

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.

VOL. XVII., No. 803.]

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1884.

PRICE 3d.

CONTENTS.

LEADERS	359	REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—	
Mark Benevolent Fund	360	Craft Masonry	366
Consecration of the Beckenham Lodge, No. 2047	360	Instruction	368
French Freemasonry Fifty Years Ago	361	Royal Arch	368
English Freemasonry before 1717.—No. III.	361	Annual Picnic of the Truth Lodge, No. 521, Huddersfield	368
The Worcester Gathering	362	The Abbey Lodge, Westminster, No. 2030 ..	369
History of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys (Continued)	362	New Zealand	369
CORRESPONDENCE—		South Africa	369
The Inquisition	365	Board of Benevolence	370
Grand Lodge of South Australia	365	Freemasonry in Belper	370
Reviews	365	Obituary	370
Notes and Queries	365	West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution	370
Annual Picnic of the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 178, Wigan	366	Masonic and General Tidings	370
		Lodge Meetings for Next Week	iii.

THE laudable effort which our Worcester brethren, under Sir EDMUND LECHMERE, their distinguished Prov. G.M., through Bro. GEORGE TAYLOR, are making for a Masonic Exhibition at Worcester, and lectures, &c., in August next, is highly to be commended, and deserve every encouragement and assistance which Freemasons everywhere can render to it. Among other prevalent reasons, such movements help on materially the beneficial cause of Masonic studies, and a taste for Masonic archæology and Masonic æstheticism. English Freemasonry has been too long confined to the perfect performance of ritual and the engaging pleasantness of the social circle. Beyond this few lodges care to go, or to attempt anything. Meeting a few times a year, in some goodly hotel may be, where there is no accommodation for anything in the shape of a library, anything that tends to create a taste for literature or to excite a craving for some "intellectual fire" is discountenanced and put down. In the first place, it is an innovation, and "all innovations are bad," says good Bro. GRUMPY; and in the second place, "there is no time" for anything but the normal work, &c., of the lodge, says excellent Bro. RUBRIC. And thus it comes to pass, that few of our good lodges have a library or a collection of curios,—nothing except the bare lodge furniture; and any idea of a museum is scouted and ignored at once. It is therefore good from time to time that such movements as the Worcester movement, which has also a Charitable end as we understand, should recall our minds to the fact, that there are higher things in our Masonic philosophy than we sometimes dream of,—that ritual is good, and the social circle is good; but that there is still a great deal further to do and realize than these in Freemasonry. Masonic books are many, Masonic curios abound, Masonic MSS. and Masonic engravings can be collected, as our energetic brethren at York have so effectively shown, and therefore by all means let us encourage these opportunities, when they arise, to-day, of studying all the various relics which still attest the universality of our Masonic Order, the energies of our Masonic forefathers, their literature and their æstheticism, the many forms which their symbolism marked and their knowledge and ability illustrated, to convince the world that, as the ages come and go, there is, explain it as you will, marvel as you may, here, there,—yes, and everywhere,—Freemasonry.

H.R.H. the GRAND MASTER sent most thoughtfully a wreath for the funeral of our late Bro. Prince ALEXANDER of ORANGE, Grand Master of the Dutch Freemasons. Most kindly was the act, and most seasonable the souvenir. We wish all prosperity to Dutch Freemasonry, now bereft of its Grand Master, and sincerely trust that the stability and loyalty of our Dutch brethren will resist the pressure of the "movement party," and prevent the old and honoured Grand Lodge of Holland being turned into a weakly imitator of the follies and retrogression, both of the Grand Orients of Belgium and France. We confess we hope for the best, though our hope is somewhat tinged both by doubt and fear.

NOTHING is, we believe, settled yet as regards the vacant Province of West Yorkshire. We are sorry to hear of a movement in one lodge which is practically an interference with the prerogative of the GRAND MASTER. We make every allowance for the feelings of friendship and the like, neighbourly goodwill and personal regard; but such things ought not to be done. The nomination is the undoubted prerogative of the GRAND MASTER alone, and it is the worst possible form, to say the least of it, to seek to anticipate his decision and nomination; in fact, to "force his hand." "Absit omen."

THE announcement in our last *Freemason* that the "matter of the Freemasons" had been remitted by the POPE's order to the Inquisition, must have caused a smile to pass over the countenances of all our readers every-

where. The time has gone,—and gone, let us believe, for ever—when such a "brutum fulmen" could affect the comfort or hinder the advance of the Masonic body. Happily for us all, that once dreaded Institution has lost its terrors; its power has departed, its place on earth knows it no more. Some fanatic members of the Roman Catholic Church have, it is true, sought to defend the Massacre of Bartholomew, and some might be easily found apparently ready to uphold the "fiery mercies" of DOMINIC. But for the mass of thinking men, the very name of the Inquisition is an abomination and a loathing. Having scandalized the world with its abominable cruelties and untellable baseness; having dishonoured religion and denied every principle of truth and mercy, justice and right, it has indeed left behind it a most unsavoury reputation, has most truly earned for itself the Anathema of Humanity. At one time, no doubt, its name was great, its arms long, and its influence fell. Bro. COULTOS underwent its most cruel tortures, like other poor Freemasons, at Lisbon, over 100 years ago, until demanded by the English government; and to be a Freemason, and fall into the hands of the Inquisition then, was simply the passport to shameful tortures and an awful death. There can be no doubt, from numerous accounts and authorities, that many Freemasons have suffered death at the hands of the Inquisition rather than disavow Freemasonry. To-day, however, Freemasons everywhere will be disposed to smile at this last outburst of petulant and childish ill-humour, and will continue to move on and march on, upholding its own beneficent and merciful principles, in wondrous and blessed contrast to the avowed and hidden designs of that most hateful of secret societies, which has ever dishonoured the name of God and religion, just as it has brought suffering and ignominy upon man.

WE trust that some foreign jurisdictions will also take note of the present position of affairs, and guide their steps and control their words accordingly. There can be no doubt that in some countries the professions and acts of some Freemasons are utterly unjustifiable and un-Masonic, altogether opposed to the traditions and genius of Freemasonry, and only serve to weaken the confidence of their own associates, and to array against them the conclusions of the moderate, the sympathies of the serious, and the abormal uneasiness of authority, government, and police.

ONE question affecting the correctness of a statement of ANDERSON in 1738 has received unexpected and easy solution by an entry in the minutes of Grand Lodge, under date March 2nd, 1732, and which entry ANDERSON, no doubt, saw, and based his statement properly upon it. It certainly supports in marked measure his "bona fides" and accuracy. ANDERSON states that in 1695 the Duke of RICHMOND, Master of a lodge at Chichester, coming to the annual assembly, and there was chosen Grand Master, with Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN as his Deputy. It seems to be doubted by Bro. GOULD whether there is any foundation for such a statement; indeed, he says as regards this very assertion of ANDERSON and other similar ones (p. 12), "not one of the foregoing statements can be cited as an historical fact." Yet the following extract from the silently-speaking minutes of Grand Lodge shows that on one point ANDERSON was perfectly correct, and, by implication, supports the contention that he was also correct in others. (See "Notes and Queries" for a fuller statement.) It appears that a Bro. E. HALL, March 2, 1732, was relieved by Grand Lodge with £6 6s., having been made a Mason 36 years before, by the father of the Duke of RICHMOND (Grand Master of 1724), then present. The lodge was held at the Swan, Chichester. This would take us back to 1696, and, of course, earlier. Thus any doubt as to the first Duke of RICHMOND having been a Freemason, and Master of a lodge at Chichester, is removed, and the actuality of his having been Grand Master is, we think, materially strengthened, despite the opinion of our able Bro. GOULD. Remembering the usual inaccuracy of verbiage and carelessness of details which characterized all such documents and entries 150 years ago, it is but fair to ANDERSON to assume that, as he is found to be clearly correct in one point, he is equally to be credited in the other. It is a very serious question the upsetting by negative evidence and argument long accredited traditions, and we rejoice to publish this partial confirmation of ANDERSON's statement in 1738, just as we doubt not that "time and circumstances" will tend to uphold and verify many other impugned asseverations of our earliest Masonic writer.

MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The sixteenth annual festival of the Benevolent Fund attached to Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons was held on Wednesday evening at the Crystal Palace. The chair was taken by Bro. Major John Woodhall Woodall, Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire. About eighty ladies and brethren sat down to dinner, among whom were Bros. Sir Pryse Pryse, L. Jones Parry, M.P.; Baron de Ferrieres, M.P.,

After dinner, grace having been sung, the usual toasts were proposed. The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen," "The G.M.M.M."

Bro. L. JONES PARRY, M.P., proposed "The D.G.M., Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the rest of the Grand Officers."

Bro. HENRY VENN, in acknowledging the toast as the senior Grand Officer present, said he thanked Bro. Parry, and was exceedingly grateful to the Grand Masters for making him a Grand Officer; but he felt that the compliment was not so much bestowed upon him as upon the Old Kent Lodge. Personally, he could not be known to the Grand Master, and therefore he thought it was the services rendered generally by various lodges in the provinces and in London to the Charities that brought the brethren under the notice of the M.W.G.M., who put his finger on the lodges that contributed well and worthily to the Charities. Such an object was what all Masons should have in view. Lodges as well as individuals should contribute all round; but he found that it was the same names year after year that contribute to this and the other Ma-sonic Charities. He wished to see the practice more universal, and then the great funds would be greater. He trusted that all the brethren would stimulate others with whom they were associated to join in contributing to these Charities.

Sir PRYSE PRYSE proposed "The Chairman," who had been twice Mayor of Scarborough, was a famous yachtsman, and a very good Mason.

The CHAIRMAN said, in reply, that living so far as he did from the great metropolis he had hardly thought he should have been in a position to preside on such an occasion. Through the kindness of the brethren the duties imposed on him were of such a nature as to give him great pleasure in presiding, and he trusted the brethren would pardon him if he made any mistake. He thanked the brethren very much for their presence, and he thanked the brethren of the Mark Lodge for their great kindness to him during his Masonic career. He was a Mason of many years' standing, but he had found in Mark Masons a stronger social bond of union than in the ordinary body. He trusted that, although Mark Masons were a body within a body, they were yet fulfilling a duty, and doing the work that was set before them.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "Prosperity to the Mark Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund and Education Fund," said they were all very glad indeed, whether Mark Masons or others, to contribute to funds by which their distressed brethren might find relief and assistance. The peculiar nature of the educational branch of the Mark Benevolent Fund was one which commended itself to every one. At the time when the great Masonic Institutions were instituted the system of primary education in this country was by no means in a high position. It was lower than in many continental nations which had enjoyed less peace and tranquillity than England. It was short of what it was in the northern kingdom of Norway, for in that country it was laid down that it was the duty of the community generally to insist on such an education being given to the children as would enable them to hold their position in society. He trusted this Fund would be successful, and hoped that in the course of time it would be owing to the existence of the invaluable Schools of Masonry, as well as to the primary education of children educated near their own homes and among their own brothers, sisters, and playmates, they would be fitted for the work of life. This Fund had enabled children educated in the northern provinces to carry on their education at the northern universities. In Northumberland and Durham the Provincial Grand Master would give them some assistance, and therefore he (the Chairman) would venture to put before them all the claims of the Benevolent Fund in relieving distress. As one who had taken a great deal of interest in the matter since he left the University of Oxford, he was glad to aid on every possible occasion the claims of this Fund. He, therefore, proposed, with the greatest cordiality, "Prosperity to the Mark Benevolent Fund."

Bro. C. F. MATIER then read the following list of subscriptions:

LONDON.		LANCASHIRE.	
Lodge	£ s. d.	Province, Bro. Reginald Young	21 0 0
Grand Masters' Bro. E. C.		LEICESTER, DERBY AND NOR-	
Mather...	10 10 0	THAMPTONSHIRE.	
Bon Accord (T.I.), Bro. J. W.		302 Bro. Percy Wallis	26 5 0
Fuller ...	10 10 0	LINCOLNSHIRE.	
Old Kent, Bro. Herbert Dic-		Province, Bro. Jack Sutcliffe...	51 6 6
ketts ...	85 11 6	MIDDLESEX AND SURREY.	
1, Bro. E. L. Shepherd...	15 15 0	Provincial Grand Lodge, Bros.	
1, " E. H. Thellay...	5 5 0	H. Lovegrove	10 10 0
UNATTACHED.		D. P. Cama	42 0 0
Bro. Robt. Berridge, P.G.M.O.	5 5 0	7 Bro. Rev. Samuel Maude	10 10 0
" Edgar Bowyer, P.M. 315	10 10 0	13 " E. B. Bright	42 0 0
" G. Cooper, P.G.D.	5 5 0	59 " Alex. Ferguson	5 5 0
" Baron de Ferrieres,		144 " T. E. Taylor	5 5 0
M.P., P.G.O.	5 5 0	315 " James Terry	5 5 0
" C.H. Driver, P.G.I. of W.	32 10 0	331 " Henry Pajja	21 0 0
" Dr. G. P. Mickle, P.P.		NORTHUMBERLAND AND	
" G.O. Bucks	10 10 0	DURHAM.	
" Capt. H. Stephens, G.		Province, Bro. T. Y. Strachan	42 0 0
Steward	5 5 0	NOTTINGHAM.	
" A. Williams, P.G.D.	5 5 0	Newstead (T.I.), Bro. E. C.	
PROVINCES.		Patchitt	47 6 0
BERKS AND OXON.		STAFFORD.	
Province, Bro. Thos. J. Pulley	23 3 0	318, Bro. A. F. Warrillow	10 10 0
257 Bro. R. Nicholson	5 8 0	SUSSEX.	
CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORE-		75, Bro. Thomas Cable	5 14 0
LAND.		WARWICK.	
Province, Bro. P. de E. Collin	11 11 0	115, Bro. T. H. Smith	
DEVON.		115, " A. F. Warrillow	
Province, Bro. H. W. Ma'eley	20 0 0	WORCESTERSHIRE.	
EAST ANGLIA.		330, Bro. George Taylor	10 10 0
Province, Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn	10 10 0	YORKSHIRE, N. and E.	
112 Bro. Oscar Brunning	10 10 0	277, Bro. Samuel Chadwick	5 5 0
335 " James Neal York	25 0 0	WALES, NORTH.	
HANT. AND ISLE OF WIGHT.		Bro. Capt. C. Hunter	5 5 0
54 Bro. Richard Eve...	21 0 0	321, L. Jones Parry, M.P.	5 5 0
54 " Henry Store	10 10 0	259, Corneius Davies	5 5 0
KENT.		WALES, SOUTH.	
Province, Bro. Wm. Watson	27 16 0	28, Bro. Charles Chalk	11 15 6
226 Bro. W. A. Weston	35 0 0	Chairman (personal)	25 2 6
332 " Ralph Gooding	10 10 0	Total.....	£832 19 0

Bro. HERBERT DICKETTS replied to the toast. He said it was the Stewards' duty to return their most sincere thanks to the President for the ready manner in which he had consented to take the chair on this occasion. He was happy to say that the Stewards had tried to do their duty, and they were pleased beyond measure to know that they had been endeavouring to carry out a Society in which he had the most complete and confident reliance. They were met that evening for the promotion of its success, and to carry out Masonic principles as followed up in the Old Kent Lodge, of which he was a member. It was not only that they were called upon to do their duty to the Mark Benevolent Fund, but in every state of society, and it would be a delight to the brethren if they saw what was done by those who were members of the General Board. They did not attempt in any way to enter into any enterprise with those grand Masonic Institutions which he had been called upon to return thanks for. Many of those present, and who subscribed to the Mark Benevolent Fund, were Vice-Presidents and Life Governors of the three grand Institutions. He was only returning thanks for those kind brethren who had allowed his name to be pressed upon them. If they would only take into consideration this Fund, they would find it was administered with all power. Grand Lodge of England had its Fund of Benevolence, the administrators of which met once a month; but this Mark Benevolent Fund was of a different character, and the educational branch was intended to educate the children of parents who had been reduced, and give them the education which they would have had if nothing had happened to their parents. Such a good Society was deserving of all support, and he assured the brethren and ladies that they never sat round a table where there was more honesty of desire to do the best that could be done for a Society.

Bro. BINCKES, Grand Secretary, proposed "The Board of Stewards," and remarked that the amount of subscriptions announced that evening showed progress; it was a larger amount than they ever had before. He had hoped it would have reached four figures in the pounds column. He could testify to the arduous duties of the Board of Stewards, which, however, were undertaken with a great deal of pleasure. He knew what work it involved, what labour was bound up in the discharge of that duty; and he sympathised with the brethren who took those duties as much as any one possibly could do. Those connected with the Fund were complimented from time to time on the success of these meetings. He had laboured hard for a quarter of a century to do all he possibly could to inculcate brethren in the same principles as he had himself; the highest Masonic duty was to promote the success of the Masonic Institution. How nobly had he been supported and encouraged, how generously welcomed everywhere he had raised his voice, he could testify. He derived a large amount of gratification that in his waning and declining years he was as kindly and warmly welcomed and received as ever he was. He believed there was a generous spirit abroad among brethren who knew he had but one object at heart in the cause in which he sympathised—to endeavour to infuse every friend he addressed with the feeling he had himself, while enjoying themselves, to endeavour to relieve the wants of others. As long as he could mention this he intended to do so. As long as he could he would try to induce good brethren to support the Masonic Institutions. He had been always earnest on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund, and they must never allow themselves in their highest happiness to neglect those who were not so fortunate. His words had not fallen on stony ground, or in thorny places, but had fallen on good ground and brought forth fruit. He hoped he would be spared a few more years to continue his work. In proposing the Board of Stewards, he coupled the name of Captain Hunter with it.

Bro. Capt. HUNTER, in replying, said it was quite by accident he was there representing the Board of Stewards. He had served formerly as Steward, but he happened to go up to head-quarters and found a meeting of Grand Stewards assembled; he joined them, and they asked him to preside over them. The Stewards, one and all, were convinced of the value of this Fund, and appreciated very highly the kind manner in which Bro. Binckes had spoken of them. They thanked the brethren and ladies also for their kindness in acknowledging the efforts they had made—efforts which he was happy to say, had been crowned with a success which had been unknown until that evening.

"The Ladies" was the next toast, which was responded to by Bro. R. P. SPICE.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. DICKETTS, who particularly mentioned Bro. D. Cama as a liberal contributor to all Masonic Charities. The brethren shortly afterwards separated.

A beautiful selection of music was performed during the evening under the direction of Bro. Edwin M. Lott, Grand Organist, by Madame Raymond and Bros. Arthur Weston, T. Tremere, and Egbert Roberts.

CONSECRATION OF THE BECKENHAM LODGE,
No. 2047.

At the New Public Hall, Beckenham, in a commodious suite of rooms particularly well adapted for Masonic purposes, another lodge was added to the already long list of London Lodges, on Tuesday last. A large and influential gathering supported the worthy Grand Secretary, Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, who acted as Consecrating Officer, and there is little doubt that the Beckenham Lodge, No. 2047, under the able guidance of its first W.M., Bro. Archbold, P.M. 19, will prove a great acquisition to the Order. The Consecrating Officer having appointed V.W. Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Reg., as S.W.; W. Bro. Alfred Richards, D.G.D. of C., as J.W.; V.W. Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as Dir. of Cers.; and W. Bro. Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br., as I.G., proceeded to consecrate the lodge in the usual manner, taking occasion in the introductory address to congratulate the W.M. designate and the founders on having obtained the warrant, and called on V.W. Bro. Brownrigg to deliver the oration, which was impressively and eloquently rendered, and received with deep attention.

Brethren,—The formation of each new lodge as it occurs—and such ceremonies as we are now engaged in, are of very frequent occurrence—ought to awaken very serious thoughts in the hearts of all who are interested in the welfare of the Craft. It is a fact, my brethren, beyond contradiction, that day by day we are becoming more and more a real and living power in the country. There was a time, within the memory of some of us, when this was not so. I do not say that the Craft has not always done good and useful work, but I do also maintain that 50 years ago it had comparatively speaking, very little influence upon the country. The outside world then considered it as only one amongst several other like societies—probably the most ancient—probably also the most Charitable—but otherwise

very similar to other friendly societies. Our lodges met without exerting much influence either for good or evil on the outside world. Now, my brethren, this is no longer the case. The enormous increase of members, the large increase of lodges, has made our Order a very important factor in the social and moral status of our country. Go where you will you will find yourself within cable tow; mix in whatever society you like and you will find members of our Fraternity. I believe, my brethren, that day by day we are becoming more and more a power which may exert its influence either for evil or for good. Is it possible to exert our growing influence for evil? I hope not. Everything that can be done to fence in our Order and guard it from false steps has been done by the laws and regulations of the Supreme Authority under which we act, and I rejoice to think that every Masonic jurisdiction in this country has herein followed the example of Grand Lodge, and has with anxious and zealous care guarded our Order. But, brethren, it will be well for us to remember that much depends upon us as individuals—that we are under a solemn obligation in this respect to preserve both the letter and spirit of our safeguards. Do not let us shut our eyes to the fact that there are countries where Masonry has positively become a power for evil, where its influence is altogether bad, where it is most justly condemned and discountenanced by all right thinking men. Why is this? Not because of any evil interest to the Craft, but because men have imported into it their own prejudices and passions and have so far made their prejudices and passions which are evil, part of their Masonic system that the two are now practically inseparable. The parasite has so turned itself round the old structure that the two stand or fall together. Brethren, let us take warning. Remember, I repeat, that all laws and regulations against evil are useless, unless the community combines to support and respect them. Let us watch with jealous care the importation of any evil into any lodge which may in any way draw us away from those principles which have especially distinguished the Craft in England. What are these principles? We have always held and taught that we are not to any man a system which can be to him what his religion is. The man who looks upon the Craft as a religion is putting her into a position which in England she has always disclaimed. We are not a religion; but we are a body which opens its doors only to religious men. Let us preserve these simple principles, and we shall never deserve the accusation of being the foe of any religious system. Our doors are shut to the infidel; open to all others. But let me turn to the other side of the question. It is not sufficient for us merely to abstain from evil, not sufficient even to have done good. Every human institution must submit to the test question—What are you doing? And even further than this. It is not sufficient to do good within the particular limits of our own institutions. One of our Masonic jewels bears the inscription "Civis mundi." Great and important as our Masonic Charities are, we must remember that true Charity, though it begins, does not stop at home. Our Grand Master is herein very frequently setting us an example. When history records his Masonic reign—and may the Great Architect of the Universe long defer the day when that reign is ended—it will, I think, be said of his Grand Mastership that he, more perhaps than any of his illustrious predecessors, associated our Craft with every good work, whether Masonic or otherwise. Hardly any historic structure reared by the Operative Mason of old has been so reverentially restored and beautified; but, either personally or by deputy, the Prince has, as a Mason, encouraged the good work. The cathedrals of Truro, St. Alban's, Peterborough, Bangor, Worcester, and many others bear record to our interest in them. Hardly any work, either of charity or of public interest, occupies public attention, but our Grand Master is ready to represent us in the matter. The Indian Institute at Oxford, the St. Anne's Schools at Redhill, and numberless other important public works have received the sympathy and encouragement of the Craft by his presence. Let us, then, in our private lodges imitate his example. Let the good works of our immediate locality—the hospitals, the infirmaries, and the numberless other Charities—have our help. I am quite sure that our Masonic Charities will not suffer by the extension of our Charity. Certainly the best answer that we can give to unjust and ungenerous attacks upon our Order, which sometimes describe us as harmless and useless, sometimes as harmful and aggressive, is the golden answer of good deeds, making it evident to the world that we do concern ourselves in advancing all that does good to our fellow-men, whether they be Masons or not. "For so is the will of God that, with well-doing, ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men; as free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but, as the servants of God, honour all men, love the Brotherhood, fear God, honour the king."

Bro. Shadwell H. Clerk then, in his well-known able manner, proceeded to install the Worshipful Master, Bro. Ralph S. Archbold, P.M., 19, into the chair of King Solomon. Bro. Archbold then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Geo. Phillips, S.W.; Alfred Ayden, J.W.; R. Fenner, S.D.; Dr. W. Carpenter, J.D.; A. Wilkie, I.G.; W. Lapworth, I.P.M.; E. W. Owles, Sec.; J. J. Brown, Stwd.; and F. S. Newcombe, Org. Bro. F. P. Alliston was unanimously elected Treas., and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler.

Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE then delivered the usual addresses. A committee was afterwards appointed to frame the bye-laws, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Consecrating Officer, who was also elected honorary member.

Col. SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Grand Secretary, thanked the brethren heartily for their kind recognition of the services the consecrating brethren had rendered.

Some valuable presentations were made to the lodge, among them being a very handsome set of ivory gavels, by the W.M.; a box containing a complete set of working tools, by the S.W.; a Bible and cushion for the W.M.'s pedestal, by the J.W.; a carpet, by the I.P.M.; and a windlass with rough and perfect ashlar, by the S.D.

A large list of candidates for initiation and joining was next read by the Secretary, after which the lodge was closed.

After the banquet which followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, that of "The Grand Officers" was replied to by Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap. "The W.M., Bro. Archbold, was next given, and most heartily received; "The Consecrating Officers," proposed by the W.M., and replied to by Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerk; "The Visitors," proposed by Bro. F. P. Alliston, and "The Officers," responded to by Bro. George Phillips, S.W., followed. The Tyler's toast concluding a most interesting ceremony and an enjoyable evening.

The music incidental to the ceremony, and during the evening, was under the direction of Bro. Frederick S. Newcombe, assisted by several talented artists. The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

In addition to the Consecrating Officers named above, there were also present the following

Visitors: Bros. Ganz, P.G. Org.; Sadler, G. Tyler; Ion H. Isaacs, P.M. Royal Somerset; J. I. Masters, 3rd Lodge of Ireland; J. E. Fox, 297; John Waddington, 1702; F. K. Glover, 14; Vincent Cottrell, 1837; G. V. A. Schofield, 162; W. Soden, 1287; R. R. Stillwell, 92; Arthur Leake, 901, Tasmania; Honischer, 19; John Cox, 181; Geo. Biggs, 435; S. W. Hopwood, 2; G. T. Rait, 392; A. F. Lameite, 271; M. Tapp, R.S.O.N. Lond.; R. Boyce, 1762; H. J. Dutton, 1706; W. Hampson; A. W. Hubbard, 813; E. Scobell, 1692; F. D. Cherrill, 1196; C. F. Blore, 1195; F. S. Newcombe, 1706; George Kenning, P.G.D. Middx.; R. H. Crowden, P.M. 1297; Page, 2015; C. G. Boxall, 46; J. Green, 1974; and A. Rosenthal, P.M. 1673.

The founders are Bros. R. S. Archbold, Geo. Phillips, A. Ayden, Dr. W. Carpenter, J. J. Brown, H. Lapworth, Eustace Wm. Owles, A. Wilkie, R. Fenner, and F. P. Alliston.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY FIFTY YEARS AGO.

It is almost painful for the thoughtful Freemason to reopen the pages of the past annals of the Grand Orient of France, and note the vast difference in French Freemasonry between *now* and *then*. To-day the Grand Orient has dismissed from its formularies all recognition of God, all reverential acknowledgments of the Great Creator of the world and man. It is still in a state of commotion and unrest, and seems to be actually preparing for itself, by fresh revolutionary changes, a position of such an absurd and unreasonable nature, that—to use the words of one of its most devoted members at the present time—its suppression by even a Republican Government as a hurtful secret society seems only to be a question of time. Fifty years ago its views were as sound, its doctrines as peaceful, religious, loyal, and sensible, as those of the Grand Lodge of England itself. We give our readers some specimens of old French Masonic teaching, especially in poetry, as fairly representing the current teaching of French Freemasonry of 50 years ago. Let us first take their profession of Masonic faith—

Je crois au Dieu que l'Univers
Reconnait pour son Architecte,
Dont la main au plus haut des airs
Soutient cette voûte céleste;
Au Dieu de qui la majesté
Annonce le Roi de la terre,
Tandis que sa noble bonté
Le montre au humains comme un Père.

How different is this from French Masonic teaching to-day, which is either based on Positivism, "La Morale Indépendante," or a sort of barbarous Atheism. As all prayer to T.G.A.O.T.U. is now forbidden by the G.O. of France, we are glad to print this French Masonic invocation to T.G.A.O.T.U. 50 years ago, as illustrating the normal teaching of French Freemasons and Freemasonry then:—

Puissant Architecte du monde
Des Francs-Maçons entends les vœux,
Pour vivre unis, pour être heureux
Sur Toi seul leur espoir se fonde.
Preside à tous leurs travaux
Au sein des plus sacres mystères,
Mets la vertu sur leurs équerres,
Et le vice sous leurs marteaux.

At this period, when T.G.A.O.T.U. is utterly unrecognized in French Freemasonry under the G.O. of France, and when any such invocation of His presence, help, blessing, is absolutely proscribed in the ritual, such words are surely very significant, and mark the wide gulph between modern and older French Freemasonry.

In 1778, just after the reception of Voltaire himself, over 100 years ago, even the following spiritualization of Masonic emblems was current, and contrasts forcibly with the mournful and painful moral Nihilism of to-day, which dominates the lodges of the French Grand Orient:

Le compas démontre un cœur juste,
Si nécessaire à tous Maçons;
Des apprentis la pierre brute
Symbolise nos passions;
Le Niveau, l'Applomb, et l'Equerre,
Sont Sagesse, Force, et Beauté,
Et l'emblème de la lumière
Annonce La Divinité.

Even in Voltaire's days we see the idea of an agitated and perverse Atheism had not entered into French Freemasonry. We commend the following touching little Masonic petition to the notice of some very ardent politicians in the French Grand Orient:

Grand Architecte, O source de lumière,
Das l'univers fais triompher nos lois;
Du genre humain fais un peuple de frères,
A nos banquets fais asseoir tous les rois.

The following little piece of Masonic morality is entirely "on all fours" with our English teaching. We only wish that French Freemasonry to-day would have adhered to our teaching of 50 years ago.

Franc Maçon connais toi, mets ton esprit en Dieu
Prie, évite l'éclat, contente toi de peu
Écoute sans parler, sois discret, fuis les traîtres,
Supporte ton égal, sois docile à tes maîtres;
Toujours actif et doux, humble and prêt à souffrir,
Apprends l'art de bien vivre et celui de mourir.

What, indeed, can be truer teaching? We find a good warning against that Intolerance, in which the G.O. of France is imitating admirably the old Roman Curia.

Fuisez barbare intolerance.
Préjuges dont l'affreux poison
Broyé par la triste ignorance
Fait tant de mal à la raison.

A new value for Masons' marks is discovered in the following stanza, which we commend to the notice of our readers, and with which we close this desultory paper—

Si dans la barque
Du Nautonnier Caron,
Le sort t'embarque,
Tu lui diras,—Patron!
A cette marque
Reconnais un Franc Maçon.

ENGLISH FREEMASONRY BEFORE 1717.—No. III.

When we come to gather up together the scattered portions of seventeenth century evidence, we see that the utmost they prove, so far, is, after all, the existence of a Society of Freemasons in the seventeenth century. I omitted one bit of evidence in my last, which I think it well to advert to to-day—I mean that of the well-known Sloane MS., containing the "Secrets of the Freemasons." A careful study of the chirography shows that it need not be limited to 1715, as was once held, by a blunder; but may run from 1680 downwards to 1715; and whatever its handwriting its verbiage is certainly seventeenth century. Mr. Wallbran always said it was an early seventeenth cen-

tury M.S. in its "archaisms," &c., and if it was transcribed, say, about 1690 really, it would be taken from an earlier M.S. of probably the same century. We have, then, as I said last week, a "catena" of evidence as to the existence of a "Society of Freemasons" in the seventeenth century being all through the seventeenth century.

The evidence becomes fuller towards the close than at the beginning, so far as is at present known, but further researches may yet light upon other and earlier traces of the body in that century. But yet when we collect it all together, how unsatisfactory it really is. The fullest evidence of all is Dr. Plot's in 1686, and he certainly refers to the existence of a society "on all fours" with our present system. Randle Holmes points out that there were "Freemasons and Freemasons," and the Sloane M.S., just mentioned, gives evidence of a ritual and ceremonial and catechism, far clearer and fuller than anything else so far yet discovered. Aubrey's evidence, so frequently quoted, so much so until it almost becomes a bore, only proves this—that in 1691 somebody told Aubrey something of a society called Freemasons, which Aubrey assumed to be correct, and we cannot accept Aubrey's evidence for more than this,—that he did not accept the statement of the existence of such a society as a myth, but treated it as correct, thus showing there was nothing "à priori" incredible in the fact of a society of Freemasons existing at that date and for some time previously. His words as to Wren prove nothing one way or the other. If the statement was correct, Anderson's allegations in 1738 are incorrect. If Anderson is right, Aubrey's informant was wrong. There is no other loophole to escape from this inevitable conclusion, unless we have in this "memo" the initiation of Christopher Wren, the son, who by a mistake of Aubrey's informant is overshadowed by his greater father. I have always been exercised more or less as regards Ashmole's meetings in 1646 and 1682. Bro. Rylands has proved that the majority of the lodge at Warrington were "Generosi." This, in itself, would certainly give great colour to the theory, that the speculative element had been gradually overlapping the operative, and that that lodge at Warrington was, of some standing, as it certainly was not created "ad hoc;" and Ashmole himself seems, if we may credit Campbell, to have lighted upon its previous history. In 1682 Ashmole receives a "summons" to attend a lodge at the Mason's Hall, London. The original statement made in the *Freemason* some years back has been borne out in every particular. This was a meeting clearly of the Society of Freemasons, and not of the Masons' Company. And this is a fact most important to be kept before us, as a great deal of confusion has been occasioned by treating the Company and the Society as the same body.

It is quite clear, as Randle Holmes points out, that the Society of Freemasons was an organization separate and distinct from the City Companies. Whether the lodge of 1682 was an occasional lodge, or, as we should say, a lodge of emergency, we are not now able to assert; but my opinion long has been that lodges only assembled then at the will and pleasure of the W.M., as I believe could be proved to have been the case, even early in the eighteenth century. What the connexion, if any, between the lodge of 1682, and the lodge which held the "Antiquity M.S." in 1686 is our "Crux" to-day.

It is possible we have in 1682 the lodge which is now represented by the Lodge of Antiquity, while on the other hand it is equally possible (unless other evidence turns up), that the meeting of 1682 was only an occasional one.

And here we stop!

The exacting requirements of historical truth and positive evidence prevent me at present pushing the matter farther or saying more than this, that there was a seventeenth century Freemasonry in England, but that we have no clear proof so far of its actual connexion with the movement or revival, call it what you like, of 1717.

Still, in the failure and want of positive evidence, we have a right to take what is probable and possible, and I confess I have as yet seen nothing, read nothing, found nothing, despite, I admit, very high authorities to the contrary, which, on the ground of fair induction and legitimate assertion, makes one reject Anderson's account of this connection in 1738. One thing is clear. Anderson in 1738 was far nearer to the events and time than we are. In 1738 there were then living, (Sayer for instance), those who had to do with the proceedings of 1717. It is odd if everything about seventeenth century Freemasonry which Anderson puts out—first, I admit, in 1738—emerged from his own "inner consciousness," and that all his contemporaries, many of them most able men, aided and abetted him in the dissemination of "historical falsification," and the palming off, a "pious fraud," on a too credulous Fraternity. Such a conclusion is a "reductio ad absurdum," as it seems to me, which must shake all confidence in Masonic History, take from our Order its old prestige, and seriously affect the onward progress of the Craft.

We have no right as it seems to me, to surrender certain ancient statements and cherished traditions merely on a *negation*, and therefore I have thought it well to submit this, my humble "study," to the Students and thoughtful of our Brotherhood.

DRYASDUST.

THE WORCESTER GATHERING.

The arrangements for the great Worcester gathering progress, and promise a great success. Too much praise cannot be accorded to the untiring zeal and energy of Bro. George Taylor. He has many well wishers and fellow workers in all parts. We would observe that any lodge or brother having "curios" to exhibit (of course there are "curios and curios") need have no apprehension for the safety of such valuable relics. It would be a pity if any curious Masonic "souvenir" should be missing from the catalogue, which will be probably "unique," and constitute an "epoch" in the history of Masonic Intellectualism. Old certificates (of last century), medals, tokens, jewellery of the last century, snuff boxes, engravings, paintings, glass and china, M.S. and books—all will be truly welcomed and duly cared for.

There are many London brethren who could assist materially, and we have thought it well specially to call their attention to the matter. They should at once put themselves in communication with Bro. George Taylor, Summerdyne Villa, Kidderminster. We understand that Bro. George Kenning has consented to pack and forward to Kidderminster all articles sent to him. Any lodge or brother wishing to contribute should send or call, 1, 2, 3, 4, Little Britain, E.C.

SECRETARY.—A most important officer in an English Masonic lodge. It is not too much to say that much of the prosperity of any lodge depends on the zeal and tact of the Secretary. He may be said to be the Master's right hand; and we cannot in any way undervalue either the necessity of his service or the reality of his work in the lodge.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia*.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

(Continued from page 351).

In March, this Committee submitted a long report, the first clause of which is sufficient to set our minds at rest as to the slight value of the allegations which had been made against the School authorities. Their inquiries were evidently of an exhaustive character, and, as a result, they announce at starting that they are "happy in being able to report that they have come to the unanimous conclusion that nothing has ever taken place in the management of the School which reflects in the slightest respect on the honour or honesty of the officers of the Institution." They allow that some slight irregularities had taken place; but they point out, at the same time, that they were quite capable of being explained, and that when attention had been drawn to them as irregularities, they at once ceased. They attribute the want of system which seems to have prevailed to the fact of the duties of the subordinate members of the resident staff being ill-defined, and they express their belief, founded on Mr. Dyer's report, that a change in the curriculum was necessary, in order to place the School on a level with other commercial schools. After paying a high compliment to Bro. Rev. C. Woodward and Mrs. Woodward, for their close attention to, and care in, the exercise of their respective duties, the report goes on to recommend that in electing a Master and Matron—Bro. and Mrs. Woodward had resigned their offices a short time previously—it should not be considered indispensable that the two should be husband and wife, but that efficiency should be the sole guide in making the appointments. The Committee further express it as their opinion that the School would be greatly improved if, in addition to a Head Master, there were a second master, a pupil teacher, and monitors, and they recommend that such boys as might appear eligible to act in the last-named capacity should—the consent of their guardians having been previously obtained—be permitted to remain in the School till the age of 15. They also suggest that the Head Master should be consulted in making the appointment of the Second Master. As regards the executive or office duties, the infusion of young blood is recommended, Bro. Thiselton, however, who had filled the post of Secretary for 35 years, being complimented on the admirable manner in which he had fulfilled his part. Other suggestions are offered, and, in conclusion, the Committee remark that they "are not unaware that the carrying out of the foregoing suggestions may be attended with additional expense, which, however, they look upon as of little moment compared with the necessity of providing for the utmost efficiency of the establishment, and the best possible education for the boys. The Committee further believe that with an improved system of education and management the Institution will present greater claims to the support which the Craft have ever been ready to extend to the various Charities connected with it." We must express our satisfaction at the unmistakable evidence these remarks afford of the Committee having at length become inspired with a salutary boldness in their demeanour towards the Craft. We do not care to harp constantly on the same point, but it is not so very long previous to the date of these observations that the Committees appointed to inquire into the management of the Institution with a view to the extension of its usefulness expressed their fears that the task of raising a sufficient income for the maintenance of a School would be beyond the powers of the Craft. Here we have it clearly laid down that, as increased efficiency will result from an increased expenditure, there can be little doubt that the brethren will be all the more willing to provide the additional funds.

The report was accepted and the improvements it recommended were carried out with all the greater facility from the fact that Bro. Thiselton tendered his resignation as Secretary, and the resignations have already been mentioned of Bro. and Mrs. Woodford—to whom, by the way, "honorary" of 100 guineas and 25 guineas respectively were awarded in consideration of the increased labours and responsibilities which had devolved upon them through the increased number of resident pupils. Thus the way was clear for a fresh start. The Rev. G. J. Gill, M.A., and Mrs. Gill were appointed Master and Matron in succession to Bro. and Mrs. Woodford, but their tenure of office was of the briefest and in the course of a few months Mr. Fred. Russell, B.A., and Mrs. Russell were appointed in their stead. Bro. Thiselton has awarded a pension of £100 per annum, being two-thirds of the emoluments of the office he had held so long and discharged so satisfactorily, his place being taken by Bro. Frederick Binckes, who had already for some time past exhibited a practical interest in the conduct of the school. Here then we have that infusion of young blood into the official management of the Institution which had been so ardently desired, and it will not be long before we shall furnish evidence of the beneficial effects resulting from Bro. Binckes's appointment to the Secretaryship.

In the meantime the work of extension was being rapidly continued. Towards the close of the year 1861 some land opposite the School, about one and a half acres in extent, was agreed to be purchased for £550, and subsequently an adjoining plot of about three-quarters of an acre was bought for £315. The School buildings also were thoroughly overhauled, and the late Bro. S. B. Wilson submitted to the House Committee a full report as to the alterations and improvements which, in his opinion, were necessary in order to make them more suitable for the purposes to which they were devoted, and it was calculated that these alterations, &c., would involve an outlay of some £1657; but, as the idea of pulling down the old School and erecting a new one in its stead had already found favour with the Executive, it was agreed that only such repairs as were absolutely necessary should be effected, and to this end a sum of £600 was placed at the disposal of the House Committee. It was next arranged that a residence for the Head Master should be erected. Tenders were invited, the cost was ultimately settled at £795, and on the 27th March, 1863, the first stone was laid by Walter Rumbold, aged eight years, the smallest boy in the School, in the presence of the House Committee, the Architect, the Secretary, the Head Master, and the contractors. Simultaneously with this last-named event, the proposal for erecting new premises was gradually formulated and adopted, and in the minutes of a Special Meeting of the House Committee, held at the offices of the Institution, in Great Queen-street, on the 2nd May, 1863, we find it was resolved

That plans and designs for the projected new Schoolhouse be advertised for, with the offer of three premiums of £70, £50, and £30 respectively, for the three best designs, the drawings of the selected premiated designs to be the property of the Institution, the Committee not binding themselves to carry out either of the designs, but reserving to themselves the right of entrusting the execution of any design selected—or to be modified—to any architect whom they may appoint—and to execute the work in sections or otherwise, as they may think best, or as means may be at their disposal. And that the sum proposed to be expended be limited to £8000.

When, however, in response to the usual advertisement, the several designs, about 30 in number, were sent in, and considered by the Committee, preliminarily to their being exhibited in Freemasons' Hall, and when subsequently six of them were chosen, with a view to the ultimate award of the premiums, it was found that in each case the estimated cost of carrying out the design very far exceeded the sum intended to be spent. Six other designs of a plainer and less ambitious character were therefore selected, and Bros. S. B. Wilson and Joseph Lavender invited to estimate the cost of carrying them severally into execution. The result of these estimates was that the second, like the first, batch of six, was found to cost in each case greatly in excess of the £8000 originally fixed. It was then determined to award the premiums among the six first selected, the highest of £70 being adjudged to Mr. Edwin Pearce, of Angell-terrace, Paradise-road, Clapham, whose design it was ultimately proposed to carry out, at a cost not exceeding £15,000, the recommendation of the House Committee to this effect being adopted at a Special General Court, held on the 31st July, 1863. On the 8th August the first stone was formally laid by Bro. Algernon Perkins, Past Grand Junior Warden, the M.W. Grand Master having previously given his sanction to the holding of a Special Grand Lodge on the occasion, while the House Committee and the Secretary had charge as Stewards of the festival portion of the programme. Temporary structures having been erected at a cost of £350 for the accommodation of the guests, the proceedings commenced at an early hour of the day with a series of athletic sports for the boys, to the most successful of whom were awarded prizes in the shape of cricket bats, fishing rods, &c., representing in value an aggregate of £5. The services of three military bands, including that of the 1st Life Guards, were engaged, and in due course the procession, having been formed, arrived at the site of the stone, and the ceremony of laying it was carried out in accordance with ancient usage, the following copy, in vellum, of the inscription on the brass plate being lodged in the cavity of the stone, namely:

In the name of the
GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE,
 This Corner-stone of a new Building for the
ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS
 (founded in the year 1798),
 Wherein will be educated, clothed, and maintained
ONE HUNDRED BOYS,
 the Sons of Decayed and Deceased Freemasons,
 was laid with full Masonic Honours by
ALGERNON PERKINS, ESQ.,
 Right Worshipful Past Grand Warden,
 in the presence of the Officers and Members of the
UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND
 (specially summoned for the occasion)
 and numerous Members of the Craft, on
 Saturday, 8th of August, A.L. 5863, A.D. 1863,
 in the 27th year of the Reign of
QUEEN VICTORIA.
 Patron: Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.
 President: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Zetland, K.T.,
 M.W. Grand Master.

Following this is a complete list of the Committee and Officers, &c., of the Institution, the whole concluding with the appropriate words "Gloria in Excelsis Deo." The ceremony being concluded, in which, by the way, the pupils of the Girls' and Boys' Schools took a prominent part, the visitors sat down to an elegant banquet, while Bros. Toole and Bedford by their amusing entertainment contributed largely to the pleasure of the day. Lastly, the moneys subscribed by the ladies—in purses ranging from 5 to 25 guineas—and brethren were handed in and found to amount to, in round figures, some £1500, effusive votes of thanks being passed to all who had had a share in the day's event.

The stone having been laid, the erection of the new School proceeded apace, and at length on the 8th July, 1865, the inaugural ceremony was held, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G. Master, in the unavoidable absence, through a domestic bereavement, of the Grand Master; the new dining hall being suitably fitted up for the Dedication ceremony. Here addresses were delivered by the Acting Grand Master, Bro. J. S. S. Hopwood, Chairman of the General Committee (on behalf of Bro. B. B. Cabbell, the Treasurer), Bro. the Rev. C. R. Davy, Grand Chap.; and Bro. the Rev. J. E. Cox, Past Grand Chap. A breakfast, at which the chair was taken by Earl de Grey and Ripon, followed, after which the Secretary announced that the approximate result of the Festival must be set down as being about £5000, a most welcome announcement with which to conclude the festive gathering. There would seem to have been some slight drawback from the success of the proceedings, in consequence of the contractor for the collation having made very indifferent arrangements, but, as the Minutes remark, this may have been attributable to the unfinished state of the buildings and especially of the grounds. At all events, this trivial drawback was ephemeral. The grounds and building were soon brought into an orderly state, and in a very short time it came to be possible to make the substantial addition to the numerical strength of the establishment which had been in contemplation when the new building was undertaken.

It will be understood that, in connection with so costly an enterprise as that of erecting an entirely new building which should be large enough to accommodate an increased number of pupils and the increased educational and domestic staffs which would necessarily follow, the question of ways and means would seriously occupy the minds of the Executive. Happily, the day had passed when the possibility of meeting a very heavy expenditure was likely to be viewed with any approach to misgiving. We are far from desiring our readers to imagine that the undertaking we have just briefly described was entered upon without a grave sense of the responsibility which was being incurred. But, if we may be permitted to say so, when the Boys' Institution resolved on having a School of its own there seems to have been established a strong sense of familiarity between its governing body and the Craft generally. The former appears to have adopted as the guiding principle of its actions that the latter would be only too delighted to render whatever pecuniary assistance might be found requisite if only they were taken into the confidence of the Executive. We do not suggest that the brethren would have sanctioned a reckless course of procedure. But, somehow, a kind of friendly understanding appears almost imperceptibly to have established itself between the Institution and the Craft. The old sense of hesitation would seem to have given place to one of belief that the latter would do what was required towards placing the Charity on a footing worthy of all interested in its success, if only the Executive would make it clear, on broad and statesmanlike grounds, what was the line of policy it proposed to adopt. It is only in some such way as this that we can pretend to explain the remarkable change of front which occurred during the first decade

of Bro. Cabbell's Treasurership, when one year a Committee reported dead against a proposal to erect or rent a School building on the ground that it would be too costly, and the very next year another Committee was as dead in favour of the very same proposal. Moreover, the Craft had not only sanctioned and applauded this change of front by liberally providing the additional moneys that were required, but they had gone still further and most handsomely supported the Governors in the still more costly plans for the extension and improvement of the Institution. In 1850 a School was not to be thought of; in 1851 it was resolved to buy or build one. In 1857 the original premises at Wood Green were opened for the reception of 25 boys, the remaining 45 on the establishment being continued under the old system. In 1859 the whole of the establishment was housed at Wood Green; and in 1865 the new building, large enough to accommodate 100 boys, was ceremoniously opened for the purposes of the Institution by the Deputy Grand Master of England. These changes necessitated a very large outlay, but the funds were readily forthcoming. The cost of the first experiment was met without trenching on the invested funds of the Institution to any great extent, but that of the enlarged School could not be dealt with so summarily. In 1864 the whole of the funded property (£13,100 Government Stock) was sold, and the proceeds (£11,540) went towards paying for the structure, while a few years later a sum of £10,000 to be devoted to the same object, was borrowed on mortgage of the property, the rest of the expense being defrayed out of the current receipts of the Institution. But we need not enter into further particulars on this head. In the Appendix will be found a tabular statement, in which is set forth the whole of the expense incurred in connection with the new School inaugurated in 1865, the statement being certified by Bro. S. B. Wilson, the architect of the Institution, as correct to date—8th January 1871, the mortgage having by that time been paid off, and the Institution, if not entirely freed from debt, in a fair way of becoming so, thanks to the splendid liberality with which the brethren in the Provinces as well as in London had responded to the appeals of the Executive for assistance in this glorious work.

The other events that occurred during this period are of the same encouraging character. It is hardly worth while entering into minute details as to the steps taken by the Executive in the fulfilment of their responsibilities. It may be stated in general terms that in the course pursued by the House and General Committees the spirit of enterprise by which they were actuated was, in all cases, tempered by the exercise of a sound discretion. In 1862 it was determined to raise the maximum limit of age for the boys in the establishment from 14 to 15, while the year following the new arrangements, by which the Head Master had a residence set apart for his use, rendered it necessary there should be some one placed in charge of the domestic arrangements of the School, and the services of Miss Hall were engaged as Matron, and the fact of her still holding that position after the lapse of 21 years fully establishes the wisdom of the choice that was made. As regards the Festivals, they became increasingly productive from the time that Bro. Binckes entered upon the office of Secretary. In 1862 Lord Holmesdale—in the unavoidable absence of Lord Leigh—took the chair; the Board of Stewards numbered 109 brethren, and the sum raised was £3650, the services of Bro. Binckes being promptly recognised by the Committee in a manner that was at once substantial and gratifying. In 1863 Lord de Grey and Ripon presided, and the proceeds amounted to £4679, his Lordship's province being a contributor to the extent of £1500, while other provinces also rendered valuable assistance. Indeed, in the vote of thanks recorded in the minutes to the Stewards it is distinctly pointed out that "considerably more than one-half" of the above total was raised by the provincial section of the Board. So gratified were the Governors and Subscribers with a result, which at the time was entirely unprecedented, that it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Bro. (then Captain) Creaton, that an honorarium should be annually bestowed on Bro. Binckes, amounting to 5 per cent. on all the proceeds in excess of £2000. The increased exertions made in respect of the Anniversary gatherings were rendered necessary by the increased amount of responsibility devolving on the Institution; but this alone will not suffice to account for the great increase in the amounts raised on these occasions. The Boards of Stewards were organised systematically. Circulars were issued inviting support, and Bro. Binckes travelled the country in all directions in order to obtain the assistance of brethren as Stewards and the countenance of the country lodges. This unceasing energy on his part had its reward, and as the years rolled on, it was found possible not only to maintain, but even to raise still higher, the standard of efficiency which had been fixed for the Boys' School under the new and improved system adopted and carried out by the Committee and Bro. Binckes.

(To be continued.)

INTOLERANCE.—A grave vice always opposed to the true genius and real teaching of Freemasonry. Intolerance is not confined to any one age or sect, and seems to be, alas! the common heritage of us all alike. As Freemason we should always be above intolerance, and learn to be tolerant in word and deed and thought. Freemasonry has often to contend with the intolerance of a pseudo-religionism, which seems to think that orthodoxy and the true faith are best shown forth by cursing and anathematizing those who differ from us—that awful mistake which has led to so much suffering, sorrow, cruelty, persecution, and bloodshed in the world. The Roman Catholic Church has always been very intolerant against Freemasonry, and some minor Protestant sects have followed suit. The Masonic body in England has always boasted of its great teaching of Toleration as the key-note of all its public professions and practice, as well as of its inner code of ethics; and we trust that nothing will ever induce it to become insensible to the ceaseless duty of a kindly and tolerant treatment of all men. There is a tendency in the age to revive intolerance in its most mournful guise, persecution for conscience sake, especially on the part of the Ultramontanes and other insignificant bodies; but as Freemasons we can never allow the word Toleration to be erased from our banners.—*Kenning's Encyclopædia.*

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.—Freemasonry seems to have been founded at Corfu by a lodge called "Loge de St. Napoléon," under the Grand Orient of France, in 1811. Another lodge, called "Le Phénix," under the same authority, is still active, constituted in 1843. The lodge "Pythagoras," under the English Grand Lodge, was constituted together with a Royal Arch Chapter in 1837. About 1842 a Grand Lodge of Greece was, we understand, set up under a certain Angelo Calichiopulo as Grand Master; but we believe that it is now absorbed in the Grand Lodge of Greece at Athens.—*Kenning's Encyclopædia.*

PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

R.W. COL. SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.,
Provincial Grand Master.

A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

Will be held at
THE ATHENÆUM, ENFIELD,

On Saturday, August 2nd, at 2.30 p.m. precisely.

By command of the Prov. G. Master.

H. C. LEVANDER, P.G.D.,

July 12th, 1884.

Prov. Grand Sec.

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.

Just Published, Price One Penny.

THE POPE AND FREEMASONS.**REPLY**

TO THE

Encyclical Letters of the Pope, the Archbishop of Dublin, and Bishop of Killaleen.

By A FREEMASON.

MANCHESTER—JOHN HEYWOOD, Deansgate and Ridgfield; and LONDON—J. BERESFORD, 29, Corporation Street; and all Booksellers.

BACON'S CENTRAL HOTEL

ADJOINING FREEMASONS' HALL,
GREAT QUEEN STREET, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS,
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.

NEW BUSINESS.

2097 Policies issued for £411,099

New Premium Income £12,566

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

26,704 Policies, Assuring £4948,145

Premiums £144,626

Interest, &c. £37,695

ACCUMULATED FUND.

Laid by in the year £65,507

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 11 per cent. per Annum.

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

Influential Agents wanted.

ATLAS ASSURANCE COMPANY.

92, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT.

Capital—One Million Two Hundred Thousand Pounds.
Instituted 1808, and Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

The Company has been in existence more than 76 Years.
Moderate Rates. Prompt Settlements. Liberal Conditions.
All its Funds are Invested in Great Britain.

Transacts Home Business only.

No Hypothecation of Funds for Foreign Policy Holders.
Ample Reserves apart from Capital.

LIFE DEPARTMENT—Whole-World Assurances.
Liberal Surrender Values given in Cash or by paid-up Policies.
Payment of Claim immediately on proof of death.
All kinds of Life Assurance transacted.

ACCIDENTS Assured Against, whether fatal or causing total or partial disablement, at moderate rates, and with liberal compensation.

FIRE—Policies issued free of expense.

LOSSES OCCASIONED BY LIGHTNING will be paid whether the property be set on fire or not.

LOSS OR DAMAGE caused by Explosion of Coal Gas in any building assured will be made good.

Seven Years' Policies granted on payment of Six Years' Premiums.

Active Agents Wanted.

SAMUEL J. PIPKIN, Secretary.

"SALUTATION,"**NEWGATE****STREET,****LONDON, E.C.**

E. LIEBMANN, PROPRIETOR

(Urban Lodge, No. 1196).

This Establishment has been recently entirely

REBUILT AND REDECORATED.

Amongst special features it offers are

A SPACIOUS MASONIC TEMPLE,

WITH

RECEPTION AND PREPARATION**ROOMS,****COMMODIOUS LODGE ROOMS**

AND

BANQUETING HALLS.**PRIVATE ROOMS FOR ARBITRATION MEETINGS,**

PROCEEDINGS, &c., &c.

Accommodation for

ELECTIONS TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS,

Also every convenience for

BALLS, WEDDING BREAKFASTS,**SOIREEES,****AND EVENING PARTIES.****CUISINE OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER.****THE WINES**

Have been most carefully selected, and will be found perfect as regards condition.

The Proprietor will be happy to supply particulars as to
Tariff, Scale of Charges, &c.

LODGES intending to move from their present abode will do well to apply as early as possible to

E. LIEBMANN, PROPRIETOR

(Urban Lodge, No. 1196).

"SALUTATION,"**NEWGATE****STREET,****LONDON, E.C.****LONDON & NORTH WESTERN AND CALEDONIAN RAILWAYS.**

THE SUMMER SERVICE OF PASSENGER TRAINS from LONDON to SCOTLAND is now in operation.

	WEEK DAYS.				A		B		
	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
London (Euston Station).....	dep. 5.15	7.15	10.0	11.0	8.0	8.50	9.0		
Edinburgh	arr. 4.10	5.50	7.55	10.0	6.20	6.45	7.50		
Glasgow	" 4.20	6.0	8.0	10.15	6.35	6.55	8.0		
Greenock	" 5.50	7.15	9.5	11.42	7.50	7.50	9.48		
Oban	" 9.40	—	—	4.45	12.15	12.15	2.34		
Perth	" 6.50	—	9.35	11.50	8.0	8.15	9.55		
Dundee	" 7.30	—	10.30	1.0	9.0	9.0	12.0		
Aberdeen	" 10.10	—	—	3.20	11.40	2.15			
Inverness	" —	—	—	8.0	1.30	6.20			

The **HIGHLAND EXPRESS** (8.0. 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.

A—Does not run to Greenock or Oban on Sunday mornings.

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

Day saloons fitted with lavatory accommodation are attached to the 10.0 a.m. down express train from Euston to Edinburgh and Glasgow, &c., without extra charge.

IMPROVED SLEEPING SALOONS, accompanied by an attendant, are run on the night trains between London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Stranraer, and Perth. Extra charge, 5s. for each berth.

CALLANDER AND OBAN LINE.

The line to Oban affords the quickest and most comfortable route to the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

For particulars of up train service from Scotland to London, see the Companies' time-bills.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager,
L. & N. W. Railway.

J. THOMPSON, General Manager,
Caledonian Railway.

June, 1884.

LONDON & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**NORTH WALES AND LAKE DISTRICT.**

The Summer Service of Trains in the Lake District, and on the North Wales Coast, is now in operation. The Express leaving Euston at 10.30 a.m. will be found the most convenient for Llandudno, Rhyl, Penmaenmawr, Aberystwith, Barmouth, Dolgelly, &c., as well as for the English Lake District.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class

TOURIST TICKETS,

AVAILABLE FOR TWO MONTHS,

Are issued at all the

PRINCIPAL STATIONS

ON THE

London and North Western Railway.

For full particulars, see **TOURIST GUIDE** (130 pages with Maps, price One Penny), which can be obtained at the Stations, or on application to Mr. G. P. NEELE, Superintendent of the Line.

G. FINDLAY, General Manager.
Euston Station, July, 1884.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**BROAD GAUGE ROUTE TO THE WEST OF ENGLAND.**

Continuous Railway Communication, without change of carriage, between *Paddington* and *Exeter*, *Dawlish*, *Teignmouth*, *Torquay*, *Paignton*, *Kingswear* (for Dartmouth), *Plymouth*, *Devonport*, *Truro*, *Penzance*, and other favourite resorts in the West of England.

Tourist Tickets available for two months (1, 2, 3, Class), are issued in London at *Paddington*, *Westbourne Park*, *Notting Hill*, *Hammersmith*, *Shepherd's Bush*, *Kensington* (*Addison Road*), *Uxbridge Road*, and certain stations on the Metropolitan and District Railways to the West of England, including the following Sea-Side and other places of attraction, viz.—*Clevedon*, *Weston-Super-Mare*, *Minhead*, *Linton*, *Barnstaple*, *Ilfracombe*, *Exeter*, *Dawlish*, *Teignmouth*, *Torquay*, *Paignton*, *Dartmouth*, *Plymouth*, *Devonport*, *Newquay*, *Fowey*, *Truro*, *Falmouth*, *St. Ives*, *Penzance*, *Scilly Islands*, &c.

Passengers holding First and Second-Class Tourist Tickets can travel by the 11.45 a.m., and 3.0 p.m., fast trains from *Paddington*, which reach *Exeter* at 4.0 and 7.14 p.m.; *Torquay*, at 5.9 and 8.12; and *Plymouth* at 5.55 and 8.55 p.m. respectively.

See Programmes and Time Bills issued by the Company.
J. GRIERSON, General Manager.

AN IMPORTANT FACT!

£10 and upwards carefully invested in Options on Stocks and Shares is the safest and most popular way of rapidly making money on the Stock Exchange by the non-liability system. Explanatory Book (new edition) giving full details, *gratis* and *post free*.—Address, **GEORGE EVANS and Co.**, Sworn Brokers, Gresham House, London, E.C.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

OF ENGLAND AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND DEPENDENCIES OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE,
M.W.G.M.THE RIGHT HON. LORD EGERTON OF TATTON,
R.W.D.G.M.**A MOVEABLE GRAND LODGE**

will be held on the invitation of the R.W. Provincial Grand Mark Master, the Dep. Prov. Grand Mark Master, and the Brethren of the Province of Devonshire,

AT THE ROYAL PUBLIC ROOMS, EXETER,

On WEDNESDAY, the 6th of AUGUST, 1884,
at which all legally advanced Mark Master Masons may be present.

Grand Lodge will be opened at Four o'clock prompt.

By command of the M.W. Grand Master.

FREDERICK BINCKES, P.G.J.W.,
Grand Secretary.Office—S.A., Red Lion-square, London, W.C.,
15th July, 1884.**BUSINESS.**

Open Grand Lodge in Form.

Proposed by M.W. Bro. Canon PORTAL, M.A., P.G.M.
M.M.—“That the sum of 10 guineas be voted to ‘The Hughan Testimonial Fund.’”

General Business.

Close Grand Lodge.

A Banquet will take place at 5.30 o'clock precisely, at the Rougemont Hotel. Tickets 5s. each (exclusive of Wine.)

N.B.—To facilitate the arrangements for the comfort of the Brethren attending the Banquet, application for Tickets must be made not later than Saturday, 2nd August, to W. Bro. G. F. GRATWICK, Prov. Grand Sec., Raleigh Lodge, St. Thomas, Exeter.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

The Great Western Railway and London and South Western Railway have consented to issue Return Tickets, 1st and 2nd Class, at a Fare and a Quarter, available from Tuesday, 5th, to Saturday, 9th, August, from all Stations on their systems to Exeter, on production of Masonic Clothing to the Booking Clerk.

By command of the M.W.G.M.M.M. Brethren will appear in Masonic Mourning.

A BROTHER P.M. seeks Employment as WORKING FOREMAN, well up in Gas-Bell (Electric); Hot-Water Stove Range and Locksmith; the Lathe, Brass-fishing, Bronzing, and Lacquering, &c., can estimate and keep books.—Address, W.K.S., care of Mr. Wade, 99, Battersea Park-road, South Lambeth.**Educational.****DULWICH HOUSE SCHOOL,**
VICTORIA ROAD, UPPER NORWOOD, S.E.
(Within seven minutes' of the Crystal Palace).**PRINCIPAL:**Mr. J. K. BARNES, LONDON UNIVERSITY.
(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.
J. D. Rodger, Esq., College Lawn, Cheltenham.

C. P. Mason, B.A., F.C.P., Dukesell, Streatham Hill, S.E.

HIGH-CLASS PRIVATE SCHOOL
THEOBALD'S PARK, WALTHAM CROSS,
LONDON, N.**PRINCIPAL:**

Rev. J. OSWALD JACKSON,

Assisted by Five Masters.

Limited number of Gentlemen's Sons; motherly care for delicate pupils; individual teaching for backward ones; playground of six acres.

First Class Honours gained at last Cambridge Local Examinations, with Distinction in Mathematics.

References kindly permitted to

Rev. Dr. Reynolds, Principal of Cheshunt College, Herts.

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.

WORKING COLLEGE, WORKING, SURREY.**HEAD MASTER:**

The Rev. C. W. ARNOLD, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.

In the Higher Classes pupils are prepared for the Universities, Army, Civil Service, Oxford and Cambridge Locals, and Mercantile Life.

The School is connected with a School at Lausanne, to which boys for Mercantile Life can be sent on to acquire French and German conversationally.

In the Lower Classes pupils are prepared for the Public Schools and Navy. From this department boys have passed into all the Public Schools.

During the last year two open Scholarships at the Universities and a Foundation Scholarship at Westminster have been gained.

Terms Moderate. For Prospectus apply to Head Master.

WANTED by a Brother (M.M.) who
has recently left the Army, (Royal Artillery), 12 years' very good character, SITUATION as Time or Gate-keeper, or in a Warehouse, or any place of trust, last 7 years a Non-Commissioned Officer.—Address, J. K., 7, Richards-st., Cornwall-rd., Lambeth, S.E.**To Correspondents.****BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.**

“Jewish Chronicle,” “Sunday Times,” “Keystone,” “Freemasons' Repository,” “Hull Packet,” “Citizen,” “Broad Arrow,” “New York Dispatch,” “Court Circular,” “Rough Ashlar,” “La Espana,” “Freimaurer Zeitung,” “El Taller,” “The Tricycling Journal,” “The Freemason” (Toronto), “Das Welt Turnier,” “Mossel Bay Advertiser,” “The Daily Independent.”



SATURDAY, JULY 26, 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.]

THE INQUISITION.

To the Editor of the “Freemason.”

Dear Sir and Brother,

I see in your paper that the Pope has handed us all over to the Inquisition. Just now, there is not much cause to fear its “fiery fangs.” How it will be another generation hence who can venture to predict? It is not a little curious that one of the predisposing causes of my own humble Masonic membership was to be found in the connection of Freemasonry with the persecution of the Inquisition. It was my lot, years ago—more years than I care to count,—when quite young, to listen to the tale of his escape from the Inquisition from the lips of the author of “Sandoval, the Freemason.” I remember how his words impressed me, and thrilled through me, when he told me of his mysterious arrest by the familiars of that detested and detestable body at Madrid, and how he was hurried off, and ere long found himself in the vaults of the Inquisition. Then, when hope was failing, and his heart had well-nigh sunk, a familiar, shrouded in the robe and mark of his office, touched him, and made a Masonic sign. In 48 hours he was out of the Inquisition! He told me more than about the use of Freemasonry, and I then made up my mind to be initiated in due time. And so, when that due time came, I was initiated, and, after an apprenticeship of 42 years, I can truly say I have learned the older I grew to realize its value, and admire its principles and outcome, when true and sound, as in Great Britain and America, &c. I cannot acquit many of my foreign brethren of much forgetfulness of the distinctive principles of our Order; but even for them the threatened terrors of the Inquisition are alike a ridiculous impertinence and a senseless menace.—Fraternally yours,
A VERY OLD FREEMASON.

GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the “Freemason.”

Dear Sir and Brother,

I shall be expressing the feelings of the large majority of my brethren in South Australia, who have thrown in their lot with the new Grand Lodge, when I ask your permission to allow me the use of your columns, to thank Bro. T. B. Whytehead for his excellent letter, in your issue of the 12th inst.,—prompted, as it was, by a liberality of feeling which commands our gratitude.

As members of the new Grand Lodge of S.A., we certainly deserve recognition at the hands of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland, and the continued attempts to obtain a perfect unanimity amongst the brethren were directed with the view of securing this privilege. I can understand that it is the duty of Grand Lodge to protect even a minority under certain circumstances, but never surely at the cost of an overwhelming majority.

By way of point to Bro. Whytehead's concluding paragraph, let me relate the first of some recent private advices from the Colony.

The W.M. elect of a lodge (formerly working under the E.C.) was in considerable doubt and anxiety as to his duty to his lodge in regard to a brother who held one of the junior offices under the then W.M. After much thought, he decided that it would be necessary to omit his name from the list of officers for the ensuing year. This he did very reluctantly. After the Installation, a document was circulated among the brethren for their signatures, to the effect that the petitioners were desirous of retaining the old warrant from the Grand Lodge of England, and the agitators had the bad taste to request the signature and co-operation of one of the junior officers, after his appointment. I may add, that the agitators had previously signified in writing their allegiance to the new Grand Lodge of South Australia.—I am, yours fraternally,
A SOUTH-AUSTRALIAN MASON.

**ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.—RULES AND REGULATIONS, 1884. 33, Golden-square.**

The new issue of these Rules and Regulations for 1884 of this now very influential body in Golden-square serves to convince all who read it how great is the prosperity of the body, and how rapidly it is advancing in numbers and prestige. No one can have any objection to the principles under which it is admirably managed in this country. In some countries, by a most unwise arrangement, Craft Masonry is worked as well as the Higher Grades, and though, according to the theory of the A. and A. Rite, all these Grades are, so to say, steps in the one ladder, yet this double system has not worked well in times past, nor can work well to-day. The A. and A. Rite is stronger in its own strength than by seeking to commingle Craft and Chivalric Grades. There may be those here and there who object to the “idea” of the so-called High Grades “in toto”; but on the very principles of Masonic toleration, we are bound, as it seems to us, to concede to others the same rights of choice and preference which we claim for ourselves. As regards the Ancient and Accepted Rite itself, circumstances seem to be conspiring to bring out in clearer effect than heretofore its undoubtedly interesting and ancient annals. Much confusion has been occasioned by a great mistake, still persisted in by some, which mixes up the delegation of Stephen Morin with the old Craft Grand Lodge of France. Such is an entire error, despite the high authority of Thory, Ragon, Rebold, and Findel. Daruty is right in pointing out that that delegation was signed not by the officers of the Grande Loge of France, but those of the “Grande Loge of St. John of Perfection,” a High Grade body. The theory that Stephen Morin received his letters patent from the Council of the Emperors of the East and the West is equally erroneous. So that we have yet to seek for the true origin of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. It is quite clear now that Ramsay had little, if anything, to do with the High Grades, or with Freemasonry after 1736-7. We are inclined to believe that the Ancient and Accepted Rite is a combination or outcome of two movements,—one an improved Craft development, owing to the taste for higher names, the other the result of Hermeticism, manipulated and formed in the early part of the eighteenth century, partly for political, partly for religious purposes; but which “concordat,” so to say, as regards any Roman Catholic sympathy or Jesuit participation, ended necessarily with the publication of the Bull of Clement in 1738. Those who will carefully study the terminology and ritualism of the Ancient and Accepted Rite will, we think, agree with us in the plausibility of this view; and as the neglected question of Hermeticism is realized and studied, we may discover other analogies and fuller coincidences.

THE MASONIC TOKEN. Portland, Maine, U.S.

This Masonic paper, edited by Bro. Stephen Berry, is a very interesting production, and deserves not only the support of Freemasons in the United States, but also of Masons in England.

**371] FREEMASONRY BEFORE 1717.**

I see a phrase in my last communication which may be misunderstood. Ashmole calls himself the “senior fellow among them,” he having been admitted 35 years before. Some have thought that Ashmole received a Second Degree then; I do not, and consider the words merely explanatory of his position arising from his initiation, &c., at Warrington in 1646. He probably uses the word fellow in a generic sense as member of a Fellowship. I may add that a great blunder is often made in supposing that Ashmole says he was himself made a fellow in 1682. He says nothing of the kind. He says certain persons “were admitted into the Fellowship of Freemasons,” and names them. There was an old mistake of “was” for “were,” but it had been long found out, and Bro. Gould makes it quite clear. 372] DRYASDUST.

“DRYASDUST” ON ENGLISH FREEMASONRY, &c.

I have been reading the two articles by “Dryasdust,” and can easily enough guess the name of the writer, but of course it is not for me to withdraw the veil! I entirely repudiate with him the absurd theory that the Freemasonry of to-day is solely the outcome of the “Revivalists” in 1717, for the evidence is abundant that the Craft, as a secret Institution, existed long before that period, the continuity of the old and new organizations being beyond question. I should like to know what English lodge minute book confirms “Anderson's statement as to four lodges meeting in 1717.” The evidence of Preston is not needed (though it is useful) in confirmation of the York minutes of 1705, &c., for they are thus described in the Schedule of 15th Sept., 1779: “A narrow folio Manuscript Book beginning 7th March, 1705-6, containing sundry Accounts and Minutes relative to Grand Lodge.” “Dryasdust,” however, overlooks another record or “Roll,” which begins in 1712 and extends to 1730, the minute of 27th Dec., 1725, being especially valuable because of its registering an account for the first time of a “Grand Lodge” at York. In many respects this parchment roll is the most valuable record we have on Freemasonry, because it is so clearly indicative of the adoption of the modern terms “Grand Master” and “Grand Lodge” in 1725, by a lodge which existed long before the starting of the Premier Grand Lodge in London, A.D. 1717. I had not, in 1871, a complete copy of this record on writing my “History of Freemasonry in York,” but have since obtained it. Bro. Gould has it from me for publication in his Vol. 4 of the best “History of Freemasonry”—critically and generally—that has ever been written. I have much pleasure in adding my testimony to that of “Dryasdust's,” in appreciation of the value of the service rendered by Bro. W. H. Rylands in elucidating Seventeenth Century Freemasonry, and I feel certain that our veteran collaborator, Bro. Woodford, will join me in so

writing. Another query, and I have done. What does "Dryasdust" mean by saying that Elias Ashmole received in 1646 "what we should call the Entered Apprentice Degree," and that the "words of 1682 simply refer to the conferring and reception of a degree?" I am familiar with Ashmole's Diary, and of course know the two entries well of 1646 and 1682, but entirely fail to find in them any references to Masonic Degrees, and, moreover, I consider it positively misleading for any brother to speak of Degrees in Freemasonry being worked at that period. Ashmole says he was "made a Free Mason" on Oct. 16th, 1646, and "was admitted into the fellowship of Free Masons" March 11th, 1682. How such entries can be interpreted to mean Degrees I cannot imagine.

W. J. HUGHAN.

373]

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND, GRAND MASTER.

There were two Dukes of Richmond who were said to be Grand Masters, the first the son of Charles the II., who died in 1733-4; the other who is said to have assisted in revising the Constitutions of 1738. It is a curious fact as bearing on recent controversies by which the former is rejected and the latter accepted as Grand Master, that in 1738 the 2nd Duke of Richmond presented to a Lodge in Chichester now extinct, a copy of the Constitutions of 1738, still extant. When he gave this present to the Lodge, which seems to have been the one meeting occasionally at Rocks Hill, and probably the continuation of a *precious lodge* at the same place, there were many brethren living in Chichester who must have known as a fact whether the father of the then Duke had been a Freemason, and above all Grand Master. The first Duke only died in 1733-4, and 14 years after his death his son gives the Book of Constitutions to the Chichester Lodge, which declared his father to have been W.M. of a lodge in Chichester itself and Grand Master. If these statements were solely invented "ad hoc," and were not true "per se," we should have been inclined to think that the faith of the Chichester Freemasons in the credibility of Masonic history and the veracity of its leaders must have been gravely shaken. It has been suggested that the Duke of Richmond never saw the revised Constitutions, but gave his assent "pro forma," and we must also assume, it appears to me, that none of the leading Masons in London or Chichester, or, in fact, any where, had ever perused the alterations and additions; but took all these accretions, &c., on faith, as emanating from the Grand Lodge. It seems to me that such is an eminently unsatisfactory conclusion to arrive at, and one so unreasonable in itself that I feel sure it cannot face sound or expert criticism. I am quite willing to admit that the Wren tradition and the Richmond tradition in one sense stand and fall together, and that if one is true the other is pretty certainly correct; whereas if the Duke of Richmond was not Grand Master in the seventeenth century, it is also equally probable that Wren was not either. But until better advised, until positive proof be added to negative criticism, I for one, as I have said repeatedly, hold by the bona fides of Anderson, whatever may be the reason why in 1738 his statement is so much fuller and more minute than in 1723. I have always thought we are making too much of the 1723 book. It was compiled hastily for a purpose, and is simply what it professes to be, a modernization and arrangement of the Guild Legends.

MASONIC STUDENT.

374]

Since I wrote the above, Bro. Sadler, G.T., has very kindly called my attention to a very important paragraph in G.L. minutes of date March, 2nd, 1732. It is as follows: "The petition of Bro. Edward Hall, a member of the lodge at the Swan, Chichester, being there made a Mason by the late Duke of Richmond, six-and-thirty years ago, and now recommended by the present Duke of Richmond as a proper object of the Charity of Free and Accepted Masons. His petition was read, and Bro. Hall was called in, and after some questions asked him he withdrew, and the question being put, Resolved, that six guineas be given to Bro. Hall for his present subsistence." It appears that the son of the Duke of Richmond, himself G.M. of 1724, was present at this meeting, and though no mention of the G. Mastership is made, yet it seems to us that the probability of the essential accuracy of Anderson's statement is greatly strengthened. Anderson is thus proved to be completely right as to the Duke of Richmond's father being Master of a lodge at Chichester in 1696, and earlier, he probably is right also as to his being G.M.

MASONIC STUDENT.

ANNUAL PICNIC OF THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, No. 178, WIGAN.

On Wednesday, the 16th inst., 73 ladies and brethren assembled at the London and North-Western Railway Station for the purpose of proceeding to Eaton Hall, near Chester, the seat of the Duke of Westminster. The party were conveyed in saloons to Chester. The train started at 9.20 and arrived at the old-fashioned city soon after ten. On leaving the train the company walked to the Blossoms Hotel, where a light luncheon was had. A walk on the Walls and a visit to the Cathedral and other interesting places occupied the time up to dinner, which was served at the Blossoms Hotel. From thence the party took steamer and barge on the Dee to Eaton Hall, the sail being most enjoyable. The splendid gardens and hall were visited, and came in for their due share of attention and praise. The party then drove back in waggonettes to Chester, and partook of tea at the Blossoms Hotel. A vote of thanks was passed to the brethren of 1335 for their attendance, and goodwill shewn to 178. A vote of thanks was also passed to an old friend from Wigan now residing in Chester who had conducted the party to the various "sights" during the day. The party left Chester at 7.50 and arrived in Wigan soon after nine, having spent a most enjoyable day. Amongst the company were Bros. J. R. Cook, P.M.; Thomas Milligan, P.M., P.P.G. J.D.; C. B. Holmes, P.M., P.Z., D.C.; H. D. Croft, P.M.; Thomas Milner, P.M., Treas.; James Ashurst, P.M.; G. L. Campbell, P.M. 1335; James Murray, P.M., &c., 1335; James Hall, P.M.; James Parker, W.M.; James Holmes, Secretary; Thomas Strawger, S.D.; George Makinson, J.D.; R. Layland, I.G.; A. Riddlesworth, S.S.; T. P. Simpson, J.S.; R. Seddon, Sec. 1335; James Dawber, Org. 1335; Pakerson, Tyler; and others.

REPORTS OF LADIES OF THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY, No. 178, WIGAN.

Craft Masonry.

NELSON LODGE (No. 700).—The installation meeting of the above prosperous lodge took place on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, when Bro. T. Ovenden, S.W. and W.M. elect, was placed in the chair of K.S., and saluted with the usual honours. Bro. J. H. Roberts, I.P.M., was the Installing Officer, and did the work splendidly; his delivery of the charges was most impressive. The following were invested as officers for the ensuing twelve months: Bros. C. Sweeting, S.W.; J. Sanderson, J.W.; T. Butt, P.M., Treas.; C. Norman, P.M., Sec.; R. J. Naylor, S.D.; J. Swanson, J.D.; W. Bidgood, Org.; W. Wray, I.G.; and Miller, D.C. A vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Roberts for his services as Installing Officer, and it was ordered to be entered on the minutes of the lodge. He was also presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel of the value of ten guineas, as a mark of the esteem of the brethren, and for valuable services rendered the lodge during his year of office.

Bro. Roberts suitably returned thanks, and then the lodge was closed, and the brethren went by rail to Gravesend, where, at the New Falcon, Bro. Hubbard's famous hostelry, a superbly appointed and admirably served banquet awaited them.

Besides the brethren above enumerated there were present: Bros. W. Graham, P.M.; E. Bowles, P.M.; G. Crawford, P.M.; C. W. Hobson, P.M.; J. Warren, P.M.; E. B. Hobson, P.M.; Capt. W. Richey, P.M.; A. Woodley, P.M.; J. Johnson, W. Orpwood, J. Marchant, J. Martin, J. Redhead, J. Logan, C. Bedo, T. Webber, J. McCollough, H. Lane, A. J. Mitchell, W. West, H. Palmer, G. Porter, T. West, J. Trodd, Knowles, T. Graham, G. Shaw, W. Lacy, E. Medlicott, W. Wright, G. F. Taylor, J. Carty, S. E. Southgate, G. Nichols, and J. Prance, all of the lodge; T. Vincent, P.M. 1861, P.G. Stwd.; Capt. J. Sculley, W.M. 706; T. D. Hayes, P.M. 913; W. Rees, W.M. 913; A. Saunders, W.M. 1536; G. Masters, W.M. 13; G. H. Wigglesworth, P.M. 975; C. Farwig, P.M. 180; G. Spinks, P.M. 1436; A. Burnett, S.W. 706; R. Smith, P.M. 13; E. Palmer, S.W. 913; W. Moulds, S.W. 1536; G. H. Letton, J.W. 913; Capt. J. McCaffery, 1536; D. Parker, 1276; A. T. Jewell, 1158; W. Cordr, 915; W. Lucraft, H. Bonnor, 73; H. Unsell, 1395; J. F. Randall, 913; G. B. Frost, 13; S. Nichols, 1714; A. J. Potter, 813; A. Gasgoyne, 1491; T. Huntley, 97; and C. Jolly, 1472, &c. (*Freemason*).

"The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," having been honoured, "The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M.;" "Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," were drank in loyal fashion.

Bro. Roberts, I.P.M., then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and in so doing drew attention to the zeal and ability displayed by Bro. Ovenden in the minor offices, and augured from that that under his rule the prestige of the Nelson Lodge would be maintained in all its ancient lustre.

Bro. Ovenden, in response, assured the brethren that nothing would be wanting on his part to render himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him. He then proposed "The Past Masters," who, he said, were the stars that lightened the darkness of those who desire office. He was exceedingly proud to see such an array of Past Masters present, and called upon the brethren to drink the toast in bumpers.

Bro. Crawford, P.M., in response thanked them for the toast. He had spent many happy hours during the 20 years he had been a member of the Nelson Lodge. He was proud to see the lodge in such a prosperous condition. As to Bro. Ovenden, he was a good working Mason, and he knew no brother who deserved better at their hands than he did. As for the Past Masters, they, he knew, would only be too happy to assist the W.M. in any way, and so add to the prosperity and continued success of the lodge.

Bro. C. Hobson, P.M., after 10 years of Past Mastership, thought the time had arrived when those who had served that, or over that time, should be pensioned off, at any rate they might be let down lightly, for after so many years rusting their knowledge of Masonry must be very doubtful. He, however, trusted that the rising officers would do as well as the old ones had done, and then they might fairly, after 10 or 20 years' service, be pensioned off.

The facetious manner of Bro. Hobson caused much merriment, and Past Masters Roberts and E. Hobson followed in the same genial strain.

Bros. Vincent, Rees, Saunders, Hayes, and Sculley responded for "The Visitors," and Bro. Jolly for "The Masonic Press." "The Officers" were toasted, and Bro. Sweeting returned thanks.

A cordial toast to the host, Bro. Hubbard, who was congratulated upon his splendid catering, concluded the proceedings.

Bro. Matt Sherwin presided at the piano, and the singing was above "par."

LEBANON LODGE (No. 1326).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held last Saturday at the Railway Hotel, Feltham, Middlesex. The lodge was called for the early hour of one o'clock in the afternoon, as the business on the paper was very heavy. This business consisted of one initiation, five passings and two raisings, besides the installation of the new Worshipful Master, and the consideration of several notices of motion. Bro. David Steinhauer, W.M., presided, and there were also present the following brethren: Bros. D. Steinhauer, W.M.; J. J. Marsh, S.W. and W.M. elect; Fletcher Knight, J.W.; W. R. Vassila, S.D.; J. Laurence, J.D.; S. Page, Organist; E. A. Smith, C.S.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; C. W. Baker, Steward; F. Walters, Sec.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M.; F. G. Mitchell, G. H. Eaton, S. Wheeler, J. A. Wilson, J. C. Goslin, W. Walters, W. H. Walters, G. Verney, W. R. Datchler, R. J. Morley, W. Kite, T. M. Prescott, Leo Schaffner, R. Pooley, F. Dunstan, W. R. Smith, G. Waddington, J. Robinson, J. V. Willis, G. S. Streeton, Raymond H. Thrupp, and James Stevens, P.M., hon. members.

Visitors: Bros. Charles Greenwood, P.G.S.B., P.G. Secretary, Surrey; W. Stephens, G.P., P.P.S.G.D. Middlesex; Charles Greenwood junr., P.P.G.R. and P.P.G. Secretary Surrey; J. Bockett Sorrell, W.M. 1260, P.M. 1760; C. Larkin, W.M. 1524; W. H. Lee, P.M. 1524, P.M. 975; F. T. Keeble, M.M. 1426; H. Massey, P.M. 619-1928; D. Glass, W.M. 212; H. Forss, S.W. 917; C. Graham, W.M. 1540; R. J. Taylor, P.M. 144; W. H. Whelon, W.M. 1305; J. H. Wardell, P.M. 95; C. H. Ockerford, S13; J. Ellwood, J.W. 179; J. Catling, S.D. 1679; F. Brasted, P.M. 1524; W. Wright 1524. Mr. Thomas Mill Prescott was initiated, and Bros. G. H. Eaton, S. Wheeler, F. G. Mitchell, G. Verney, and F. Dunstan were passed by the W.M., who was ably assisted in the ceremonies by Bro. Baldwin, P.M. The two candidates for raising did not attend. Before the installation of the W.M. elect the notices of motion were taken up and disposed of. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. Raymond Henry Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Prov. Grand Master Middx., P.M., &c., to whom was presented Bro. Joseph John Marsh, S.W. At the conclusion of the installation of Bro. Marsh, which was performed in an admirably fluent style, the following brethren were appointed to office: Bros. David Steinhauer, I.P.M.; Fletcher Knight, S.W.; William Robert Vassila, J.W.; James William Baldwin, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Chap.; Edwin Gilbert, P.G. Stwd. Middx., P.M., Treas.; Fredk. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; James Laurence, S.D.; Edwin Arthur Smith, J.D.; William Walters, I.G.; James Robinson, Org.; John Vickers Willis, A.D.C.; Charles William Baker, D.C.; Henry Potter, P.M., W.S.; William Henry Walters, C. Stwd.; John Alfred Wilson, Stwd.; James Clark Goslin, A.W.S.; and John Gilbert, P.G. Tyler, Middx., Tyler.

After the delivery of the addresses the W.M. announced that at that time he expected to have had the pleasure of presenting Bro. Steinhauer with a Past Master's jewel, which was voted to him at the last lodge meeting; but from some cause or other, Bro. Gilbert, the Treasurer, who had the jewel, was not present, and he was afraid that some misfortune had happened, as he was never away from the lodge without giving notice. The presentation of the jewel would therefore be deferred either to a late hour in the evening, or to some other occasion.

Bro. James Laurence, S.D., then, by the W.M.'s permission, occupied the attention of the brethren for a short time while he made a presentation to Bro. J. W. Baldwin, P.M. This presentation, which was subscribed for by the individual members of the lodge, and did not in any way encroach on the lodge funds, consisted of some handsome massive silver dessert pieces for Bro. and Mrs. Baldwin, with a suitable inscription. Bro. Laurence, in making the presentation, referred to the eminent services rendered to the lodge by Bro. Baldwin, not only while he was Master of the lodge and previously, but also two years ago, when the lodge lost its Master by death, and during the year of Bro. Steinhauer. It was these services the lodge could not forget, and he particularly pointed out to Bro. Baldwin that the gift was made by the brethren, and not by the lodge, and that the brethren had come forward most readily with their subscriptions to honour a brother whom they all considered as deserving of the highest honour. It was while they had such Past Masters in the lodge that they must expect the lodge to flourish, and it was by the efforts of such brethren that it had been brought to its present efficient state of working.

Bro. J. W. Baldwin, in accepting the present, acknowledged that he had made great efforts on behalf of the lodge; but stated that he considered it was the duty of every brother member of the lodge to do the same, and he hoped that he should never lose the interest in the lodge which he now felt. Whatever he had done had been done with the sincerest desire for the prosperity of the lodge, which he trusted would go on increasing. No efforts would be wanting on his part to further the objects he already had had in view, and if his endeavours stimulated any of the brethren to make the same exertions all the trouble he had taken would be amply compensated.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.G.D., for performing the ceremony of installation.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual toasts followed.

Bro. Charles Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. Surrey, P.G.S.B., returned thanks for the toast of "The Grand Officers," and in doing so referred to the rapid progress of the province of Middlesex, which, though a young province, had already 33 lodges in it. His own province of Surrey, which was an old province, had 24 lodges. His own connection with Surrey was a long one, as he had been Prov. Grand Secretary 28 years. At that time Surrey had only four lodges.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Prov. Grand Master, Col. Sir Francis Burdett; the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Raymond W. Thrupp; and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers." In proposing the toast, he referred with satisfaction to the presence that evening in lodge of Bro. Thrupp, who had informed him that Sir F. Burdett would have been present but for illness. They had all seen the colonel in their lodges, and they all knew him as one of those kind, genial, loving sort of brethren that they could all have an affection for.

Bro. J. W. Baldwin acknowledged the toast, and said he was proud of the position he held as Past Provincial Grand Pursuivant. As Secretary of the Raymond Thrupp Lodge, he could assure the brethren that Bro. Thrupp had had great pleasure in being present in lodge and installing the W.M. There was no doubt the ceremony was admirably performed, and gave a great amount of pleasure and satisfaction. Bro. Baldwin also thanked the brethren for the Provincial Grand Officers, and, with respect to the Province of Surrey, said that, although there was a silver streak which separated the two provinces, the Province of Middlesex had a great respect for the Province of Surrey, and assured Bro. Greenwood that the brethren of Middlesex were always proud to meet the brethren of Surrey.

Bro. Greenwood said he could only reiterate the fact that he had had the pleasure of knowing the Provincial Grand Master, and he did not know that there was a better Master than Sir F. Burdett, who felt a very great interest in all that appertained to Masonry. Middlesex was very fortunate in having such a Grand Master. As to Bro. Thrupp, he was an amiable man and Mason, and had shown himself such that afternoon in installing the W.M. As far as Surrey was concerned, nothing pleased those brethren more than to know that Masonry flourished in Middlesex and every pro-

vince of England. There was certainly a narrow streak between Surrey and Middlesex; but Surrey did not feel hurt at the success of Middlesex, but was very pleased at it. Surrey also had an excellent Grand Master. Provincial Grand Masters had great difficulty in the performance of their duties. Every one could not be a Grand Officer, and the Provincial Grand Masters found it difficult to make a selection. The selection, however, was made with great care and after due deliberation, and he believed that the appointments gave satisfaction.

Bro. William Stephens also replied.

Bro. Baldwin, P.M., proposed "The W.M."

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said that whatever he could do for the benefit of the Lebanon Lodge they might be sure he would do while he had health and strength, and the Almighty Architect was pleased that he should do it.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Initiate," who responded.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Charities." In giving a history of what the Lebanon Lodge had done he said the W.M. for the time being in perpetuity was a Life Governor of all the Institutions. This all came out of the lodge funds, so that the lodge did not eat and drink all its money. The Secretary had the same honour; the Treasurer the same; the Senior Warden in perpetuity was Life Governor of the Girls', and they intended to make him Life Governor of all the Institutions. It was also intended to do the same with every officer of the lodge. In addition to that they had among the members of the Lebanon Lodge 28 Life Governors, and many of them were representatives of the whole of the Institutions. Among those 28 they had 95 Life Governorships, which meant from 280 to 300 votes, therefore the voting power of the lodge was very great.

Bro. James Stevens, P.M. 720, replied, but said although he had been 28 years a Mason he did not know that he had done anything conspicuous for the Institutions. He had, however, done something and had felt it a matter of duty to support all the Institutions. The W.M. had passed the greatest compliment he could pass upon him when he associated his name with the toast of "The Charities." He had been the first Master of a lodge which did a great deal for the Charities, for doing which he obtained the cognomen of "Bread and Cheese Stevens." Although it was not always pleasant to have a cognomen, he was proud of this one, the reason for it being that the brethren agreed to forego a banquet and have bread and cheese. He should never be ashamed of the name he got, as it was the means of taking large sums to the Charities. He was charitable to the extent of his power. Any man who did more did wrong to his family. If as Masons, they were not charitable, they were not Masons at all. Charity was one of the principles on which the Institution was founded. Of late years a vast number of associations had been founded by which a subscription of a shilling a week obtained large sums for the Institutions. Everyone should belong to one of those, and if an Initiate did this he would find by the time he got to the W.M.'s chair he would be a Life Governor of all the Institutions. Notwithstanding commercial depression, the Institutions were getting £42,000 or £43,000 a year, and no other body of men than Freemasons could boast of such a result.

The toasts of "The Visitors" and "The Masonic Press" were afterwards given, and the toast of "The Officers" and the Tyler's toast concluded a very pleasant evening.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).

A meeting was held on the 17th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., when there were present Bros. H. J. Lardner, W.M.; G. H. Stephens, S.W.; J. J. Howes, J.W.; J. Howes, P.M.; Chap.; Mallhouse, P.M.; Treas.; Mallett, P.M.; Sec.; Greenwood, S.D.; King, J.D.; Brickdale, I.G.; Mackay and Rumball, Stwds.; Roberts, Org.; Smyth, Tyler; W. Pennefather, P.M.; also Bros. Chatwin, C. J. Smith, Price, Watson, Higgins, P. H. Clisby, S. H. C. Rumball, Linnett, and Sutton. Visitors: Bros. W. Smeath, Warren Lodge; H. Morgan, 554; A. Brown, 1524.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Watson, Chatwin, and A. Brown, 1524, were passed. The election for W.M., Treas., and Tyler was then proceeded with. Bro. G. H. Stephens, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. H. J. Lardner, Treas.; and Smyth, Tyler. The Auditors elected were Bros. Sutton, Linnett, and Price.

A P.M.'s jewel, value £10 10s., was unanimously voted to Bro. H. J. Lardner, the retiring W.M., who, on rising to return thanks, received a hearty reception from his brethren, and in the course of a well delivered address begged to express his best thanks to the officers and brethren for their hearty co-operation during his year of office. It had always been a pleasure to meet them from time to time. He had had a fair share of Initiates, and he had great hopes from what he knew and saw of them that some, if not all, would one day occupy the honourable and proud position he then did. He thanked them very much for voting him a P.M.'s jewel; he would look upon and value it more than all his other Masonic distinctions, coming as it did from his mother lodge. He promised Bro. Stephens all the support at his command during his year of office, and trusted he would have a prosperous year.

Bro. Stephens thanked the W.M. for the encouraging words just offered to him. He could assure him and the brethren generally that his ambition had all but been accomplished. He thanked them all for their unanimous vote, and trusted their confidence in him would be equal to their expectations.

After the usual compliment to the W.M., the lodge was closed in due form.

GUELPH LODGE (No. 1685).

The installation meeting of this most successful lodge was held at the Town Hall, Leytonstone, Essex, on Saturday, the 12th inst. The W.M. elect being Bro. E. Brown, who is highly esteemed by every member of the lodge, the brethren mustered in great force, a number of visitors also being present, amongst whom were the following: Bros. Hurst, P.P.G.P. Middx., &c.; Rev. Hayman Cummins, P.P. Chap. Cornwall; Boulton, P.M. Victoria Lodge; Graveley, W.M. Temperance-in-the-East Lodge; Taylor, P.M. Langthorn Lodge; Bro. Tapley, P.M. Capper Lodge; C. J. R. Tijou, S.W. Coborn Lodge, and many other distinguished brethren.

The ceremony of initiation was performed by the W.M., Bro. A. P. Little, Messrs. Webster and Enright being duly

admitted into the Craft, after which Bro. E. Brown was duly installed by Bro. E. Bare, P.M. 1598 and 1685, in his usually masterly manner. Bro. Bare is so well-known for his good working that it is only necessary to say he produced a great impression on the brethren assembled. The ceremony of installation being completed, the W.M. invested his officers as follows, addressing each in a few kindly and well-chosen words: Bros. C. Rawle, S.W.; Carter, J.W.; R. Vincent, Treas.; E. Bare, Sec.; Gould, S.D.; Slade, J.D.; Frewer, I.G.; C. G. Cutchey, D.C.; T. F. Tyler, A.D.C.; J. Brown, Stwd.; Hunter, Asst. Stwd.; W. Graves, Org.; and Thomas, Tyler.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a splendid repast had been provided, after which a most enjoyable evening was spent, which was enlivened by some excellent singing and instrumental music by Bro. Graves and others. In conclusion we wish Bro. F. Brown (what we may safely predict he will have) a most successful year of office.

RUNCORN.—Ellesmere Lodge (No. 758).

The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday evening, the 16th inst., when there was a full attendance of brethren. The lodge was opened by Bro. E. Marwood, W.M., in due form, and Bro. R. Oldbury, W.M. elect, was presented for installation. The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed by Bro. G. Moss, P.M., assisted by Bro. Coxhill, P.M. The following brethren were then appointed officers: Bros. E. Marwood, I.P.M.; the Rev. J. Lockwood, S.W.; George Bell, J.W.; Torkington, Treas.; J. Salkeld, Sec.; J. Coxhill, P.M., D.C.; G. Summerfield, S.D.; F. A. Lake, J.D.; T. Wright, I.G.; Cooper, Org.; Rosenberg, S.S.; Annett, J.S.; Le Coutier, Almoner; and W. Houghton, Tyler. The lodge was then closed in due form.

On Thursday the brethren had their annual picnic. Llandudno was the place chosen for the day's pleasure, and the members were conveyed to their destination in two special saloon carriages by the 8.10 a.m. train from Runcorn. The visitors partook of an excellent banquet at the Prince of Wales Hotel, returning home in good time.

LIVERPOOL.—Everton Lodge (No. 823).

Amongst the numerous summer celebrations of the St. John Festival which take place in and around Liverpool at this season of the year, there are none which are so successful or so pleasant as that which occurs in connection with the annual festive gathering of the "Evertonians." The extreme popularity and prosperity of the Everton Lodge, No. 823, is cordially recognised by all Masons in the Division, and as the reward of good work many of its more prominent members have from time to time (and even at the present period) received the special distinctions which our highly esteemed R.W.P.G.M. (Bro. the Earl of Lathom) has in his power to bestow. These selections have invariably given universal satisfaction, and the fact that out of the Everton members the brethren of the province have twice chosen the Prov. Grand Treasurer clearly demonstrates that the favour secured by the lodge is not confined to the P.G. Master himself but is likewise exhibited by the "rank and file" of the Masonic Army which he leads so well. This year's installation ceremony in connection with the "Everton" possessed a special interest, and this was clearly shown by one of the most numerous, as it certainly was the most influential, gatherings of the year in this city. By the unanimous vote of the brethren, Bro. John M. King was elected to fill the high, honourable, and onerous post of W.M., and the well-deserved esteem in which he is held by all who know him was evident by the very cordial spirit which animated the large assembly. Bro. King, it may be very justly remarked, is as well known to the general public as he is deeply respected in Masonic circles by reason of the important post he holds under the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, as Master of the George's Landing Stage, Liverpool, a position which he has held with much credit to himself and satisfaction to the public using the stage for many years past. No more popular brother was ever elected to the chair of the Everton Lodge than Bro. King, and he carries with him into his year's work the "heartiest of good wishes" from all who know him. Bro. King's Masonic career extends over ten years, he having been initiated in the lodge which has now conferred upon him the highest honour it is in its power to bestow, and that in the most enthusiastic and unanimous manner. In several new lodges Bro. King has from time to time been offered office, but he has throughout been loyal to his mother lodge, always determined to push on to the chair of the lodge in which he was initiated. The official position which he holds at the landing-stage has from time to time enabled him to be of service in assisting the widows and children of departed Masons across to America, in consideration of which he was some time ago honoured by being elected a member of the West Lancashire Masonic Relief Committee—a Committee hitherto consisting only of Freemasons who had passed the chair, Bro. King being the only one beneath the rank of P.M. who has had that honour conferred upon him. Bro. King has also done good work in the Everton Chapter, of which he was Principal Sojourner for twelve months. At the close of his year of office the companions of the chapter presented him with a handsome Past P.S.'s jewel, as a mark of their esteem, and for superior working, this being the only one of the kind held in the province.

The installation gathering took place at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, on Wednesday afternoon, the 16th inst., when the chair was taken by Bro. W. Brassey, the retiring W.M., who was supported by a full complement of officers, including Bros. J. Beesley, I.P.M.; J. Houlding, P.M.; P.P.G.R.; Henry Ashmore, P.M.; T. Webster, P.M.; Joseph J. Boyle, P.M.; T. H. Carefull, P.M.; J. M. King, S.W.; R. H. Webster, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas., Prov. G. Treas.; J. Galley, Sec.; R. W. Gow, S.D.; W. Maddox, J.D.; A. B. Ewert, Org.; R. S. Milne, I.G.; R. T. Britten, S.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. The following were among the numerous visitors: Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; R. Brown, P.P.G. Treas.; George Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 241; R. Washington, P.P.G.S.D., P.M. 1094; Maurice Hart, P.G. D.C.C.; Dr. J. Kellett-Smith, P.P.G.R.; Thos. Salter, P.P.G.J.D., P.M. 241; Hugh Williams, P.P.G.A.D.C.; Sylvester Mattison, 1009, P.P.G.S.; J. T. Callow, P.M. 673, P.P.G. Treas.; Thos. M'Vean, P.M. 1035; R. R. Martin, P.M. 1094; J. Smith, 724; J. Pendleton, P.M.

724; Samuel Haynes, 1547, P.M. 823; Peter Ball, 249 S. W. H. Halse, P.M. 673; H. H. Hughes, S.D. 1336; E. Johnston, P.M. 203 and 1756; Evan J. Callow, W.M. 1094; A. D. Hesketh, P.M. 1182; J. H. Jones, I.P.M. 1276; C. Bargery, W.M. 1756; David Jackson, P.M. 673; John O. Rea, W.M. 1182; George Godfrey, I.P.M. 673; W. H. Cooke, J.W. 1013; Dr. Clarke, S.W. 673; D. Cumming, 1609; J. S. Warden, I.P.M. 1264; Geo. Morgan, P.M. 155 and 1035; J. R. Bottomley, P.M. and Treas. 1675; Major H. Nicholls, J.D. 2042; W. White, I.G. 1325; J. Barnes, W.M. 1576; J. Shapley, 724; J. Bailey, S.W. 667; George Ledder, 1013; Wm. Oliver, W.M. 220; H. M. Molyneux, W.M. 155; R. Bethell, S.W. 1094; M. Callaghan, W.M. 1393; H. Marshall, S.W. 1756; E. Catral, W.M. 203; Thomas Baird, J.D. 1570; R. C. Asbury, I.P.M. 1620; Thos. Pierpoint, S.W. 1693; Dr. H. Y. Pitts, P.M. 1620; Squire Chapman, I.P.M. 1013; W. H. Jewitt, I.P.M. 1393; W. Lewis, 2042 and 203; and others.

The attendance of visitors, it will be seen, was unusually large, and so numerous an assemblage of Installed Masters, of whom there were present over 40, has hardly, if ever, been witnessed at a Masonic installation in Liverpool. The usually preliminary business having been transacted, the W.M. elect was presented for installation by Bros. J. Houlding and W. J. Lunt, after which Bro. King was duly installed into the chair of the lodge, the first part of the ceremony being performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Brassey, Bros. J. Houlding and J. Beesley completing the work. Subsequently the newly-installed W.M., who received hearty congratulations on all sides on his promotion to the chair, invested his officers for the year as follows: Bros. Wm. Brassey, I.P.M.; Robt. H. Webster, S.W.; John Galley, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; R. W. Gow, Sec.; Thos. Walton, Chap.; Wm. Maddox, S.D.; R. S. Milne, J.D.; R. T. Britten, I.G.; Chas. H. Ashton, S.S.; John Mantle, J.S.; J. Gerrey, A.S.; David Jones, A.S.; A. B. Ewert, Org.; Thomas H. Carefull, P.M., D.C.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler.

Bro. King auspiciously started his year of office by initiating seven candidates into the mysteries of the First Degree, after which the lodge was closed down, the brethren, to the number of about 150, adjourning to the banquetting room upstairs, where an excellent dinner was provided by Bro. Casey, the house steward.

After dinner the W.M., Bro. J. M. King, gave "The Queen," and in doing so he said, Brethren, the first toast which I have to propose is the usual one, that of the distinguished lady who rules over the destinies of that vast empire on which we as Englishmen are proud to boast that the sun never sets. For now nearly half a century Queen Victoria has reigned gloriously over a happy and monarchical-loving people, and each succeeding year of her reign seems to strengthen the feeling of loyalty and affection with which she is regarded by all her faithful subjects. If there be one trait in the Royal character more than another which endears the Queen to her people it is that sympathetic feeling she has with sorrow and suffering. No sooner does the melancholy news reach her of some sad calamity to some of her subjects, than the sorrowing hearts receive a message of sympathy and solace from their Queen. Distinction of class is unknown to her when suffering and sorrow prevail. The mill operative and the miner in our manufacturing districts and the nobles of the land are alike recipients of Royal sympathy. Many are the proofs of this. The widow and sister of those struck down by the Land League assassins experienced this sympathy. Those poor ladies rescued from the wreck of the Kinmore Castle received comfort and sympathy after their miraculous escape from a watery grave from England's Queen. The bereaved families by the mill chimney accident at Bradford were not too poor to be comforted by their Queen, and but recently England's great Queen laid aside the dignity of State to become a mourner at the grave of a humble soldier—one of the Guards of her castle at Windsor. It is such acts as these, brethren, which strengthen the loyalty of her subjects, and teach the people to look up to her with affection and reverence. Brethren, our loyalty as Freemasons is undoubted; but of all classes and combinations we seem to owe a double debt of gratitude to our beloved Queen, who has not only stamped our Order with her Royal patronage, but has lived to see and encourage three of her Royal children to become members of the Craft, and who, in doing so, have not thought it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the sceptre for the trowel, have not only patronised our mysteries, but have taken their places as leaders in our assemblies. Brethren, there is no further necessity, I know, to hold up the excellent qualities of our Queen to rouse your feelings of loyalty. I shall therefore ask you to rise and join with me in drinking the health of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

The toast was received with immense enthusiasm.

In proposing "Our M.W.G.M. Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," the W.M. said—It would be useless for me, brethren, to attempt to recapitulate all the many good qualities of our Royal brother. His character as a man, and as a gentleman, is well known throughout the length and breadth of this Empire. The part he has taken in the advancement of all good work, more especially in those intended to benefit the poor, have secured for him universal admiration and gratitude. But it is as the Grand Master of our noble Order which we, as Freemasons, have most to do with him. The dignity with which he has filled that high and important office now for a number of years has tended to elevate Masonry in the estimation of the whole civilised world, with but one exception, and that exception has been taken but very recently. You all know, brethren, to what I allude. It seems to me simply preposterous that any sane person could be found to believe, much less to promulgate, such lying statements. Would the Queen stamp with her Royal patronage any combination of disloyal men? Would her eldest son, the heir apparent, not only give his countenance to, but preside over, a body of men whose object was to destroy social order? Would his late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany taken such a deep interest in Masonry if its chief characteristics were infidelity, immorality, and vice? No, brethren; the insinuation was a huge lie, and we can safely leave the answer to our supreme Rulers. Brethren, without further comment I ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.

Bro. John Houlding, P.M. 823, P.P.G. Reg., in highly complimentary terms, proposed "The Health of the

Newly-installed Worshipful Master," which was received with the utmost cordiality and greeted with Masonic honours.

In reply Bro. King said: I thank, you, brethren for the honour conferred upon me, first in having elected me to the chair, and now in receiving the toast of my health so cordially after the too flattering way in which it has been proposed by our esteemed Bro. Holding. Brethren, there are certain honours in this life which are worthy of the highest ambition, and I cannot conceive any rank more honourable than that of the Worshipful Master of a lodge—let me say more especially of the Everton Lodge. My intention is to strive to do my duty in the best possible manner, maintaining the dignity of my honourable office, preserving "pure and unsullied" the charter you have this day entrusted to my keeping, and striving to secure the peace and harmony which should at all times distinguish us as Masons and as men. If, at the end of my year of office as W.M., you feel that I have in some measure justified your choice and satisfied your expectations, then I shall retire with the satisfactory feeling that my labour has not been in vain.

The next toast I have to propose is that of "Our I.P.M., Bro. William Brassey," and I am quite sure that you will drink that toast most heartily, knowing full well that there is but one feeling amongst us as regards Bro. Brassey's merits. He has right nobly for the last twelve months borne aloft the flag of S23, and now he has handed it over to me pure and unsullied. He has, during his year of office elevated our lodge to a position far beyond what it held before; his personal liberality has added lustre to our name. He has left records in the London Charities, and also in those of our own province, of which we as a lodge may justly feel proud, and, brethren, there is no doubt on my mind but that his consideration for the poor and needy has been observed and recorded by our Great Master in the Grand Lodge above, for we all believe that "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." The recipients on the Charities of the metropolis and our own province are the better for Bro. Brassey's year of office, and while we his brethren will always feel proud of him, I am quite sure he will carry the reward of his own efforts in his heart. The W.M. concluded by presenting Bro. Brassey with a beautiful Past Master's jewel, and Bro. Brassey suitably responded, acknowledging with warmth the handsome gift of the lodge.

The other toasts were "The Installing Masters," to which Bros. Brassey, Houlding, and Beesley replied; "The Masonic Charities," responded to by Bro. R. Brown, P.P.G. Treas.; "The Visiting Brethren," to which a number of P.M.'s replied, and offered their hearty congratulations to the newly-installed W.M.; "The Past Masters," responded to by Bros. Boyle, Carefull, and Houlding; "The Newly-Initiated," to which Bros. Hill, Carefull, Boom, McElkimney, and Wilkinson, replied; and "The Officers of the Lodge," "The Absent Brethren," "Rank and File of S23," and "All Poor and Distressed Freemasons," were proposed and responded to, and a very happy and enthusiastic meeting terminated.

An excellent musical programme was furnished by Bros. Major H. J. Nicholls, J. A. Muir, W. Lewis, A. Child, A. B. Ewart, and others.

INSTRUCTION.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 21st inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. C. S. Mote, W.M.; C. Andrews, P.M. 77, S.W.; F. Chandler, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas. and Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; M. J. Green, S.D.; J. Lichtenfeld, J.D.; C. H. Wood, I.G.; W. H. Chalfont, I.P.M. 1425, Stwd.; C. H. Speigel, P.M. 188; Jas. Stevens, P.M. 720; D. Stroud, A. J. Chapman, and H. Robinson.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremonies of initiation and passing were rehearsed, Bros. Chapman and Stroud being the candidates. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. It was then determined to give a hearty reception to our Canadian brethren who are at present at Wimbledon Camp next Monday, when Bro. C. Anderson, P.M. 77, will be W.M. The lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., at the Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer-street, Westminster, S.W. Present: Bros. Hayes, W.M.; Foulson, S.W.; Foscutt, J.W.; Brindley, W.M., S.D.; Ray, J.D.; Power, I.G.; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Ardwins, Andrews, Balchin, Coughlan, Bowen, Purnell, Leslie, White, and Fraser.

The lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Brindley candidate. Bro. Coughlan answered the questions leading to the Second Degree and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Coughlan candidate. The lodge was then resumed to the First Degree. The Preceptor, assisted by the brethren, worked the First Section of this Lecture. The W.M. rose for the first, second, and third times. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form and perfect harmony.

EARL OF LATHOM (No. 1922).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday the 16th inst., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road. Present: Bro. Maxsted, W.N.; S. Jacobs, S. W. Evans, J. W. Paton, Secretary; also Bros. Cobham, Finch, La Ficillade, Baker, Lane, Forster, Sutton, Thomson, Sims, Gardner and Edmans.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to Second Degree, and the question leading to Third Degree answered by Bro. Lane. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Lane as candidate. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Edmans acting as candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, Bro. La Ficillade was admitted a joining member. The W.M. rose for the second time, Bros. S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and was pleased to appoint officers in

rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time and the lodge was closed according to ancient custom, in peace and harmony.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the weekly meeting held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, W.C., on the 16th ult., there were present Bros. Fowles, W.M.; Rixon, S.W.; Ford, J.W.; G. H. Reynolds, S.D.; Cursons, J.D.; Seymour, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; Bros. Vaughan, Wilkie-Jones, Williams, Frank Gulliford, and H. Robinson.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Fowles, W.M., worked the First Section of this Lecture. Bro. Cursons having offered himself as candidate for raising he was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired. Lodge opened in the Third Degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the Sublime Degree of M.M. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. Lodge resumed to the Third Degree. Lodge closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Rixon was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation.

The W.M. proposed that Bro. W. C. Smith be elected an Hon. Member of this lodge of instruction in recognition of his readiness in having undertaken to act as Preceptor during the absence of Bro. W. H. Robinson through illness, which all the brethren regret; seconded by Bro. E. Reynolds, Sec., who most cordially endorsed the remarks of the W.M. Carried unanimously. Bro. W. C. Smith made a suitable reply. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. 890).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, when there were present Comps. W. H. Kempster, M.E.Z.; A. Churchward, H.; H. Garrod, as J.; Major Gaut, as P.S.; F. H. Atkins, Treas.; H. McPherson, Scribe E.; A. Drew, H. Thornton, G. H. West, Jas. Smith, A. Nicols, and others, forming a strong gathering for this time of the season.

The chapter was opened in ancient form, and immediately after the confirmation of the minutes of the last convocation, a ballot was taken for Comp. Capt. Adolphus Nicols, P.Z. 782, as a joining member, which, proving unanimous in his favour, he was declared duly elected. The next business was the election of a Third Principal to fill the chair vacated by the resignation of Comp. T. G. Smith. The honour fell upon Comp. Capt. Nicols, whose reputation as an earnest and ready worker was well known to many of the members, and those who were not personally acquainted with him took him on trust and with expectation. The M.E.Z., Comp. Dr. W. H. Kempster, quickly put the qualification for office of Comp. Capt. Nicols to the test by calling upon him to deliver "the history of Moses' rod" for the instruction of the companions. The traditional account of the origin, preservation, and miraculous power of the rod was given in an admirable and didactic manner, and the explanation which it affords of so many important points in Royal Arch Masonry was received by the companions with the deepest interest and attention. A cordial vote of thanks to Comp. Capt. Nicols having been entered upon the minutes, the chapter was closed, and the companions reassembled in the banqueting room.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Chapter (No. 913).—The installation of the principals of the above large and influential chapter took place on Thursday, the 17th inst., at the High School for Boys, and was graced by the presence of the Right Hon. Viscount Holmesdale, Grand Superintendent of the province of Kent. The chapter was opened by the M.E.Z., Comp. Capt. Eugene Sweny, with Comp. H. Mason as H., and Comp. R. Edmonds as J. The other companions present were C. Coupland, P.Z.; P.P.G.P.S. Kent; E. Denton, P.Z.; P.P.G.P.S. Kent; A. Penfold, P.Z.; P.P.G. 1st A.S. Kent; H. J. Butter, P.Z.; P.P.G.P.S. Kent; T. D. Hayes, P.Z.; P.G. 2nd A.S. Kent; W. B. Lloyd, P.Z.; W. Myers, P.Z.; W. Musto, P.Z.; W. Rees, S.N.; E. B. Hobson, P.S.; J. H. Roberts, 1st A.S.; G. Letton, 2nd A.S.; E. B. Saunders, R. Cook, D. Campbell, R. Hewitson, E. Palmer, Sydney Clarke, G. Frost, W. T. Richardson, H. Pryce, W. Harris, J. F. Randall, D. C. Capon, G. Nichols, W. G. Lloyd, W. Busbridge, J. Topp, H. Wilson, and C. Jolly (Freemason), all of the chapter. Visitors: Rev. H. Cummings, B.D., F.H.S., P.Z. 1837; T. W. Whitmarsh, P.Z. 217; A. H. Bateman, 2nd A.S. 33; H. De Gray, 13; and S. West, 13.

It was then announced that Lord Holmesdale was present, and the P.Z.'s formed a procession and ushered our distinguished companion to his seat at the right of the dais, and he was saluted with the honours of "seven."

The M.E.Z. then rose and said the presence of the Grand Superintendent was a most flattering compliment to the Pattison Chapter. The companions knew the great interest his lordship took in everything that was Masonic, especially in the province of Kent, and they, the companions of the Pattison Chapter, felt stirred up by his presence and example to do their duty zealously and well. It was an exceeding great compliment to the chapter, because of the many duties his lordship had to perform, and although an important engagement rendered his presence necessary in London, yet he had found time to come among them and see the working of the chapter. He (Comp. Sweny) therefore called upon them to record a vote of thanks to his lordship for honouring the chapter with a visit that day.

The vote having been carried with acclamation, his lordship rose and said: Companions, I feel very much obliged to you for the cordial reception you have given me, and also for the vote of thanks, but you must remember that when I visit the chapters in this province I am only doing my duty, and the same that every Superintendent does in every province in the kingdom. I am sorry that I shall not be able to dine with you at Gravesend this afternoon, as I am engaged to dine in London, and also must be present at a division at the House of Lords; the dinner might be put off, but the division cannot; but I certainly hope to have the opportunity next year of dining with you, should you invite me, as I feel it a great pleasure to assist in any way a chapter so excellent and so influential in the province as the Pattison, and shall be pleased to see the working, of which I have heard such excellent reports. I thank you, companions, for your cordial reception.

All below the rank of First Principals then retired, and Comp. A. Penfold installed Comps. Mason, as Z.; Edmonds, as H.; and Rees, as J. The companions were then re-admitted, and the M.E.Z. invested Comps. Butter, S.E.; E. B. Hobson, S.N.; Cook, P.S.; Penfold, Treas.; Myers, D.C.; and Musto, W.S. Comp. C. ok chose Comps. Roberts, 1st Asst. Soj., and E. Palmer, 2nd Asst. Soj. Comp. W. J. Larder was appointed Janitor. Comp. Penfold then delivered the addresses in rare style, and the ceremony was concluded amid applause.

Lord Holmesdale then rose, and said: Companions, the time has now arrived when I must retire; but before doing so I must express the pleasure it has afforded me in witnessing the excellent manner in which Comp. Penfold has carried out the duties of Installing Officer; the ceremony has been most admirably worked, and I wish you, Most Excellent, a successful year of office.

His lordship then retired, amid repeated demonstrations of the companions' regard and esteem. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Comp. Penfold for his services as Installing Officer; and, in returning thanks, he assured the companions that it was most gratifying to him to hear their Grand Superintendent express his pleasure at the working. He had no idea at the time of undertaking the office, at the request of the I.P.Z., that his lordship would be present. The testimony of his lordship and their approbation fully repaid him for all the labour it had cost him. He then moved that a guinea should be given as a prize for the Girls' High Schools, which was carried.

A handsome P.Z.'s jewel, of the value of 10 guineas, was then presented to Comp. Sweny, and he feelingly and eloquently returned thanks. He said Masonic life was to be wished for, if not envied, for every true Mason felt that he had not only to comport himself honourably outside the lodge or chapter, but also to use his best endeavours to fulfil with ability the duties of every office with which he was entrusted, so that the brethren or companions should not suffer by any neglect of his, and when he attained the superior ranks his teaching should be such as to preserve pure and unsullied the beautiful ritual of the Order. The companions had placed him as a ruler over them, and, conscious as he was of more than one shortcoming, he could fearlessly say that he had done his utmost to succeed; and if he had really secured their esteem, as evinced by the valuable and handsome jewel presented to him, he could proudly say that he had reached the height of his ambition as a Mason. He thanked them heartily for it, and for the good wishes tendered him by one and all.

Letters of apology were read from Comp. Eastes, G.H. of Kent, and others, for inability to attend, and then the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to Gravesend, where, at the Clarendon Hotel, a banquet was partaken of, followed by the usual local and Royal Arch Masonic toasts.

In proposing that of "Lord Holmesdale, Grand Superintendent of Kent," the M.E.Z. said, from what they had seen of Lord Holmesdale that day, they could fully realise all that had been so often told them by the Past Masters of their lodge as to the genial courtesy and Masonic zeal of that distinguished nobleman and Mason.

The toast was drunk in bumpers, and then the names of Comps. Eastes and Spencer, H. and J. of Kent, were received with warmth, and duly honoured, the toast being coupled with the name of Comp. Hayes, who expressed his regret that it had not fallen into more able hands than his, and in felicitous terms spoke of the immense amount of work done by their Grand Superintendent, and also by Comps. Eastes, Spencer, Thorpe, and Warne. As to Comp. Eastes, he might fairly be called Lord Holmesdale's aide-de-camp, and the aide-de-camp of the Masonic forces in Kent. It was a pleasure and an honour to serve under such grand and excellent Masons, and, in their names and his own, he thanked the companions for the toast.

Comp. Sweny then proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z." in glowing terms, and, in response, Comp. Mason said he felt very deeply the honour conferred on him. He should endeavour to work the ritual to their satisfaction. He felt that he had done so in the Craft, and if he did as well in his present position he should not have worked in vain.

The toast of "The Second and Third Principals" followed, and Comps. Edmonds and Rees returned thanks.

The other toasts were "The Installing Officer," and Comp. Penfold's reception when he rose to respond was most enthusiastic. "The Visitors" and "Past Principals" were next honoured. A special toast to Comps. Musto and Myers elicited many hearty expressions of esteem, and both returned thanks. Nor can we close without offering our thanks to these splendid fellows for their endeavours to secure the comfort of the companions, Comp. Musto well earning his title as the "Prince of Wine Stewards." The Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings.

ANNUAL PICNIC OF THE TRUTH LODGE (No. 521, HUDDERSFIELD.

On Wednesday, July 16th, a number of ladies and brethren assembled at the Huddersfield Station, to proceed by rail to Sheffield by the 6.45 a.m. train, thence by conveyance to Baslow, Haddon Hall, Bakewell, Rowsley, and Chatsworth, a drive of about thirty-five miles through some of the finest scenery in Derbyshire. The day being beautifully fine, it is needless to say every one thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and on their arrival at Huddersfield at 10 p.m., each and all expressed their pleasure at having been present on the occasion. Mine host of the Devonshire Hotel, Baslow, provided an excellent dinner at four o'clock, to which ample justice was done. Amongst those present were Bros. John B. Matthewman, W.M., and Mrs. Matthewman; Allen Jackson, P.M., P.P.G.D., and Mrs. Jackson; J. W. Turner, S.W., and Mrs. Turner; Abraham Armitage, J.W., and Mrs. Armitage; James Brierley, Treasurer, and Miss Brierley; James Woolven, Secretary, and Mrs. Thompson; W. E. Jowett, D.C., and Mrs. Jowett; James Hopwood, P.M. 290, Mrs. Hopwood, and Mrs. Lea; Joshua Lee, P.M. 290, Prov. G. Tyler, and Mrs. Lee; Abraham Graham, J.D., and Mrs. Graham; Joe Sheard; Charles Turner and Mrs. Turner; J. Firth and Mrs. Firth; Mrs. Humphrey Wood, James Eccles, and Master Eccles; Henry Clayton and Mrs. Clayton; S. Kendal, 275, and others.

Bro. G. S. Graham has sailed for New York on a short musical tour in the United States. We wish him success.

THE ABBEY LODGE, WESTMINSTER, No. 2030.

It is doubtless within the recollection of our readers that prior to the consecration of the above lodge the Baroness Burdett-Coutts presented the brethren with the lodge furniture. The most noticeable portion of this was the magnificent embroidered covers to the pedestals and tables. So pleased was the Baroness with the way in which the work had been executed, that as a reward to those who had been engaged upon it she invited them to spend a day with her at Holly Lodge, Highgate. Saturday, the 12th instant, was the day appointed to pay their promised visit. Leaving about mid-day in omnibuses specially chartered for the occasion, the young people, to the number of nearly sixty, proceeded to Highgate. The weather was unfortunately very unfavourable, and quite prevented what would otherwise have been an enjoyable ride, but, thanks to the provision against the wet, the visitors were enabled to reach their destination without in any way suffering from the elements. It had been arranged that the party should be conveyed up Highgate Hill by the Steep Grade Tramway, the Directors having most kindly offered to allow their cars to be used for the purpose, but in consequence of the inclement weather it was determined at the last moment to drive direct to the ground. On their arrival, the guests were received by the Baroness in the verandah, where luncheon was provided. At the conclusion of the luncheon the manager proposed "The Health of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts." He said that the whole of the people employed looked upon their reception that day as an act of the greatest kindness and consideration. He was pleased that her ladyship had expressed her satisfaction at the way in which the work had been produced, and he considered that in asking them to Holly Lodge she had done them a very great honour. The Baroness, who was received with great acclamation, then addressed the gathering and said how pleased she was to receive them, and that she regretted that the day was so unfavourable; she hoped though that it might yet clear up to enable them to see the grounds and that she should see them there again on a future occasion. The manner in which the young people had performed their work had given her the greatest satisfaction, and she remembered with pleasure seeing their nimble fingers at work during the progress of the embroidery. The design too was most beautiful, and the manner in which her own arms had been incorporated with a representation of "The Abbey," caused the production to become really a work of art. Her ladyship said that she should have much pleasure in showing her visitors over the house, and letting them see the various objects of interest therein, and she was sure that, from the artistic qualities they had proved themselves to be possessed of, they would appreciate the works of art they might see. The visitors then accompanied the Baroness over her house.

At the conclusion of tea, which was also provided in the verandah, Bro. Burdett-Coutts, W.M. of the Abbey Lodge, addressed his visitors in reply to a vote of thanks which had been unanimously accorded to him, and he said that he was exceedingly glad to see them all, and in the name of himself and the Baroness wished them a hearty welcome. The work they had executed would ever be highly appreciated by the Abbey Lodge, and would in years to come maintain their reputation for good workmanship, and that of true benevolence and kindness on the part of the Baroness.

Towards the evening the weather fortunately cleared up and enabled the young people to roam about the grounds, which they evidently did with considerable pleasure. Soon after sunset the visitors, under the charge of Bro. Baker, S.W. of the Abbey Lodge, were all duly conveyed home in safety. During the afternoon and evening, Bro. James Hill conducted a capital selection of instrumental music, and as the weather became finer dancing was resorted to with considerable animation. The day will long be remembered with pleasurable feeling.

There will be an emergency meeting of the lodge, held at the Town Hall, Westminster, Monday, 28th inst., when Bro. Burdett-Coutts, the W.M., will work the three degrees, raising five, passing five, and initiating five.

New Zealand.

CHRISTCHURCH.—Robert Burns Lodge (No. 604, S.C.)—The regular monthly meeting of this exceedingly popular lodge was held in the Canterbury Masonic Hall, Manchester-street, on Tuesday, May 20th, when there were present Bros. F. W. Francis, R.W.M.; A. Fraser, W.D.M.; R. Buchanan, W.S.W.; J. T. Park, W.J.W.; R. W. S. Eastwood, Sec.; P. Duncan, Treas.; A. C. Schmidt, S.D.; H. Tuck, J.D.; W. Jackson, I.G.; F. Williams and P. Hill, Stwds.; W. Ioms, Tyler; also Bros. Elrig and Gourlay, P.M.'s; and about 50 other members. Visitors: Bros. Sawtell, P.M. 609 (E.C.); Messenger, 1038 (E.C.); Henriksen, 1038; Thiele, 1038; and a large number of other visitors numbering about 60.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Charles Dudley Stuart Loibl, who was declared duly elected. The W.M., officers, and brethren of the Lincoln Lodge, 1918 (E.C.), were then duly admitted, and received and welcomed by the R.W.M., Bro. Francis; the R.W.M., officers, and brethren of the Crown Lodge, 675 (S.C.), were also admitted, received, and welcomed. The ceremony of initiation was then proceeded with, and performed in a very masterly manner by the R.W.M., assisted by Bro. P.M. Gourlay, D.G.D.C., the charge being delivered by Bro. P.M. Watson, D.G.J.W. The lodge was then passed, and Bro. John Pooley having shown satisfactory progress, was invested with the degree of F.C., the R.W.M. also working this degree in a first class manner, the working tools being presented by Bro. Chas. Louisson, R.W.M. 675 (S.C.).

This being all the business, the lodge was closed in due form by the R.W.M., after he had received the "Hearty good wishes" of the representatives of the various lodges present.

The brethren then repaired to the refectory, where an excellent repast was prepared. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the R.W.M. proposed the toast of "The Initiates," which was received with hearty applause.

Bro. Loibl responded.

Bro. Francis then rose to propose what may be termed

the toast of the evening, "The Visitors." He said that it gave him great pleasure to see so many visiting brethren present that evening, and he heartily thanked them for their presence. He would more especially thank the officers and members who had come from Lincoln to visit this lodge—indeed, he thought they showed a good example to Masons when they would come 12 miles by road to visit the Robert Burns Lodge, rather than disappoint its members. He might here mention that he, with his officers, intended returning the visit of the Lincoln Lodge at the earliest opportunity—indeed, he would ask his officers and members to accompany him to their (the Lincoln Lodge) next meeting, which he believed would take place on the 9th June. He had always held that these fraternal visits had a great deal to do with cementing that brotherly love which is recognised as one of the great principles of Freemasonry, even more than individual visits, as it tended to produce a good feeling, not only between individuals, but between lodges, and for this reason he had always advocated it. To Bro. Louisson, R.W.M. of the Crown Lodge, he would beg to tender his hearty thanks for the fraternal visit, which also he hoped to take an early opportunity of returning, but at the same time he should like to ask the co-operation of the Crown Lodge in uniting with him in the return visit to Lincoln, and he was sure from what he knew of the Lincoln Lodge they would be heartily received. To all other visitors he tendered his thanks, and would ask the brethren of the Robert Burns Lodge to drink in bumpers "The Health of the Visitors," coupled with the names of Masters and Past Masters.

The toast having been received in true Masonic fashion, was responded to by Bro. East, W.M. of the Lincoln Lodge, who said that after the way in which Bro. Francis had praised the members of his lodge, he hardly knew how to respond to his toast. He could only say that, although they had come a considerable distance, yet they were amply repaid for their trouble by the lesson they had learned that evening. They had seen the ritual worked in an irreproachable manner, and upon that he could not only compliment Bro. Francis, but also all his officers. In conclusion, he would say that if the Robert Burns Lodge visited them at their next or any future meeting, his officers and members would attempt to make them as welcome as he had been made that evening. He now thanked them for coupling his name with the toast of the visitors.

Responses were also made by Bros. Chas. Louisson, on behalf of the Crown Lodge, 1038; Kirk, and Cumming (New Zealand Freemason).

Bro. A. Kirk said he rose to propose a toast which he hoped all visitors and brethren would drink heartily to—it was "Bro. Francis, R.W.M." He might state that he had known Bro. Francis as long as he had been a Mason; in fact, he had seen him initiated, and he could say that nothing gave him greater pleasure than seeing him occupy the chair of K.S. in such a lodge as this. He believed this was one of the largest, if not the largest, lodges in the district, and to occupy the chair of such a lodge was worthy the ambition of any brother. He would recommend the conduct of Bro. Francis to all the younger members of the lodge as an example which it would be well for them to try to imitate. Bro. Francis had been in harness almost ever since his initiation; he had filled all the offices of the lodge, and had at last, by his sterling ability, attained to the highest possible position in this lodge. He believed that every brother had a greater or less degree of ambition to reach that chair. Such ambition was laudable; but by all means let it be carried out in a straightforward manner, and let the brethren steadily work themselves up in their duties in the lower offices, and they might rest assured that their perseverance would be finally rewarded. He would now ask them to drink the health of Bro. Francis, R.W.M.

Bro. Francis, in a few well-chosen words, responded to the toast of his health.

The other toasts were "The Working Officers of the Lodge," responded to by Bros. Fulton, W.S.M.; Buchanan, W.S.W.; R. W. S. Eastwood, Sec.; and Gourlay, P.M., M. of I.

Songs were interspersed with the toasts during the evening. The Tyler's toast brought to a close what may be considered a red-letter day in the annals of this lodge.

South Africa.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF NATAL.

The annual meeting was held on the 28th of March last, at the Masonic Hall, Smith-street, Durban. The R.W. Dist. Grand Master, Bro. R. I. Finnermore, presided, and there was a very large attendance of brethren to support him. The District Grand Lodge was opened shortly after five o'clock, and after the customary routine business had been disposed of,

The DISTRICT GRAND MASTER said: Brethren, I have, as your District Grand Master, convened you to-day for several reasons. In the first place, this is the anniversary of the formal opening of our District Grand Lodge, and it is necessary to appoint new officers. In the next place, it is desirable that no further time should be lost in passing bye-laws. I drafted a code in 1882, which was printed and circulated amongst the lodges; but owing to impending changes in our Constitutions it was thought advisable, and recommended by Col. Clerke, the Grand Secretary, that we should postpone the settlement of this matter until the final revision of the new Book of Constitutions in England had been completed. I have not yet received a copy of the new Constitutions; but, from a summary of alterations which was published in the *Freemason*, and which I have carefully studied, I have been enabled to ascertain in what respects the old Constitutions had been amended, and with this knowledge I have now carefully drafted a second code, which I shall lay before you to-day for your consideration and approval. In preparing the new code, which I have made as brief and simple as I conveniently could, I have adhered as far as possible to the resolutions which were passed at the last regular communication of District Grand Lodge, which was held under my presidency in Pietermaritzburg in September last. Beyond the necessity for appointing new officers and finally passing the bye-laws, subject to the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, there is also another reason why I wished to meet you to-day, namely, that being about to leave the colony for some months, after a residence of nearly 34 years, for the purpose of revisiting the mother country, I was desirous of bidding adieu to my Masonic brethren, and of arranging sundry Masonic matters of importance preparatory to my departure. During my

absence from the colony the Masonic government of the district will devolve upon the Deputy D. Grand Master, assisted by the District Board of General Purposes; and I feel sure that you will accord to my Deputy during my absence the same hearty support and ready co-operation which it has been my privilege to experience at your hands. (Hear, hear.) As to the amended Constitutions, I find that I am now empowered to appoint the President of the District Board of General Purposes, who will rank next to the District Grand Registrar. The appointment of two District Grand Standard Bearers is also authorised, and the office of District Assistant Grand Secretary is now provided for and recognised by the new rules. I think it well also that I should exercise the power of appointing two District Grand Chaplains, as there are so many candidates desirous and deserving of holding office in District Grand Lodge that it is difficult, if not impossible, for me to adequately recognise the claims of all of them. I would recommend that the District Board of General Purposes be constituted without further delay, as there will be many matters arising for their consideration. From the reports of lodges for the past year, it will be seen that the state of Freemasonry generally in the district is eminently satisfactory and encouraging. It is true that no new Craft lodges have been opened in the district during the past year, as it was anticipated they would be. Unfortunately difficulties arose which prevented our Newcastle brethren realising their wish to obtain a charter; and I understand that the brethren at Koppo have abandoned for the present the expressed intention of establishing a lodge at their place, because it is considered that the Carnarvon Lodge at Richmond will suffice, for some time to come, for the wants of the brethren in the locality. The recent erection and dedication of two new Masonic halls, one at Richmond, the other at Greytown, and the position generally of the existing lodges, however, furnish satisfactory evidence of the vitality and progressive character of Freemasonry in the district, and is a subject of congratulation. Sundry matters of detail connected with the Craft have at different times during the year been submitted for my decision and action. Thus, there was one appeal to me from the decision of a private lodge; one application for permission to temporarily change the places of meeting of a lodge; several applications for my ruling on points of order or practice; sundry amendments of bye-laws of private lodges submitted for my approval; and various other matters, including, I regret to say, a few applications for pecuniary relief or assistance. All these matters have been dealt with by me as they arose, and in such a manner as circumstances would enable me to deal with them. Business of this nature, as well as necessary communications with the Grand Secretary in London, the Deputy D.G.M., and the Dist. G. Secretary from time to time, has entailed upon me an amount of correspondence which is not inconsiderable; but notwithstanding my official and other duties I have endeavoured to settle all points as they arose and to ensure as far as possible that there should be no delay in answering letters. The experience of the first year of our District Grand Lodge has thus shown that the home authorities rightly judged that the time had arrived when local government of the Order in the colony had become necessary. (Hear.) I may here mention that W. Bro. George Russell, D.G.S.W., is compiling for publication a history of Freemasonry in the district, more particularly with reference to the Port Natal Lodge, No. 738, with which he has been so long and honourably connected; and I have no doubt but that this publication will be found to be of great interest to members of our Fraternity. (Hear, hear.) I have the pleasure also to announce to you, that W. Bro. M. H. Emanuel, of Lodges 738 and 1192, P.M. 1069, has kindly made a present to the District Grand Lodge of a handsome silver square and compasses, which I now submit for your acceptance. The District Grand Secretary will read to you the letter which accompanied the presentations. I am sure I am only expressing the unanimous feeling of members of District Grand Lodge when I say that we sincerely appreciate the gift; and for my own part I value still more the kindly expressions towards myself as District Grand Master which accompanied it. (Hear, hear.) My sincere thanks are due to the outgoing officers for their attention to their duties during their tenure of office; and I thank you all, brethren, for your salutations and reception of me to-day. (Hear, hear.) I will not now detain you from the more important business of the meeting with any further preliminary remarks, but will conclude with the time-honoured wish that as the labours of our District Grand Lodge have been begun in order, and the blessing of the Great Architect of the Universe has been invoked on our proceedings, so may they be conducted in peace and with a true regard to the best interests of the Order, and be closed in love and harmony. (Hear, hear.)

The following brethren were subsequently duly invested for the ensuing year:—

Bro. W. Francis...	...	...	Dist. D.G.M.
" G. Russell ...	...	...	Dist. G.S.W.
" J. Smith ...	...	...	Dist. G.J.W.
" Rev. J. Reynolds ...	...	...	Dist. G. Chap.
" Rev. A. Ikin, LL.D., Mus. Doc.	...	...	Dist. G. Chap.
" A. C. Dulcken ...	...	...	Dist. G. Reg.
" T. J. Hill ...	...	...	Dist. G. Presdnt.
" E. H. Wiltshier ...	...	...	Bd. Gen. Purps.
" A. J. Keeler ...	...	...	Dist. G. Sec.
" S. Marriott ...	...	...	Dist. G.A.S.
" J. Crowe ...	...	...	Dist. G. Treas.
" G. O. Matterson ...	...	...	Dist. G.S.D.
" S. Starnack ...	...	...	Dist. G.J.D.
" W. A. Voysey ...	...	...	Dist. G.S. of W.
" W. Sink ...	...	...	Dist. G.D.C.
" W. A. Smith ...	...	...	Dist. G.A.D.C.
" D. Deeves ...	...	...	Dist. G. Swd. Br.
" T. Cook ...	...	...	Dist. G. Std. Br.
" E. S. T. Stantial ...	...	...	Dist. G. Org.
" W. H. Kinsman ...	...	...	Dist. G. Purst.
" B. Ireland ...	...	...	Dist. A.G. Purst.
Bros. S. Ford, P. Flett, W. F. Stanton, R. Willis, D. Crabbe, and J. Schulz ...	...	...	Dist. G. Swds.

At the conclusion of business a banquet was held, and at the removal of the cloth the customary toast list was gone through.

The centenary of the Harmonic Lodge, No. 252, was celebrated at Dudley on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. We hope to give a report in our next.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, The President, Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., occupied the chair; Bro. Brette took the Senior Vice President's chair; and Bro. Cottebrune, P.G. Purst., occupied the chair of Junior Vice President.

There were also present Bros. Henry Garrod, G.A.P.; R. F. Spaul, J. Smith Eastes, G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; H. McPherson, John Noble, W. Mann, E. J. Barron, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; G. P. Britten, C. Darwig, E. F. Stow, G. P. Gillard, George Read, J. Hart, W. Maxsted, J. H. Taylor, H. Stevenson, E. Baxter, Capt. Nicols, J. Handell, C. Scrutton, L. G. Langdon, W. G. Dickens, A. W. Fenner, J. H. Sillitoe, F. C. Moullet, S. T. Kingston, Thomas Kingston, C. D. Rivington, A. E. Gladwell, W. Goodacre, E. W. Wilson, C. A. Walter, H. E. Frances, W. Lake (*Freemason*), and others.

The brethren first conferred grants to the amount of £355, recommended at last meeting of the Board of Benevolence.

There were 31 new cases on the list; five of these were deferred. The remaining 26 were relieved with the total sum of £615. This was composed of recommendations to Grand Lodge for three of £5 (£15); nine of £10 (£90); six of £20 (£120); two of £25 (£50); three of £30 (£90); one of £50 (£50); two of £100 (£200). The lodge was then closed.

FREEMASONRY IN BELPER.

In response to the W.M. and brethren of the Beaureper Lodge, No. 787, over 100 brethren assembled in the lodge room on Sunday afternoon, July 20th, to clothe, &c., and then marshal in full regalia through the main street to Christ Church to hear a sermon preached by Bro. the Rev. E. A. Hillyard on Papal and other Bulls against Masonry. Bro. Hillyard's great experience and learning enabled him to enter into this subject at considerable length. A more eloquent, powerful, and impressive sermon on Papal Bulls and Freemasonry the writer has never heard, and it was listened to by the vast congregation with deep attention. At the close of the service a collection or offertory for the Masonic Charities was made.

Amongst the brethren present were Bros. Sir J. G. N. Alleyne, Bart., P.P.G.S.W.; Rev. E. A. Hillyard, P.P.G.C., and S.W. 780; George Day, P.G.S.D.; Dr. Allen, P.P.G.J.D.; Benj. Cooper, P.P.G.P.; W. H. Fisher, P.G.S.B.; Lennox, P.P.G.S.B.; Wade, P.P.G.S.B.; and Lyth, P.P.G.P. Bro. B. Cooper very efficiently acted as D.C. on the occasion. Lodges Nos. 1495, 1324, 1179, 1085, 1028, 884, 850, 802, 787, 654, 625, 506, and 253 were well represented. The day was gloriously fine, which brought a great many persons long distances to see the procession and hear this important sermon.

Obituary.

BRO. JUSTICE WATKIN WILLIAMS.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Justice Watkin Williams, at Nottingham, which occurred at a late hour on the night of Thursday, the 17th inst., of heart disease; his lordship had been engaged in Court during the day, and appeared in good health. The deceased Judge was the son of the late Rev. P. Williams, rector of Llansannan, Denbighshire, and was born on the 25th September, 1828, called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1854, and was appointed Q.C. and Bench of his Inn in 1873. He represented Denbigh from November, 1868, to 1880, when he was returned for Carnarvonshire, and in November of that year was appointed a Judge of the Queen's Bench Division. He was initiated in the Panmure Lodge, No. 1017—now No. 715—then held at the Pembury Tavern, Clapton, by Bro. Hy. Muggeridge, the Master, on the 19th June, 1858, and remained a member many years; he was also a subscriber to the Masonic Girls' School.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

Between 30 and 40 years ago, when the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was founded by brethren whose wisdom and benevolence went hand-in-hand, the very first monetary item which appeared on the book of the Charity was a sum of £73 12s., the outcome of a ball which was given by the leaders of the Craft at that period. Recognising the value of this source of income, the Committee of the Institution have kept these annual assemblies in existence, and that which took place at the Town Hall this year was the thirty-fifth of the series given in the aid of the Charity. These annual festive gatherings, which have taken place since the year 1850, have been the means of adding no less a sum than about £4200 to the funds of this most deserving Institution; and the fact that 410 children have received educational and other advantages since its foundation, at a total outlay of about £10,000, speaks eloquently of the immense good accomplished by it during its existence. At the present time there are 166 little ones on the foundation of the "West Lancashire," costing £1166, who are attending schools selected by parents or guardians, but approved by the committee; and the bye-laws which have been recently framed further enable the committee to send orphan children to schools where they will be entirely maintained, in addition to the previous benefits of education and clothing. The present invested capital of the charity is about £17,000, and during the past year the brethren of nearly the whole of the 81 lodges throughout the province have generously contributed to the funds of their pet institution. The extended advantages wisely brought into existence by the committee will necessitate increased outlay; But there is no doubt the members of the Craft, by their contributions, will enable those entrusted with the management of affairs to carry the scheme into permanent and beneficial effect. One remarkable feature of the management of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution is that not a farthing of the funds is paid for any official, the whole of the work being done by an elected committee of about 40 members, Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., and Bro. R. Martin, P.M. and treasurer, 1182, being the honorary secretaries; and Bro. J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treasurer, the honorary treasurer.



The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex will be held at the Public Hall, Maldon, on Wednesday, the 13th proximo, at two p.m.

We hear that Bro. W. Drake, P.M., well-known to many, has recently left with part of his family for Sydney. The good wishes of many Masonic friends go with him.

A moveable Grand Lodge of the Mark Degree will be held at the Royal Public Rooms, Exeter, on Wednesday, August 6th. Canon Portal, Past Grand Mark Master, will move that the sum of ten guineas be voted to the Hughan Testimonial Fund.

The brethren of the Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781, have just celebrated their annual summer festival. Hampton Court was selected for the rendezvous, and a goodly gathering dined at the Mitre Hotel, and with fine weather a successful day was passed.

We are requested to state that the Duke of Albany's subscription to the Boys' School Festival seems to have been returned by inadvertence on the list of the Lodge of Antiquity; it ought properly to be credited to the list of the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire was held on Wednesday last under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. F. T. Halsey, M.P. The new Grand Officers were appointed, and several grants were made for benevolent purposes. A report will appear next week.

At the last meeting of the West Smithfield Lodge, No. 1623, at Freemasons' Hall, W.C., Bro. G. H. Stephens, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. A jewel was voted to Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.M. &c., the outgoing W.M., for his valuable services in the chair.

The last nights of "The Beggar Student" are announced at the Alhambra; and on Saturday, August 2nd, a newly written and enlarged version of F. C. Burnand's popular burlesque, "Black-Eyed Susan," is to be produced, with original music, specially composed by Mr. Alfred Lee.

Should any brother have any "curios" he would like to exhibit at Worcester, he had better communicate with Bro. George Taylor, Summerdyne Villa, Kidderminster, or Bro. George Kenning, 1, 2, 3, 4, Little Britain, or any information may be obtained at the office of the *Freemason*.

The will, dated Jan. 24, 1879, of the Right Hon. George, Viscount Torrington, one of the lords-in-waiting on the Queen, who died on April 27 last, at Monte Carlo, Monaco, was proved on the 17th ult. by the Marquis of Abergavenny and Bro. John Moxon Clabon, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £12,000.

The members of the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, have arranged to have a summer outing on Thursday next. The party will repair in brakes to Bro. Benningfield's, Crown Gardens, Brombourne. A few tickets left unsold may be had of Bro. S. G. Bonner, Hon. Sec., 35, Church-street, Cubitt Town.

Bro. Philip Chetham, the oldest Freemason in England, and, it is supposed, in the world, has just died at Southport. He was in his 97th year, and was initiated a Freemason in 1811. He had been Past Master of Lodge 323 since 1841. In 1802 he volunteered on board he Majesty's guardship Phoebe, and was at Trafalgar, though not in action. Since his initiation Bro. Chetham had been an enthusiastic Freemason.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Durham, Bro. the Most Hon. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., has fixed Saturday, August 30th, for the consecration of the Londonderry Lodge, No. 2039, which is being formed on temperance principles at Sunderland, and of which the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. R. Hudson, is the W.M. designate, Bro. J. C. Moor, W.M. 97, the S.W. designate, and Bro. J. Deans, J.W. 80, is the J.W. designate.

The London and North Western Railway Company have just issued their Annual Tourist Guide (130 pages with maps), at the nominal price of one penny. The many places of interest on this company's system, which include the English Lake district, the Isle of Man, North Wales, &c., present such unequalled attractions that the Tourist will have small difficulty in selecting places of interest that are not to be surpassed in Great Britain.—We shall notice these tours more fully in our next.

At the Wardmote Meeting of the City of London, held on Thursday week, the 17th inst., for the purpose of electing a member of the Common Council to represent the Ward of Cordwainer in place of Bro. David Evans, who was recently elected Alderman for the Ward of Castle Baynard, Bro. Thos. W. C. Bush moved, "That the sincere congratulations of this wardmote be presented to Bro. D. Evans on his election to the office of Alderman in the Ward of Castle Baynard." Bro. Bush, in glowing terms, referred to his valuable services as Common Councilman for the ten years during which he had represented the ward, and congratulated him on the high position to which he had attained. Mr. Mason seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation. Bro. Alderman Evans, in returning thanks, observed that he was still an inhabitant of the ward, and still took an interest in everything appertaining to it. The ward had been the stepping-stone to his present position, and it was in the ward that he had gained his experience of public duties. He hoped to carry with him in the future the friendships which he had formed in the past. Bro. Frank Taylor was subsequently elected C.C. by a majority of 21 votes.

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.]

The annual Provincial Grand Chapter of Kent will be held at Ashford on Thursday next, the 31st inst., under the wing of the Invicta Chapter.

The Henry Levander Lodge was consecrated on Monday last by Sir F. Burdett, Bart. A report will appear in our next. The proceedings were very successful.

A meeting of the Metropolitan Council (time immemorial) and of the Four King's Council, No. 7, of the Allied Masonic Degrees will be held at 8a, Red Lion-square, on Thursday, at 5 o'clock.

Arrangements for the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to Edinburgh have been completed. Their Royal Highnesses will be the guests of Lord and Lady Roseberry at Dalmeny from Friday, Aug. 22nd, till the following Monday.

Messrs. W. S. Bradshaw and Sons, photographers, of 103, Newgate-street, have produced a very fine photograph of Christ's Hospital, which, while it will be interesting to the public generally, will have particular attractions for "Old Blues."

The report of the grand Mark Lodge, which has just been issued, shows that there are now on the roll of the Grand Lodge 340 subordinate lodges. Eleven of these have been constituted in the present year. Eighteen were constituted in 1883, 17 in 1882, 20 in 1881, 22 in 1880, 14 in 1879, and 24 in 1878. The last appears to be the largest number in any one year.

ERRATA.—In the report of the Sydney Lodge in our last issue, the sentence "invite the weary traveller to refresh himself and his heart, if he have one with him," should have been "to refresh himself and his *beast*," not *heart*; and in the report of the United Military Lodge—same issue—instead of "the Hon. Bro. Vallom," it should have been "the *host*, Bro. Vallom."

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex will be held on Saturday, August 2nd, at the Athenæum, Enfield, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir Francis Burdett. Amongst other notices on the agenda paper is a proposition that 15 guineas shall be given to the Masonic Girls' School, the Boys' School, and the Benevolent Institution respectively.

The Supreme Council of England and Wales have resolved to confer the 31° upon Bro. R. I. Finnemore, F.R.G.S., F.Z.S., Resident Magistrate of Durban, Natal, some time acting Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of that colony, (who is now in London on leave of absence), in recognition of his services to Masonry. Bro. R. I. Finnemore is District Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Mark Master of Natal, P.Z., P.M.W.S., P.E.P., &c.

The Duchess of Manchester presided at Messrs. Welford's Model Dairy at the Health Exhibition Fête on Wednesday, when her Grace was assisted in the sale of baskets of fresh butter, new milk, cream, fruit, and flowers, by the Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Marchioness of Kidare, the Countess of Zetland and Gosford, Viscountess Manderville, Lady Eleanor Gordon, Lady Alice Montagu, Lady Capel, and Mrs. Allsopp, the whole of the proceeds from which will be sent by Bro. J. Welford, P.M., to Bro. the Lord Mayor for the London Hospitals.

The Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Berks and Oxon was held on Tuesday at Oxford, under the banner of the Alfred Mark Lodge, No. 247. The Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Jersey, presided. The usual business of the province was transacted, and Bro. Edward J. Trendell was unanimously re-elected Prov. Grand Treas.; Bro. Charles Stephens was reappointed Deputy Grand Master. After the business of the lodge was concluded the party had a very pleasant trip by steam launch to Nuneham, where they inspected the grounds of Col. Harcourt, M.P., and then returned to Oxford, where they banqueted at the Alfred Masonic Hall. We hope to give a full report in our next.

At a meeting of the National Thrift Society, held on Friday last, under the presidency of Lord Byron, the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., seconded by Bro. Alderman Sir John Whittaker Ellis, M.P., and carried unanimously "That the work of the National Thrift Society having extended to many parts of the kingdom, and the present time being a favourable one for its development, it is desirable to obtain considerably increased support for the work, and this meeting therefore pledges itself to use its utmost endeavours to raise a fund of £1000 during the present year. Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., started the fund with a contribution of £50, and the secretary announced that the Duke of Westminster had become an annual subscriber of £10 to the society.

A report having gained general credence that the coloured men of this city (Buffalo) had in working order several Masonic lodges, which were instituted by C. E. Newton, who gained considerable notoriety as the first coloured man on the city police force. The following facts, which are not generally known to the Fraternity of this city, were obtained from Newton: He claims to be working under a charter issued September 28, 1784, by Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, as Grand Master of English Masons at that time, which was granted to Prince Hall and other coloured men. The lodges working in this city are: Lodge of St. John's, No. 16, Master Masons, 40 members; Erie Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, No. 10, 21 members; Simon Commandery, Knights Templar, 22 members; Rose Croix Lodge, Scottish Rite, 17 members; and Lodge of the Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret, 6 members, one member of which claims to be a Thirty-second Degree Mason. The coloured brethren are jubilant over the success of their different lodges, which they claim are growing rapidly and doing regular work.—*Montreal Daily Star*.

£50 to £300.—Tobacconists commencing.—A pamphlet, How to open a shop respectably for £50; post free. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Wholesale only.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Weary of Life.—Derangement of the liver is one of the most efficient causes of dangerous diseases and the prolific of those melancholy forebodings which are worse than death itself. A few doses of these Pills act magically in dispelling low spirits and repelling the covert attacks made on the nerves by excessive heat, impure atmospheres, over-indulgence, or exhausting excitement. The most shattered constitution may derive benefit from Holloway's Pills, which will regulate disordered action, brace the nerves, increase the energy of the intellectual faculties, and revive the failing memory. By attentively studying the instructions for taking these Pills, and obediently putting them into practice, the most despondent will soon feel confident of a perfect recovery.—[ADVT.]