

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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THE gathering at St. Anne's Society School was alike most striking and symptomatic of that really true and abiding interest in all works of utilitarian need or educational energy which so strikingly characterizes our present epoch. It is most gratifying to us all, as Englishmen and Freemasons to note the continual presence of our Royal Family at such assemblies as these of our fellow countrymen. No good or useful cause appeals to them in vain, and the presence of the Prince and Princess of WALES always brings sunshine, happiness, and success. The grace and popularity of her Royal Highness are contrasted felicitously with the geniality and ready tact of his Royal Highness, and we must be all struck with the good effect such scenes and such presence exercise on the thoughtful intelligence, and ever ready loyalty of our English people. There is probably no harder worked-person in the Empire than our Royal GRAND MASTER, and certainly if it may be said that Royalty is not a bed of roses, it may be equally asserted that just now it is accompanied with ceaseless labours, happily for the best of all purposes,—the public weal, the public improvement, the development of all those artistic, educational, or eleemosynary educations, which some have held, and perhaps not without truth, to be the best evidence of the activity of public life, and of a living principle of energy and sympathy in a people. We call attention to a short report elsewhere of a most interesting ceremony in aid of a most valuable Institution.

THE irreligious and destructive character of Freemasonry given to it so freely by some Roman Catholic Scribes at the present hour is remarkably illustrated, according to our view, by the constant participation of the Grand Lodge of England and subordinate bodies in the laying of foundation-stones of cathedrals and churches, of schools and hospitals, which almost every successive *Freemason* records, and which the un-Masonic press so constantly commemorates. Certainly if Freemasons are the dangerous and destructive personalities the Roman Catholic societies so broadly and so boldly paint us in countless allocutions and restless diatribes, they take a very odd way of manifesting to the world, and the society in which they live their peculiar proclivities, and their iconoclastic tendencies. People, it is true, may often be judged by contraries here before, but, as in old days, so now the body of Freemasons takes a legitimate and gratifying part in the foundation and erection of "stately and superb edifices;" in fact, in all that adorns art, assists religion, tends to the culture, the peace, the welfare, the civilizing, and coherent progress of Society and the world at large. We doubt very much if men of anarchical views and destructive theories are often found in such peaceful company, or taking part in such laudable proceedings. We believe that the gentlemen who have had so much to do with "dynamiters" lately would be willing to give us a good character. We venture, therefore, in all humility to leave so patent a paradox to the careful consideration of those who, in hostile camps and unfriendly papers, and even in the highest ecclesiastical position as our ceaseless antagonist, the Church of Rome, write so hastily and so incorrectly, and with such an entire misapprehension and misrepresentation of the real tenets, the true aims, and the actual mission of Freemasonry. Were it not that some of these repeated incriminations of our Order are so monstrous and so grotesque as hardly even to merit notice or call for animadversion, we might at times be tempted to lose our patience with such repeated insinuations, assertions, and charges, all equally baseless and perverse; but we can afford to smile at even the latest ebullitions of ignorance, injustice, and mendacity combined. If any ask the value or question the meaning of Freemasonry today, we would say—as the monument of an old Grand Master still has it—"Si quæris circumspice."

FREEMASONRY is already showing signs of lassitude and cessation for a time. Its season of work is nearly over for 1884, its recreation banquets are in full swing, its holiday time is drawing near at hand. There is

always something of melancholy in the closing scenes of any period of time and work, and even of any season of Masonic activity, fervent, sacred labour, and genial hospitality. The season of 1884 has not been a very eventful one, but it has been a very active one. The lodges have met, new members have been initiated and joined; the normal cause of English Freemasonry has proceeded on its yearly way, with much effect and admitted prestige. We can recall many pleasant meetings, and have shared in numerous not undistinguished gatherings. Charity has been living and remarkable, hospitality has been seasonable and grateful. At no time were English lodges more numerous, united, or peaceful; at no period did the useful and benevolent principles of English Freemasonry shine with purer lustre, or adorn more truly our Masonic profession. So may it always be. But true it is that for many of us all this little Masonic season of 1884 practically is at an end. Our brethren are scattering wide and fast and far. Ere long a general exodus from the "little village" will proclaim that a holiday time for often hard-worked Freemasons will have begun. Wherever our brethren go may they carry with them good health and good humour, full purses, and contented dispositions; and when they meet again in the fogs of October and November may they all be in their places once more to assist laudably to keep up the fame of some famous lodge, and to aid in continuing to diffuse the generous and genuine principles of Anglican Freemasonry.

THERE is nothing unfitting or unworthy in the attachment which some of us bear to the lodge in which we first saw the light of Masonry, or to which we have since been happily affiliated, as years have passed away. We have met and made there many warm, true friends; we have enjoyed many a mystic séance and many a social gathering; we have taken part in work; we have furthered Charity, and we have realized to the full extent the geniality of friendship, and the sincerity of fraternity. It is true that as Time, with ceaseless steps, has passed on, and left us older than of yore, we have missed some cheery faces, and have parted from some pleasant mates, and have deplored the passing away of some warm friends. The old mates with whom we took pleasant Masonic counsel years ago are no longer to the fore; their place on earth knows them no more. And we, too, in our turn must yield to the inevitable decree; and make way for others, younger and stronger. All we can wish for them is that they may find the happiness and benefit in Freemasonry that we did through many of the years of our pilgrimage, and may it be to them—as it has been most surely to us—a bond of unchanging friendship, a profession of unfailing sympathy, a realization of Charity, an unbroken link of fraternity, and a gratifying labour of love.

AMID the numerous recent attacks on Freemasonry emanating just now from the Ultramontane press, it sometimes seems as if our worthy and wordy opponents in no way realized that we could, if we thought well, for Freemasons, say a good deal in the way of fair reprisal and counter complaint. We are accused of being disloyal and irreligious, unfaithful to our PRINCE, hurtful to religion, the fautors of revolution, anarchy, and social confusion all over the world. We are declared to be pagans and profligate in the same breath; we are told that we are the enemies of society, order, law, and are actually seeking to uproot all the sanction and work of Christianity itself in the world. To these wild and childish charges we do not condescend to reply. We leave them to the judgment of our contemporaries, and the consciences of the Roman Catholics themselves. But curiously enough we think we have heard of others who, not like us, intent on labouring in the cause of goodwill and kindly feeling, and charitable effort, and social progress among men, have startled the world often by the most dangerous doctrines of peace, propounded the most subversive theories. There is hardly a country in Europe where much harm has not been effected by maxims which are degrading and a venality which is detestable. "The end justifies the means, for many do evil that good may come;" "It is the intention which qualifies the act," seem to float down to us on the current of history, and from the annals of nations, along with specious glosses on the words of Revelation, and even the Divine moral law, which have startled the peace of nations, have affected the proceedings of legislators, and have even led to the ejection from every country of Europe, almost in succession, of those who thus were equally antagonistic to the outcome of authority, and the liberties of people, the dictates of right and truth, and the social safety, peacefulness, progress, and prosperity of mankind. We leave some good friends of ours who are very busy in calumniating Freemasonry to make the application for themselves. If the cap fits, then by all means let them wear it in dignity and decorum, and profit alike by a friendly reminder and a seasonable warning.

In a recent article in the "Month" for July occurs the following paragraph, a summing up of the entire subject as a "gravamen" against Freemasonry, alike serious and overwhelming from a Roman Catholic point of view. Listen, good brother readers of the *Freemason* all the world over, peaceable, loyal, moral, decently living, respectable Freemasons: "In other words Freemasonry in England will bring about, is bringing about even now, lawlessness, naturalism, atheism, godless education, corrupt morality, disregard of the sanctity of marriage, sedition, revolution, socialism, communism." We can scarcely trust our senses, or credit our eyes. What? the loyal, charitable, reputable, religious Order of Freemasons to be described in such terms by a polished Roman Catholic writer in a libellous and well-written Roman Catholic serial! Is the writer in his right senses? or has he forgotten altogether the "abstract importance of Truth?" How can anyone dare thus to calumniate that great Order in which are to be found members of our Royal Family, Peers and Statesmen, Clergymen and Legislators, Writers and Artists, all the learned professions, constituting an organisation notoriously the most loyal of bodies, and in no way open to the charges in any sense or bearing of this most ill-informed writer? We can realize the astonishment and laughter with which such allegations will be hailed by our brethren, and we can only hope to see a Roman Catholic apology for accusations against our peaceful, useful, and charitable Fraternity equally unjust, ridiculous, and notoriously unfounded. It is truly a sad reflection that, even in an otherwise able article, such is the hopeless haze which fanaticism and intolerance throw over the views and feelings of men, that we have a notoriously factitious charge, utterly unworthy and preposterous, brought against a reputable and charitable sodality, which no other writer of common intelligence or fairness could be found, we believe, to advance or propound. If the credulity of mankind is a sad sight and a pitiable history, what shall we say of its intolerance and fanaticism? If the former has caused much personal sorrow, and paved the way for much individual, suffering, the latter has filled the nations and ages of the world with strife, confusion, hatred, and even blood.

WE call attention to an advertisement elsewhere relative to the Masonic soiree and exhibition at Worcester, August 7th, 1884. We trust that it will be a great success, and that our brethren will respond warmly to the appeal of our esteemed Bro. GEO. TAYLOR. The exhibition is to be opened for a week. It follows, we are reminded, the first held at York, and many who sent books, &c., to York have promised their collections for the Worcester gathering. Bro. W. J. HUGHAN will specially prepare a catalogue, with notes. Not only will the exhibition remain open a week, but during the time papers will be read and lectures given on exhibits and kindred subjects.

WE hope that we shall not be deemed intrusive if we say a word again on a "vexed subject," which has often come before us. We hear from time to time of the "rights of women" in the abstract; but sure we are there are some Masonically which, it appears to us, are not sufficiently regarded by us. It always appears to us that those lodges and brethren are most wise and far-seeing which seek to include their ladies in their annual gatherings and recreation meetings. We have often said it, and we repeat it, that this reasonable and seasonable admixture of ladies with our recreation meetings especially will be productive of good to Freemasonry, in more ways than one. There is a touch of selfishness and of sycaritim often among us "lords of the creation," which the finer and purer presence of our fair sisters, we believe, will do much to lessen, to alleviate, and remove. We know as a fact that when lodges and brethren have tried the plan, they have always found benefit from the change, and we invite our friends at this season to give the matter a fair and full consideration. Many lodges now take their "sisters" with them to their annual Masonic gatherings, and dances, and agreeable picnics, and we feel sure that none who do so will repent them of this little variation in their programme, as the presence of some of the "fairest specimens of creation," always kind, considerate, and unselfish, will lend not only "enchantment to the view," but confer pleasantness and contentment to the assembly, and animation and brightness to the scene.

WE call attention to another review of the Roman Catholic "Month" elsewhere, by which it would seem as if, despite more civil language and a more courteous tone, the old "fiery spirit" of Rome was still "to the fore" in truth; that still, as ever, the one unchanging bent and declaration of Rome, "qua Rome," was against the now happily universally received dictum of Toleration. The arguments employed by the Reviewer are indeed worthy of the attention of Freemasons, and show to what length acrimony and injustice will lead even educated men.

MASONIC CEREMONY AT REDHILL.

VISIT OF THE M.W.G.M., H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

On Wednesday afternoon the Prince and Princess of Wales visited Redhill, where his Royal Highness performed the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the chapel forming part of the block of new buildings—now approaching completion—of the Royal Asylum of St. Anne's Society. Their Royal Highnesses, who were accompanied by the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales, and attended by Lord and Lady Suffield, Sir Dighton Probyn, and Col. A. Ellis, travelled from London by a special train, and on their arrival at Redhill were received by the Mayor and Corporation of Reigate, who presented an address. They were then conducted to the Royal pavilion by the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff of the county, and the President, Treasurer, and other members of the Committee of the Royal Asylum of St. Anne's.

As it was intended to lay the foundation-stone with Masonic ceremonial, a Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey was summoned, and held under the presidency of the Prov. G. Master, V.W. Bro. General Brownrigg.

The Princess of Wales and her daughters were first conducted to their seats on the dais, in a pavilion erected on the site of the chapel, and shortly afterwards his Royal Highness, as Grand Master, attended by his officers, arrived.

The procession was formed in the following order:—Assistant Grand Pursuivant (Bro. Garrod); Grand Pursuivant (Bro. Stephens); Grand Organist (Bro. E. M. Lott); Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies (Bro. Griffiths Smith); Grand Director of Ceremonies (Bro. Sir Albert Woods); the Grand Officers bearing the cornucopia and ewers with wine and oil, (Bros. C. Martyn, P.G.C.; Capt. N. G. Philips, P.G.D.; and E. Bowyer,

P.G. Std. Br.); the Grand Superintendent of Works, (Bro. Horace Jones) bearing the inscribed plate for the foundation-stone; the Grand Secretary for German Correspondence (Bro. Dr. Wendt); the Grand Secretary (Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke); President of the Board of General Purposes (Bro. T. Fenn), carrying the mallet; the Grand Registrar (Bro. P. H. Philbrick); Grand Treasurer (Bro. Col. Creaton), bearing the phial containing the coins to be deposited in the stone; the Junior Grand Warden (Bro. the Lord Mayor), with the plumb rule; the Senior Grand Warden (Bro. Lord Cremorne), with the level; the Junior Grand Deacon (Bro. E. Letchworth); the Grand Chaplain (Bro. Canon Tristram); the Deputy Grand Master (Bro. the Earl of Lathom); the Pro Grand Master (represented by Bro. Lord Suffield); the Grand Standard Bearer and Sword Bearers; the Most Worshipful the Grand Master (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales); the Senior Grand Deacons (Bros. Baron De Ferrieres and Davison); and the Grand Tyler (Bro. Sadler). The whole assemblage, on his Royal Highness ascending the dais, rose and stood throughout the ceremonial. The Princess and her daughters stood on the left of the Prince, and among those present, in addition to the Officers of Grand Lodge, were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Rochester, Mr. Sheriff Cowan and the Lady Mayoress, the Mayor of Croydon, the Mayor of Guildford, Lord and Lady Monson, Lady Henry Somerset, the Earl and Countess of Lovelace, Sir Edward and Lady Watkin, Mr. H. Edwards, M.P., the Archdeacon of Surrey, Sir Sydney and Lady Waterlow, General Sir R. Wilbraham, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Sir Valentine Fleming, Sir Geo. Macleay, and Mr. Grantham, M.P. The hymn of praise having been sung by the children, and the Bishop of Rochester having offered prayer,

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, as President, then gave a brief sketch of St. Anne's Society, which was founded in 1702. Its object, he said, was to receive and help, clothe and educate, children who, having been born in a superior position, found themselves destitute. The Society received children of any nation, and up to the present time had provided in all for nearly 4000 children. It depended entirely upon voluntary contributions, and the extent of its operations was such that it had been found necessary to remove from the home at Streatham to the present site, where the new schools would accommodate nearly 400 children. In conclusion the Archbishop asked his Royal Highness to lay the foundation-stone. (Cheers.)

The Grand Master having been conducted to the stone, took up his position there; the vessels containing coins, wine, and oil, were deposited on a pedestal placed for their reception, and the upper stone having been raised, the lower one was adjusted.

The Prince of WALES then addressed the assembly in the following terms:—Men and brethren here assembled to behold this ceremony,—Be it known unto you that we, being lawful Masons, true and truthful to the laws of our country, and engaged in similar dedications to rear up handsome buildings to be serviceable to the Society and to fear God, the Great Architect of the Universe; we have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered, but those secrets are lawful, honourable, and not repugnant to the laws of God or man. (Cheers.) They were entrusted in peace and honour to the Masons of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them unimpaired to lasting posterity. Unless our Craft were good and our calling honourable, we should not have lasted for so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious brethren in our Order ready to promote our laws and further our interests. We are assembled here to-day in the presence of all of you to erect a house for the worship and praise of the Most High, which we pray God may prosper as it seems good to Him; and as the first duty of Masons in any undertaking is to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe on the work, I call upon you to unite with our Grand Chaplain in praise of the Throne of Grace.

Prayer having been offered by the GRAND CHAPLAIN,

The GRAND SECRETARY read aloud the inscription on the plate, and the Grand Treasurer deposited the phial containing the coins, after which the plate was placed on the lower stone. The cement having been duly spread, it was adjusted by the Grand Master with a trowel, and then the upper stone was lowered with three distinct stops. Having proved the just position and form of the stone by the plum rule, level, and square, his Royal Highness struck it three times with the mallet, and afterwards strewed the corn from the cornucopia, and poured the wine and oil over the stone with the accustomed ceremonies. He next inspected the plan, and having done so, returned it to the architect with the Masonic injunction to proceed to the completion of the work in conformity therewith. Purses containing contributions on behalf of the building fund were afterwards placed on the stone, and the Bishop of Rochester having pronounced the Benediction, the ceremony terminated. On passing to the Royal Pavilion prior to returning to London, the Prince and Princess were heartily cheered.

The total cost of the school buildings will be £38,000, of which about £20,000 has been already subscribed, exclusive of about £3000 contributed on Wednesday.

CONSECRATION OF THE PORTCULLIS LODGE, No. 2038, AT LANGPORT.

There was a large gathering of the Craft at Langport on the 1st inst. to take part in the ceremony of consecrating the Portcullis Lodge, for which a warrant has recently been granted by the Grand Lodge of England. The brethren met at the Town Hall at twelve, and having formed a procession in the ante-room, marched to the lodge in the usual Masonic order, Bro. Nosworthy, P.P.G. Org., who has for the past sixteen or seventeen years assisted in the dedication ceremonies in the Province of Somerset, playing a suitable march.

Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M. and C.D. of England, the Consecrating Officer, and the Present and Past Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, were then received in due form, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened with the usual ceremony.

The room in which the brethren assembled to transact their Masonic business was admirably suited to the purpose, and a great amount of care and taste had evidently been bestowed upon the adornment of the lodge by the local brethren. As usual on these occasions the distinctive banners of the several lodges in the province were suspended around the lodge room, and choice flowers, lent by the Rev. C. M. Mules, were tastefully disposed around the pedestals and on the dais, presenting a most charming effect. The lodge appointments (all of course new) were in good taste, and testified by their costliness to the healthy Masonic zeal existing in this new centre of the Craft.

The Consecrating Officer having taken his seat, appointed his officers, pro tem., as follows: Bros. C. Fry Edwards, S.W.; Ashley, P.P.G.J.W., as P.G. Junior Warden; R. Bailey, 261, P.P.G.R., as I.P.M.; J. G. Vile, 261, D. of Cers.; Rev. A. G. How, Prov. G. Chaplain, and J. C. Hunt, Prov. Grand Secretary. After the usual preliminary Masonic rites, the CONSECrating OFFICER addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting. He said they had assembled to-day for the purpose of dedicating to Masonry a new lodge in this important town. Several zealous Masons in the neighbourhood had for some years been anxious to make Langport a centre of Masonic life, and the time had now arrived when their wishes might be successfully carried out. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master had been pleased to grant a warrant, and, in accordance with that warrant, they had met to consecrate this lodge. He had indulged the hope that the Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon, would himself have been able to perform the ceremony; but he was sorry to say that his lordship's public engagements would not permit of this. He would, therefore, himself at once proceed with the ceremony, with the assistance of the Provincial Officers present.

The ceremony was then impressively performed by the Consecrating Officer, the sacred elements being borne by Bros. R. C. Else, the Rev. A. G. How, Prov. G. Chap.; and T. Jelley, P.M. 796; and J. Cornwall, P.M. 762, both P.P.G.S.W's. The incidental music during the ceremony was ably performed by the P.P.G. Organist, Bro. Nosworthy, and the following anthems were sung by the brethren: Before the consecration—"Behold, how pleasant and how good;" during the ceremony—Weldon's "O praise God in His Holiness;" after the ceremony—Haydn's "The Spacious Firmament on High." The Rev. A. G. How, the Prov. Grand Chaplain, delivered an oration on the nature and principles of the institution.

The lodge having then been duly constituted, the assembled brethren sang the National Anthem, and the dedication ceremony proper terminated. The lodge then proceeded to instal the W.M. designate, Bro. John Hughes, as first W.M. of the lodge. The ceremony of installation was performed by the R.W.P.P.G.M., Bro. R. C. Else. The newly-installed Master then appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. Wm. Trevena, P.M. 1255, P.P.G.D.C., S.W.; W. E. Bennett, 814, J.W.; Morgan, S.D.; Hobbs, J.D.; Vincent, I.G.; and Webber, Tyler.

The lodge passed votes of thanks to the Consecrating and Installing Officers, and to the officers of Grand Lodge, and then adjourned to a banquet at the Langport Arms, which was served up in admirable style by Bro. Baring. The menu included every delicacy of the season. The W.M., Bro. Dr. Hughes, presided, and was supported by the P.P.G.M., Bro. R. C. Else, and many officers, Past and Present, of Provincial Grand Lodge. The usual Masonic toast list was subsequently gone through, and after dinner the sum of £5 5s. was subscribed to the Masonic Charities, in the names of the Masters of the lodge, who will thus have two votes annually to the Masonic schools. We may mention that the lodge volume of the Sacred Laws, so essential to the ceremonies, was presented to the lodge by Mrs. Barling.

The founders of Lodge Portcullis are Bros. John Hughes, W. E. Bennett, J. Vincent, A. E. Hobbs, Trevena, Morgan, and Barling.

ENGLISH FREEMASONRY BEFORE 1717.

The recent discussions which have taken place in regard to pre-1717 Freemasonry in England have led me to put into a connected form a few notes on the subject which have been accumulating for some time. We have a great difficulty to contend with when we seek to construct a system, or order, of Masonic life and continuance before 1717, from which the movement in 1717 naturally or specifically emerged. I repudiate "ex imo corde" the absurd, inconsistent, and ridiculous 1717 theory, as it is termed, as not only contradicted critically by every fact we have of archæology and history, but most derogatory to the dignity of our Order even to discuss. That any one can seriously propound the theory that our Freemasonry is the outcome of a convivial club in 1717 has always appeared to me such an aberration from right reason, and such a perverse paradox, that I have always felt it was beneath our dignity as Masonic writers seriously for one single moment to dilate upon it.

But the outlook is very hazy indeed when we seek to link on the Grand Lodge of 1717 with any form of seventeenth century English Freemasonry. One of our most patent difficulties is the little knowledge we have of what took place in 1717. We have, so far, no contemporary account of the proceedings as known to exist, and none apparently earlier than 1738, 21 years afterwards. We have, indeed, in 1723 some Regulations drawn up by Payne in 1722, and by implication we may, I think, fairly assume that such are older Regulations than 1717, that Payne did not draft them afresh, and that therefore we have in them traces of earlier legislation, customs, precedents, Masonic usages, and Masonic verbiage. Payne does not seemingly treat them as new matter, and there appears to be running through almost all a sort of silent witness,—if I may so say,—of previous laws and earlier enactments. If so, that would take us back before 1700, with Freemasonry under some form of legislative provisions for the supreme body and for private lodges. Some think they observe traces of a two-fold government,—a Northern and a Southern system,—but I confess, though the probability of such a state of things need not be denied, its traces to me appear very doubtful indeed. I know of no earlier minute than one of 1722 in a lodge minute book; and that merely seems to confirm Anderson's statement as to four lodges meeting in 1717. But even its verbiage requires careful study, as it is not quite clear that *only* four lodges are intended by the words.

But of the proceedings of 1717, as I said before, or 1718, 19, 20, 21, 22, except this partial minute, no record so far as is known at present is extant. I say so far as known, because so great have been the apathy and lethargy of our lodges in these respects, that many collections of records are still untouched and unopened, and are lying in lumber rooms, in dirty boxes, stowed away anywhere, perishing often with mildew and decay. I for one never could understand why, with our professions of light, we should guard our old minute books like the apples of the gardens of the Hesperides, or why practically we should imitate the perverse and childish conduct of some of our older forefathers, who burnt Masonic records. From 1700 to 1717 is, as older writers have it, "hiatus valde defendus," a Masonic chasm, which at present we cannot bridge over, or fill up satisfactorily, and therefore, "a fortiori," the difficulty as we seek to get into the seventeenth century becomes more serious and intense. We have evidence indeed quite early in the eighteenth century of a lodge at Alnwick, and if Preston is correct, and the minute book he mentions turns up of 1705 at York, we may learn much of that period of our annals. But so far as we have discovered this is all our present or available evidence

in the early, say, eighteenth century of an existing body, and of this evidence so far only the bit of Alnwick evidence is verifiable. What then can we say as regards the seventeenth century Freemasonry? The answer to this query I propose to give in the next *Freemason*, as I do not think it wise to increase this paper, and I am well aware how few Freemasons read these archæological contributions, and feel that except to a few earnest students they present but little attraction. But still, unless the *Freemason* is to degenerate into a mere publication of lodge reports and after-dinner speeches, not the most intellectual form of Masonic study or thought, some such essays as these must from time to time appear. DRYASDUST.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

CHAPTER VIII.

FROM THE INAUGURATION OF THE SCHOOL AT WOOD GREEN TO THAT OF THE NEW BUILDING, 1857-1865.

(Continued from page 331.)

We are now entering upon what many brethren at the time must have regarded as the most critical epoch in the history of the Institution. Hitherto the Executive had succeeded in performing their allotted duties with exemplary skill. Their management of the funds had been both economical and liberal. They had carefully watched over their young charges and had done the best which the means at their disposal permitted in educating them. But this latter part of their duty had been of necessity entrusted to a number of agents—namely, the Masters of the different schools at which the boys were entered. They had thus acquired little or no practical experience of school management or school discipline, beyond what the parents or guardians of all children may be supposed to possess. Now they were about to have a school of their own, with an educational staff appointed and paid by themselves. By a stroke of the pen, as it were, they found themselves suddenly transmuted from a governing body with no establishment to govern into a proprietary body with the full powers to regulate everything of material importance, from the duties and emoluments of the Master, Matron, and the subordinate staff to making contracts for the supply of food and clothing, from electing new and retiring old pupils to settling the character of their training and the discipline to which they should be subjected. There may have been some misgivings as to whether they would figure so successfully in their new as in their old capacity. But a very short time sufficed to prove the efficacy of the system they adopted, and from the day when the premises at Wood Green were opened as a School till now, when it has been resolved for the fourth, fifth, or sixth time to enlarge them, so as to provide more accommodation for the ever-increasing number of applicants for the benefits of the Charity, but little doubt has arisen as to the capacity of the Executive to fulfil their important duties. It may not always have been clear whence the money that was needed year by year was to come, but there has never been experienced any want of confidence in the ability and faithfulness of the Committee to discharge its trust. The School, as distinguished from the Institution, of which at first it was only the smaller part, began well, and has gone on prospering more and more abundantly ever since. It was wisely started as an experiment with only 25 of the boys as inmates, the other 45 remaining under the old system. It is now a large and successful educational establishment, the cases in which a boy's parents or guardians withhold their consent to his being received into the School being of the rarest occurrence. There is, in short, only one regret we feel in contrasting the old and the new order of things. It is that, with the evidence ever present before them of the good resulting in the Girls' School from having the children lodged under one roof, the adoption of a similar plan in the case of this Institution was delayed so long by the conscientious, but unwise, scruples of sundry brethren of influence and standing, not only in the Craft, but on the School Executive. However, the change, if resolved on late, was promptly and effectively carried out, and, as we have said before, no doubt has ever since arisen as to its wisdom.

Having made their purchase, the Committee resolutely set about organising the necessary arrangements, adapting the premises for the reception of 25 pupils, electing a Master and Matron, and appointing a House Committee with power to superintend the conduct of the School. This Committee at first consisted of 12 brethren chosen from the General Committee, with the Treasurer, Trustees, and the Chairman, for the time being, of the General Committee, as *ex-officio* members. An Audit Committee was also appointed, to consist of 12 Governors and Subscribers not on the House Committee. The Committees were chosen at an early date, that of Finance and Audit consisting, however, of only five members. The Rev. C. Woodward and Mrs. Woodward were elected to the offices of Master and Matron respectively, their duties and emoluments having been previously settled. The rules and regulations were carefully revised so as to suit the altered arrangements, and the children that were found eligible to be received at Wood Green having been placed in readiness, the new building was formally and ceremoniously inaugurated on the 15th August, 1857, Divine service at Tottenham Church, with a sermon by the Rev. J. E. Cox, G.C., being a part of the celebration, while the pupils of the Girls' School took part in the musical portion of the proceedings. On 15th October, the House Committee attended at Wood Green and admitted the boys into residence, and some short time later the customary votes of thanks were passed to all who had taken part in the joyous event. In February, 1858, the report for the previous year was submitted, the Committee strenuously insisting on the necessity for making further exertions with a view to enlarging the School. It was provided that the children elected under the old system should remain as before if their parents and guardians preferred it, and at the same time it was pointed out, as a principal reason for having more boys resident, that the same supervision on the part of the Committee as regarded the 45 non-resident was impossible. The attention of the Craft generally was further drawn to the apparent indifference of the provinces to the requirements of the Charity, it being at the same time pointed out that out of the 70 boys in the establishment, no less than 36 hailed from the country, of whom 15 were at Wood Green, while the remaining 21 continued under the old system. Moreover, cases were constantly being recommended to the Committee by Provincial Grand Officers, who contributed nothing, nor did their lodges contribute in any way, towards the funds of the Institution, and the hope was expressed that a greater amount of practical sympathy might be shown by the provincial Craft.

(To be continued.)

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

St. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.
 CHIEF PATRONESS:
 HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
 PATRON AND PRESIDENT:
 H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,
 M.W.G.M.

PATRONESS:
 H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, July 12th, 1884, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates on the List for Election in October next, to declare the number of Girls then to be elected, and to consider Notices of Motion as under:—

Upon recommendation of the House Committee, by Bro. JOSHUA NUNN, P.G.S.B., Vice-President:—
 "That, in consideration of the valuable services rendered in the Institution for many years past by Bro. G. J. Chancellor, that his Vice-Presidency be extended to an Hon. Vice-Patronship, with all the privileges attaching thereto."

By Bro. Controller S. G. BAKE, P. Prov. G.S.B. Cornwall:
 "In future it is understood that when the voting papers have been signed by Subscribers and passed on for the purpose of being used on polling day, that the vote shall stand good, although the Subscriber may have died between the period of having signed the voting paper and the day named in it for polling."

Or, in the event of the above not being carried, the following to be printed in the rules in red ink, viz.:—
 "That should a subscriber die before the day of polling named in the voting paper the votes will be null and void, although the subscriber may have duly received the voting paper, signed it, and passed it on prior to his decease."

F. R. W. HEDGES,
 Secretary.

Offices:—5, Freemasons' Hall,
 Great Queen Street, W.C.,
 July 5th, 1884.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

GRAND PATRON:
 HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,
 M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, on Monday, the 14th day of July, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To receive and consider the approval of a List of 58 Candidates, on the recommendation of the General Committee, from which 27 boys shall be elected at the Quarterly General Court, to be held on Monday, 13th October, 1884.

To consider the following Notices of Motion:—

By W. Bro. Controller S. G. Bake, V. Pres.:—

"That when Voting Papers have been signed by those to whom they have been addressed as qualified Voters, and passed on, for the purposes of being polled on the next day of election, such Voting Papers shall be received as valid, although the parties signing them may have died between the date of so signing and the day of election for which such Voting Papers were issued."

Or in the event of the rejection of the above:—

"That should a qualified Voter die between the date of signature to his or her Voting Paper and the day of election for which such Voting Papers were issued, the Votes shall be declared to be null and void."

By Bro. A. J. Godson, V. Patron:—

"That the First Paragraph of Law 63 (pending for admission by purchase) be rescinded."

That the following addition be made to Law 55:—

"This Rule is not to apply to cases where the subscribing member dies within three years from the date of his initiation."

The Chair will be taken at Four o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By Order,
 FREDERICK BINCKES. (P.G. Stwd.) V. Pat.,
 Secretary.

6, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.,
 July 5, 1884.

PROVINCE OF WORCESTER.

MASONIC SOIREE AND EXHIBITION.

Worcester, Aug. 27, 1884.

BRETHREN who have MASONIC CURIOS of any kind are invited to communicate with Bro. Geo. Taylor, Summerdyne, Kidderminster, who will gratefully receive promises of such on loan for the above occasion.

It is hoped to produce a Catalogue which will prove a valuable and standard reference to all interested in Masonic antiquities.

CAN any brother inform a M.M. of a SITUATION in Town, Country, or Abroad. Age, 38, fair scholar. Address, H. K., 2, Hopkin-st., Golden-square, London.

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BANQUETING HALLS.

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PROCEEDINGS, &c., &c.

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	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
London (Euston Station) dep.	5.15	7.15	10.0	11.0	8.0	8.50
Edinburgh arr.	4.10	5.50	7.55	10.0	6.20	6.45
Glasgow	4.20	6.0	8.0	10.15	6.35	6.55
Greenock	5.50	7.15	9.5	11.42	7.50	9.48
Oban	9.40	—	—	4.45	12.15	12.34
Perth	6.50	—	9.35	11.50	8.0	8.15
Dundee	7.30	—	10.30	1.0	9.0	9.55
Aberdeen	10.10	—	—	3.20	11.40	2.15
Inverness	—	—	—	8.0	1.30	6.20

The HIGHLAND EXPRESS (S.o. p.m.) leaves Euston every night (Saturdays excepted), and is due at Greenock in time to enable passengers to join the steamers to the Western Coast of Scotland. It also arrives at Perth in time to enable passengers to breakfast there before proceeding northwards.

From the 14th July to the 11th August (Saturdays and Sundays excepted) an additional express train will leave Euston Station at 7.30 p.m. for Edinburgh, Glasgow, and all parts of Scotland. This train will convey special parties, horses, and carriages.

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B—Does not run beyond Edinburgh and Glasgow on Sunday mornings.

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 J. THOMPSON, General Manager,
 Caledonian Railway.

June, 1884.

A BROTHER wants £1000 to enable him to take partnership in an old established and profitable business in City. Interest 10 per cent. guaranteed. Address P.W., care of Mr. Brett, Solicitor, 9, Mincing-lane, E.C.

MASONIC MUSIC.—A Beautiful Service, admirably arranged for the Three Degrees by Bro. John Hall, Marquis of Lorne Lodge, No. 1354, Leigh, Lancashire. Lodges supplied in quantity. One Shilling each, net. Post free, Thirteen Stamps.

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 LONDON, W.C.

BRO. THOMAS BACON

begs to solicit the kind patronage of Brethren visiting London.

The Craft is aware that it was supposed that the Grand Lodge would purchase the lease of his hotel, a statement to which effect was inserted in all the leading newspapers.

He is sorry to say the report is operating much against his business, as many of his friends and the public, thinking his hotel closed, have gone elsewhere.

He therefore trusts that his Brother Freemasons in the country will support him, and the more so as he has been a tenant of Grand Lodge for half-a-century.

BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Office, 4, Queen-street place, London, E.C.
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT, MAY, 1884.

2017 Policies issued for	£411,099
New Premium Income	£12,566
BUSINESS IN FORCE.	
26,704 Policies, Assuring	£4,948,145
REVENUE OF THE YEAR.	
Premiums	£144,626
Interest, &c.	£37,695
	£182,321
ACCUMULATED FUND.	
Laid by in the year	£65,597
Accumulated Fund on 31st January, 1884 (equal to 76 per cent. of the net premiums received upon policies in force)	£938,609

Claims and Bonuses paid under the Company's Policies, £800,808. Average Reversionary Bonus for 27 years about 14 per cent. per Annum.

MUTUAL ENTRANTS IN 1884 PARTICIPATE IN THE ELEVENTH DIVISION OF PROFITS.

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FREEMASONRY AS IT IS,

versus
FREEMASONRY ACCORDING TO THE POPE.

A FREEMASON. An extract from the Works of Zschokke, setting forth in a lively and entertaining manner most excellent arguments in favour of Freemasonry in its social and benevolent aspects, as against opposite opinions and prejudices. Translated by Bro. ERNST E. WULFF. Demy 8vo., 6d.

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References kindly permitted to

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Rev. Charles E. Mayo, M.A., Nottingham.
Sir Thomas Chambers, M.P., Recorder of London.
Richard Toller, Esq., Solicitor, Leicester.
George Kenning, Esq., Little Britain.

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(Late Upper Fifth-Form Master, Bedford Modern School, Harpur Foundation.)

RESIDENT STAFF:

Classics: Mr. W. P. EVANS, M.A.
(2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1877.)

(Late Foundation Scholar, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.)

English Language and Literature: The PRINCIPAL.

Mathematics and Science: P. Z. ROUND, B.A.
(Mathematical Tripos, 1882.)

(Late Scholar St. Katharine's College, Cambridge.)

Modern Languages: The PRINCIPAL.

VISITING STAFF:

Modern Languages: Monsieur EUGENE FASNACHT.
(Late Senior Modern Language Master, Bedford Modern School. Editor of Macmillan's Foreign Classics.)
Science: Rev. J. G. WOOD, M.A., F.L.S., and Prof. C. P. MORRIS, Geology and Phys. Geog.; and such other qualified and experienced Masters as the requirements of the Pupils may demand.

References kindly permitted to

Rev. R. B. Poole, B.D., Bed. Mod. School, Bedford.

Alex. Waugh Young, M.A., Tettenhall College, Staffordshire.

G. M. Hicks, M.A., 5, South-row, Blackheath, S.E.

E. F. Ashworth Briggs, M.A., L.L.M., 15, New Street, Daventry.

Rev. A. Lloyd, M.A., Norton Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds.

C. L. Peel, Esq., C.B., Woodcroft, Cuckfield, Sussex.

Major Ed. Green, St. Mary's, Bedford.

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A BROTHER most earnestly appeals for help to pay off a debt of £30, contracted through illness. The case is, unfortunately, not eligible for the Board of Benevolence. Contributions will be thankfully received and all information afforded by P.M., Neptune Villa, Sutton-grove North, Sutton, Surrey.

FREEMASONS throughout the Kingdom are earnestly invited to send a DONATION, however small, towards the fund now being raised for the Restoration of the old Parish Church of ST. NICHOLAS, DEPTFORD, which, dating from the 12th century, is in a terribly dilapidated state. £2445 required. Pop. 8000, chiefly poor. "The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord of Hosts."—Address, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, P.M., P.Z. (Vicar), 215, Evelyn-st., Deptford, S.E., or George Lockyer, Esq., 33, High-st., Deptford, S.E.

To Correspondents.

A review of Bro. G. F. Fort's interesting monograph—"A Critical Enquiry into the Condition of the Conventual Builders," &c.—will appear in our next.

The following communications stand over until next week for want of space:—

Consecration of the William Kelly, Mark Lodge, 339.

CRAFT LODGES:—Priory Lodge of Acton, 1996; Sydney, 829.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Masonic Review," "Jewish Chronicle," "The New Zealand Craftsman," "Hull Packet," "Broad Arrow," "Citizen," "Court Circular," "La Chaine D'Union," "El Taller," "Annario de la Gran Logia Unida de Colon e Isla de Cuba," "Canadian Craftsman," "Orient," "Keystone," "The Tricycling Journal," "Le Moniteur de la Chance Universelle," "Allen's Indian Mail," "La Abeja," "El Delta."



SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1884.

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.]

RECENT ATTACKS ON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
Do you not think that enough has been said on this unsavoury subject? Had we not better, as an educated body, treat Papal Bulls and Archbishopial Charges with entire silence, in the calm consciousness of innocence, in the peaceful persuasion of indifference?

A WELL WISHER.

[Though we think our correspondent is right in the main, we fancy he has not seen the last two articles in the "Month" for June and July.—Ed. F.M.]

BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL, 1884.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
Whilst heartily congratulating the Boys' School, and also Bro. W. A. Scurrah, on the increased amount obtained by the latter on his list representing the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, since the recent Festival, it is only right and fair to Bro. George Skudder, of the Temperance Lodge, No. 169, Deptford, to state that he (Bro. Skudder) was the premier individual Steward at the Festival, as announced by the Secretary, Bro. Binckes, Bro. Skudder's amount being £540, and Bro. Scurrah's £500. It was really after the Festival that Bro. Scurrah obtained his additional sum, so there can be no doubt but that when the lists were announced at the table by the Secretary, Bro. George Skudder was first, he having taken up the largest amount.

Not writing in a spirit of antagonism, well knowing both the brethren above mentioned, but simply wishing credit should be given to whom credit is due, I trust you will insert this letter in your next issue, and, thanking you in anticipation, I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

WALTER MARTIN, J.W. 879.

Sec. Star Lodge of Instruction, 1275.

21, Longley-street, Southwark Park-road, S.E.,

July 8th, 1884.

NOTICE TO BRETHREN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
If J. W. Neile, of Lodges 187, 483; 719, and of Chapter 483, Irish Constitution, applies to any brethren or lodges for relief, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland should be communicated with, or I will answer any inquiries.—Yours fraternally,

JAMES H. NEILSON.

82, Lceson-street Lower, Dublin,

July 8th.

GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
As an old Colonist, I have been observing with interest the various movements that have taken place in Australia for the purpose of forming independent Masonic governing bodies. In New South Wales and Victoria the leaders of such movements have permitted their ardour to outrun their discretion, and the consequences have been most lamentable. When the so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales was formed there were in all 85 lodges in that colony, made up of 47 under the English, 30 under the

Scotch, and 9 under the Irish Constitutions. Only 12 of these lodges, and not one of the English lodges, joined in the movement. In Victoria there were 95 lodges, 70 under the English Constitution, 10 under the Scotch, and 15 under the Irish. Only 18 of these combined to form the so-called Grand Lodge of Victoria. Under such circumstances there could be no manner of doubt whatever as to the course to be pursued by the mother Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the illegally formed bodies in Australia are occupying at this moment a most unenviable position.

The formation of the Grand Lodge of South Australia has on the other hand been conducted on quite a different plan. In that colony there are 33 lodges, 30 of which resolved to form a Grand Lodge. The 33 lodges are made up of 20 English, 6 Scotch, and 7 Irish Lodges. Of the three lodges who were not content to join, two were Irish and one English, and one of these two Irish lodges was virtually extinct—at any rate, it was not working. The movement, therefore, in South Australia, has been practically unanimous, and I am glad to observe that there is apparently every chance of the new governing body receiving complete recognition by the authorities at home.

In reading your editorial notes on the subject on Saturday last, I observe, as has been the case on former occasions, an obvious reluctance to admit either the right or the advantage of our colonial brethren to become Masonically independent. I sincerely hope that there is no wide-spread feeling of this kind. The Grand Lodge of England is enormously strong; but the retention under its rule of any unwilling section of the Brotherhood cannot add either to its influence or strength. I do not know what the ostensible reasons for independence are which you declare to be utterly baseless and untenable; but I know quite well what are the real reasons which lead colonies to desire self-government in Masonic matters, and I am well aware that those reasons are exceedingly ample. You say that "a minority in each English lodge declined to join the movement." I do not see that this in any degree affects the question of recognition or otherwise. If it does, then we must proceed at once to expunge that portion of our printed charge which tells us that "a ready acquiescence in all votes and resolutions passed by a majority of the brethren" is the imperative duty of every Freemason.

But if recognition is to be accorded at all, it should be granted unconditionally. To make any reservations, as suggested by you, would be to sow the seeds of future discord and dissension in South Australia, just as such a course pursued years ago across the Atlantic has done in the Dominion. It does not require any large amount of worldly wisdom or common sense to perceive that to authorise an independent and practically irresponsible lodge to remain working in open defiance of the legitimate local Masonic authority in any country is to court future trouble and disaster. If 30 lodges out of 33 are content to join the movement in question, the remaining three lodges should, if they are animated by a true Masonic spirit, cheerfully acquiesce in what is plainly the desire of the Brotherhood as a body.

In Masonry, as in all systems of Society, there are, of course, always to be found a few cantankerous people who will for ever oppose everything and everybody to the bitter end; but these are the very folk that ought to be least encouraged. They will never be of any real service to the Craft, and if left in the position of being able to occasion perpetual irritation and annoyance, they will, as in the case of Canada, eventually turn out to be a "casus belli."—I am, yours fraternally,

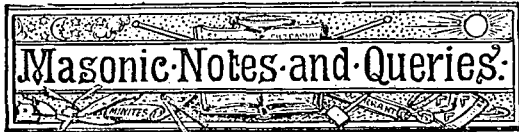
T. B. WHITEHEAD.



THE MONTH for July.

We called attention a short time back to a remarkable article in the "Month," a Roman Catholic serial, against Freemasonry. We were then promised a second article. We have it now here before us, and, to say the truth, we are vastly disappointed with it. If, despite the polished sentences and careful passages of the first notice, we thought we could read between the lines, our conviction is rendered certainly by the outspoken reality of the second article. Despite the apparently more reasonable and developed style of argument employed by "R. F. C.," notwithstanding a certain suavity of assurance and largeness of view, we thought we detected the old unreasoning, unfounded "animus" still evidently unchanging and unchanged. "Latet anguis in herba." And, lo, and behold, out comes from the civil and classical Reviewer, the same scathing intolerant dicta of old heathen and later persecuting Rome. Notwithstanding all the admissions of the Reviewer as regards the social status and high respectability and peaceful character of English Freemasons, the following are his "obiter dicta," calmly and deliberately, on the subject. "But if they are innocent"—English Freemasons, that is—"it is only with the innocence of self-deceit. If they disclaim on behalf of their sect the disloyalty, the unlawfulness, the anti-Christian and godless character, which distinguish it all over the world, it is only because they do not recognize its true nature or the logical consequences of its teaching. In other words, Freemasonry in England will bring about,—is bringing about even now,—lawlessness, naturalism, atheism, godless education, corrupt morality, disregard of the sanctity of marriage, sedition, revolution, socialism, and communism." To the first of these statements we need hardly reply or point to the compliment involved; while, as to the other, we can only say, as we feel bound to say, knowing the thousands of loyal, devoted, conscientious Freemasons, that it is a cruel falsehood; nay, we must out with the words—*it is a deliberate lie*. There really is nothing else to add. It is so preposterous that we only wonder any Roman Catholic critic should condescend to use such language. But so it is. There is very little else that deserves note or comment in the Reviewer's answer to Lord Carnarvon's well-chosen words. Objection is made to *secrecy*, though no allusion is made to the Jesuit Order and secret oaths. Fault is found with the "universal" system of English Freemasonry, forgetting, as the Reviewer does, that our Fatherhood of God is founded on the Divinest Prayer of all. The allusions to ritual and the like are really utterly unworthy of notice. Some are taken from an Irish work of no authority whatever, and emanate from a Roman Catholic publisher.

And here we leave the matter. We are struck by the weakness of argument and the utter lack of novelty in the position assumed. One thing is plain. Rome is indeed "semper eadem." The same old intolerant, persecuting, burning spirit is as evident and prevalent to-day as we always felt sure it was. We need have no mistake about this whatever. If such be the true feeling of the educated Reviewer, what must be the persuasion of the uneducated many? To this latter question there can be but one reply.



Masonic Notes and Queries.

MASONIC TRADITION.

All Masonic tradition has to be carefully sifted, as it may have become overlaid by the accretions of years, until it becomes historically unreliable; but it generally rests on some portion of truth. The tradition of Sir Christopher Wren's membership and Grand Mastership may be cited as an illustration. It has been held by the English Craft and the English Masonic writers, unhesitatingly and undoubtedly, since 1738, at any rate. We do not find, it is true, any open Masonic acknowledgment of Sir Christopher Wren as a Freemason "totidem verbis" until that date, so far as is at present known. In 1738 certainly it must have been understood by all as a fact apparently suppressed, for all who took part in the revision of 1738 are alleged to have previously seen the alterations and approved of them. Why the fact was suppressed in 1723 is not at present in any way plain or clear, and, in fact, constitutes our main difficulty. For if in 1723 Anderson had stated at that former date what he did in 1738,—Sir Christopher Wren being still alive in 1723—"cadit questio." If any brother will therefore kindly send me any notes or hints on this subject, I shall feel greatly obliged, as I am proposing to write a monograph on Sir Christopher Wren. There must be many remains and memorials of him here and there, and the slightest illustration of a difficult subject will be most gratefully received. I may add I am a believer in the old Masonic tradition.

ANTIQUITY.

Care of Editor, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

LADIES' MASONIC FESTIVAL.

The above Festival took place on Friday, 27th ult., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond, under the presidency of Bro. Frederick Kent, a P.M. of the Dramatic Lodge, 177. The Festival, although not given under the direct auspices of the Dramatic Lodge, was patronized by those of the brethren who wished to do honour to the ladies, and a large gathering was the result. Amongst others we noticed Bro. Herbage, I.P.M., and Mrs. Herbage, Miss Herbage, and Mr. Alfred Herbage; Bro. Quin and Mrs. Quin; Bro. Ellis (from New South Wales); Bro. Perry and Mrs. Perry and Miss Fisk; Bro. Scard and Miss Scard; Bro. Birch; Bro. Morris and Miss Morris; Bro. Kendall and Mrs. and Miss Kendall; Bro. Dickerson and Mrs. Dickerson; Mrs. Kent and Miss Rosa Kent; Mr. W. G. Kent and Miss Sheppard; Bro. Reichelmann and Mrs. Reichelmann; Mrs. Georgina Weldon; and others.

Dinner was announced at four o'clock, and was presided over by Bro. F. Kent, P.M., supported by the following Stvds.: Bro. Anley, W. J. Bennett, Dickerson, Harding, Kendall, W. Miller, J. Morris, J. Perry, Scard, and Quin. Grace having been said, Bro. KENT in a genial speech warned all speakers against making long speeches, and said that literally brevity would on this occasion be considered the soul of wit. After the usual loyal toasts he introduced the toast of "The W.M., Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Dramatic Lodge." Of them, the Chairman said he had nothing to say but what was kind and pleasant, and with the toast he associated the name of Bro. Herbage, who was deservedly popular in the lodge.

Bro. HERBAGE responded to the toast, and said that in doing so he felt that he was responding for those whose only desire was to deserve well of the Craft, and to do as much good as they possibly could and the proceedings of that day would rise as an incentive to further efforts.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of the Ladies," and, in doing so, said that he had purposely asked that the toast might be placed early in the list, as it was a great compliment to those whom they had met to honour. He reminded them of the noble deeds of women, and of their courage, patience, and devotion, and promised if they would only attend these festivals for three years he would let out several of the secrets of Freemasonry, and at the end of that time they might know as much as he did, for he could assure them that—

"There's naught but what's good to be understood
By a Free and an Accepted Mason."

Mr. W. G. KENT responded in stirring terms to the toast, and Mr. W. H. WOODS also responded in very complimentary terms.

Other toasts followed, and, amid immense applause, Mrs. Georgina Weldon sang Salvayre's beautiful song, "Oh! Dovelng, darling." Madame Reichelmann sang in her usual pathetic style the popular song "Daddy," and left off with the solo of "Auld lang syne," to which the company responded with a hearty chorus, joining hands as they sang.

It should be mentioned that Bro. Geo. Millen, of Herne Hill, was successful in obtaining a photographic portrait group of the company assembled, and dancing was indulged in by the votaries of Terpsichore up to the last possible moment. Bro. George Smith, an old servant of the lodge, ably officiated as toastmaster throughout, and handed round the loving cup. The whole affair reflects great credit on the Stewards, and was a great success.

Amongst successful Public School Clubs has just been formed "King's College School Old Boys' Club," with a Committee of well-known gentlemen of standing, amongst others, the Principal of King's College and Head Masters, Leopold de Rothschild, Esq., Baron A. de Watteville, Sir Algernon Borthwick, Bart., and Richard Webster, Esq., Q.C. Applications are received by Mr. W. B. Collins, jun., the Honorary Secretary, pro tem., 5, East India Avenue, E.C., and the Honorary Treasurer, pro tem., Bro. Hatton, 150, Strand, W.C.



Craft Masonry.

WEST KENT LODGE (No. 1297).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, on the 28th ult. Present: Bros. W. Crump, W.M.; R. H. Crowden, P.M., acting S.W.; Philips, J.W.; Johnson, J.D.; Perrin, P.M.; Stead, P.M., Treas.; Woodrow, P.M., Sec.; Fullwood, D.C.; Harris, Harding; Powles, visitor; and others.

Mr. William John Ferris, proposed by the W.M. and seconded by Bro. T. Perrin, I.P.M., was duly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who performed the ceremony in such a manner as to forcibly impress the mind of the candidate, and give satisfaction to all the brethren present. Apologies were sent from many absent brethren, some of whom were attending the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. After the closing of the lodge the banquet was served in such a manner as to do great credit to Messrs. Bertram and Roberts. The usual toasts followed, and a happy and enjoyable evening was passed.

ROCHFORD.—True Friendship Lodge (No. 160).—Mainly owing, no doubt, to the popularity of the W.M. elect, as well as to the energy and efficiency which he invariably displays in the discharge of his multitudinous Masonic duties, one of the largest and most influentially attended meetings of the above-named lodge was held at the Old Ship on Tuesday, the 24th ult., when Bro. Lucking, Prov. C.D.C., was, after an interval of 11 years, again installed as the W.M. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. F. Dorrell Grayson, the following distinguished company being present: Bros. G. F. Jones, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; Andrew Durrant, P.M., Prov. G. Treas.; J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; E. E. Phillips, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. J. Hatch, P.M., P.P.G.C.; F. Wiseman, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. F. Harrington, P.M., P.P.G.P.; H. Harper, Sec., P.M., Prov. G.S.B.; E. Judd, P.M.; F. Green, P.M.; G. J. Glasscock, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Harris, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. V. Willson, P.M.; H. Church, W.M. 1847; J. Taylor, jun., S.W. 1817; A. Richardson, S.W. 1977; R. Smith, W.M. 697; S. H. Ellis, S.W. 607; W. Bridgland, J.W. 733; S. Smith, J.W. 1734; G. R. Dawson, J.W. 1000; S. Turner, S.D. 1817; D. Smith, J.D. 1817; G. Thomas, I.G. 1817; W. Kean, 1817; W. White, 1817; C. F. Woosnam, 1000; J. Webster, 1734; J. G. Flitton, J. K. Frostick, R. M. Beeson, F. W. Wiseman, G. L. Wood, J. Ayling, H. G. Liley, A. W. Martin, and others.

The preliminary business having been transacted, Bro. F. Dorrell Grayson proceeded to install his successor in the chair, and at the close of the ceremony, which was perfectly and impressively worked, the Installing Master was heartily thanked for his services. The W.M. invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. E. E. Phillips, P.M. 379, 1000, and 1734, P.P.G.D., S.W.; F. W. Wiseman, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; J. F. Harrington, P.M., S.D. 1000, P.P.G.P., Treas.; H. Harper, P.M., Prov. G.S.B., Sec.; G. L. Wood, S.D.; J. Ayling, J.D.; H. G. Liley, I.G.; and A. W. Martin, Tyler.

Shortly afterwards the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, which reflected great credit upon Bro. and Mrs. Beeson, and which, indeed, both for the excellence of the viands and the style in which they were served, has seldom been surpassed in the province. The W.M. presided, and at the close of the feast the usual toasts were honoured.

Bro. Durrant having responded for "The Prov. Grand Officers" in a brief and pithy speech, the I.P.M. submitted the toast of "The W.M.," to whom he alluded as being the main-stay of the Craft in that part of the province, and he predicted that, if the lodge was not in a prosperous condition now, it would be before Bro. Lucking vacated the chair.

The Worshipful Master, who was warmly received, said that no greater honour had ever been conferred upon him than that of having been elected a second time to the chair of his mother lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master," which was cordially drunk; and Bro. Grayson having responded, the W.M. gave "The Visitors," observing that hospitality was one of the distinguishing characteristics of Freemasonry.

Bros. J. P. Lewin and W. G. Brighten acknowledged the toast.

Bro. E. Judd, who was heartily received, in replying for "The Past Masters," said that whilst lodges were presided over by such men as Bro. Lucking they must prosper.

Bro. the Rev. H. J. Hatch returned thanks on behalf of "The Masonic Charities," and alluding to the Pope's encyclical against Freemasonry, and the more recent action of Cardinal MacCabe, he said he thought it would be better not to take any notice of them.

Other formal toasts having been submitted, Bro. E. E. Phillips proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Beeson for the admirable manner in which he had placed the dinner on the table; and the vote having been carried with acclamation, and briefly acknowledged, the interesting proceedings which were interspersed with some excellent vocal music by Bros. Brighten, Phillips, Hatch, Woosnam, Dawson, Wilson, Webster, and others, were brought to a close.

LIVERPOOL.—Mariners' Lodge (No. 249).—This lodge has more than a century's eventful history of which to boast, and it was no matter for surprise that the annual celebration of the festival of St. John, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., by one of the largest lodges in the province, should be attended by the most numerous gathering of the present installation season. The meeting took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, and general satisfaction was expressed in connection with the great success which had attended the year's Mastership of Bro. Morris Davis. Very much praise is also deservedly merited by Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G.R., on his retirement from the Treasurership—an office which he has most efficiently filled for a period of 12 years—as it is largely to his zeal and enthusiasm that the present sound financial position of No.

249 is to be attributed. The chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. M. Davis, who was supported by Bros. J. Jenaway, I.P.M.; John Whalley, P.G.A.D.C., P.M.; J. C. Robinson, P.M.; W. H. Vernon, P.M.; F. Barnes, P.M.; David Cangle, S.W.; R. G. Bradley, J.W.; Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.M., P.P.G.R., Treas.; John Hayes, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. P. Bryan, P.G. Org.; and others. Among the visitors were Bros. H. B. Browne, W.M. 1350; Rev. J. W. Richardson, P.G. Chaplain; Councillor Edward Paul, P.G.S.; Thomas Davis, P.G.P.; H. Ashmore, P.M. 823; D. Morris, W.M. 1570; Maurice Hart, P.G.D. D.C.; W. J. Jewett, I.P.M. 1393; H. Firth, P.G.J.D.; J. J. Smith, W.M. 1035; John O. Rea, W.M. 1182; T. White, P.M. 299; Dr. F. J. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Humphreys, W.M. 724; M. Callaghan, W.M. 1393; R. Bethel, S.W. 1094; James Keet, P.M. 1356; J. Brotherton, W.M. 241; Evan J. Callow, W.M. 1094; J. Hughes, W.M. 1675; J. B. Mackenzie, P.G.S.D.; and others.

The W.M. elect, Bro. David Cangle, S.W., was presented by Bros. J. C. Robinson, P.M., and J. Jenaway, P.M., and efficiently installed by Bro. Morris Davis, W.M., to whom a vote of thanks was afterwards unanimously passed. The following officers were invested for the ensuing year: Bros. Morris Davis, I.P.M.; Richard G. Bradley, S.W.; James White, J.W.; John Hayes, P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Robert Collings, Sec. (by proxy); Henry James Pye, S.D.; John C. Spurr, J.D.; Wm. Hewson, I.G.; D. C. Davidson, S.S.; W. B. Bridge, J.S.; John Crebbin, A.S.; Herbert Shacklady, A.S.; W. H. Vernon, P.M., D.C.; and Bro. W. H. Ball was re-elected Tyler. Two gentlemen were afterwards admitted into the lodge, and the W.M. and his officers deserve credit for the excellent manner in which they performed their new duties.

The brethren subsequently dined in the banqueting hall to the number of over 100. Bro. Casey, House Steward, catering very successfully. During the evening the W.M. presented Bro. Davis, I.P.M., with a handsome P.M.'s jewel on behalf of the lodge. An admirable selection of music was given by Bros. A. Child, J. J. Pugmire, W. Lewis, J. A. Muir, and H. Ashmore, Bro. J. P. Bryan presiding at the piano.

SALTERTON.—Harmony Lodge (No. 372).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 11th ult. at the Rolle's Arms Hotel, Budleigh, when there were present Bros. Thos. Hine, W.M.; J. R. Sidwell, S.W.; J. Sargent, J.W.; J. C. Palmer, Chap.; A. Roberts, Treas.; J. Littlejohn, Sec.; W. Britton, S.D.; A. Cowd, J.D.; J. H. Griffin, Org.; W. Pleave, D.C.; J. Coombes, I.G.; J. Noble, Stvd.; W. Pratt, Tyler; A. Roberts, I.P.M.; J. Taylor, P.M.; J. Dumford, P.M.; W. Strickland, P.M.; W. E. E. Stone, P.M., P.P.G.S. Devon; R. F. Kingdown, P.M.; J. C. Palmer, P.M.; A. Pideley, P.P.G. Devon, P.M.; H. Marker, G. Bennett, M. Madge, W. A. Salter, R. M. Mahon, and E. Kensington.

The minutes of the last regular lodge was read and confirmed: A ballot was taken for Mr. W. H. Pratt, who was afterwards initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M., who also explained the working tools and gave the charge in his usual able manner. Bro. Kensington was passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M., who gave the whole of the ritual.

Lodge was then closed in peace and harmony, and the brethren spent a pleasant hour at the festive board.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Lodge of Truth (No. 521).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. B. Matthewman, and the minutes of last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Samuel Crossley answered the test questions, was entrusted, and retired for preparation to be passed to the Second Degree. The lodge being opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Crossley was admitted and passed to a Fellow Craft by the W.M., Bro. J. W. Turner, S.W., presenting the working tools. The lodge was closed in the Second, and business resumed in the First Degree. The Secretary, Bro. J. A. Woolven, read a communication from the R.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master on the retirement of Sir Henry Edwards, Prov. Grand Master. The W.M. moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow and family of our esteemed Bro. Joe Wood, which was seconded by the S.W., and supported by Bro. Allen Jackson, P.M., P.P.G.D., and unanimously carried. "Hearty good wishes" having been tendered by the visitors, the lodge was closed in peace, harmony, and concord.

LIVERPOOL.—Downshire Lodge (No. 594).—The annual installation gathering of this lodge took place on Thursday, the 26th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street. With a view of enabling the brethren to picnic at Chester on the same day, the business meeting was summoned for eight o'clock, and at that early hour there was an attendance of about 50 members. Bro. J. N. Caine, the retiring W.M., presided at the opening of the lodge, and he was officially supported by Bros. W. Evans, I.P.M.; W. H. Vevers, P.M., W.M. elect; Isaac Turner, J.W.; W. Blunsum, Sec.; W. R. Roberts, S.D.; E. Dow, I.G.; J. H. Pagen, S.S.; F. R. Kerr, J.S.; J. Skeaf, P.P.G. Org., Org.; and F. Malcolm, Tyler. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. Evan Callow, W.M. 1094; A. Morrison, P.M. 1570; G. Godfrey, W.M. 673; J. Jenaway, P.M. 249; G. Gordon, P.M. 724; David Jackson, P.M. 673; J. O. Rea, W.M. 1182; J. Keet, P.M. 1356; J. B. Mackenzie, P.G.S.D., P.M., Treas. 1609; S. W. Halse, S.W. 673; J. H. Tyson, J.W. 1182; T. S. Ramsay, 1299; W. Briscoll, 1009; and W. Webster, 1713.

Bro. W. H. Vevers, who occupied the chair of W.M. in the years 1881-82, was again unanimously elected to fill the office for the ensuing 12 months, and he was duly and efficiently installed in that distinguished position by Bro. W. Evans, P.M. The following were the official appointments: Bros. J. N. Caine, I.P.M.; J. Turner, S.W.; W. Blunsum, J.W.; A. Pedersen, P.M., Treas.; W. R. Roberts, Sec.; Joseph Skeaf, Org. (re-appointed); E. A. G. Dow, S.D.; J. H. Pagen, J.D.; E. R. Latham, I.G.; W. S. Cooke, S.S.; John Reece, J.S.; John L. Houghton, P.M., D.C.; and F. Malcolm, Tyler (re-elected).

At the close of the early morning business, upwards of 100 ladies and brethren left the landing-stage, starting at 11.20, proceeded to Chester, and sat down at one o'clock to an excellent dinner provided at the Albion Hotel. The day was pleasantly spent in boating on the Dee and a visit to Eaton Hall, and after tea the party returned to the city by the 8.40 train, greatly delighted with the day's

pic-nic. During the day, Bro. J. N. Caine, I.P.M., was presented with a handsome P.M.'s jewel (manufactured by Bro. George Kenning) in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge.

LIVERPOOL.—St. John's Lodge (No. 673).—The brethren connected with this old and much-favoured lodge gathered at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Tuesday, the 1st inst., and the continued prosperity of one of the largest lodges in the province was shown by a total attendance of about 120 members and visitors.

The chair at the opening of the proceedings was occupied by Bro. George Godfrey, W.M., who was supported by Bros. C. Marsh, I.P.M.; Councillor J. Ball, P.M.; T. Roberts, P.M.; Robert Pearson, P.M.; S. W. Halse, S.W.; Dr. T. Clarke, J.W.; David Jackson, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Callow, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. Skeaf, W.M. 2042, P.P.G. Org.; H. Burrows, P.M.; H. Hocken, P.M.; Thos. Clark, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Brackenbury, P.P.G.A.D.C.; Lewis Herman, P.M.; and others, all of the lodge. Among the visitors—always numerous at No. 673—were Bros. Wm. Olver, W.M. 220; A. Woolrich, P.M. 1356; Geo. Musker, P.M. 1182; P. Ball, P.G. Tyler; John Ashley, S.W. 1356; T. Warriner, S.W. 1182; J. W. Tyson, J.W. 1182; Thos. Hatton, J.W. 2042, P.M. 203; C. Birchall, 1547; A. Bucknall, I.P.M. 667; D. Cumming, 1609; C. A. Giannacopulo, 1609; J. B. McKenzie, P.G.S.D.; J. C. Robinson, P.M. 249; D. Morris, 1570; James Keet, P.M. 1356; John O. Rea, W.M. 1182; A. D. Hesketh, P.M. 1182; E. George, W.M. 1356; J. Ashley, S.W. 1356; John King, S.W. 823; J. Jenaway, I.P.M. 249; P. Thomas, W.M. 1505; James P. Bryan, P.G.O.; Peter M'Farlane, S.W. 1145; Thomas Davies, P.G.P.; W. Blunsum, J.W. 594; W. H. Veever, P.M. 594; and others.

After the W.M. had initiated a gentleman into the Order, he proceeded in a most effective manner to instal his successor in the chair, the W.M. elect being Bro. S. W. Halse, S.W., who was presented by Bros. J. T. Callow and W. Brackenbury, after which the following officers were invested: Bros. George Godfrey, I.P.M.; Dr. T. Clarke, S.W.; C. B. Robeson, J.W. (by proxy); David Jackson, P.M.; Treas. (re-elected); Richard Owen, Sec.; W. T. May, P.M., Asst. Sec. (by proxy); J. T. Callow, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., D.C. (re-appointed); Charles Cockbain, S.D.; J. B. Parker, J.D.; J. H. Stillings, I.G.; J. Skeaf, Org. (re-appointed); O. Mallabar, S.S.; W. Ormsby, J.S.; Robert Rawlinson, A.S.; and Bro. W. H. Ball was re-elected Tyler.

On the motion of Bro. Callow, P.M., seconded by Bro. Roberts, P.M., a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Bro. G. Godfrey, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, for the very able and perfect manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony.

Dinner was served in the banqueting room by Bro. Casey, House Steward, and in the course of the evening a valuable P.M.'s jewel (supplied by Bro. Kenning) was presented to Bro. George Godfrey, I.P.M., as a mark of the esteem in which he was held by the members of St. John's Lodge. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the W.M. and others, and the pleasure of a most successful installation was greatly promoted by the musical contributions of Bros. J. P. Bryan, C. A. Giannacopulo, A. Child, T. Hatton, and J. Pugmire, the pianoforte accompaniments being played with perfect taste and effectiveness by Bro. Joseph Skeaf.

On the following day the brethren and lady friends proceeded to Northenden for their annual picnic, the party starting from the Central Station at 10.15 a.m., returning at nine p.m.

LIVERPOOL.—Derby Lodge (No. 724).—The yearly festival celebration of the members of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street. Bro. Humphreys, the W.M. elect, was presented for installation by Bro. J. W. Ballard, P.M., P.P.G.P., and Bro. J. Comin, I.P.M., and the ceremony was performed in a most impressive manner by Bro. T. Chesworth, P.M. The W.M. then invested the various officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. J. Comins, I.P.M.; D. Davies, S.W.; J. Sharples, J.W.; G. Beeken, P.M. Treas.; W. Stephenson, Sec.; J. Firmin, Org.; D. H. Ogley, S.D.; G. Grieve, J.D.; R. Owen, I.G.; W. Queale, S.S.; C. Higson, J.S.; H. Evans, A.S.; and J. W. Ballard, P.M., P.P.G.P., D.C. The following visitors were present: Bros. Jenaway, P.M. 249; H. Neale, 249; Coupland, 606; Bevan, 823; Cretney, 823; Caine, 1356; Chatham, 1356; Bosworth, 594; Fairclough, Clarke, and others.

After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where they sat down to an excellent repast, supplied by Bro. Casey, House Steward. A very enjoyable evening was spent, Bros. Neale, Bosworth, Chatham, Jenaway, and Humphreys contributing to the harmony.

DURSLEY.—St. John's Lodge (No. 761).—The annual festival of the above lodge took place on Tuesday last. Bro. H. Blandford was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being admirably performed by the I.P.M., Bro. H. J. Small, P.G.S.D., assisted by Bros. R. W. White, P.P.G.S.W.; H. J. Francillon, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. Woodward, W.M. 493; W. T. Hadley, P.M., P.G.T.; H. Friih, P.G.I.D.; F. J. Blake, P.P.G.S.D.; W. P. Want, P.P.G.J.W. The following members of the lodge were also present: Bros. C. H. Pawson, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; Jas. Whitmore, T. Hewson, and J. Wadley, P.M.'s; T. H. Wilkins, J.W.; G. Adams, Sec.; S. Bloodworth, S.D.; W. Banbury, I.G.; General Vizard, Rev. A. Bond, E. G. Morse, G. W. Cave, and R. Ely. In addition to those already named the following visiting brethren attended and signed the book, viz.: Bros. E. T. Chipp, J.W. 1005; R. J. Weston, Sec. 493; W. M. Yorke, Treas. 270; E. Gregory, 270; S. J. Newman, 702; E. Hulbert, P.M. 702, P.P.G.D.C.; O. Long, P.M. 270, P.P.G.S.B.; T. Partridge, P.M. 702, P.G.S.W.; R. N. Hooper, P.M. 1363, P.P.G.S.D.; G. C. Hewitt, P.M. 1363, P.G.S.B.; F. Millman, P.M. 855, P.G.S.B.; A. B. Harris, W.M. 855; G. H. Perrin, J.W. 855; A. Woodward, W.M. 493; S. Bland, S.W. 493; J. H. Mullins, 493; W. Renwick, S.D. 493.

The newly-installed W.M. appointed the following officers: Bros. T. Wilkins, S.W.; G. Adams, J.W.; Rev. A. Bond, Chap.; W. P. Want, Treas.; H. J. Francillon, Sec.; S. Bloodworth, S.D.; O. Ralls, J.D.; and W. Banbury, I.G. An interesting presentation was made to the Treasurer, Bro. W. Pat, P.W. by the

brethren of the lodge in the shape of a cheque for 18 guineas "as a mark of recognition of his long and faithful services to the lodge during the past 25 years," the purpose to which the money was intended to be devoted being that of endowing the Treasurer's chair, and the residue to go towards making Bro. Want a Steward to support the Prov. Grand Master, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, at the coming Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons and widows of Freemasons.

After the close of the lodge, the brethren sat down to a banquet, well-served at the Old Bell Hotel by Bro. Ayliffe, at the end of which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were cordially given and received; the speeches being interspersed with songs by the brethren.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the High School for Boys, Brook Hill-road, when a goodly assemblage of the lodge and visitors attended to do honour to the occasion. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. Edmonds, and immediately afterwards Bro. W. Rees, S.W., and W.M. elect, was presented for installation, and Bro. Edmonds installed his successor in rare style. Bro. Rees invested his officers as follows: Bros. E. Palmer, S.W.; G. W. Letton, J.W.; C. Coupland, P.M. and P.P.G.J.W. Kent, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M. and P.P.G.D. Kent, Sec.; T. R. Richardson, S.D.; C. Lawson, J.D.; W. Keeble, I.G.; A. Penfold, P.M., D.C.; F. H. Johnson, Asst. D.C.; H. Mason, P.M., W. Std.; W. G. Lloyd, Asst. W. Std.; W. B. Ledger, Org.; and W. Larder, Tyler.

The charges were delivered by the installing officer with excellent effect, and he was well applauded at its conclusion. Letters of apology were read from the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, and also from the Grand Secretary for not being able to attend, and then the W.M. in eloquent terms presented Bro. Edmonds with the jewel of his office, a very handsome one of the value of ten guineas, and Bro. Edmonds returned thanks. Bro. Coupland was appointed representative of the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee. A guinea was voted as a prize for the Boys' High School, and after it had been resolved that a letter of congratulation should be sent to Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M. Kent, on his being invested as a Grand Deacon of England, the lodge was closed in due form and the brethren sped away to Gravesend, where at the New Falcon, Bro. Hubbard's fine hostelry, a superbly appointed and admirably served banquet awaited them.

Among the brethren present, beside those above enumerated, were Bros. C. A. Ellis-Fermor, P.M.; W. Tongue, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Kent; W. T. Vincent, P.M.; H. J. Butter, P.M., P.P.G.R. Kent; T. D. Hayes, P.M.; W. B. Lloyd, P.M.; R. J. Cook, P.M.; E. Hughes, M.L.S.B., P.S.W.; A. Day, F. Hayward, C. Gordon, W. Topp, C. Ellis, Towns, W. C. Taylor, Dr. E. Bryceson, D. K. Somers, A. W. Moore, R. Turrell, A. Capon, D. Capon, W. Charlsworth, J. Randall, A. Joskey, W. Busbridge, W. Tucker, R. Ginman, Sanders, Harger, Buckley, Baker, H. Winter, Pinkney, J. Haslett, J. Hooton, W. Young, W. Lock, Ratz, H. Barrett, W. Griffiths, W. Harris, J. K. Mitchell, T. Hambrook, E. Lewis, Widgey, P. Farrier, G. Frost, and H. Malings; all of the lodge; Capt. J. Sculley, R.H.A., W.M. 706; E. Coste, P.M. and W.M. 1314, P.P.G.D.C. Kent; G. F. Newman, W.M. 77; W. Bedford, W.M. 483; J. H. Roberts, W.M. 700; R. A. Smith, W.M. 13; G. Kennedy, W.M. 1536; E. West, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.D. Herts; R. Roberts, P.M. 742, P.P.G.J.D. Berks and Bucks; J. Warren, P.M. 700; A. Knox, P.M. 1076; G. Spinks, 1536; J. Wilkins, P.M. 700; A. Burnett, S.W. 706; Dr. H. Bernays, J.W. 706; W. Akers, J.W. 13; A. Saunders, S.W. and W.M. elect 1536; W. Moulds, J.W. 1536; W. Ross, J.W. 700; G. Risch, I.G. 706; K. Uglind, D.C. 706; H. Fisher, S.D. 871; F. Oxley, 1306; H. Ough, 1150; Dr. E. B. Robinson, 1967; Capt. J. McCaffery, R.A., 1536; C. Jolly, 913, J.W. 1472 (*Freemason*), and others, to the number of 104 in all.

Grace having been sung, the first toast was that of "The Queen and the Craft," followed by "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.M. of England," and then the other usual Masonic toasts.

"The Health of Lord Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. of Kent," was received and drunk with a real Kentish "fire," nor did our esteemed Dep. Grand Master's name, when coupled with that of "The rest of the Grand Masters, Present and Past," go without full honours.

Bro. Butter, to whom the response was entrusted, said those who had to rise to that toast did so with great pleasure, and were exceedingly proud of the position they occupied; first of all, it was a proud position to be a Mason at all, but prouder still to be selected to assist in the labours and participate in the honours of Prov. Grand Lodge. It was especially gratifying to see such an assemblage as the present one, and although they were accused by some of being too fond of dining, yet it was a good old English practice, and many good things were accomplished over and celebrated by a good dinner. He congratulated them upon the new blood introduced into the lodge during the past year, and referred with satisfaction to the previous day's work at Deal, when Prov. Grand Lodge was presided over by Lord Holmesdale, and the sum of £260 was voted from the funds of Prov. Grand Lodge to the Charities of the Order. Of that sum £10 10s. was appropriated to the "Pattison" for the Boys' School Charity. He concluded an eloquent speech by heartily thanking them for their cordial reception of the toast.

The I.P.M., Bro. Edmonds, then proposed the toast of the evening, "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing eulogised the earnest and sustained work done by the W.M., not only in the minor offices, but also in the lodge of instruction to fit him for the proud position he had that day achieved, and when that time next year he left the chair he, Bro. Edmonds, felt sure they would admit that a better Master or a better Mason never presided over the Pattison Lodge. The W.M. in response said they might believe him when he said that the position of W.M. of such a lodge was one that any Mason might well feel proud to occupy, and if he had health and strength, and was supported as he felt he should be, he would do his duty, not only to their satisfaction, but to the credit of the lodge. They were not all gifted with such a flow of speech as to be able at all times fully to express their sentiments and feelings, but the few words he should say would, he trusted, convey to them his earnest thanks for their kindness and support hitherto, and also for that promised in the future. He could only again thank them, and assure them

that nothing would be wanted on his part to still further increase the prosperity and prestige of the Pattison Lodge.

Bro. Ellis-Fermor, the father of the lodge, in responding for "The Past Masters," said it seemed that it was his peculiar privilege, and perhaps his duty, to respond to that toast, one always so well received by the brethren that it was as much pleasure to answer it as to receive it. For himself, he was very happy to say, that, after three months' rather severe illness, he was able to be with them again, for at one period of that time he did not think he should be there that night. The Past Masters did their duty well, and although he had some diffidence in saying so, yet that they were distinguished Masons and good men was evidenced by the position many of them held in the P.G. Lodge of Kent. On their behalf and his own, he thanked them for the toast, and, in the words of Shakespeare, wished, "that good digestion might wait on appetite, and health on both."

"The Initiates" were then toasted, and Bros. Dr. E. Bryceson, M.A., M.B. (Camb.), Campbell Taylor, and L. Pinchbeck, who were initiated at a lodge of emergency on the previous Monday evening, severally returned thanks.

Bro. Coste responded for "The Visitors," and congratulated the lodge upon its Past Masters and initiates, and trusted that would not be the last time he should be with the brethren of the Pattison Lodge.

"The Health of Bro. Hughes, P.S.W.," was drunk with much enthusiasm, and in response that brother regretted that he could not attend their meetings oftener than he did; it was not through a want of love for Freemasonry or the lodge, but the fact was that the School Board meetings were held on Thursdays, and their deliberations were not always over in time to allow him to be present at the lodge meetings. He, however, looked forward to the time when he should be able to get to the chair of the lodge, of which he was one of the first and oldest members. He referred in glowing terms to the splendid defence of Lord Carnarvon against the Pope's accusation in his late allocution. He wished to keep apart from politics and religion that night, but as one whose whole life had been devoted to public work, he would say that Masonry tended to make a man a good citizen and a good Christian by the very force of its example, and sowed the seeds of moral teaching. At the conclusion of an eloquent reply, Bro. Hughes resumed his seat amid much applause.

"The Officers," responded to by Bro. Palmer, "The Masonic Press," by Bro. Jolly, and the Tyler's toast wound up a delightful evening's enjoyment; which was much enhanced by the fine singing of a quartette party, under the direction of Bro. Hubbard.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Victoria Lodge (No. 1013).—There are few summer installation festivals which have been so successful, so enjoyable, and so well carried out as that which took place last week in connection with the "Victoria," which possesses many Masons "good and true," and none more so or more popular than the brother who has been selected to hold the reins of government during 1884-85. The lodge was consecrated in the year 1864, has held a highly honourable position on the long roll of lodges in the province of West Lancashire during its 20 years' existence, and the brethren who from time to time have filled the highest office which the brethren have to bestow have done good service in the direction of upholding the prominent principles of the Order. The selection of Bro. Robert Johnson to the W.M.'s chair for the ensuing year gave universal satisfaction, and the popularity of the appointment to this exalted position of a brother who is deservedly and universally esteemed and respected was clearly shown by an attendance which was probably the largest ever witnessed at any annual festival celebration of a lodge which bears the Queenly name of Victoria. There were present about 100 members and visitors, the latter embracing a good representation of present and past Prov. Grand Lodge officers.

The chair was occupied by Bro. Chapman, the retiring W.M., who was supported by Bros. Lieut.-Col. A. Whitney, P.M.; T. E. Tomlinson, P.M.; T. K. Hughes, P.M., D.C.; R. Johnson, S.W., W.M. elect; S. Howard, J.W.; J. D. Cockerton, Treas. and Org.; W. H. Cooke, Sec.; T. W. Edwards, S.D.; W. F. M'Donnell, J.D.; T. Evans, I.G.; T. R. Connell, Stwd.; and P. Ball, Tyler. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; Capt. W. J. Newman, P.P.G.R.; Dr. F. J. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; Maurice Hart, P.G.D.D.C.; J. B. Mackenzie, P.G.S.D.; J. P. Bryan, P.G.O.; J. Cobham, P.M. 241, 1380, and 1609; R. Martin, P.M. and Treas. 1182; Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, P.M. 1094; J. Higson Johnston, P.M. 1350; G. Hutchin, P.M. 241; G. Morgan, P.M. 155; Councillor G. Peet, P.M. 241; D. Crichton, I.P.M. 1713; H. M. Molyneux, P.M. 823, W.M. 155; G. A. W. Philipps, P.M. 667; W. H. Tyerman, W.M. 780; A. E. Conway, P.M. 605; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M. 1350; T. Hatton, P.M. 203; J. L. Shrapnell, W.M. 1609; W. Savage, I.P.M. 1609; J. Orr Marples, I.G. 1609; John Ballard, 1609; D. Cumming, 1609; G. Williams, 1609; A. Mein, 1609; J. Lees, J.W. 667; O. J. Lebanon, 439; J. W. Galley, Sec. 823; W. Lewis, 203 and 2042; R. L. Andrew, Sec. 1289; D. Keith, I.G. 2042; W. Brogden, 2042; Major H. J. Nicholls, J.D. 2042; J. A. Muir, S.D. 2042; Roger White, S.W. 241; R. Ireland, 1 (S.C.); R. Cain, 216, and others.

Bro. Robert Johnson, the W.M. elect, was presented for the benefits of installation by Bro. Col. Whitney, P.M., and Bro. Squire Chapman, the out-going Master, and he was very effectively placed in the chair by Bro. T. K. Hughes, P.M., D.C. The installed Master's lodge was very largely and influentially attended, and the heartiest expressions of goodwill were given to the W.M. on being placed in the chair. The following officers were appointed for 1883-84: Bros. S. Chapman, I.P.M.; Samuel Howard, S.W.; Wm. H. Cooke, J.W.; Wm. Longbottom, P.G.S., Treas. (by proxy); T. W. Edwards, Sec.; Wm. M'Donnell, S.D.; Frederick Evans, J.D.; Thomas R. Connell, I.G.; Thomas K. Hughes, P.M., D.C.; J. D. Cockerton, Org.; W. H. Thornton, S.S.; William M'William, J.S.; John W. Napton, A.S.; and Peter Ball was unanimously re-elected Tyler.

At the completion of the installation ceremony, the brethren sat down to dinner in the large banqueting room, the catering of Bro. Casey, House Steward, being of a highly satisfactory nature.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M., Bro. Alpass responding for "The D.G.M. and

P.G.M., Lord Lathom, and the rest of the Masonic Rulers." In doing so he congratulated the lodge on its great prosperity, and also upon the fact that in the midst of their progress the members had been specially mindful of their Masonic Charities: He wished the W.M. the greatest success and comfort during his year of office, and hoped still further success would attend his occupancy of the chair.

Bro. T. K. Hughes gave the toast of "The W.M.," which was received with immense enthusiasm and Masonic honours.

The compliment was acknowledged by Bro. Johnson, W.M., who expressed great pleasure at seeing so many distinguished brethren present at his installation, assuring them that he would do all in his power to maintain the dignity and true prosperity of the lodge.

Other toasts followed, and in the course of the proceedings a valuable Past Master's jewel (manufactured by Bro. George Kenning), was presented to Bro. Squire Chapman, I.P.M., as a mark of the appreciation of the brethren of the Victoria Lodge. An excellent musical programme was given during the evening by Bros. Major Nicholls, J. A. Muir, W. Lewis, A. Child, D. Keith, J. P. Bryan, T. W. Edwards, Wilkinson, and J. D. Cockerton, and Bro. J. Snell gave a recitation with good effect.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS.—Townley Parker Lodge (No. 1032).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Howard Arms Hotel, Whittle-le-Springs, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., the following being present: Bros. R. Irving, I.P.M.; A. Hall, P.M.; James Lawrence, P.M. 730 and 1032; John Heald, P.M. 730 and 1032, Treas.; J. M. Kerr, P.M. P.G.S.; A. G. Leigh, S.W.; A. G. Bird, S.D.; Jos. Hopkinson, Sec.; and R. Clayton. Visitors: Bros. E. Leigh, P.M. 1476, Installing Master; J. D. Murray, P.M. 1335, as J.W.; E. Sale, P.M. 178; and others.

The lodge was opened in the usual form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Arthur George Leigh, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented, and having assented to the ancient charges, was, on the retirement of the brethren below the rank of P.M., duly installed in the chair of K.S., the ceremony throughout being efficiently performed by his brother, Bro. E. Leigh, P.M. 1476. On the re-admission of the brethren the usual salutes and Masonic greetings were given in the three degrees, and the appointment and investiture of officers then took place as follows: Bros. S. Fowler, S.W.; A. G. Bird, J.W.; J. B. Cardwell, I.P.M.; R. Irving, Treas.; T. F. Jackson, Sec.; Jos. Hopkinson, S.D.; and W. C. P. Grimshaw, J.D. James Lawrence then presented the lodge with a receipt for ten guineas, paid in the name of the W.M. of the lodge to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, at the recent Festival of which Bro. Lawrence was Steward. After "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large banquet room, where a sumptuous dinner awaited them, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1035).—Another of the numerous pleasant runs into the country which form part of the summer programmes of the majority of the Masonic lodges in this division of the county was made, on the 26th ult., by the members of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1035, as supplementary to the interesting installation proceeding which took place three weeks ago at the Skelmersdale Hall, Westminster-road. Much wisdom was shown by the Committee of Selection in choosing Chirk as the scene of the day's festivities, and as early as eight o'clock in the morning upwards of 100 ladies and brethren started from the Woodside Station, and this party was numerously supplemented at a later period of the day, the entire company then numbering about 200. The weather fortunately was of the most delightful nature, and immediately on reaching Chirk the ladies and gentlemen entered with zest into the day's enjoyment so liberally provided by the thoughtful care of the Committee charged with the arrangements.

Amongst the chiefs of the Craft present were: Bros. J. J. Smith, W.M.; Lewis Peake, I.P.M.; G. Sculthorpe, P.M.; A. Willis, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Forshaw, P.M.; J. Tunstall, S.W.; G. Mitchell, J.W.; W. Addison, Sec.; T. Burchall, S.D.; T. Macreavey, J.D.; S. E. Davies, I.G.; Morris Solomon, S.S.; E. Gregory, J.S.; and J. P. Bryan, P.G.O., D.C.

Amongst the visitors were Bros. S. E. Ibbs, P.P.G.S.B.; J. W. Ballad, P.P.G.P.; W. Wilkinson, W.M. 1086; J. Clarke, Org. 1086; W. Roberts, S.W. 1086; Isaac Evans, J.D. 1086; W. Savage, I.P.M. 1609; W. Ashley, S.W. 1356; T. Hatton, P.M. 203; J. Hilton, P.M. 203; J. B. Mackenzie, P.G.S.D., and others.

The numerous and varied objects of interest in the surrounding neighbourhood were visited in the course of the afternoon, chief amongst the sights of the district being the ancient castle, the seat of Sir Thomas Biddulph. By the kindness and courtesy of Mr. E. Griffiths, agent to the proprietor, permission was granted to the picnic party to inspect the splendid picture gallery and other parts of the castle. The charming walks and drives which abound in the immediate vicinity were greatly enjoyed, and general admiration was excited by the picturesque scenery of Chirk's surroundings.

Dinner and tea were served in the schoolroom, under the direction of Miss Hayward, proprietress of the Hand Hotel, whose catering could hardly have been excelled in quality and the satisfactory nature of the service.

A quadrille band was in attendance in the grounds of the hotel, and the younger branches of the happy family gathering enjoyed themselves in dancing during a part of the day.

The W.M. and his officers did everything in their power to make the day's "out" successful and enjoyable; and at the close of the picnic the party returned to Liverpool, a section by the 6.50, and the remainder by the 9.35 trains.

RIVERHEAD.—Amherst Lodge (No. 1223).—There was a good gathering of members on Saturday, the 5th inst., and the work incidental to the meeting was ably carried out by Bro. C. E. Birch, W.M., assisted by his principal officers. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned from the schoolroom, which at present gives shelter to the lodge, to the Amherst Arms Hotel, where refreshment was supplied in the accustomed excellent style, and the visitors present—one of whom hailed from Kurra-choe—were entertained with that hospitality for which the Amherst Lodge is renowned.

In the course of the evening, the Worshipful Master congratulated Bro. Durnell, Treas., on his appointment as Prov. Grand Supt. of Works, Kent, and expressed the hope that ere his term of office expired he might prove the fitness of the choice made by obtaining for his lodge more adequate and suitable buildings in which to work.

A hearty greeting was given to the visitors, and a very enjoyable evening was passed. Some of the London members arrived at Sevenoaks early in the forenoon, and paid a visit to Bro. Sparrowhawk, J.D., at his farm, Ide Hill. The invigorating air and freshening breezes were most grateful, and enabled them to undergo the fatigue which subsequent work put upon them.

LIVERPOOL.—Stanley Lodge (No. 1325).—The members of this lodge met on Monday, the 23rd ult., at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, where over 50 members and visitors attended to assist at the installation of W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened by Bro. George Wynn, W.M., supported by Bros. J. Holme, I.P.M.; R. B. Burgess, P.M.; J. H. Bradshaw, P.M.; and the following officers: Bros. T. P. Chapman, S.W.; John Davies, J.W.; Thos. J. Jarman, Treas.; Isaiah Leather, Sec.; M. Brown, S.D.; P. Dickinson, J.D.; Wm. White, I.G.; and W. Henry Ball, Tyler. Amongst the visitors were Bros. R. Washington, P.P.G.S.D.; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; Thomas Hatton, P.M. 203; L. Herman, P.M. 673; W. C. Erwin, P.M. 1393; John Barnes, S.W. 1576; and W. T. Oversby, S.D. 1393.

After some preliminary business, the W.M. elect, Bro. T. Chapman, was presented by Bros. R. R. Burgess and John Holme, P.M., to the Installing Master, Bro. J. H. Bradshaw, who, in a most effective and efficient manner, installed him in the chair, according to ancient custom. The newly-installed Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. George Wynn, I.P.M.; J. H. Bradshaw, P.M., D. of C.; John Davies, S.W.; W. Brown, J.W.; T. J. Jarman, Treas. (re-elected); Thomas Guile, Sec.; W. Barnes, S.D.; Wm. Ellis, J.D.; Wm. White, I.G.; J. Boyle, S.S.; Isaiah Leather, J.S.; Wm. Henry Ball, Tyler (re-elected). The newly-installed Master then initiated a gentleman into the mysteries of the Craft, the ceremony being performed in a highly satisfactory manner.

At the banquet which followed, Bro. George Wynn was presented with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the services rendered by him to the lodge. Bro. J. Holme, P.M., was also presented by the members of the lodge with a Past Master's apron. A very enjoyable selection of glees and songs was given by Bro. T. Hatton, P.M., and the members of the Hamer Glee Union (Bro. Erwin, P.M., &c.), under the direction of Bro. G. S. Shenton, the Organist of the lodge. Bro. Casey, the efficient House Steward, catered very satisfactorily.

On the following day the members held their first annual picnic at Eccleston Ferry, near Chester. The party left Lime-street by the 10.40 a.m. train, arriving at Chester at noon, where waggonettes were in readiness to convey them to Eaton Hall; permission having been obtained, the party viewed the magnificent conservatories and gardens. After their visit to the gardens the party returned to Eccleston Ferry, where an excellent dinner and tea were provided for them by the worthy host, Mr. Enoch Partington. The remainder of the day was spent in dancing, boating, &c. The party returned home by special train from Chester at nine p.m., after spending a most enjoyable day.

PARKGATE.—Dee Lodge (No. 1576).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday week at the Union Hotel, when there was a large attendance of members and visitors. Amongst those present were Bros. T. Munnerley, W.M.; John Barnes, the W.M. elect; T. Chesworth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; H. Chesworth, P.M.; W. Jones, P.M.; the Hon. H. Holbrook, P.P. Officer of Canada; T. H. Tebbs, S.W.; Ramsden, W.M. 425; H. Ellis, I.P.M. 721; C. S. Dean, I.P.M. 1289; Rev. Bruster, 1289; J. Taylor, P.M. 1276; Thorburn, P.M. 477; J. Jones, W.M. 605; J. R. Bottomley, P.M. 1675; C. Birchall, S.D. 1035; M. E. Edwards Sec. of Royal Victoria; W. M. Richmond, 721; James Clarke, J.W. 605; and others.

The lodge room having been elaborately decorated since the last installation, and a massive Master's chair and pedestals having been kindly presented by Bro. Richardson, the room had a very handsome appearance. The W.M. elect, Bro. John Barnes, was presented by Bro. H. Chesworth, P.M., and the Hon. H. Holbrook to the father of the lodge and Treas., Bro. T. Chesworth, P.P.G.D.C., who performed the installation ceremony in his usual efficient manner. The W.M. afterwards proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. Munnerley, I.P.M.; W. Taylor, S.W.; J. Morris, J.W.; G. M. Lloyd, Sec.; T. Chesworth, P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; G. F. Bird, S.D.; G. B. Richmond, J.D.; J. Leary, I.G.; J. Clarke, S.S.; W. F. Richardson, J.S.; W. M. Phipps, Org.; J. Dutton, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., M.C. Bro. Craft was unanimously re-elected Tyler.

The proceedings of the lodge having concluded the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was served by Bro. Acton in his usual satisfactory manner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to, and the W.M. presented the I.P.M., Bro. T. Munnerley, with a P.M.'s jewel which had been subscribed for by the lodge, and for which he suitably thanked the brethren.

Royal Arch.

TWICKENHAM.—Sir Francis Burdett Chapter (No. 1503).—A meeting of this chapter was held on the 27th ult., at the Albany Hotel. Amongst those present were: Comps. R. H. Thrupp, P.G.H. Middx.; P.Z., M.E.Z., in the chair, in the absence of Ex. Comp. W. H. Saunders, T. C. Walls, P.P.G.D.C. Middx., H.; W. Taylor, P.G.J. Middx., P.Z., acting J., Treas.; T. R. Richnell, S.E.; Rev. S. Saunders, S.N.; Dunkley, Org.; and others. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken upon behalf of Bro. Rivett, 1503, for exaltation, and it proved to be unanimous. Letters of apology for numerous absent companions having been read, a vote of condolence was passed to Ex.-Comp. W. H. Saunders, M.E.Z., upon the great loss he has sustained by the death of his wife. The chapter was then closed and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

Mark Masonry.

BATH.—Royal Cumberland Lodge (T.I.).—A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, the 26th ult., under the ruling of Bro. Lawson Thors, assisted by Bros. John Dutton, Treas. and P.M., as I.P.M.; Dr. Hopkins, P.G.W., P.M. 26 and 71, Chap.; E. J. B. Mercer, P.G.S. Wks., Sec., as M.O.; J. J. Dutton, P.M., as S.W.; F. W. Dingle, J.W.; W. H. Young, S.D., as S.O.; C. E. Davis, as J.O.; Knight, as I.G.; and Bigwood, Tyler. The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Letters of apology for absence from eight officers and brethren were announced by the W.M. No special business offering the bye-laws were read. On the proposition of the Chaplain, seconded by the I.P.M., a resolution was passed congratulating Bro. C. W. Radway, P.M., P.G.J.W., on his appointment to the office of G.J.D. in the Grand Mark Lodge, a well-merited honour conferred on him, and also a compliment to this lodge. The Secretary was directed to communicate this to him, and also to write to Bro. P. Braham, P.M. and P.P.G.S.W., in kindly and fraternal terms, offering him the congratulations and best wishes of the brethren on his marriage, which having taken place on the previous day caused his unusual absence from the meeting. The writer of this report did not see the letter of apology for absence, which might have been appropriately expressed in the scriptural words: "I have married a wife and therefore cannot come." By a vote of the lodge the Treasurer was directed to send one guinea as a contribution to the fund for the widow of the late Bro. Dewar, Asst. Grand Secretary. The lodge was closed in an hour from the time of assembling.

CONSECRATION OF THE APOLLO LODGE, No. 2042.

A lodge specially organised for the numerous musical brethren resident in the city of Liverpool has been the "talk of the town" for a considerable period; but only very recently has the scheme come to full fruition, culminating in the consecration of the Apollo Lodge, No. 2042, on Monday, the 30th ult. It may be said that, with the exception of its charity, there is hardly any feature of Freemasonry in the Western Division of the Province of Lancashire which is more remarkable than the progress which marks the musical services in the various lodges; and it was therefore considered proper to take steps towards the establishment of a lodge which would largely embrace the musical talent which has thus done so much to improve and advance the services and interest of Masonry throughout the province. Several well-known professors and adherents of the musical art in Liverpool were largely instrumental in carrying out the necessary preliminaries, with the satisfactory result that the M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, granted a charter for the consecration of the Apollo Lodge, numbered 2042 on the registry of the Grand Lodge of England. The roll of the extensive Province of West Lancashire, over which the Earl of Lathom, Deputy G.M., Prov. G.M., rules with so much success, is increased to 32 lodges by the most recent accession, more than one-third of the number meeting in Liverpool.

It may be interesting to note that no consecration has taken place in West Lancashire since 1879, when the Worsley Lodge, No. 1814, was added to the number, and that in Liverpool the last consecration was that of the Antient Briton, No. 1675, in 1877, preceded by the Marlborough, No. 1620, in 1876, and the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, in the same year; the latter has had one of the most prosperous histories in local Masonic records, being instituted, like the Apollo Lodge, for the accommodation of professional brethren, extending to musicians, dramatic artistes, and literary brethren.

The new lodge starts under the most promising auspices, and there are several brethren holding offices in the "Apollo" who have already won their Masonic spurs in other lodges. The consecration, which took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, was looked forward to with much interest, and there was accordingly a large and thoroughly representative attendance of Prov. Grand Officers, Masters, Past Masters, from other lodges in the province and throughout the United Kingdom. The proceedings were fixed to commence at two o'clock, and about that hour there was a total attendance of about 100 brethren, who, after assembling in the large lodge room, received the representatives of the Prov. Grand Lodge in due form. These included Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec.; Dr. Francis J. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D., P.M. 786; Joseph Bell, P.P.G.J.D., P.M. 1609; Richard Brown, P.P.G. Treas.; Geo. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 241, 1380; Thomas Davies, P.G.P., P.M. 1182; James P. Bryan, Prov. G.O.; J. B. MacKenzie, Prov. G.S.D.; Thomas Evans, P.P.G.S.D.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; Richard Washington, P.P.G.S.D.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, P.P.G. Chap.; R. Foote, P.G.S.; John Pemberton, P.P.G.S. of W.; Maurice Hart, P.G.D., D.C.; and Councillor E. Paull, P.G.S. The following brethren, chiefly identified with the formation of the Apollo Lodge, were also present: Bros. J. Skeaf, W.M. designate; Sergeant, P.M.; T. Hatton, P.M.; H. H. Smith, P.M.; Joseph Queen, James A. Muir, Major H. J. Nicholls, D. Keith, W. Lewis, W. Brogden, Colonel W. Townshend, John Bain, W. H. Quayle, T. Cox, R. Martin, P.M., E. Graham, J. Busfield, field, J. H. Kelly, and J. Irving. The general attendance included Bros. P. Thomas, P.M. 1505; G. Hutchin, P.M. 241; W. Parry, J.W. 1505; A. Benedict, 241; Walter Burnett, 1393; J. Beesley, I.P.M. 823; J. N. Cain, I.P.M. 594; P. B. Deuchar, P.M. 786; W. H. Smith, I.P.M. 1393; F. A. Rainbow, J.D. 1393; R. Bethel, J.D. 1094; R. A. Davies, W.M. 1380; Edward Ford, P.M., Treas. 1380; J. Thompson, 203; Thomas Cretney, 823; J. M. Smythe, W.M. 98; Geo. Godfrey, W.M. 673; John Williams, P.M. 1182; A. Child, 1505; W. Ireland, J.S. 786; Robert Harley, W.M. 1473; W. Glassey, 1547; Major Leslie, 1205; D. Cumming, 1609; Dr. A. Samuels, P.M. 1350; H. Burrows, P.M. 673; D. J. Davies, 1675; Thomas Roberts, P.M. 673; Richard K. Martin, P.M. 1094; James Bowyer, 667; David Williams, 1675; J. W. Edington, 1356; J. Wannop, 1547; W. Foulkes, Sec. 1505; and others.

After the lodge had been opened in due form, Bro. H. S. Alpass, Past Grand St. B., P.G. Sec., who occupied the position of Acting Provincial Grand Master, in the absence

of Bro. the Earl of Lathom, who was detained in London on official duty, proceeded with the consecration ceremony, which is of the most impressive nature. He was assisted in the ceremony by Bros. Thomas Armstrong, P.P.G. Treas., acting P.G.S.W.; John Houlding, P.P.G.R., acting P.G.J.W.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., acting P.G. Sec.; Dr. F. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D., acting P.G.S.D.; J. Bell, P.P.G.J.D., acting P.G.J.D.; T. Davis, P.G.P.; and P. Ball, P.G. Tyler.

The ACTING PROV. GRAND MASTER first addressed the assembled brethren, explaining the object for which they had met, and the duties of young lodges to the mother province. He pointed out that it would be the duty of the Apollo Lodge to emulate what had been done by the older lodges in regard to works of benevolence, and also in maintaining the credit and honour of their ancient Craft. The Order, he said, was at present being assailed by many persons from outside. The very fact of their being a secret society was almost alone sufficient to invite unfavourable criticisms, and therefore it was all the more necessary they should be careful in their conduct as Masons, so that the evil-disposed might have no reason to carp at their institution or find fault with their doings as members of it. If they, as Masons, only acted up to the principles inculcated in the "ancient charge," no one would find fault with them, and they would, without question, be a credit to their Order, and be able to show to the world that Freemasonry was what it professed to be—brotherly love, relief, and truth. Whilst they could not disclose to the outside public anything regarding their ritual inside their lodges, they would be able to ask the world to judge of their actions and say whether they deserved all the hard things that had been said about them in recent times.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, assistance in the imposing ritual being given by Bros. R. Wylie, the Rev. H. G. Vernon, Armstrong, and Houlding.

The musical portion of the arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Joseph Queen, each piece appropriate to the service being rendered with telling effect by a strong body of vocalists. As a compliment to the W.M. designate, Bro. Skaef's musical setting was selected, and rendered by the following brethren: Bros. Child, Davies, Haswell, Bryan, Busfield, W. Lewis, Quayle, D. Williams, Nicholls, Muir, Keith, Hobart, Rowlands, J. T. Jones, W. Burnett, A. Benedict, and E. F. Lloyd.

At the conclusion of the consecration ceremony, Bro. Joseph Skaef, P.P.G.O., presented by Bros. Dr. Bailey and R. Washington, P.P.G.S.D.'s, was installed the first W.M. of the Apollo Lodge by Bro. H. S. Alpass, acting P.G.M., the subsequent sections belonging to the ceremony, including the addresses to the officers, being well worked by Bro. R. Foote, P.G.S. The first officials of No. 2042 appointed and invested were Bros. R. Foote, P.G.S., P.M.; Thos. W. Sergeant, S.W.; Thos. Hatton, J.W.; H. H. Smith, Treas.; Joseph Queen, Sec.; James A. Muir, S.D.; Henry J. Nicholls, J.D.; D. Keith, I.G.; W. Lewis, S.S.; Wm. Brogden, J.S.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, Chap.; Col. Wm. Townshend, S.W. 786, D.C.; and Bro. Watson was unanimously elected Tyler of the lodge.

Before the business concluded, propositions were made with respect to several new members for initiation, and about 40 joining brethren from other lodges in Liverpool, Bootle, Belfast, &c.

Adjourning to the banqueting room, about 100 brethren sat down to a good dinner, served by Bro. Casey, House Steward, the chair being occupied by Bro. J. Skaef, W.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with much enthusiasm.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Health of the Right Hon the Earl of Carnarvon," said: The next toast I have before me is one of great importance. As a matter of course we go through our toast list, and this one seems almost from its frequency to lose much of that consideration which it demands. The utility of toasts like this cannot be too highly appreciated, for it is to the heads of our Order that we look for that guidance which shall place us in a proper position not only with ourselves, but also the world at large. It is because "the powers that be" in the Masonic Order are so irreproachable, as well as the glorious and universal principles we profess, that we are able to treat those ignorant and libellous statements which have of late been so freely directed against our institution with indifference and scorn, for every outward and visible evidence gives the lie direct to such fulminations, whether uttered in the so-called name of religion or political strategy. Brethren, you are aware we have a Past Grand Officer present, Bro. H. S. Alpass, whose familiar name will be received by all with enthusiasm.

In responding to the toast, Bro. H. S. ALPASS said his lordship was peculiarly well adapted at the present crisis in the history of Freemasonry to preside over the Grand Lodge in the absence of the Prince of Wales. The words uttered by his lordship were not the words of passion or resentment. He showed an anxious desire to answer the charges that had been brought against their Order—(hear, hear)—but at the same time, in replying to those charges, his aim was not to be betrayed into anything like invective. (Hear, hear.) In the present crisis they ought to emulate their Pro Grand Master. The position of Freemasonry in this country and in all free countries was so strong that they could afford to set at defiance the groundless charges that were brought against their Order. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, it did not quite do to let those charges pass unnoticed; but, on the other hand, they should follow the example of Lord Carnarvon, and not allow the persons who brought those charges against them to fancy that their allegations were of the slightest importance to them. (Hear, hear.)

In giving the toast of "Success to the Apollo Lodge," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said: Brethren, to-day has witnessed the consecration of another lodge, and, while we may congratulate ourselves that the M.W.G.M. has entrusted to our keeping a new warrant, still that is not the only benefit to be obtained either by the Craft or ourselves. The great object for which new agencies are required is the use or necessity for their existence. In this respect, I think, we, as members of Apollo Lodge, may well claim to occupy a position exceptional and important. Some 17 years ago, when first I had the honour to fill the office of Prov. Grand Organist, musical matters were at a very low ebb—perhaps about six or seven brethren was about the extent of talent to be drawn upon in the event of anything special being required, and in many cases two or three singers were only available to do duty for the four, myself putting a note in now and then; and here let me mention two of those present—Bros. Haswell and Armstrong—who were always to

be depended upon if there was any possibility of their getting from business, Bro. Armstrong also, as you are aware, occupying a prominent position in Grand Lodge. But time rolled on, and musical matters began to look up. A slight attempt was made to start an Apollo Lodge; but there did not exist that energy which would warrant us proceeding further in the matter; but the still further increase has been so large that it only required the requisite perseverance and determination which has brought matters to the present successful issue. Many thought the Dramatic Lodge would have answered the object for which we claim a distinctive place; but the hour of meeting proved a fatal objection, and here I may say the members of the Apollo desire, in the fullest and most complete manner, to tender to the officers of 1609 their most sincere and cordial thanks for the recommendation of our petition to G. Lodge, for, as you are aware, it is necessary such petition should be supported by a lodge, and it came with singular appropriateness from them. In proposing success to the Apollo Lodge I must not omit to mention that the one element of success is earnestness. Let us all be animated with this spirit of earnestness, such as that displayed by the worthy musical brother whose name I am about to couple with this toast. I allude to Bro. Major H. J. Nicholls, whose incessant efforts during the formation of the lodge cannot be too highly appreciated. Let us hope his successor, our present Secretary, will be animated with a similar zeal and that all the officers will emulate each other in fully developing the resources of the lodge, for whose establishment he has laboured so assiduously.

Bro. Major NICHOLLS replied. A number of valuable contributions were made to the "Apollo" by the brethren identified with its foundation, including the officers' clothing and regalia, the lodge jewels, silver almsdish, ebony and silver almsbox, &c. Bro. Major Nicholls' gift was a set of silver lodge jewels and wands, and Bro. Martin gave a highly-artistic almsbox in ebony and silver. The lodge will meet on the first Wednesday of each month, and the musical arrangements of the ceremonies will be under the skilled direction of Bro. J. Queen, formerly conductor of the Liverpool Vocalists' Union.

THE PAPAL AND PRIESTLY FULMINATIONS.

With respect to the recent unfounded attacks by his Eminence Cardinal McCabe, the *Liverpool Mercury* thus speaks: "Cardinal McCabe, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, has fulminated against Freemasonry in a most extraordinary style, the occasion being the nomination of Mr. James Winstanley—who happens to be a Freemason—for the Lord Mayor's chair in the Town Council of Dublin. The quarrel between the Pope and the brethren of the mystic tie is, of course, a very old one, but the Cardinal has revived it on his side with much more than the ancient bitterness. He can only see in the Masonic Society a confederation which has for its object 'the destruction of religion and the overthrow of every civil government.' He points to France, Belgium, and Italy as his illustrations abroad, while he maintains that the succession of revolutions which have shaken society for the last 100 years can be easily traced to the influences surrounding Masonry, which he condemns in the plainest terms as simply 'an irreligious association.' Language like this may well fill with astonishment the members of the different Masonic lodges throughout the United Kingdom, who in one single breath are pronounced by Cardinal McCabe to be infidels and conspirators. We fear the knowledge of history possessed by his Eminence must be very limited. Freemasonry in its modern form was both born and developed in this country. Yet our 'civil government' has not been destroyed, and 'religion' has not quite died out of the land. Whatever 'revolutions' may have shaken society for the last 100 years in this country have all been in the direction of the welfare of the people—Catholic emancipation, for example—and certainly the plots of Freemasons have had nothing to do in the way of bringing them about. Even such outbreaks as the Irish rising of 1798 and the Fenian conspiracy of 1867 were no more the contrivance of Freemasonry than they were of Cardinal McCabe. There have been such bodies in Ireland as 'The Republican Brotherhood' and 'The Invincibles,' and both have been most anxious to accomplish the overthrow of 'civil government' in Ireland, but by far the vast majority of their members are not Freemasons. Mr. Winstanley happens to be a supporter of Mr. Parnell, but the honourable member himself, we believe, is not a Freemason. The fact is that the Cardinal is wrong at every point. It is possible enough that in some of the continental countries referred to by his Eminence the principles of Freemasonry may have sometimes been perverted for political purposes; but he might find it a profitable historical inquiry to try to ascertain if Roman Catholicism has not often had quite as much to do with the matter as Masonic guilds, whose very 'raison d'être' was the recognition of the bonds and obligations of our common humanity. We do not think we shall err far when we say that the Cardinal sees very clearly that many members of his own flock in Ireland, and even some of his clergy, are beginning to think for themselves, and that their ecclesiastical superior does not altogether like it."

In the same journal of last Monday appears the following excellent letter, and, as it emanates from a brother who has considerable influence in the province of West Lancashire, it should have all the greater weight: "I entirely agree with the admirable remarks made by Bro. H. Alpass, Past Grand Std. Br. of England, at Southport this week, and also with the tone and terms of your excellent and well-timed leader of yesterday morning, with respect to the most recent attack on the Order of Freemasonry by an ecclesiastical who has gone out of his way to denounce a body of men of whom there are none more loyal in acknowledging her Majesty's rule. It seems to me that the time has now arrived when, as the voice of the Fraternity in this country and throughout the Queen's dominions, the Grand Lodge of England should make an unmistakable protest against denunciations which are both unjust and unfounded. It is quite true, as Bro. Alpass said, that frequent repetitions of these reckless assertions will have a tendency to lead some who are now doubters to believe that there is an element of truth in the accusations, and that Freemasons must, in some measure at least, be identified with 'infidelity,' 'sedition,' and

kindred sentiments, when his Eminence Cardinal McCabe chooses to designate it 'a confederation which is organised for the unholy purposes.' In answer to his Eminence, I have to say that Freemasonry in this country has one of the noblest of purposes in its institution—the promotion of the purest Charity, as well as unswerving devotion and loyalty to the Throne. The eminent Irish ecclesiastical who sits in judgment upon us and condemns us so thoroughly may be surprised to hear that there are many children now, even in this province of West Lancashire, who, belonging to the Catholic Church, are being educated at schools identified with the faith of their fathers at the expense of this 'unholyest of confederations.'"

"Let us not be accused of bigotry and intolerance," says Cardinal McCabe. I do not accuse him of either; but this practical issue I must certainly put, viz., that his Eminence must be either very foolish or deliberately unjust, to put it in mild terms. If he knows nothing about Freemasonry, then he is exceedingly foolish to condemn the Order in the manner he has thought proper to do; and if he does know in any measure the instincts and aspirations of the Order, then he is still more to blame for uttering that which he must know has not the shadow of a foundation on which to rest.

"The periodical fulminations of the Head of the Roman Catholic Church from time to time, it may be said, are doubtless founded on information received of the operations of some so-called Masonic societies as they exist on the continent, with which English Freemasonry has not the slightest sympathy, and certainly no dealings; but Cardinal McCabe, with means of observation which are not possessed by the Pope, must surely go with eyes blindfolded, by the 'bigotry and intolerance' which he disclaims, if he does not see that Freemasonry here, in its teachings, requirements, and objects, is as far removed from the revolutionary continental associations as pure truth is from the foulest error. Whether it be the feared loss of ecclesiastical supremacy, personal antipathy to the particular member of the Order upon which he poured the vials of his wrath, or a deliberate attempt to damage a Brotherhood which is to-day returning 'good' in the shape of charity to Catholic children for the 'evil' of his unwarranted aspersions, I leave the world to judge; but, as a Freemason of many years' experience, I must strongly insist upon some steps being taken, both in Grand Lodge and throughout the various provinces, to counteract the effects of a priestly deliverance which attempts to bring into disrepute the conduct of thousands whose aims and object are to preserve and promote the peace which Cardinal McCabe rudely disturbs. Let me say, ere I close, that I have had a large acquaintance with my brethren of the Emerald Isle, and all that I have claimed on behalf of the Fraternity on this side of the Channel can justly be accorded to my fellow countrymen and brethren in Ireland. Their institutions show their charity, and their actions their loyalty, notwithstanding all that the Cardinal-Archbishop of Dublin may say to the contrary. It would be well for 'Poor Ould Ireland' if the Masonic spirit of its people were more largely cultivated, and received more kindly encouragement than it does at the hands of its most prominent leader in the pure religion of 'Peace and goodwill among men.' The leading characteristic of Freemasonry is contentment to do its charitable work and inculcate its exalted moral teachings without ostentation; but when so cruelly attacked as it has been within the last few days, vindication and justification of our teachings and strong repudiation of false representation should be at-once carried out by our Masonic leaders—pre-eminent among whom stand out his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Carnarvon, the Earl of Lathom, Colonel Stanley, and others high in the councils of the nation, none of whom, I fancy, are open to the charge of being banded together for the promotion of infidelity, sedition, and revolution. "THOMAS M'CRACKEN. "Liverpool, June 23th, 1884."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL.

In our report of the Festival of the Boys' School the following brethren should have been described as Vice-Presidents of the Institution, viz.:

Bro.	Lodge No.
Scurrah, W. A.	1744
Laurence, James (W. Lanc.)	"
Staley, A. E.	185
Boulton, J.	1056

The following brethren acted as Special Stewards on the occasion:

SPECIAL STEWARDS.

Bro. Mather, J. L., V.-Pres. of Institution	Unattached.
Berridge, Robert	
Cooper, George, V.-Pat. of Institution	Lodge 59
Matier, C. F., V.-Pres. of "	
Torkington, A., V.-Pat. of "	105
Tyler, F. J.	205
Belton, Charles, V.-Pres. of Institution	507
Hogard, C. F., V.-Pres.	860
Joyce, H. E.	901
Jenkins, H.	1900
Driver, Charles H.	1385
Festa, G. P., V.-Pat. of Institution	1538
Brittain, J.	1624
Ferguson, Alexander	1964
Taylor, Charles	Prov. of Essex.
Miller, T. Hastings, V.-Pres. of Institution	Prov. of Hants, &c.
Clowes, R., V.-Pres. of Inst.	Prov. of Surrey.
Eve, Richd., V.-Pat. of Inst.	"
Hacker, H. V.-Pres. of Inst.	"
Romieu, G. F.	"
Broadley, A. M., No. 1777, Ancient Carthage Lodge, Tunis, V.-Pres. of Inst.	"
Terry, J.	Lodge 228
Boulton, J.	" 1056
Verry, G. Ward	" 1625
Clever, Jos.	Unattached
Keeble, F. T. C.	Lodge 1426
Scurrah, W. A.	" 1744
Maidwell, T. J.	Prov. of Middx.
Conber, L. P.	Lodge 1365
Bridges, N.	" 1669

THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

Of the Institution met on Saturday at the Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Edgar Bowyer presided. The minutes of the

meeting of the 7th June were read and confirmed, and the other minutes were also read. Sixteen petitions to place candidates on the list for the October election were read and examined. One was accepted conditionally and two for admission by purchase. One petition was rejected as being ineligible. Outfits of £5 each were granted to three ex-pupils of the Institution. The total number of candidates for the election in October was declared to be 58, and this number was recommended to the Quarterly Court. The Secretary, Bro. Binckes, reported the completion of the purchase of 2, 3, and 4, Linden-villas, Wood Green, and notices of motion for the next Quarterly Court were then given.

It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that at the Quarterly Court, next Monday, the business to be transacted will be to approve of a list of 58 candidates for the October election, from which from 27 boys will have to be chosen for admission, and to consider motions of Bro. Controller Bake for receiving voting papers which have been signed by subscribers who may have died after signing, but before the day of election. There are also some other motions to be considered.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

A general meeting of the Court of Governors of this institution was held on Friday evening, the 4th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G.R., one of the Vice-Presidents, occupying the chair. After the minutes of the Committee had been read, it was unanimously resolved to elect 19 children who had been recommended for the benefits of the Charity. It was further agreed to, without discussion, that four boys included amongst these candidates should be placed on the combined education, clothing, and maintenance fund, two of whom will be received, by purchase, into the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, London. A cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. R. Martin, one of the Honorary Secretaries of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, for the great zeal and self-denying efforts he had displayed in connection with the arrangements for placing the boys in the London Institution. A vote of thanks to the chairman-brought the proceedings to a close.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution met on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall. The minutes of the 11th June were verified. The death of one annuitant was reported, and the Warden's report for the last month was read.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Committee of the Boys' School for granting permission to the band of the Boys' School to attend at the Institution at Croydon on the occasion of the Stewards' visit. The report of the Finance Committee was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The Chairman was authorised to sign cheques. Two petitions of widows were read; one was received and the other ordered to stand over.

SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Gibraltar has just been constituted into a province, and the R.W. Bro. Thomas John Haynes, P.M., P.Z., P.E.P., 30°, was duly installed as the first Provincial Grand Master at the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Friday, the 4th inst., under commission from the Grand Master, the Earl of Mar and Kellie, to Bro. Sheriff Thoms, Provincial Grand Master of Caithness, Orkney, and Zetland. There were present Bros. James Crichton, Master of No. 1, Acting Senior Grand Warden; Allan Mackenzie, Master No. 2, Acting Junior G.Warden; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary; David Kinnear, Grand Cashier; Rev. C. J. Ridgeway and Rev. T. N. Wannop, Grand Chaplains; James Turner and Dr. George Dickson, President and Vice-President of Grand Stewards respectively; Alexander Hay, Proxy Provincial-Grand Master of Jamaica; Cresswell D. Haynes; Albert Apthorpe, Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies; Dr. Cranston, and others.

Bro. Letchworth, G.D., was presented at the last levée on Tuesday, by Bro. Sir John Monckton.

Bro. R. D. Albertson had a matinee on the 28th ult., which proved a great success. Notwithstanding the oppressive weather for theatre going, the popular and genial acting manager of the Comedy Theatre was well supported by his friends, and all the seats were paid for and the house was well filled.

Recently, by invitation, a number of ladies and gentlemen met at a house on the Adelphi to witness the debut of a young lady as a thought-reader. Mr. Thomas Swinburne was voted chairman for the occasion. Amongst those present were Mr. T. H. Bolton, Mr. Fred. Maccabe ("Begone Dull Care"), Miss Everest, the soprano; Miss Dora Doone, Mr. Dauphie, Mr. Thos. Mowbray, Mr. B. Chatterton, Mr. Melton Prior, Miss Jean Rivers (a well-known provincial actress), and Bro. Lieut. Henry Wright. The first medium chosen was Bro. Wright. On entering the room blindfolded, Mdlle. Estelle Romer took the medium's hand, and at once went to the table, took up a bell, and carried it to the mantel-piece, which was the subject which had been fixed upon. The next trial was to find three coins, and deliver them to their proper owners, which she did under Bro. Chatterton as the medium. Bro. Bolton next took the young lady by the hand, and wrote down what he wished her to do; but would not let any one know it. Here she failed; the paper was then opened, and it was found that she was to have found Lieut. Wright's cap, walked across the room, and placed it on her head. Miss Jean Rivers then acted as the medium, and having chosen the same experiment, Mdlle. Estelle readily did it, amidst cheers, which clearly shows that the medium must have a strong will. Mr. Fred. Maccabe tried three experiments, in all of which Mdlle. Romer was successful. It is expected that she will visit the principal watering-places during the coming season, after having given a public séance in London.

THE COLLEGIA ROMANA.

As a good deal is said day by day about the "Roman Collegia," and references are often made to them on no authority at all, it seems advisable to premise that a good deal we hear about them rests solely on the commentaries and imaginations of later writers. Classical writers say little about them, and we practically only know that the Colleges existed; but of their formation, habits, and rules we hear distinctly but very little indeed in early times. Much has been euduced, no doubt not improperly, from "inscriptions," as preserved for us by Orelli, Gruter, Spon, and others; but the inscriptions are often imperfect, very terse, and much that Massmann, for instance, has laid down is clearly, as far as we can see, obtained, to some extent at any rate, from his own "inner consciousness."

As an exemplification of this we would remark that the constant references to the XII Tables are unsound and deceiving. The XII Tables themselves are notoriously in a fragmentary condition, and too often present nothing but a corrupt text or the glosses of later writers. Many attempts in past times have been made to edit them, but fragments only they still remain. The only allusion extant in the XII Tables to the Collegia, (though others probably existed if we had all the Tables correct and perfect), is to be found in No. VIII, where the "Collegium Arvorum" or "Sodales Arvales" are permitted to make private laws for themselves if they do not conflict with the public laws.

"Sodales legem quam
Volent, dum ne quid
Ex publico corrumpant
Sibi ferunto."

The gloss on this, or the marginal note of the Commentator in a later "codex," states that all Sodales or Collegiati, of which there were certain bodies or corporations, could do the same. But what these bodies were, and which were legal or illegal, "licita," "illicita," is our difficulty to-day. In the Imperial times it would almost seem as if either a "Senatus Consultum" or a Decree of the Emperor was necessary to make a college lawful, and in Trajan's time the number was limited, and certain bodies were forbidden. Heineccius mentions certain decrees of the Senate, which seem to make a distinction between legal and illegal bodies and which gave to the lawful bodies certain privileges of self-government and self-legislation. But as constant references are seen in essays and books of reference to the Colleges in the Laws of the XII Tables, we have thought it right to point out that such references cannot now be substantiated as regards the XII Tables themselves. There is another law in the IXth Table against nightly meetings, "cotibus nocturnis," and which no doubt accounts for some of the hostility to and persecution of the early Christians and the Jews at Rome and in the Roman provinces. Hence our knowledge of the Roman Collegia rests upon Inscriptions, Commentators, Imperial Edicts, and the like, and what their exact position in the State or internal economy before Augustus must remain matter of doubt.

We seem to gather this, that nearly all trades and professions had a "Collegium," some more important than others, that they had powers of self-government and perpetuation, in fact were "Corporations" if legal bodies, and of their officers and even meetings, &c., we gather many evidences in the "Inscriptions." The Masons seem for some reason to have taken the general name of "Collegium Fabrorum," as has been often alleged, as in a law concerning the "Præfectus Fabrorum" attached to the army camps he is clearly the head of the "artifices and opifices," artificers and workmen who had to do the Mason work. The carpenters and smiths are separately mentioned. There are we believe one or two inscriptions of the "Fabrorum Cementariorum," but such are few and far between. We call attention to the "Collegia," because a portion of the Roman Catholic condemnation of Freemasons rests upon the Pontifical assertion of Benedict XIV., that the Freemasons are the successors or imitators of the "Roman Collegia," and therefore illegal by the old Imperial Laws. There is no doubt a good deal of haze and doubt upon the whole question, but we think Mr. Hope was right when he made the early building Guilds emerge from Lombardy after the fall of the Roman Empire, penetrate Germany, Gaul, England, and Byzantium, and, no longer heathen but Christian, preserve an outer organization, and an inner bond of secret union, customs, and teaching.

A meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Middlesex and Surrey was held at the Masonic Hall, 8A, Red Lion-square, yesterday (Thursday). A banquet afterwards took place at the Holborn Restaurant. A report will appear next week.

Sir Knt. Dr. George Mickley was installed Eminent Commander of the Stuart Encampment, at Watford, Herts, on the 7th inst., by Sir Knt. Capt. A. Nicols, P.E.P. of the Kemeys Tynte Preceptory, in the presence of a numerous assembly of members and guests.

The following dinners, &c., have been held at the Freemasons' Tavern during the present week:—Monday, 7th—Regularity Chapter. Wednesday, 9th—Installation Banquet of the United Lodge. Friday, 11th—Dinner of the Sette of Odd Volumes.

The Æolus Waterspray and General Ventilating Company have received instructions from Messrs. Arding, Bond and Buzzard, to apply their system of ventilation to the composing rooms, the largest in London, of the *Daily Telegraph*, and from Mr. Chatfield Clarke, to the new offices, foundry, and composing room of the *Daily News*.

A delicious cooling drink is supplied in *Rose's Lime Juice Cordial*, with water or blended with spirits. It is highly medicinal, assisting digestion. Recommended by the *Lancet*. It is entirely free of alcohol. Purchasers should order *Rose's Cordial*. Wholesale Stores, 11, Curtain-road, London, and Leith, N.B.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Teachings of Experience.—The united testimony of thousands, extending over more than 40 years, most strongly recommends these Pills as the best purifiers, the mildest aperients, and the surest restoratives. They never prove delusive, or give merely temporary relief, but attack all ailments of the stomach, lungs, heart, head, and bowels in the only safe and legitimate way, by depurating the blood, and so eradicating those impurities which are the source and constituent of almost every disease. Their medicinal efficiency is wonderful in renovating enfeebled constitutions. Their action embraces all that is desirable in a household medicine. They expel every noxious and effete matter; and thus the strength is nurtured and the energies stimulated.—[ADVT.]



A "Flower Sermon" was preached by the Rev. Arthur Veysey at St. Olave's (Mercer's Chapel service) on Friday evening.

Bro. George Shaw, Master, presided at the Court Dinner of the Plumbers' Company at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Monday last.

Bro. G. Fort's first monograph on mediæval builders has appeared, and promises to afford much matter for thought to the student and archæologist.

Bro. George Lambert presided at the Festival of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution, at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, on the 2nd inst.

A new Mark Lodge, called the William Kelly Lodge, No. 339, was consecrated at Winshell, Derbyshire, on Friday last. A report will appear in our next.

The Fishmongers' Company have sent a donation of £50 towards the East-End Emigration Fund, of which Mr. F. N. Charrington is the Hon. Treasurer.

Alderman Sir R. W. Carden has sent a contribution of £50 towards the Nine Elms House Prison Mission, Wandsworth-road, Miss Carden, a donation of £5.

The Queen has accepted from the Mayor of Winchester a medal which has been struck as a memento of the recent celebration of the 700th anniversary of the Mayoralty of the city.

The new building now being erected for the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen-street, Bloomsbury, is to be dedicated as a memorial to the late Duke of Albany.

The Duke of Cambridge presided on Wednesday evening at a dinner given at the Langham Hotel in aid of the funds of the Soho Club and Home for Working Girls. The subscription amounted to £750.

Bro. Alfred Tisley presided on Friday last, at the summer dinner of the City of London Tradesman's Club, held at the Crystal Palace, on which occasion he was supported by Bro. Alderman De Keyser and many members of the Common Council and other members and visitors.

The Wilson Isles Lodge, No. 2054, is to be consecrated at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, on the 23rd inst. Bro. Richard Bird, F.R.G.S., is the W.M. designate, the other officers are Bros. W. M. Mackie, S.W.; S. H. Moore, M.R.C.S., J.W.; and J. Galt Fisher, P.M., Secretary.

We have been favoured with a private view of the portrait of the late Duke of Albany, painted by Bro. Beaufort, 40, Piccadilly-circus, on porcelain. This is the largest portrait we have seen on china; it is a striking likeness, and has been manipulated with great care. It is now on view at the Clarendon Galleries, Bond-street, W.

We are asked to announce that the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, hitherto held at the Cranbourne Hotel, will, in future, be removed to the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C. The first meeting was held yesterday (Thursday) evening, and the lodge will continue to be held weekly throughout the year.

A new chapter in connection with the Royal Naval Lodge, No. 59, and bearing the same name, will be consecrated at Freemasons' Hall to-day (Friday) by Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Scribe E. Comps. Stephen Barton Wilson, Charles Belton, and Fredk. Binckes are the First, Second, and Third Principals designate. A report will appear in our next.

The late Lady Peck, it is known, took a very great interest in the Surrey County School at Cranleigh, to which Sir H. Peck has been a munificent benefactor. The head master (Dr. Merriman) has recently informed Sir Henry that the largest window in the chapel is to be filled with stained glass to Lady Peck's memory, and that the entire cost, subscribed by the scholars and staff, is in his hands.

The Princess Louise on Wednesday laid the foundation-stone of an orphanage larger than that at present in the parish of St. Stephen, Lewisham, and for which £6,900 has been raised, and not quite £2,000 more is needed. The streets through which the Royal Highness drove from London were profusely decorated with flags, and for more than a mile she drove through crowds of people who lined both sides of the thoroughfares, and cheered enthusiastically.

At Scarborough, on Tuesday, Charles Arthur Courbet, of the ripe age of 64, and described as an artist and well educated, was sentenced at the borough sessions to nine months' imprisonment for having obtained various sums of money from different persons by falsely representing that he was a Freemason, a professor of languages at Durham University, and in distressed circumstances. The prisoner had been twice previously convicted of felony, and accordingly pleaded guilty, probably finding the evidence too strong for him.

By the will of the late Bro. Sir Michael Costa the whole of his property goes to his brother for life, and on that gentleman's death, the proceeds are to be devoted to the foundation of scholarships in connection with the Royal Academy of Music. There is to be a travelling scholarship of £120 per annum for composition, and two of £40 for English-born students of the academy. Such balance as may remain is to be allowed to accumulate, and other scholarships of £40 are then to be established.

We inserted a correction last week, sent us by the brother interested, relating to an appointment at the Grand Lodge of Surrey, but are now informed that it was correct in the first instance, and that Bro. Catterson was really invested as P.G. Std. Br.; Bro. A. J. Dickenson P.M., was, it seems, appointed Asst. G.S. Br. If it is not right this time we can hardly see our way clear to another correction and must leave the worthy brothers in question to settle their respective rank between themselves.