Bro. W. H. Read, J.D. 1348; Third, Bro. Scattergood, J.W. 753; Fourth, Bro. Gilby, S.W. 1194; Fifth, Bro. Ellwood, S.D. 173; Sixth, Bro. Gordon, S.W. 753; Seventh, Bro. J. C. Smith, J.D. 1744. Second Lecture—First Section, Bro. Vonjoel, S.W. 257; Second, Bro. Burgess, P.M. 1472; Third, Bro. Kew, P.M. 179; Fourth, Bro. Ager, 957; Fifth, Bro. Koester, P.M. 435. Third Lecture—First Section, Bro. J. Finch, 1793; Second, Bro. Sillis, S.D. 1744; Third, Bro. Scurrah, 1744. Chair taken at 7 p.m. precisely.

The following banquets have been held at Freemasons' Tavern during the week ending Thursday, 29th ult.: Friday, 23rd—Jerusalem Lodge, Emulation Lodge, Duke of Cornwall Chapter. Saturday, 24th—Bachelors' Quadrille Party. Monday, 26th—Old King's Arms Lodge, De Grey and Ripon Lodge, Royal Somerset House Lodge, St. Peter Westminster Chapter, Duke of Buccleuch's Tradesmen. Tuesday, 27th—Tuscan Lodge, Lodge of Prudent Brethren, St. James' Union Chapter, Lodge of Industry, Royal Savoy Lodge. Wednesday, 28th—Master Bakers' Ball, Lodge of Antiquity, Bedford Chapter, Evening Star Lodge, Lodge of Progress. Thursday, 29th—New Holborn Quadrilles, Girls' School Club.

We know not whether Sir Walter Raleigh belonged to our ancient Order, but our advertising columns pleasantly combine his memory with agreeable relations and service. Taddy's Myrtle Grove Tobacco is vouched for a firm of unquestionable standing as a pure American unadulterated leaf from the plantations owned by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and smoked by her favourite servant Sir Walter Raleigh. The distance of three hundred years may be bridged in the reverie induced by a soothing pipe and the enterprise of Messrs. Taddy and Co. in the reign of Queen Victoria be agreeably associated with the enterprising knight who first introduced the beneficence of tobacco into Europe.

Bro. Henry Baldwin, Sec. 1777 and J.W. 1949, has been re-elected captain of the Commercial Travellers' Cricket Club for the ensuing season of 1884. The balance-sheet shows that this club hands over a balance to the Commercial Travellers' Schools and Benevolent Institutions of 170 guineas, the result of their benefit matches at Lords and Catford Bridge and a concert at the Cannon-street Hotel. This balance, together with former efforts, makes up the handsome sum of over 750 guineas handed over to those excellent institutions by this very successful club. We congratulate the officers and members, who have among their ranks several brethren well known in the Craft, and we can only wish the Craft might emulate their example on behalf of the large Masonic Charities, we feel certain there must be a very large number of brethren in and around the metropolis who are well skilled in the ancient art of wielding the willow.

A banquet was given by the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers on Friday, the 23rd ult., at the Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C. The Worshipful Master, R. S. Wilkinson, Esq., J.P., presided, supported by the Upper Warden, C. N. Newdegate, Esq., M.P.; the Renter Warden, J. E. Bennett, Esq.; Bros. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P.; Alderman Staples, F.S.A.; Alderman Nottage, Col. Sir R. Hanson, M.A., F.S.A.; Major T. Davies Sewell, the Rev. J. H. Smith, Captain Thornhill, Master of the Patten Makers' Company; George Kenning, Master of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company; Mr. ex-Sheriff Cockerell, Lieut.-Col. Cowan, Sheriff of London and Middlesex; Admiral Gore Jones, C.B.; Alderman Lawrence, M.P.; Sir Thos. Dakin, Alderman Sir Wm. McArthur, K.C.M.G., M.P.; T. H. Staples, and others, the company numbering nearly one hundred. The dinner was admirably served under the personal superintendence of the manager, Bro. W. G. Jennings. A choice selection of vocal music was performed by Miss Eleanor Farnol, Miss Spencer Jones, Mr. William Coates, and Mr. Charles Marshall.

THE SWIFTEST REMEDY FOR THROAT AND CHEST AFFECTIONS.—"In spite of the many novelties, and largely advertised 'new preparations' for the CHEST and LUNGS, I find Dr. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS still rank as affording the swiftest relief in Throat and Chest Affections."—(Signed) W. H. TURNER, M.P.S., Tottenham, Bristol. They instantly relieve, rapidly cure, and taste pleasantly. Sold at 1s. 1d., and 2s. 6d., per box of all druggists.—[ADVT.]

Bro. Walter Claridge was, on Friday, elected W.M. of the Rifle Brigade Lodge.

Bro. T. Minstrell will on Saturday next, be installed W.M. of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1938, at Brixton Hall, Acrc-lane, Brixton.

We learn that Messrs. Perinet Fils, of Reims, have been appointed Purveyors of Champagne to the Calcutta Exhibition.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.M. 1507, 1732, Secretary and W.M. elect 1744, will preside at the anniversary festival of the Fidelity Lodge of Instruction at the Holborn Restaurant, on Tuesday, the 18th inst.

Bro. James Blake, P.G. Chap. N. and E. Yorkshire, will be installed W.M. of the Londesborough Lodge, No. 734, at Bridlington, on Monday next. Bro. T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.W., will perform the ceremony.

The National Great Priory of the Orders of the Temple and St. John of Jerusalem will be held at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Friday, the 14th inst.

Paddy's Run Lodge, Ohio, has been authoritatively advised to change its name. So far, so good. Now let Tin Cup Lodge, No. 52, of Colorado, have similar advice given it.—*Keystone*.

On Wednesday the installation meeting of the Clapham Lodge, No. 1818, was held at Eberle's Army and Navy Hotel, Victoria-street, Westminster. Bro. George Thorp Gooding, P.M. 171, was installed as W.M. A full report will appear in our next.

The Prince of Wales having been asked for his vote and interest on behalf of a candidate for admission to the School for the Indigent Blind, Southwark, has informed the Rev. B. Johns, the secretary of the school, that it is His Royal Highness's wish that Lily Keppel (the candidate in question) shall enter the school upon His Royal Highness's presentation.

The preliminary steps are, it is stated, about to be taken for promoting a Bill in the ensuing Session of Parliament, which seeks powers to construct a new line to the Crystal Palace. It is proposed that the new railway should form a junction with the Mid-Kent line of South-Eastern Railway at a point near their Ladywell Station, and thus enable passengers to be conveyed direct to the Crystal Palace from Charing-cross, Waterloo, Cannon-street, and London-bridge stations of the South-Eastern Railway. The Bill, although promoted by a new company, will, it is believed, contain such provisions as will enable the South-Eastern Railway to become practically, if not entirely, the owners of the line.

The *Philadelphia Keystone* of the 17th ult. says: "P.M. Bro. David S. Craven, Treasurer of Lodge No. 2, of this city, returned last week, by the steamship British Queen, of the American line, from a four months' tour of Europe. Bro. Craven visited England, Ireland, and Scotland, France, Germany, and Italy, and was delighted with his varied experience. While in London he had the pleasure of visiting the Albion Lodge, No. 9, of that city, and was very fraternally received. On Friday evening, the 9th inst., Bro. James Booth Clarkson, M.D., Surgeon on the British Queen, and a member of Zetland Lodge, No. 537, of Birkenhead, England, accompanied by P.M. Bro. Craven, visited Concordia Lodge, No. 67, of this city (Bro. John W. Haseltine, W.M.), when our English brother for the first time witnessed the conferring of the First and Third Degrees in an American lodge, and thereafter expressed himself greatly pleased, both with the work and the manner in which it was performed."

It does not follow that a good father has a son who will follow closely in his footsteps and adhere strictly to the good example set. But it is our pleasing duty to record the fact that our worthy and Worshipful Grand Secretary Bro. Nicholas Weekes' son has been so impressed with Freemasonry, that during his father's absence in England, he has petitioned the Tarbolton Masonic Lodge to admit him a member of our Fraternity, of which P.M. Bro. James Hunt, P.D.G.M., is the present Worshipful Master. On Thursday evening last our worthy brother was initiated with more than usual rejoicings. Our unbounded love and respect for his father urges us to hope that after being twenty-five years a Mason he may be as much respected and revered as our brother Nicholas Weekes is. The working tools are in his possession, and it now remains for him to prove his handiwork. We wish him God speed, and every Mason in New South Wales will respond "So mote it be."—*Sydney Freemason*.

The *Aeolus Chimney Cowl* consists of an expanding shaft starting from a diameter of nine inches, increasing to fifteen inches, or from ten to sixteen inches, or eleven to seventeen inches. The invention is simple but very effective, offering no obstacle to the chimney sweep's broom and nothing for soot to lodge in. Moreover, there is no caking at the top, so that a blockade of the cowl is out of the question. As to its action, the smoke ascends the flue and the shaft of the cowl in a compressed state. On passing out of the narrow portion of the latter it expands, the act of expansion causing an upward movement by producing a tendency to a vacuum beneath it. The cap above the cowl is a protection against direct down-draught, while the external trumpet-mouthed tubes, of which there are four, collect the passing wind and conduct it downwards to the base of the cowl, into which it is injected in an upward direction, ensuring a constant and powerful up-draught in the shaft itself, which, by producing a vacuum, brings about an up-current in the flue to which it is attached. These cowls are made of galvanized iron in two patterns of three sizes each, the price of No. 1 pattern ranging from £1 7s. 6d. to £1 17s. 6d., and of No. 2 from £1 10s. to £2. Both this and the Patent Downcast Ventilator may be seen and their action more fully illustrated and explained at the Company's premises, 235 High Holborn.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all Diseases of the Lungs. In common Colds and Influenza the Pills taken internally and the Ointment rubbed externally are exceedingly efficacious. When Influenza is epidemic this treatment is easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway's Pills and Ointment purify the blood, remove all obstructions to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the over-gorged air tubes, and render respiration free without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits. Such are the ready means of saving suffering when afflicted with Colds, Coughs, Bronchitis, and other complaints by which so many are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.—[ADVT.]

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS,
 For the Week ending Saturday, December 8, 1883.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Gen. Grand Conclave Red Cross, Freemasons' Tav., at 5.30.
 Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, 129, Leadenhall-st.
 " 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 69, Unity, Inns of Court Hot., High Holborn.
 " 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 83, United Lodge of Prudence, Albion Hot., Aldersgate-st.
 " 144, St. Luke's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 188, Joppa, Freemasons' Tav.
 " 256, Unions, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1625, Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd.
 " 1669, Royal Leopold, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
 Chap. 91, Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1056, Victoria, M.H., Mason's Avenue, E.C.
 Mark 224, Menatschin, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
 Red Cross Premier Conclave, Freemasons' Tav.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st., at 7.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 Perfect Ashlar, Jamaica Tav., Southwark Park-rd., at 8.
 United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 West Smithfield, Farringdon Hot., Farringdon-st., at 8.
 Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.
 Royal Commemoration, Fox and Hounds, Putney, 8 till 10.
 St. Mark's, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
 John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
 Kingsland, Cock Tav., Highbury, N., at 8.30.
 Metropolitan, Moorgate Tav., 15 Finsbury Pavement, 7.30.
 Strong Man, Excise Tav., Old Broad-st., at 7.
 St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hot., W. Kensington, at 8.
 Hyde Park, Fountains Abbey Hot., 111, Praed-st., Paddington, at 8.
 Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile End-rd., at 8.
 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High-st., Camden Town, 8.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Grand Mark Lodge, Freemasons' Tav., at 5.
 Colonial Board, at 4.
 Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 9, Albion, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 18, Old Dundee, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st., E.C.
 " 166, Union, Criterion, Piccadilly, W.
 " 172, Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot., London Bdg.
 " 1257, Grosvenor, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1259, Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tav., E.
 " 1261, Golden Rule, S. Air-st., Regent-st., W.
 " 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, Upper-st., Islington.
 " 1381, Kennington, Horns Tav., Kennington.
 " 1383, Friends-in-Council, 33, Golden-sq., W.
 " 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 " 1472, Henley, Three Crowns Hot., North Woolwich.
 " 1662, Beaconsfield, Chequers, Walthamstow.
 " 1693, Kingsland, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
 Chap. 109, Temperance, White Swan Tav., Deptford.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Joppa, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., at 7.
 South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Waltham Green, 7.30.
 Faith, Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's-gate, at 8.
 Pilgrim (German language), Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., E.C., 1st and 3rd Tues.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
 St. George's, Public Hall, New Cross, at 8.
 Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd., Maida-hill, 8.
 Capper, Railway Tav., Angel-lane, Stratford, at 8.
 Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., at 7.30.
 Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.
 Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
 Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
 Wandsworth, East Hill Hot., Alma-rd., S.W., at 8.
 Sir Hugh Myddelton, Queen's Head Tav., Essex-rd., N., at 8.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Plough-rd., Rotherhithe, at 8.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., at 8.
 Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.
 West Middlesex, The Institute, Ealing, at 7.30.
 Islington, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., E.C., at 7.
 Kennington, Horns Tav., Kennington, 7.30.
 Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's, at 8.
 Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, 8.
 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood T., Finsbury Park, at 8.
 Corinthian, George Hot., Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 7.
 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
 Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
 Eleanor, Angel Hot., Edmonton.
 Chaucer, The Old White Hart, High-st., Borough, at 8.
 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30.
 Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-rd., East Brixton, at 8.
 Duke of Albany, Park Tav., Battersea-park-rd., at 8.
 Metropolitan Chap., Jamaica Coffee Ho., St. Michael's Alley
 Earl of Carnarvon Chapter of Improvement, Ladbroke
 Hall, Ladbroke Grove-road, Notting-hill, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Grand Lodge, at 6.
 Lodge 1585, Royal Commemoration, Fox & Hounds, Putney
 " 1687, Rotheray, Inns of Court Hot., High Holborn.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, Bishopsgate-st., 8.
 Prince Leopold, Grand Avenue M.H., 88 Gracechurch-st., 8.
 United Mariners, Lugard Hot., Lugard-rd., Peckham.
 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., 7 till 9.
 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
 Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Newington Causeway, 8.
 Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
 La Tolerance, Morland Hot., Dean-st., W., at 8.
 United Strength, Hope Tav., 179, Stanhope-st., Regent's
 Park, at 8.
 Peckham, Lord Wellington Hot., 516, Old Kent-rd., at 8.
 Burdett Courts, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel Road, at 8.
 Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park, at 8.
 Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edwd. Hot., Marc-st., Hackney, 8.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 " 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue, E.C.
 " 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 231, St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, E.
 " 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hot., London Bdg.
 " 1351, St. Clement's Danes, Carr's Hot., 265, Strand.
 " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
 " 1672, Mornington, London Tav., Fenchurch-st.
 " 1772, Pimlico, Morpeth Arms Tav., Milbank.
 Chap. 2, St. James's, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 9, Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
 Mark 197, Studholme, 33, Golden-sq., W.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
 Justice, Brown Bear, High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
 Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
 Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.C., at 8.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue, 6.30.
 Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-rd.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsoby-st., Millbank, at 8.
 Highgate, Boston Hot., Junction-rd., N., at 8.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham, at 8.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 Southern Star, The Pheasant, Stangate, S.W., at 8.
 Great Northern, Berwick, Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
 Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
 Leopold, Old White Hart, Borough High-st., at 7.30.
 Burgoyne, Cock Tav., St. Martin's-crt., Ludgate-hill, 6.30.
 City of London, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hot. (opposite Wimbledon
 Railway Station), at 7.30.
 Vitruvian, White Hart, Belvedere-rd., Lambeth, at 8.
 Covent Garden, The Cranbourne, 1, Upper St. Martin's-
 lane, W.C., 8.
 Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Bricklayers' Arms, Narrow-st., Lime-
 house, at 7.
 Stockwell, Cock Tav., Kennington-rd., at 7.30.
 Victoria Park, Yorkshire Grey, High-st., Stratford, at 8.
 Guelph, Blackbirds Inn, High-st., Leyton.
 Langton, Mansion House Restaurant, Queen Vic-
 toria-st., at 6. (Emulation Working.)
 St. Michael's, Moorgate Tav., Finsbury Pavement, at 8.
 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's-gate, Clerken-
 well, at 9.
 Upton, Swan Tav., Bethnal Green-rd., at 8.
 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Mayfair, at 8.
 Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305, High Holborn, at 7.
 North London Chap., Canonbury Tav., at 8.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd.,
 Maida-vale, 7.30.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7.

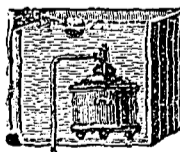
Lodge 92, Moira, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Wm.-st., Woolwich.
 " 890, Hornsey, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1275, Star, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
 " 1489, Marquis of Ripon, 14, Ball's Pond-rd., N.
 " 1627, Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1815, Penge, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
 " 1891, St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hot., W. Kensington.
 Chap. 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 359, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
 Mark 8, Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Stability, M.H., Masons' Avenue, at 6.
 Robert Burns, North Pole, 387 Oxford-st., W., at 8.
 All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
 Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
 Unions Emulation (for M.Ms.) F.M.H., at 7.

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 Window Glass of every description. Sashes Primed and Glazed. Ornamental Leaded Lights Enamelled
 and Coloured Glass.

Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford, at 8.
 Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
 St. Marybone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 8.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
 St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
 Doric, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
 Clapton, Lord Stanley, Sandringham-rd., Hackney, 8.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
 Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill, at 7.30.
 Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-st., Hammersmith, W., at 8.
 Selwyn, East Dulwich Hot., East Dulwich, at 8.
 Wm. Preston, St. Andrew's T., George-st., Baker-st., W.
 Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, at 8.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
 Ubique, Guardsman Coffee Tav., Buckingham Palace-
 road, at 7.30.
 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich
 Old Kent Mark, Crown and Cushion, London Wall, at 7.
 St. John's, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8.

Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
 " 1612, West Middlesex, Lyric Hall, Ealing.
 " 1671, Mizpah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 " 1839, Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 1928, Gallery, Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton.
 " 1964, Clerkenwell, Holborn Viaduct Hot.
 Chap. 1297, West Kent, Thicket Hot., Anerley.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
 Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
 Star, Five Bells, New Cross-rd., S.E., at 7.
 King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, 7.
 Alexandra Palace, Station Ho., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
 Eccleston, King's Head, Ebury Bridge, Pimlico, at 7.

**MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LAN-
 CASHIRE AND CHESHIRE,**

For the Week ending Saturday, December 8, 1883.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3.

Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
 " 428, Sincerity, Angel Hot., Northwich.
 " 1045, Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.
 " 1057, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
 " 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1380, Skelmersdale, Town Hall, Waterloo.
 Chap. 1496, Trafford, Alexandra Hot., Manchester.
 Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverstone.
 Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.
 Mark 11, Joppa, M.R., Birkenhead.
 Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5.

Lodge 287, Unanimity, Dog and Partridge, Stockport.
 " 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1335, Lindsay, M.H., Wigan.
 " 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.
 " 1620, Marlborough, Derby Hall, Tuebrook, L'pool.
 Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, M.H., Liverpool.
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6.

Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.
 " 1384, Equity, Alford Chambers, Widnes.
 " 1070, Starkie, M.H., Southport.
 " 1473, Bootle, Assembly Rooms, Bootle.
 " 1505, Earl of Chester, M.H., Lyynn.
 Chap. 758, Bridgewater, M.H., Runcorn.
 " 1502, Israel, M.H., Liverpool.
 Harmonic L. of I., Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
 " 1375, Architect, Town Hall, Withington.
 " 1337, Chorlton, M.H., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
 " 1561, Morecambe, M.H., Morecambe.