

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
 THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
 OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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We most sincerely regret to have to publish the contents of the following post card received by us this (Thursday) morning:

To the Editor of the 'Freemason.'

"SIR,—It is with sincere regret that I have to inform you that our Bro. JOHN HAVERS, P.G.W., died at Berkhamstead this morning.

"49, Seymour-street, Portman-square, W., "EDMUND OWEN.
 "Aug. 20, 1884."

It is impossible to-day to do justice to our own feelings, and, above all, the services of our distinguished brother, whose loss is an irreparable one in many respects to our Order, but we shall hope to do so next week. We deeply grieve to make this announcement to the Craft.

ALL our readers will rejoice to hear the great success attending the Progress of our Royal GRAND MASTER, the Princess of WALES, and their children at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They will also be happy to learn that the unfortunate little episode of Colonel YOUNG's restive horse was without inconvenience to the Royal visitors. His Royal Highness the GRAND MASTER seems to have had a most fortunate escape from what might have proved a most annoying "contretems."

OUR esteemed Bro. J. W. SIMONS, Editor of the *New York Dispatch*, has the following remarks anent a letter received by him from a correspondent: "We have received the following document, and as it illustrates the ideas of a great many persons who know nothing and understand less about the Brotherhood of Freemasonry, we give it this prominent position that many instead of few may reach a proper understanding of the ends and aims of the Institution. Our correspondent asks: '1. Would you advise a moral and respectable young man to join a Masonic lodge? 2. Do all Masonic lodges have sick and death benefits? 3. If not, what benefits accrue or result from belonging to a Masonic lodge?'—No Masonic lodges have any sick or death benefits—we do not understand things in that way, nor do we want any members who join us as they would an insurance company. We are always and ever ready to assist those in distress; but we make no bargain to pay a man with a sore thumb or one who thinks he ought to be paid for some irregularity of his natural functions a certain amount per week. Our idea is the largest charity to those in absolute need, but not anything to those who, needing not, still make a claim upon us." We quite agree with our "confrère" in all he says, and are glad to hear that the American system is the same as our own. Lord ZETLAND emphatically warned us years ago against the "Benefit Club system" in Freemasonry, and the warning cannot be too often repeated. There are too many of us all, like the correspondent of the *New York Dispatch*, who look on Freemasonry as a system from which they may derive certain benefits, and it may be feared that a large proportion of "Intrants" are attracted by the mere materiality of Masonic prosperity and its "good things." No true Freemason will ever advise anyone to become a member of the Order, and though, perhaps, in the enthusiasm of the moment, or the unguardedness of social converse, brethren may speak incautiously and unwarily in this respect, yet we may lay it down as the indubitable proof of a true realization of Masonic teaching and duty, when the same sound caution exhibited by Bro. J. W. SIMONS, in answer to his correspondent, is exhibited by us all, even amid the amenities of kindly sociality, and the carelessness of colloquial ease.

WE must all be struck who read the American Masonic papers with the intense realism of their summer excursions, and the height of excellence, alike in arrangement and idea, to which they have attained. Probably one of the greatest elements of success and enjoyability in those agreeable relaxations, those friendly aggregations, is the habitual presence of the ladies. They seem thoroughly to enter into all the details of these expeditions, and not

only thoroughly to enjoy themselves, but to confer heartfelt gratification on many admirers, friends, brethren. The principles of Freemasonry are in themselves so refined, so purifying, and so elevating, that they seem at once to harmonize with the gentler and kindlier nature of the woman. Man is often selfish and imperious, exacting and intolerant, hard to please, harder to pacify, impatient of opposition, morbid in disappointment; while to woman is granted, in the good Providence of T.G.A.O.T.U., those touches and traits which seem to cheer, support, and control the man here.

Still, lit up by rays of seraphs' eyes
 And glimpses of remembered Heaven,

the peculiar moral beauty and excellence of the woman's character is often placed in happy contrast with the rougher tastes and less accommodating disposition of us "Lords of the Creation." And therefore it is that her personality and her smiles often shed brightness where all is gloom, trust where all is doubt, happiness and peace where all is discomfort and disagreement. We can quite understand how it is that our American brethren have found the great good accruing from female "juxtaposition" and companionship, and how thoroughly successful such assemblies are, what present happiness they impart, what pleasing memories they leave behind. We are moving on slowly in this same sound direction at home. Little by little old prejudices are disappearing, and antique superstitions are effaced. It has been discovered that our summer St. John's gathering is rendered more attractive and pleasant by the kindly sociality, the bright looks, the gay dresses of our sisters, and that his is a churlish and an un-Masonic disposition,—yes, un-Masonic,—which hugs the idea that he cannot enjoy himself half as much if the "women are present." Let us seek to dismiss such misplaced cynicism and mistaken fallacies from our minds and let us strive to imitate our American brethren in their good sense and good taste, their wise appreciation of, their seasonable recognition of, the incalculable benefits accruing to Freemasonry from the softening and soothing and elevating presence of our sisters—that smiling interest, that warm-hearted sympathy, and that unselfish goodness of theirs which are their charm, their power, and their abiding characteristic in life and the world to-day.

WE call attention to an amusing letter elsewhere, signed "A Citizen of the World," for this reason,—that we wish to warn all our readers against attending professedly Masonic bodies anywhere which affect an air of special secrecy, and are evidently either forbidden by the laws of the land, or are in opposition to the constituted authorities of the country. In many regions such pernicious bodies are to be found where secret societies exist, easily mistaken by the credulous and the careless for Freemasons, whose organization they ape, and whose name they assume. Italy,—the mother land almost of secret societies,—is still overrun by them, and honest English Freemasons cannot be too often warned against yielding to the suggestions of untrustworthy "commissionaires," and being induced to enter lodges which, though they assume to be those of Freemasons, are after all only "secret political societies." Freemasonry, let us remember once for all, has nothing to do ever with political questions or religious controversies. It always obeys the laws of the land, and avoids anything like a secret political society. Whenever Freemasons depart from this cosmopolitan and unchanging law of true Freemasonry they always have to repent it, and "come to grief;" and we therefore think it right to urge prudence, care, and caution on many of our readers travelling here and there, in many countries, at the present hour.

WE fully endorse Bro. Snyder's letter to the "Masonic Home Journal," printed elsewhere, that the excuses of Freemasons for not reading or supporting Masonic literature are "shabby and worn out." It is a singular fact, explain it as you will, that Masonic literature always has had, and still has, a hard struggle for existence. In 1793 the first English Magazine appeared, and since that period what has the history of Masonic Literature been but a succession of disappointments, failures, and cessations. Even in America, with 600,000 Freemasons, it is very hard work indeed to keep up either the needful concrete material support, or the abstract Masonic interest. In Great Britain it is the same. Some see the *Freemason*, for instance, at the club, and will not go to the expense of taking it in, apparently expecting, like many more, that keeping up such a paper costs nothing, and that it is, in fact, rather a favour to the Publisher to subscribe for it than otherwise. If many of our good friends would think they would see that the measure of sympathy and support they accord to Masonic literature is simply enough to render any effort to supply the Craft with news home and foreign, archaeological information, and the like

nugatory and penal in every respect. Poor Bro. GOULEY, in America gave up publication with 8000 professed subscribers on his books, and in many cases just now analogous magazines are kept up at a constant loss. We say this, firstly, because we agree entirely with Bro. SNYDER, and, secondly, because we feel convinced our brethren never have ever realized or gauged the matter. There is, in truth, a great field for the improvement and extension of Masonic literature, if only the support of the Craft could be rendered so extensive and appreciable.

* * *

OF the *Keystone*, and its new volume, the New York *Hebrew Leader* of July 25th fraternally says: "The *Keystone*, of Philadelphia, has attained its eighteenth year of publication, and its banner is happily upheld by CLIFFORD P. MACCALLA, the able editor. Those of our Fraternity who do not take and read the *Keystone* are not well posted Masons on the current affairs of the day, neither are they as well advised as they should be as to the literature and history of our noble Institution." In all these words we heartily concur, as we always congratulate American Freemasonry on having so able a literary representative as the Philadelphia *Keystone*.

* * *

THE *Sydney Freemason* of date July 1st, announces conspicuously that a new Grand Lodge of Queensland is about to be formed, and two new lodges are to be consecrated, one composed entirely of "deserters" from the English lodges. We do not like "deserters" of any kind. We hear very little of the new so-called Victorian Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New South Wales, so termed, has had a gathering of 250 brethren.

* * *

LATE hours have ceased happily to characterize our Masonic symposia. Terrible tales are sometimes told by "yarn spinners" of the length of "sederunts" 50 years ago. We may always remember in all these senile recollections that "exaggeration" is the "badge of all our tribe." An American paper tells us a good story of a young wife curing her husband's propensity to be "late" at his lodge, by informing him she was going to call at the Post Office to ascertain if they could help her to "get a late male (i) in in time." This worthy brother did not go it is added to the lodge that evening.

* * *

WE deem it well to call attention to a little incongruity, which seems on the increase amongst us, that is, using the names of brethren without any authority for some specific purpose. One or two complaints have recently come before us, and we therefore think it well to put in a word of warning and caution.

* * *

WE understand that some interest has been created, in consequence of two recent articles in these columns, in Bro. Dr. MOON's establishment for printing for the blind, 104, Queen's-road, Brighton. It seems not too much to expect or hope that those who are blessed with sight, thankful to a beneficent Providence for so great a gift, will give a "mite" towards this most useful and philanthropic work.

* * *

THE argument assumed in most of the Quebec angry correspondence, that Freemasons have a sort of discriminating decision and dispensing power, as regards certain laws passed against them, cannot be accepted for one moment. We may deplore the fact that Freemasons are ostracized anywhere; but if the law of the land forbids their meeting, they cannot meet until the prohibition is withdrawn; neither can English Freemasons anywhere attend surreptitious meetings, or visit clandestine assemblies. Curiously enough, the Canadian Secret Societies Act seems to be framed on the lines of our older English law on the subject. When secret political societies were prevalent in England towards the end of the last century, the Secret Societies Act was passed, which however exempted Freemasons for their benevolence from its penalties. The Canadian Act does the same, but for some reason or other it limits the exemption to Freemasons deriving their existence from lawful Masonic authorities in Great Britain. Hence the Grand Lodge of Canada found itself compelled to obtain a retrospective and legalizing act as it was out of the "purview" of the statute, and by consequence was practically an illegal body. The position of the Quebec Grand Lodge is identical. Until it puts itself on the footing of absolute legality it is really "hors de la loi" of Freemasonry, legality as before the laws of the land, being an assential condition of all true and rightful Freemasonry everywhere.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALEXANDRA CHAPTER, No. 1511, HORNSEA.

The Yorkshire North-East seaside resort at Hornsea has up to this time been without a chapter attached to the Craft lodge, but, with the assistance of their Hull companions, this has now been remedied. On Saturday, the 2nd inst., a large number of Royal Arch Masons assembled at the Masonic Hall, Hornsea, for the purpose of being present at the consecration. Amongst those present were—

Comps. J. P. Bell, M.D., J.P., the Grand Superintendent of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire; M. C. Peck, P.Z., P.G.S.E.; Walter Reynolds, P.Z., P.P.G.H.; G. Hardy, P.Z., P.P.G.S.E.; H. W. Kemp, M.E.Z. elect; W. Holder, M.E.Z.; Charles Wells, P.Z., all of 250; R. Bevers, M.E.Z., P.P.P.S.; W. J. Keyworth, P.J., P.P.P.S.; G. D. Story, P.P.G.O.; M. W. Clarke, P.Z.; C. T. Ganderton, P.P.G.A.S.; J. K. Firth, all of 57; Thomas Sissons, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B. 1010; J. R. Ausdell, M.E.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; C. W. Cheesman, P.P.G.O.; of 1005 J. S. Cumberland, P.Z. Zetland Chapter; J. Scott Wilson, P.Z., P.G.D.C.; G. S

Highmoor, E. Wilson, James Elgey, Eli Bryan, James Bordass, all of 734; Thomas Wells, P.Z. 208; B. L. Wells, George L. Shackles, P.P.G.R.; R. A. Medd, Henry Vise, T. D. Wing, and A. P. Wilson, P.P.G.A.S.; the last seven, amongst other absent companions, being the petitioners. There were also present Comps. F. I. Lambert, P.G. Janitor; W. m. Clayton, Janitor; and others.

At three o'clock p.m. a Royal Arch Chapter was opened by the M.E. Grand Superintendent, as Z.; Comp. Hardy acting as H., and Comp. the Rev. H. W. Kemp, as J., with Comps. Peck, as S.E., and C. W. Cheesman, as S.N.; J. Scott Wilson, P.S.; and F. J. Lambert, Janitor. The M.E. Grand Superintendent, assisted by Comps. Kemp, C. Wells, Thos. Sissons, and W. Reynolds, consecrated and constituted the new chapter in ancient form, and the former gave a most lucid address to the companions present as to Royal Arch Masonry generally, and to the members of the newly-formed chapter in particular, after which Ex. Comp. Reynolds installed as Principals Comps. B. L. Wells, as Z.; Thos. Wells, P.Z., as H.; and G. L. Shackles, P.P.G. Reg., as J.; the other officers invested being Comps. R. A. Medd, S.E.; T. D. Wing, S.N.; A. P. Wilson, P.P.G. Soj., P.S.; Geo. Spink (by deputy), S.B.; and Clayton, Janitor (pro tem.). Comp. Story presided at the harmonium. Nine candidates were afterwards proposed for exaltation, as well as several joining members.

Votes of thanks were proposed by the M.E.Z. to the M.E. Grand Superintendent and Ex. Comps. Kemp, Reynolds, and Peck, who were also, at the suggestion of Ex. Comp. SHACKLES, elected honorary members of the chapter.

After suitable acknowledgments, and "Hearty good wishes" from many companions, the chapter was closed, and the companions subsequently sat down to a collation, admirably served, the newly-installed M.E.Z. presiding, when the usual Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

"The Health of the M.E. Grand Superintendent," given (owing to the indisposition of the M.E.Z.) by the M.E.H., was heartily drunk and ably responded to.

"The Health of the Newly-Installed Principals of the Alexandra Chapter" was given by the M.E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT, and E. Comps. B. L. WELLS, T. WELLS, and SHACKLES replied.

"Neighbouring Chapters" was given, and responded to Comps. Bevers, Kemp, and Ausdell; "The Charities," by E. Comp. A. P. Wilson, and responded to by E. Comp. Peck; and "The Visitors," given by Comp. Medd, was responded to by Comp. J. Scott Wilson.

The companions having to leave at an early hour by train for Hull and elsewhere, they took advantage of a quiet stroll by the seaside previous to so leaving, and so brought to a conclusion this most enjoyable day.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

On Wednesday, the 13th inst., the annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex was held at the Public Hall, Maldon, under the banners of the two local lodges—St. Peter's, No. 1024, and the Blackwater, No. 1977. The Right Hon. the Lord Brooke, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, presided, supported by Bros. Fred. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., Deputy Prov. Grand Master; Joshua Nunn, President of the Board of Benevolence; Binckes, Secretary of the Boys' School; and the following officers and brethren:

Bros. R. Clowes, Prov. G.S.W.; W. Sowman, Prov. G.J.W.; C. H. Roberts, Prov. G. Chap.; A. Durrant, Prov. G. Treas.; T. J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51, Prov. G. Sec.; A. Lucking, Prov. G.D.C.; H. Harper, Prov. G.S.B.; W. G. Brighton, Prov. G. Org.; T. G. Mills, Prov. G.I.G.; T. Sarel, Prov. G. Tyler; F. G. Green, P.G. S.W.; G. A. Eustace, I.P.M. 697; R. Smith, W.M. 697, P.G.S.; J. G. Renshaw, J.D. 697; F. Wiseman, P.M. 1734, P.P.G.J.D.; F. Horseman, 51; H. E. Dehane, I.P.M. 1543, P.P.G.S.D.; F. Wood, P.M. and Treas. 1000, P.P.G.S.W.; C. H. Parker, P.M. 1024; H. J. Skingley, 697; W. Wright, 1977; J. W. Harris, P.M. and Sec. 1817, P.P.G.A.D.C.; C. Randall, 1799; G. J. Glasscock, P.M. 1817, P.P.G.S.B.; H. Church, W.M. 1817; C. Floyd, I.P.M. 1817; G. Thomson, P.M.; D. J. Wright, 1024 and 1977; W. F. Francis, 1024; W. V. Willson, W.M. 1734, P.M. 160; J. P. Britton, 433, P.P.G.C.; J. J. C. Turner, P.M. 51, P.P.G.O.; G. Harrison, P.M. 51; W. Humphreys, P.M. 276 and 1024, P.P.G.W.; J. Grimes, S.W. 51; R. H. Ives, W.M. 51; A. S. B. Sparling, J.W. 51; E. F. Ferris, Org. 1543; L. F. Manley 697; W. W. Morgan, W.M. 211; J. W. Potter, 164; A. C. Durrant, J.W. 276; J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Works; C. S. Blyth, J.W. 1024; A. Barritt, 1024; C. W. Ker, 1024; W. M. Richardson, 1977; M. W. Meade, 1977; John Turner, 1977; H. Nichols, 1977; W. Herbage, W.M. 2005; G. Ralling, 51; J. Clever, P.M. 2005; F. A. White, 1437; John C. Quennell, J.W. 214; T. Eustace, W.M. 1977; S. H. Ellis, S.W. 697; J. C. Earle, P.M. 214; T. J. D. Cramporn, I.P.M. 1024; S. J. Bruce, 1977; C. J. Grove, 742; J. Barrett, 1343; W. T. Buck, 1702; H. Burnell, 1343; F. H. Bennett, 1280; A. G. Spencer, 1977; D. Baynes, W.M. 2006; W. W. Gladwin, 1977; George Best, 1337; G. P. Hazell, I.G. 697; J. Glass, W.M. 453; W. Sowman, 51; H. G. Everard, W.M. 650; R. Martin, P.M. 453, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Corble, S.W. 453; J. J. Cavill, 1312; J. T. Austen, S.W. 1457; A. Mead, W.M. 276; D. Bartlett, P.M. 1343; E. Hobbs, 453; W. Doring, P.P.G.S. Suffolk; J. Ashdown, 697; J. Hutley, W.M. 1024; N. Tracy, P.G.S. Suffolk; W. Morgan Jones, 697; G. Smith, 1799; C. Frost, 697; George Corble, 453; C. Dibben, 1024; J. Raven, 1977; John Taylor, jun., W.M. elect 1817; Francis Bird, P.M. 1024; A. Buck, P.P.G.S.W.; A. Welch, P.M. 51, P.P.G.J.W.; A. Richardson, S.W. 1977; W. Strutt, 1977; A. Smith, S.W. 433; A. J. Manning, P.P.G.D.; J. E. Wiseman, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Dean, P.M. 433; E. R. Horwood, P.M. 1024; S. Sawyer, 1977; and others.

Lodge having been opened in due form, the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. T. J. RALLING, read the minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, which were confirmed, and, at the same time, he announced that letters regretting the inability of the writers to attend had been received from Lord Waveney, P.G.M. Suffolk, Sir Henry Tyler, M.P., James Round, M.P., Lord Claude Hamilton, M.P., the Lord Mayor of London, M.P., and others. The Secretary also read a statement which showed that the brethren of the province now numbered 1007, and that their fees to Grand Lodge amounted to £86 13s. 6d.

Bro. H. E. DEHANE read the report of the Charity Committee of the province, which stated that at the last meeting the Committee was 194 proxies in debt, but these had since been paid. The Committee had secured the election of six out of the seven candidates they supported. On analysing the votes it was found that 1090 were received from the province and 1438 from brethren outside the province. The votes now held by the province—1975—show an increase of 861 over those of last year. The Committee recommend that all Essex Patrons or Vice-Presidents of either of the three Masonic Charities should be members of the Committee, and that steps should be taken in order that representatives from the four chapters and two Mark lodges in Essex might be added to their number.

The adoption of the report having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then addressed the brethren. He said he could but recall to his mind the very pleasant reception he received upon his last visit to Maldon, and the kindness and heartiness then extended to him by the brethren. (Hear, hear.) It was peculiarly gratifying to him to feel that Freemasonry was in such a prosperous condition in the province. (Hear, hear.) During the past year they had had to record the consecration of two new lodges—the Tilbury Lodge and the Brooke Lodge—and he could only account for that progress by the able manner in which the officers and others worked for that desirable result. (Hear, hear.) He referred, in terms of thankfulness, to the handsome way in which the brethren supported him in the chair at the Girls' Festival last May, when over £13,000 were subscribed to that Charity. (Hear, hear.) In these days of depression, his lordship remarked, it was very difficult to exercise one's charity; but he had never found Masons insensible to the calls made upon them. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, his lordship alluded to the death of the Duke of Albany, to the interest which his Royal Highness took in the Craft, and to the manner in which Prince Leopold came forward to install him at Colchester in the office he now held. He thought, however, that it would be out of place to pass any formal vote of condolence so long after the sad event, but he suggested, with the concurrence of the brethren, that he should be allowed to send a private letter to her Royal Highness the Duchess, expressing the sympathy the province felt for her in her sad calamity. (Hear, hear.) His lordship then thanked the brethren for their hearty reception, and resumed his seat amidst loud applause.

Rising again, the PROV. GRAND MASTER said that under the new Constitutions it was not necessary to appoint a Deputy annually, but he was glad to say that Bro. Philbrick had consented to act as his Deputy during the ensuing year. (Applause.) He thanked Bro. Philbrick for his kindness, and at the same time took the opportunity to congratulate him upon his appointment as Grand Registrar of England. (Loud applause.)

Bro. PHILBRICK, who was warmly received, briefly acknowledged the compliment, and assured the brethren that he felt that the Prince of Wales in appointing him Grand Registrar had honoured the province as well as the individual. (Applause.)

Bro. ALBERT LUCKING, Prov. G.D.C., proposed the re-election of Bro. Andrew Durrant as Prov. Grand Treas., and the motion having been seconded, Bro. Durrant was unanimously re-elected.

The Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers:—

Bro. Donald S. Baynes, W.M. 2006	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" J. C. Earle, I.P.M. 214	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" The Rev. W. Morgan Jones, S.D. 697	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Andrew Durrant, P.M. and Treas. 276	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Wm. Herbage, W.M. 2005	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Thomas J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" T. J. D. Cranphorn, I.P.M. 1024	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" J. Gilling, P.M. 1280	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" A. Mead, W.M. 276	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" A. Lucking, P.M., Sec. 1000	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. Richardson, W.M. elect 1977	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" W. V. Willson, I.P.M. 160	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" G. A. Eustace, I.P.M. 697	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" John Dean, P.M. 433	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Geo. F. Smith, 1977	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. G. Everard, W.M. 650	...	...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
" D. Bartlett, P.M. 1343	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Charles Floyd, I.P.M. 1817	...	...	Prov. G.A. Purst.
" R. H. Ives, W.M. 51	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" John Huntley, W.M. 1024	...	...
" S. H. Ellis, 1977	...	...
" W. Strutt, 1977	...	...	...
" T. S. Sarel, 276	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bro. ANDREW DURRANT proposed "That, in accordance with Rule 104 of the new Book of Constitutions, fees should be charged for registering new lodges' bye-laws and amendments to bye-laws;" and the motion, having been seconded, was carried.

Bro. JAMES GODWIN, W.M. 1343, proposed "That this Grand Lodge approves of the Calendar compiled by Bros. E. Shedd and H. Dehane, and recommends that the same shall be distributed throughout the province, under the sanction, and by the order, of this Provincial Grand Lodge."

Bro. the Rev. C. H. ROBERTS, P.P.G. Chap., seconded the motion, pointing out that the Calendar would be as useful to the province as the "Masons' Handbook" was to the Craft in general.

A long discussion ensued, and it was eventually agreed that the Calendar should be published under the sanction, but not by the order, of the Provincial Grand Lodge, Bro. Godwin undertaking to bear any loss the publication might incur, or to hand over to the Provincial Grand Lodge any profit which might accrue.

Votes of thanks having been passed to the local lodges for the excellent arrangements made for the comfort and accommodation of the brethren,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER announced that the next Provincial Grand Lodge would be held at Saffron Walden.

Lodge was then closed in due form with solemn prayer.

In the evening the brethren sat down to a *recherche* banquet at the Blue Boar Hotel, under the genial presidency of Lord Brooke, who was supported by a large and distinguished company of officers and brethren.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in proposing "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers present and past," said that with regard to the late Duke of Albany, whose memory was still green among them. (Hear, hear.) His Royal Highness considered that one of his most pleasant Masonic experiences was connected with them in the town of Colchester, and his lordship felt sure they would always look with interest to the doings of those who were dear to him—the Duchess and his children. (Applause.)

Bro. JOSEPH NUNN, President of the Board of Benevolence, responded, and paid a tribute to the part Bro. Philbrick had taken in the revision of the Book of Constitutions. (Applause.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER said he rose to propose the toast of the evening, "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master, Lord Brooke." (Loud and renewed cheers.) As Essex men, he said they were proud of their Prov. Grand Master—(cheers)—and the Prov. Grand Master had told them, in no unmeasured terms, how proud he felt of the Province when the Secretary of the Girls' School announced that the contributions from Essex exceeded those of any other province in England. (Cheers.) Long

might Lord Brooke be spared to preside over them; long might the provinces be prosperous, united, and increasing, and long might Lord Brooke find them in that state to which the province had now attained. (Cheers.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, on rising to respond, was received with round after round of applause. He thanked the brethren most heartily for their kind and warm reception; and in paying a tribute to his predecessor, the late Lord Tenterden, he said he felt he could only in a very distant measure tread in his footsteps; but if he could not make so deep a mark in the Masonic history of Essex as Lord Tenterden made, he trusted they would bear with him as far as they could, and support him as heartily as they had hitherto done. (Applause.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER next submitted "The Provincial Grand Officers," and in doing so he referred to a discussion which had taken place in lodge as to providing new regalia, &c., and stated that Bro. Philbrick had promised to provide a new sword for the Pursuivant; Bros. Herbage and Clever, of the Brook Lodge, had promised to present two banners, and he himself should be happy to give collars and jewels. (Cheers.)

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER, replying, said his lordship had struck the key-note when he said that, glad though they were of an accession to their numbers, quality was what they wanted. (Hear, hear.) They were strong enough and respected enough to say that they could not afford to have a candidate brought forward unless "the tongue of good report" was heard in his favour. (Applause.)

Bro. R. CLOWES, in a neat speech, proposed "The Visitors."

Bro. BINCKES, the Secretary of the Boys' School; Bro. TRACY, the Secretary of the province of Suffolk, who expressed his earnest wishes for the prosperity of the province of Essex; and Bro. THOMPSON responded to the toast.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then proposed "The W.M.'s of Lodges in the Province," coupled with the name of Bro. Glass, W.M. of the Chigwell Lodge, who responded.

The proceedings, which were interspersed with some excellent songs, then terminated.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SOMERSET.

The annual meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at Wells, under the banner of the Ascalon Chapter, No. 446, in the Town Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The receiving chapter was opened at 1 o'clock, the three chairs being occupied by M.E. Comps. Perkins, Z.; Newnham, H.; and Livett, as J.; and at 1.30 the M.E. Grand Superintendent, Col. A. W. Adair, accompanied by his Provincial Grand Officers, were received in due form.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the roll of the chapters called. The Treasurer's account for the past year was received, when a vote of thanks was passed to M.E. Comp. Payne for his valuable services as Treasurer, and he was unanimously re-elected to that office. The M.E. Prov. Grand Superintendent then appointed and invested his officers as follows:

Comp. R. C. Else, P. G. Std. Br.	...	...	Prov. G. H.
" C. L. F. Edwards	...	...	Prov. G. J.
" Major Long, P.P.G.J.	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Major Perkins	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Wilkinson	...	...	Prov. G.P. Soj.
" B. Cooke	...	...	Prov. G. Asst. Soj.
" J. B. Colthurst	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd Asst. S.
" E. T. Payne, P.G. Std. Br., P.P.G.T.	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. C. Manning	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Livett	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" F. Hearne	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Marwood	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Newnham	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
Comps. Cozens and Salter	...	...	Prov. G. Janitors.

At the conclusion of the business the alms were collected, amounting to £1 15s. 6d., and it was agreed that this sum should be presented to the Wells Cottage Hospital.

The Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to the Mitre Hotel, where the banquet took place under the presidency of the M.E. Grand Superintendent, after which the usual Masonic toasts were duly proposed and acknowledged.

NEW GRAND LODGES.

Those of us who take up the *Freemason* week by week must be conscious that there seems to be no little stir and movement going on in our English Masonic world abroad. Everywhere almost we read in our colonies of meetings and deputations, in the formation of *Grand Bodies*, on various grounds, some reasonable, some fair, some sensible; but the greater part very silly, weak, and contemptible, and too often utterly mendacious. The statement, for instance, frequently made, that the English Grand Lodge obtains any benefit from its colonial lodges, and that therefore it has an interest in retaining them on the register, is so unreal and so ludicrous that in England it simply gives rise to laughter that people can be so very foolish as to say such things.

The sum paid by colonial Freemasons for registration, certificate, &c., is so small that it is hardly worth mentioning, and when we remember that no benevolent quarterages are paid, and yet that all English colonial Freemasons have a claim upon, and claim largely at times, from our Board of Benevolence, one of the alleged great grounds of some recent movements, is entirely cut away. In the old controversy with Canada it was proved by a return that, whereas from 1846 to 1855 the English lodges had sent £14,602 4s. 7d. to benevolence, all the lodges in Canada had sent £39 3s. 10d. The force of comparison surely can no further go. But the great difficulty the English Grand Lodge has when such movements come before it is to decide between what is spontaneous and genuine and what is simply the outcome of personality, the result of a caucus and a cabal. Whenever in any English settlement abroad the English lodges peacefully and lawfully by a decided majority have expressed a wish for independence, the English Grand Lodge has always conceded claims which are honest, and yielded to proposals which are constitutional. But the agitators who too often make these movements to serve their own petty personal longings and cravings are

still many, and we fear that many a similar proposal which seems all smooth and fair on the surface, if we could find the "wheels within wheels," would resolve itself into the outcome of personal ambition, and the exaltation and enrichment of your "great small men."

It is no doubt a matter of certainty and actuality that as time moves on and populations increase all colonies will prefer to be governed Masonically by the near instead of by the "distant." There also may be times and seasons and locales where the creation of an independent Grand Lodge will throw vitality into Freemasonry, increase Masonic interest, and extend Masonic usefulness. All this we freely admit. But then as we reject utterly the ridiculous "three lodge theory," we have to judge each movement for independence by its own inherent importance and reality, and the prospect it holds out of permanence and progress.

There are of course "movements and movements;" some are reasonable, some unreasonable, some seasonable, some unseasonable, some likely to succeed, some sure to fail. We are of opinion that the American ideas and systems so often involved are alike exceptional and peculiar. They arise out of three special theories of "Unoccupied Country." Three Grand Lodges for instance have chartered three separate lodges in "Unoccupied Country," that is, according to American ideas, where there is not one dominant Grand Lodge, and therefore they have slid on the easy solution, that three lodges meeting together can form a Grand Lodge. But even this doctrine is not unchallenged in America. Not long ago, if we remember rightly, the Grand Lodge of Missouri had an outlying lodge which would not give up its parent lodge. Well, the Missouri Grand Lodge did what we do, it would not abandon "dis child," and in so doing we think it was entirely right, though others deem it utterly wrong. This doctrine, therefore, so glibly enunciated by some of our good colonials, has not been, and never will be accepted in England. It is modern, new, and entirely opposed to the older view of jurisdictional rights and lodge liberty, and while it may suit America, and be fairly agreeable under peculiar needs and requirements to that great body the American Freemasons, it seems to us utterly unsuitable to our English colonies. In one or two movements lately every condition of law, precedent, and antiquity has been ruthlessly set aside. In one, were there were three jurisdictions; but no English lodge joined the movement and a few Irish and Scottish. The consequence is the English Grand Lodge declined to recognize such a position. In another, one English lodge out of 70, and a few Irish and Scottish, again attempted the same, but the last is likely to prove a "fiasco" entirely.

In another case a clear majority of English lodges concurred, and in all probability that body will be eventually recognized, saving and safeguarding, as the English Grand Lodge must do, the rights of the minority, and the absolute provisions of our recently revised Book of Constitutions. Our words therefore are meant as a friendly warning to many who, led away by some fussy and bustling men, seem to think that it is absolutely necessary to have a Grand Lodge in distant parts wherever English lodges are found. We do not deny that cases may arise when such a creation may be a good thing, and of this the brethren on the spot are, no doubt, the best judges. But many cases there also undoubtedly are where such agitation and formation lead to the worst possible results. We think we see a case before us now, where the creation of a Grand Lodge has tended to weaken, to attenuate, and keep back Freemasonry in every way, and has in no sense gained for it the sympathy of the respectable or the support of the intelligent.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

(Continued from page 395).

We have given evidence of this already by specifying the unpretendingly large amounts that were subscribed at the anniversary of 1862—the first that was held after Bro. Binckes's appointment to the Secretaryship—and again at that of the year following. Those of 1864 and 1865 were almost equally productive, while in the latter year, what was virtually a second Festival was held on the occasion of the opening of the new School, the sum raised being stated at the time as £5000. Naturally enough, the very large expenditure incurred in erecting the new premises rendered it imperative that extra exertions should be made in order to satisfy the liabilities incurred, and a very considerable part of Bro. Binckes's time was occupied in organising Boards of Stewards, visiting the metropolitan lodges, and arousing enthusiasm for the School in the provinces. Thus, notwithstanding that 1865 was marked by a double celebration, the proceeds of the two being only a little, if at all, short of £10,000, the anniversary of 1866, when Lord De Tabley, P.G.M. Cheshire, occupied the chair, yielded close on £5500. There was a falling off in 1867, when the late Earl of Dunstons, Past D.G.M., presided, the total being £4133; while in 1868, when the late Sir F. G. Fernor-Hesketh, Bart., M.P., P.P.G.M. West Lancashire, gave his services as Chairman, there was a very appreciable recovery, the result, with some half-dozen lists yet to be handed in, being about £4900. But in 1869 it was determined—chiefly at the instance of the House Committee and Bro. Binckes—that a supreme effort should be made to clear off the mortgage of £10,000, which weighed so heavily on the Institution. The valuable aid of the late Bro. Stephen Blair, of Bolton, Prov. Grand Master of East Lancashire, was enlisted in the good work, and the province nobly determined to second him in his efforts. The Deputy Grand Master, the Earl De Grey and Ripon, P.G.M. West Yorkshire, consented to take the chair, and West Yorkshire, as on a previous similar occasion, made up its mind to support their noble chief. Other provinces displayed a like readiness to assist, and when the eventful day arrived, Bro. Binckes had the satisfaction of announcing, as the result of the special exertions which had been made, the magnificent total of upwards of £12,000, the ultimate total being, in round figures, £12,200. Of this £3885 was contributed by East Lancashire, £3135 by West Yorkshire, £2409 by sundry other provinces, and £2629 by lodges in the London district. But the most prominent among the donors was Bro. Blair, who himself handed in a contribution of £1050, in acknowledgment of which there was secured to him during his lifetime, and at his death to the Province of East Lancashire, the right of perpetual presentation of one boy, provided he was duly qualified in all respects, to receive the benefits of the Institution, and provided likewise that during his stay in the School he should remain subject to the rules and regulations in all respects as the other boys. The Provincial Grand Lodges of East Lancashire and West Yorkshire contributed each 500 guineas, and Bros. W. R. Callender and Wike each 100 guineas. Such a success, achieved at a time when the proceeds ordinarily ranged from some £1500 to £5300, must have astounded the bre-

thren, very many of whom could well remember the reports submitted less than 20 years previously, in which the fear was again and again expressed that it was perilous to think of raising an additional £1500 per annum in order to meet the expenditure that would follow the erection or rental of a schoolhouse. How groundless their fears turned out to be may be judged from the fact that in the eight years during which Bro. Binckes had held the office of Secretary, he had been mainly instrumental in raising from Festival and similar celebrations alone fully £50,000.

The enthusiasm which so great a success aroused may be more easily imagined than described. What chiefly concerns us is the effect produced by so large a total of subscriptions on the funds of the Institution. The original intention, as has been already stated, was to clear off the whole of the mortgage of £10,000. But about this time the House and Building Committee sent in their report on the completion of the Building—see Appendix for this Report in full—from which it appeared that, irrespective of the mortgage of £10,000, there was about £9000 outstanding in respect of liabilities on this account. It was, therefore, determined to pay off only a moiety of the mortgage, while with the aid of a loan from the bankers of £4000, the Contractor's balance and other similar liabilities were reduced by payment of £8600, the total amount paid during the year 1869, including interest on mortgage and £4800 for the maintenance of the Institution, being £18,840. But enormous as this reduction of debt must appear to us, the Institution was still liable for the remaining moiety of the mortgage (£5000), and for the moneys advanced by the bankers (about £5900), with about £600 due to other creditors, and a further supreme effort became necessary in order to restore the Institution to a state of financial equilibrium as regards its income and expenditure. Fortunately it was found possible to make this effort in 1870. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Past G.M., graciously consented to preside at the Festival for that year. A large Board of Stewards, with the Earl De Grey and Ripon at its head, was organised, and again Bro. Binckes found himself in a position to announce another of his brilliant successes, though not so brilliant as in 1869, the proceeds being slightly on the wrong side of £10,000. However, it enabled the Executive to pay off the remainder of the mortgage and provide for the usual needs of the Institution, while the other receipts went towards a reduction of the amount due to the bankers. As regards the other two Festivals that were held during this period, those of 1871 and 1872, they are characterised by no special features. They yielded grand results and so contributed to the further reduction of the amount due by the Institution; but beyond this we need devote to them no further remark.

There are a few other circumstances which deserve to be mentioned. At the Quarterly Court in January, 1866, resolutions were passed under which it became permissible for a duly qualified child to be admitted into the Institution by purchase, the amount payable for such privilege being fixed at 150 guineas (£157 10s.). It was further resolved that on payment of 350 guineas (£367 10s.), any person, not a minor, should be entitled during his or her life to keep one properly qualified child in the Institution, the conditions precedent in both cases being that such children could be "conveniently" admitted, and should be in excess of the number admitted by election, that the amounts should be paid in each case in one sum, not by instalments, and that there should be "no voting in respect of any part thereof." It may be as well to state here that these amounts have since been increased to 170 guineas (£178 10s.), and 500 guineas (£525) respectively. In January, 1870, a resolution was passed to the effect "that the right to a perpetual presentation of a properly qualified boy for admission to this Institution may be purchased on payment of one thousand guineas, no votes being exercised in virtue of such payment; and after the death of the contributor of such sum of one thousand guineas, his or her presentation shall be vested in his or her executors, administrators, appointees, or assigns for ever." This resolution was the outcome of the arrangements made in the case of Bro. Stephen Blair, already referred to, to whom during his life and at his death to the province of East Lancashire, was secured, in consideration of his gift of 1000 guineas, the right of perpetual presentation in respect of one duly qualified boy. West Yorkshire was not slow to follow the example thus set, and in 1872 we find a De Grey Perpetual Presentation in connection with this province, similar privileges having been subsequently purchased by Warwickshire and other provinces.

In 1866 arrangements were made with the Grand Lodge Building Committee, by which the offices of the Institution were moved into Freemasons' Hall, a rental of £36, with coals and gas, as agreed upon, being fixed for the accommodation. It is needless to say more with respect to this change than that, as it could not be otherwise than beneficial to the brethren to have the head-quarters of the several Masonic Institutions under the same roof as Grand Lodge, so it could not fail to be equally satisfactory to the Institutions, and especially to those responsible for the daily conduct of their business, to find themselves located so advantageously. Three years later, owing to the immense increase in the duties of the Secretariat, a Committee of Inquiry was appointed, with a view to ascertain what, if any, changes should be made in the office arrangements. In April, 1869, they delivered their report, from which we gather that, though by the strict letter of his engagement made at the time of his election, Bro. Binckes's attendance at the office was limited to four hours per day for three days in the week, yet that "from the date of such election" he had "given daily attendance, and, owing to the rapid increase in the business, for nearly the entire day, for the first two or three years, and since then his regular attendance during the whole of each day, save when visiting the provinces or absent from illness." More than this, he had been "compelled to engage assistance during the years 1863-7 at a cost to himself," as shown in the tabulated statement annexed. The Committee further pointed out that as the increase in the work had continued, "a sum of £50 was placed at Bro. Binckes's disposal for the purpose of providing the requisite assistance in 1868," while a like sum had been placed at his disposal for the current year, 1869, subject, however, to such action as might be taken in their report. They therefore recommended that £100 should be granted to the Secretary in reimbursement of the moneys paid by him out of his own pocket for clerical assistance during the years 1863-7; that a clerk should be permanently appointed at a salary of £100 per annum, to assist him in future; that he be reimbursed his travelling expenses when on the business of the Institution; and that his salary be fixed at £200 per annum, from 1st January, 1870, together with a fixed annual gratuity of £200. These recommendations were adopted, with the exception that the salary was arranged at £250, instead of £200, a rate of remuneration which cannot be deemed excessive, even with the addition of the annual gratuity of £200 in lieu of the commission heretofore paid Bro. Binckes on all Festival receipts in excess of £2000. What else occurred is comparatively unimportant.

(To be continued.)

ORATION BY BRO. DR. MACRAE.

We take the following admirable oration from the St. John Weekly Telegraph of July 9th, 1884:

"Most Worshipful and Brethren of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity, A. F. and A. M.—To the addresses and responses of welcome and congratulation to which I have had the pleasure already of listening, no words need be added. Equally needless, or even impossible, it would be to expound the details of the well-nigh exhaustive sketch of our century's history in this province, given with wonted felicity of diction, permit me to say, by yourself. A different task, as I understand the matter, has been assigned to me, for the honour of being selected to undertake which I beg most humbly to thank the brethren; while, considering its importance, in view especially of the occasion, my hearty wish is that it had devolved upon one more competent to do it the justice it merits. Not that, under one aspect, it is a task of difficulty. The materials, so far from being scanty, oppress by their superabundance. You have summoned me to discharge a congenial duty, to sound the praises of Masonry, to set forth the grounds why it is this day honoured among us; to vindicate it from the charges by which our most noble Order is often ignorantly aspersed; in a word, to exhibit the Temple of Masonry, so far as my powers may avail, in all its beauty and grandeur of symmetrical proportion. To such questions as the following it will be becoming to essay brief answers at an occasion so auspicious in the history of our Order. What is the spirit and creed, if so it is becoming to express myself, of Freemasonry? What are our aims? What principles govern us? By what tenets are we held together, and what virtues—what cardinal virtues, if any—do we profess to abide by and uphold? It is almost a duty to ask, it is a privilege of the most honourable character to be favoured with an opportunity so distinguished of answering, these and the like questions, in view, partly, of the sceptical tendencies of our age, partly of the attacks—the able, but utterly unwarrantable and even grotesquely absurd attacks—to which we have recently, in very high quarters indeed, been subjected. Most Worshipful and Brethren: Masonry, I begin by saying, has performed a feat which has hitherto transcended the efforts of any or all of the religious denominations of earth to accomplish. And hence, perhaps, the vituperation with which it has been assailed. It has built a platform so easy of access, and yet so firm in structure, that upon it can and do stand side by side, co-operating in the spirit of loyal friendship, peace and harmony, Jew and Gentile, Christian and Brahmin. To have done this without insisting upon the conversion of one to the views and beliefs entertained by the others, to be able to secure the most sincere and hearty co-operation in kindly deeds of men of all races, all ranks, all callings, all denominations, governed by a spirit of mutual sympathy, to be the object of attachment, and the bond of union to rich and poor, to learned and comparatively unlearned, to effect in happiest combination the blending of equality with order, the equality consisting in community of privilege with the order which demands and justifies gradation only in official rank; to do this without kindling jealousy—nay, to the consuming of every feeling of that baser sort in the fire of a noble, a limitless, albeit a secretly manifested charity—this is an achievement which may fitly command more than a passing notice from the philosopher, the statesman, and from members of the profession to which it is my chief honour to belong. It is coming to this, in fact, in the history of the world, that he who can successfully place his hand on the leverage afforded by Masonry possesses a power—thank God, a power for good—to which the only limits are the limits of time, and of the universe of our race. 'Thank God,' did I say? 'A power for good' did I speak of? What right, some one present may be thinking in his heart, in remembrance of recent utterances delivered from one of the very chiefest places of authority on earth, and by a man, on many accounts deservedly, held in high esteem and respect by those who differ most widely from his views and aims—what right have I, as a Mason, to take the name of God into my lips, or to speak of doing good? Are not Free Masons pronounced by an infallible authority to be atheists in creed? Are they not guilty, according to the same authority, of treating the relations between the sexes in a fashion and spirit the most lawless and light? Do they not seek to separate education alike from religion and morals? Is not their secrecy a mask beneath which they seek to disseminate vice and make vicious principles rampant; to corrupt the morals of youth; to overthrow government, order, religion; to promulgate the tenets of sedition, revolution, socialism, communism? In a word, are not Masons patrons and promoters of the Gospel of dynamite, foes of the family, foes of the churches, foes of society, foes of the State, friends only of social disorders and bedlamite misrule? And I speak of God, and as a Mason I use the phrase, 'Thank God?' Yes, most Worshipful, as a Mason I use the phrase, 'Thank God.' I should be false, need it be said that you one and all know, false to my most solemn Masonic duty, did I not habitually and expressly, as a member of your Order, practise that exercise of devotion of which giving thanks to God is one part. When first we read that famous allocution signalling the close of our century's history, in which our Order is thus depicted—an allocution, it must be remembered, issued and proclaimed in the languages spoken by more than 200 millions of people, read and commented upon from pulpits or altars among well-nigh every nation under Heaven, proceeding, too, from one for whom, personally, it is impossible not to cherish feelings of very great respect, alike on account of his character and his ability; when we found ourselves depicted as atheists, socialists, promoters of vice and misrule—we of whose every movement order, harmony, peace, the devout recognition of God, are the very fundamental conditions—we were as men that dreamed. We read the fulmination with an air of bewildered amazement. We read again, to pity the ignorance that can co-exist, contradictory though it may sound, with infallibility. It is not worth while to expend indignation on ignorance. Need it be said, let me now only observe, in the presence of this august assembly, that no atheist can, without perjury, enter a lodge of our Order? Need the co-relative statement be made that, did a brother become an atheist, he would there and then, by the very terrible fact, cease to be, and on avowing his atheism would be disowned by every true brother with pity and sorrow, as no longer connected with what we regard as Freemasonry. Most true it is that we do not term or consider our Order a religion in the current ecclesiastical sense—in the sense of

being a denominational organisation. Masonry has been happily defined to be morality, veiled in allegory, expressed in a beautiful series of symbols. But though not religion—our first, our fundamentally indispensable principle—is our belief in God, in God, too, as Creator, the Architect of the Universe, in the God of Providence, in that God whose name is Love. We believe, too, let me add, in prayer. Our system is permeated and throbs through and through with the spirit of religion. Open any of our authorised manuals. You will find enough to assure you that no well-conducted lodge begins or closes its proceedings without the offering of prayer. Does this look or sound like atheism? Of the charge that we make light of marriage and kindred relations, what shall I say? What proportion of our Brotherhood are in the Benedict ranks of the married I do not know. But let our enemies compare the homes whose heads belong to our Order—from that of his Royal Highness our Most Illustrious Grand Master in England, to that of the lowliest Craftsman who acts as Tyler, or in other capacity, in our obscurest country lodge—let our enemies, I say, compare such homes with those whose members repudiate Masonry. We do not dread the results of that comparison. The daughters, sweethearts, wives, to whose debt labours the Order is indebted for the products arranged in the sumptuous fare which occupies our temple to-day, do evidently not stand greatly in need of the evil effects of Masonic principles upon matrimonial prospects or relations. As to education, some day, not now—it would occupy too much time—I may tell how it fell to my lot to deliver a lecture on the relations of Masonry to education and order, in connection with an effort, happily most successful and permanent, to promote the cause of education, in the interests of Masonry, in a neighbouring colony. Close against the grotesquely preposterous charge that one of our aims is to corrupt the morals of youth, let me set those tenets of brotherly love, relief, truth, to which we are pledged, and which all true Masons practise and uphold; and over against the accusations of sedition, revolution, and the like, let me set our cardinal virtues of temperance, fortitude, prudence, justice. Or shall I lead you in thought to the tomb, and show how there, while we remember the dictates of charity in regard to a brother's faults, we are bidden also to remember the fact of that judgment to come, to our certainty of which we are pledged by our clearly, constantly avowed faith in the grand, heart-aveing truth of man's immortality? 'But yours is a secret organization,' it is said. 'Why secret, if you have not something in reserve, a body of esoteric doctrines, of which you are ashamed?' No, brethren, I am not ashamed of our secrecy. Let me once for all avow my glorying in it, while, at the same moment, I proclaim what the spirit and purpose of that gracious secrecy is. Here it, ye who revile us! It is the secrecy inculcated in the words: 'Let not your left hand know what your right hand doeth.' It is the mantle which cloaks our beneficence, which forbids our ever recording our good deeds, leaving them to be judged by the One All-Seeing Eye. It is that robe of need on the one hand, when need arises; of charity on the other, when brotherly charity is solicited, wearing which, two of our Order can confer with each other, as in a twilight amid which the blush of shame on the brow of the one, the flush of powder to relieve on the brow of the other, is invisible. That is our secret, that is our secrecy. For Masonry, while not like its sweet sister Odd Fellowship an avowedly a beneficiary institution is yet most avowedly and absolutely a benevolent and a beneficent society. Here surely, first in its proclamation of faith in God and next in its noble tenet of brotherhood and brotherly love, is the strength of our Order. When these aspects of life are set in the forefront of the churches, then, not until then, do I expect that this and kindred orders will be superseded. And surely it is something that by such means, by especially the character of Masonry, these profound ethical aspects of life and duty are lifted up into the light. The century, of which our services of to-day mark the close, is memorable on many accounts. But in none, I venture to say, more than this, that in a society bound together by no selfish gain, and not avowedly religious, the great fundamental truths of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, together with his immortality, are brought so distinctively into the very forefront of human action, and that to the ranks of such a society the accessions to which should be so numerous. What a distance, well-nigh infinite, by pathways too long and devious to be now traced, has our race travelled, from the time of that primeval anarchy when one could say of another murdered by his fell-hand, 'Am I my brother's keeper?'—through slavery, through caste, through despotism—to a time when a society, numbering its lodges by thousands, and its members by millions, has placed on its banner, as its grand distinctive principles, the tenets of brotherly love, belief, truth. Masonry, Most Worshipful, has many other aspects. I have said nothing of its claim to antiquity and to universality. And, indeed, for my purpose, these matter nothing. We might be ancient and vile. We might be universal and worthless, or even to be reprobated. How far we are from being either—how far, that is, we are otherwise—I have briefly endeavoured to unveil. Let me conclude by a glance at our present position, at what should be our aim as it is our desire. Every one of us, I assume, covets the power to make the influence for the good of our Order a living fact, and longs for the day when, by the blessing of Heaven, we shall be enabled to assert our energies for usefulness in forms more or less akin to the noble, charitable and educational institutions of England, which shall prove that our claims to respect in relation to benevolence, education and order are not unfounded. During the century now ended we have been patiently rooting our Order in the land. Our growth has, perhaps, been comparatively slow. For the climate has, in some respects, been ungenial, so to speak; the soil difficult to cultivate, and there have occurred or existed not a few unpropitious circumstances. But better days draw nigh. Our principal difficulties are things of the past. The very aspersions which are being heaped upon us are proofs that the position of Masonry is assured. The principles of our Order must spread. They are of the very essence of that Bible without the possession of which, open for use, no lodge in these lands would be completely furnished. The benefits of our Order are being, and must be, growingly appreciated. The beautiful symbols of our Order are being universally displayed, and their meaning is being increasingly understood. From the rough ashlar to the evergreen all nature is seen to be tremulous with spiritual meaning, and that meaning is God o'er head and brotherly

love around and within. Not one of us expects to see another centennial. But from the Lodge on High into which, through the mercy of our God, we hope to enter, we may be spectators of the steady, we trust the rapid, diffusion of all in our principles that is in accordance with Truth. One day our secrecy shall at once be common property and yet still secrecy,

For man to man the world o'er,
Shall brethren be, and a' that:
So sings one of our immortal brethren, Burns.
'Tis coming up the steep of time,
And this old world is growing brighter;
We may not see its dawn sublime,
Yet high hopes make the heart throb lighter.
We may be sleeping in the ground,
When it wakes the world with wonder;
But we have felt it gathering round,
And heard its voice of living thunder.
'Tis coming, yes, 'tis coming!

GRAND COUNCIL ALLIED DEGREES.

A meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees was held at the Masonic Hall, 8a, Red Lion-square, on Saturday, the 9th inst. Among those present were Bros. C. F. Matier, D.G.M.; Alfred Williams, P.G.S.W.; J. D. Murray, G.S.B.; Charles H. Roberts, George Mickley, Andrew McDowall, Charles H. Driver, Wm. Nicholl, and Charles Belton. The Grand Council was opened in due form by the D.G.M., who apologised for the absence of M.W. Bro. the Rev. Canon Portal, G.M., and informed the brethren that the G.M. had been pleased to appoint Bro. Alfred Williams, P.G.S.W., as D.G.M. Bro. Williams was accordingly conducted to the East and duly invested and installed by Bro. Matier. The following brethren were then appointed and invested as Grand Officers for the year, namely:—

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------------|
| Bro. C. H. Driver | ... | ... | G.S.W. |
| " W. Nicholl | ... | ... | G.J.W. |
| " C. F. Matier, P.D.G.M. | ... | ... | G. Sec. |
| " James Moon (elected) | ... | ... | G. Treas. |
| " W. B. Williamson, Mayor of Worcester | ... | ... | G.S.D. |
| " Rev. C. H. Roberts | ... | ... | G.C. |
| " W. Wainman Cotton | ... | ... | G.J.D. |
| " Robert Berridge | ... | ... | G.D. of C. |
| " Charles S. Lane | ... | ... | G.S.B. |
| " Andrew McDowall | ... | ... | G. Std. Br. |
| " Dr. G. Mickley | ... | ... | G.I.G. |
| " W. Brackenbury | ... | ... | } G. Stwds. |
| " George Cooper | ... | ... | |
| " F. J. Tyler | ... | ... | } G.O.G. |
| " E. J. Mills | ... | ... | |

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read, verified, and confirmed, a report on the state of the Allied Degrees was read, from which it appears that though warrants for two new councils have lately been granted, the progress of the order has been slow during the past year. Particulars as to the financial position of the Grand Council were furnished, and it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of Bro. C. H. Driver, G.S.W., seconded by Bro. W. Nicholls, G.S.W., to present a testimonial to Bro. Matier, in recognition of his services as D.G.M. since the formation of the G. Council. The G.C. having been opened as a Tabernacle of the High Priesthood, and that degree having been exemplified in full with Comp. Chas. Belton as candidate, the proceedings were closed with solemn prayer.

New Brunswick.

THE MASONIC CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

The Centennial Celebration of Masonry in New Brunswick came off on Dominion Day in that city. The event was looked forward to with much interest, and extensive preparations made to ensure its success. The Grand Lodge assembled at the Temple, Grand Master Ellis presiding. Grand Master Laurie and other officers of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia were announced and received with grand honours.

The procession was then formed, and at 1.30 p.m. moved by way of Sydney-street. It was very large, and embraced representatives from all the lodges, chapter, preceptories, and members of the Scottish Rite. The streets were lined with spectators, and so perfect had all the details of the parade been arranged that there was not the slightest hitch.

At the Mechanics' Institute the Grand Lodge, with the Templar escort and distinguished visitors, occupied the platform. The Fusilier's Band were seated in the orchestra, St. Stephen and St. Bernard Commanderies came next. Subordinate lodges occupied the two centre sections of the hall, and the invited public the rest of the space. The banners of the lodges were artistically grouped at the rear of the stage, and made a very pretty picture.

Grand Master ELLIS then delivered an historical address. It was lengthy, but able and very interesting, and traced the progress of the Fraternity from its establishment in Parr Town, in 1784, to the present day. Referring to Capitular Masonry, he said: The Royal Arch Degree was certainly brought in with the Loyalists. In 1790 a chapter was working here, probably attached to Hiram Lodge. There was one at Maugeville at a very early day. Carleton Chapter in this city, called after Governor Carleton, has its records back to 1805. The practice of those days was for the Royal Arch Masons belonging to a Blue Lodge to congregate under the lodge warrant, providing the Masters and Wardens were willing. The certificate of Thomas Sandall, grandfather of the present chamberlain of this city, both for the R.A. Degree and for the Knight Templar, are yet in existence. They were issued in 1783 from a lodge on Scottish registry attached to the 22nd Regiment, stationed on Staten Island. The original certificate is also in existence, issued to Rev. Robert Griffith Wetmore, first of Rye, New York, in 1790, of the degrees of the A. and A. Rite to the 10°. Mr. Wetmore was the father of the present D.G.M. of New Brunswick.

Mayor Jas. Grant entertained the Grand Lodge at his residence, and St. John's Encampment gave the visiting fratres a royal reception. The whole proceedings reflect credit on the committee, and will long be remembered.

Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton, Town Clerk of London, is touring in Switzerland.

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A P.M. would be greatly obliged to any brother procuring him an APPOINTMENT as Surgeon to one of the Colonial Emigration Services, or to a steamer going to China, Australia, New Zealand, or New York. Has been to sea before, and can give excellent references.—Address, "Surgeon," Neptune Villa, Sutton Grove North, Sutton, Surrey.

THE Widow of a P. Prov. Grand Warden having embarked the small ready money sum left on which to support herself and two children in a business which did not fulfil its promised advantages on purchase, and her own health having greatly suffered from anxiety and constant attendance on the youngest child, a girl four and a half years old, who is now attending an Ophthalmic Hospital for defective sight, earnestly asks ASSISTANCE from the Craft to enable her to go to the seaside to recruit her health, without which blessing she cannot hope to tide over the future, should any opening offer, and to raise sufficient money to enable her to make a fresh start to maintain herself and invalid child. References can be given on application to the *Freemason* office, 16, Great Queen-st., London.

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REPLY

TO THE

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Offices, 37, Cheapside, E.C.
Luncheon on Wednesday by the inhabitants of Galway, and afterwards joined a lawn-tennis party. Addresses were presented, to which his Royal Highness responded, expressing his gratification at the reception given to him. Masons of the Province of Buckinghamshire will hold their

To Correspondents.

ONE OPPOSED TO CHANGE.—As the order in question has now become law, we do not see that any practical purpose is served by calling it in question.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Freimaurer Zeitung," "Jewish Chronicle," "Freemasons' Repository," "Broad Arrow," "Citizen," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "Freemasons' Chronicle," "The Colonization of New Guinea," "The Metropolitan," "The Freemason" (Sydney), "Public Ledger," "Keystone," "The Daily Telegraph" (St. John), "Allen's Indian Mail," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "Tricycling Journal," "La Chaine d'Union," "The Times of Morocco," "El Taller."



SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 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.]

A MATTER OF TASTE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
In this hot weather and dull season, Masonically, the following little extract from an Antipodean paper may serve to relieve and amuse your readers: It seems that a Bro. N. S. Marks, P.M. of the Washington Lodge, has written to the Editor of the *Victoria Masonic Journal* giving his experience of travel, and the wonders he has seen. Having paid a visit to England and France and Holland, he went on to Italy. There, it appears, he attended a lodge meeting at Naples, called "Figli di Garibaldi," and which he tells us specially "meets only in secret." We fear that these words let the "cat out of the bag," and that this lodge is not merely a Masonic lodge, but something more. Bro. Marks has, however, a pleasurable recollection of the gathering, for he goes on to say that he received "honours on leaving, and was kissed three times by the W.M."

Well, "all tastes are respectable," says the French proverb; but, for my part, I prefer a warm, fraternal shake of the hand to any such jocular proceedings. I am aware they have abroad the "accolade maconique" and the "baiser fraternel;" but all such proceedings are specially objectionable to Anglo-Saxon Masons and to, yours fraternally,

A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.

PROVINCIAL CLOTHING AND PAST MASTERS' LEVELS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
Your correspondent, "G.M.M.C.O.," in setting you right in reference to the clothing of a provincial or past provincial officer (after ceasing to be a subscribing member of a lodge in the province in which he got his rank), goes on to make another statement to the effect that a Past Master having ceased to subscribe to the lodge wherein he got his rank of Past Master (by virtue of having served the office of Master therein for the specified time), even though he is a subscribing member of another lodge or joins one within the prescribed time (12 months), he has nevertheless to strip his apron of the Levels. I cannot find this on record. Would "G.M.M.C.O." kindly quote his authority?

I find, according to No. 9, that every brother who has duly served the office of Master of a lodge under the English Constitutions is a member of Grand Lodge so long as he does not cease to subscribe to any lodge in this Constitution. According to 228, it is stated no brother shall be admitted into Grand Lodge or any subordinate lodge without his proper clothing; rule 295 describes the jewel of a Pa-t Master; rules 397 and 308 describe collars and when to be worn; and 310 provides that Masters and Past Masters shall wear levels instead of rosettes on their aprons. There is no description that I can find of the clothing of a P.M. who has ceased to subscribe to the lodge of which he was Master any more than there is a provision that a Past Provincial Grand Officer shall have to doff his finery upon ceasing to subscribe to a lodge in the province wherein he received his rank; one thing is quite as much the expression of a fact as the other, and unless I can get more light I shall treat the statement of "G.M.M.C.O." as the expression of a misconception, though possibly founded upon some local and erroneous practice which may need attention.—Yours fraternally,
"P.M."

A POINT OF LAW.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,
I note a point raised in some recent Quebec correspondence which deserves note. It is gravely asserted, I

observe, that the present Secret Societies Act is the outcome of Roman Catholic intolerance. The facts are these. In the seditious disturbances of 1837 in Canada, or soon after, the 2nd Victoria, cap. 8, was duly passed, framed on the model of the English Act, and intended to cope with the then growing evil of secret societies. All Freemasons were exempted who "hailed" from Great Britain, and for this reason, that all Canadian Freemasonry then was of, and from, Great Britain. Such an argument as the one alluded to above only shows the desperate straits to which our Quebec brethren are reduced. As law is against them, they attack the law; as the facts are against them, they start several "hares;" and when firmness is evinced in England, they adopt the Roman Catholic idea of excommunication with "Bell, Book, and Candle," at the same time declaring that they are suffering from the effects of law made in a "Popish legislature." I am sorry to say that the only conclusion I draw is one unfavourable to the principles of Freemasonry, or rather, to them as manipulated and illustrated by unscrupulous brethren.—Yours fraternally,

A BYE-STANDER.

REGULATIONS OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A Committee of very able and experienced companions of the Order having been formed to consider the Regulations, I most respectfully offer a few suggestions.

Rule 2.—To read: That Grand Chapter convocation be held once in each year on the first Wednesday in May. My reason for this is that not five per cent. of the companions eligible attend Grand Chapter. I have made many inquiries, and find that the majority of old Past Principals have never attended at all. Warrants could be granted and the business done by the General Committee without holding a formal meeting for about ten minutes, to simply read what appears in the *Freemason* of the previous week.

Rule 5.—To be struck out. I can see no reason for the absence of ordinary companions at the opening of Grand or any subordinate chapter, and, in fact, at the May meeting the Grand Treasurer was present, although not installed until the 17th day of the same month.

Provided that sufficient support can be obtained to the petition, I see no reason for fixing three years as the time for a lodge to be established before having a chapter attached to it.

The robes for the Three Principals should be retained; but those for the Scribes and Sojourners abolished, as they are ugly and untidy, detracting from, instead of adding to, the dignity of the chapter. The companions would look much nicer with only apron, sash, and collar.

HENRY LOVEGROVE, P.Z. 1549, M.E.Z. 72.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

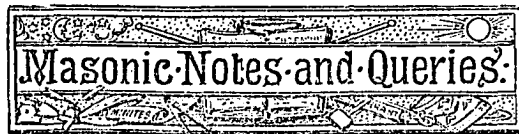
Dear Sir and Brother,

I am very sorry to be obliged to comment on the action of brethren so generally respected as the members of the Building Committee, but I cannot allow certain matters to pass without comment, and your pages appear to me the most suitable place for their insertion.

Having appointed Bro. Berridge architect to the new building, which gave satisfaction to all, it would have appeared a common sense proceeding to have appointed one of the many supporters of the School to prepare the bills of quantities. One of the brethren, a surveyor of great experience, it is stated, offered to prepare them for a commission of one and a half per cent., giving a large portion as a donation to the building fund.

The House Committee eventually decided to allow the builders to appoint their own surveyor, which means in ordinary practice that the architect hands the builders' names to some friend of his, and the said friend sends out circulars and secures the appointment.

The instructions of the Committee could hardly have been carried out, otherwise one would have expected the appointment of some gentleman constantly engaged in the preparation of quantities; but, wonder of wonders, the name appearing on the bills is that of Mr. Dunk, the architect, who won the competition, a gentleman who does not usually take quantities; and it would appear that his knowledge of the requirements had been taken advantage of in the preparation of the plans, the commission on the quantities being his emolument. But the chief object of my letter is to call attention to the charge of two and a half per cent. when any surveyor would have prepared them for one and a half or one and a quarter. So that a sum of over one hundred and fifty pounds (to say nothing of the donation which any independent surveyor might have given) has been lost to the Institution, besides the money wasted in premiums. It is too late to do justice and recall the past, but it is not too late to insist upon the charges being reduced by one half, as persons acting as trustees of public funds have no right to pay more than ordinary charges for work done. Hoping to hear that this matter has received attention, I am, &c.,
ONE WHO KNOWS.



MASONIC EXHIBITION, WORCESTER.

The example set by Bro. Whythead and other friends at York on two special occasions is to be followed by Worcester on the 27th inst. and several following days, when Masonic students will do well to congregate and examine the numerous curiosities, old MSS., and scarce Masonic books and medals which will then be ready for inspection. Through the indomitable perseverance of Bro. George Taylor (of Kidderminster), the esteemed Provincial Grand Secretary, there will be considerably over 1000 articles for exhibition, many of which have never been known to any of us students before, and the majority of which are of special value to the Masonic antiquary and scholar. Every effort has been made to avoid duplicates, and all Ritualistic works have been rigidly excluded. Brethren wishing catalogues will be able to obtain them for 2s. 6d. and postage from Bro. Taylor; but those who can manage the time should not fail to inspect the unrivalled and unique collection at Worcester on the 27th inst.
W. J. HUGHAN.

KLOSS'S FREEMASONRY.

386] Can any brother oblige me with the loan of Dr. Kloss's "History of Freemasonry in France?" or I will purchase it, if desired? The only copy I know of in England is in the British Museum; and at present I am unable to attend there. I am also very anxious to study Thory's "History of the Grand Orient of France." Can any brother oblige me? My address is Streatham House, Margate; or doubtless the Editor of the *Freemason* would take charge of either for me.
G. W. SPETH.

MASONIC STUDIES.

387] During the past quarter of a century in no department of literature has there been such marked advancement as in that of Freemasonry. Disinterested writers like De Quincey and Hallam once, with some show of justice, derided the annals of the Craft; but were they alive now they could find in our accredited histories matter mainly for praise. Masonic criticism has advanced to the dignity of a science. Masonic historians are both skilled antiquarians and erudite general scholars. They have taken all knowledge for their province. Prior to 1860, works of acknowledged excellence were few in Masonry, while since then they have come from the press increasingly each year, both in numbers and value. We will mention a few of the more notable, with their dates in the order of their publication: "Rebold's General History of Freemasonry in Europe" (1860); "Steinbrenner's History" (1865); "Findel's History" (1865); "Pearson's Traditions of Freemasonry" (1865); Hughan's numerous authoritative Masonic Works (1872 to 1878); "Lyon's Freemasonry in Scotland" (1873); "Fort's Early History and Antiquities of Freemasonry" (1875); "Mackey's Encyclopaedia" (1875); "Mackenzie's Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia" (1877); "Woodford's Kenning's Encyclopaedia," and many more similar useful and excellent works.—*Philadelphia Keystone*.

THE TWO ST. JOHN'S.

388] A great deal is written about the two St. John's resting on the discursive and unsafe authority of Oliver, which calmer scrutiny and careful research must condemn on both sides of attack and defence. It is quite clear that the adoption of the two St. John's as patron saints of the Freemasons is late rather than early. The Operatives had various patron saints, though it is not quite clear who were the patron saints of the English Freemasons, unless we assume that the Masonic Poem incorporates the Guild Legends in this respect, when, as with the German Steinmetzen, the "Quatuor Coronati" were their patrons. If we can ever find an Operative Masons' Guild return in the time of Richard II. we shall probably light upon evidence that, though the annual assembly of the guild did not always take place on the same saint's day, yet John Baptist's Day was very often taken, and John Evangelist's also, and hence the usage which prevailed in the seventeenth century. It seems to me that a very foolish system of what may be called "severe writing" is setting in amongst us on purely archaeological questions, and that we may fairly disagree with others, question their accuracy, or disavow their conclusions without "calling names." There can be no doubt that the "Antients" leant to the St. John's Masonry so-called more than the Moderns, and that all the early catechisms allude to the Lodge of St. John. To my mind, it matters very little, as there is room in Masonic toleration for the two schools which still exist in Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry.
MASONIC STUDENT.

READING FREEMASONS.

We have had our attention called to the following paragraph, and commend it to the notice of our readers:—

"Bro. William Snyder, of Lafontaine, Ind., writing to the *Masonic Home Journal*, of Louisville, Kentucky, gives the following telling rebuke to those Masons who plead the shabby and worn-out excuse of 'no time to read' as a reason for not supporting their Masonic journal: 'There are so many Masons who say that they have no time to read Masonic papers. I don't believe there is a Mason but what has time enough to read two or three each month. I could say that I have not time if I would think so, for I am away from home more than almost any of them. I leave home on Monday morning at 8 o'clock; get home at 8 o'clock Saturday night. Have done this all winter, but for all that I take nine Masonic papers, besides the proceedings I get from different Grand Bodies. We don't have half enough reading Masons, especially Masters of lodges, who think they know it all.'"

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday night at Freemasons' Hall. Bros. Joshua Nunn, President, James Brett, Senior Vice-President, and C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice President, occupied their respective chairs. There was a large attendance of brethren, notwithstanding the holiday season. The Board of Masters, which was first held, had submitted to them the paper of business for Grand Lodge on September 3rd next, which is very light. The Board of Benevolence first confirmed recommendations made to the Grand Master at the July meeting to the extent of £140. The new list contained 21 cases, among which were one from Missouri, U.S.A., one from Wellington, New Zealand, one from Guernsey, one from Corfu, and one from Newfoundland. There was only six cases from the London district. The remainder were from the English provinces. In the course of a three hours' sitting five of these were deferred, some by request, and some because the particulars were incomplete. The remaining 16 were relieved with a total sum of £535.

Bro. John Haight, of Somerville, Mass., has one of the choicest Masonic libraries in the United States. He was born in Dukensfield, England, in 1832, came to this country in 1855, where he has since lived. Bro. Haight was made a Mason at Lawrence in 1859; has been Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and is at the present M.I. Grand Master of the Grand Council R. and S.M. of Massachusetts. The *Liberal Freemason* for July gives a pen-sketch of our brother.



Craft Masonry.

COBORN LODGE (No. 1804).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Vestry Hall, Bow, on Thursday, the 14th inst., when the chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. F. J. Hunt, P.M., in the absence of Bro. R. Logan, W.M., who is enjoying his annual vacation. Bro. Hunt was supported by Bros. J. T. Robey, S.W.; Charles J. R. Tjijou, J.W., acting Secretary; Edinger, Treas.; A. Souch, S.D.; E. Johnson, J.D.; Wheatley, I.G.; C. Erlam, Stwd.; Harrison, Tyler; R. R. Green, C. Webster, and Paterson. Messrs. Thomas Osborne and George Thompson were candidates for initiation. The visitors present were Bros. Reeve, W.M. 1816; H. B. Forbes, J.D. 1805; Jas. Hall Brown, 933; C. B. Cutchey, 1685; T. H. Dale, 1278; and G. Gilt 228. Bro. Reeve kindly undertook the duties of the I.P.M., and Bro. Cutchey acted as J.D.; while the duties of Organist were undertaken by Bro. Johnson, J.D., in the absence of Bro. Ellerton, Org., whose absence was excused on this occasion in consequence of his having just entered into the state of connubial bliss. The officers having entered the lodge room in procession, the W.M. opened the lodge, and after the customary formal business proceeded to pass Bro. Charles F. Webster and Bro. Gilt, of the United Strength Lodge, 228 (of which Bro. Hunt is Worshipful Master) to the Second Degree; and the ballot proving unanimously in favour of Messrs. Osborne and Thompson, they duly received the benefits of initiation. Letters of regret at absence were read from the W.M. and other brethren, and votes of assistance having been granted to a distressed member of the lodge and to a brother of a military lodge, who had gone through the Egyptian campaign, and had been sent home invalided, the lodge was closed in due form. Copies of the new Constitutions were presented to all the members of the lodge, the cost of same being defrayed out of the lodge funds. This, if carried out in every lodge, would conduce to a better acquaintance with the regulations of the Order, on the part of lay brethren especially, many of whom would not take the trouble to obtain a copy of the revised Constitutions, but would, when the book is placed in their hands, consider themselves bound to master its contents to some extent, and then would be more interested in the subject than they now often appear to be.

Light refreshment having been partaken of, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being duly given and received, including "The Initiates" and "Visitors," the brethren separated after having spent a couple of hours in enjoyment of the Fourth Degree, notwithstanding the intense heat, and the fact of the Coborn being a non-banqueting lodge, a principle which is doubtless regretted even in these days by a few members of the Craft, although the Charities are thereby constantly better supported.

PENRITH.—Unanimity Lodge (No. 339).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., when Hugh Cecil Lowther, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale, Lowther Castle, was initiated, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Wm. Kirkbride, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.S.W. Cumberland and Westmorland. A goodly number of the brethren were present to assist in the initiation.

YORK.—Princess Charlotte of Wales Lodge (No. 570, I.C.)—The regular meeting of this lodge, attached to the 5th Regiment of Dragoon Guards, was held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The W.M., Bro. Sergt.-Major W. Knights, was supported by Bros. Lieut. J. A. Banks, P.M.; Capt. Gifford, P.M.; J. Todd, P.M. 236; T. B. Whytehead, P.M. 1611; J. S. Cumberland, P.M. 1611; Capt. Baldrey, S.W.; and a number of officers and visitors, including Bro. Davison, of Chicago.

The work consisted of an initiation, which was admirably done by the W.M., whose working will bear comparison with most Masters of lodges. After the close of business, the lodge met at the table of refreshment, and many toasts were proposed and songs sung, amongst those who contributed to the harmony being Bros. Capt. Gifford, J. Todd, and J. S. Cumberland. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. T. B. Whytehead and Davison (Chicago), and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by the party, the only regret, generally expressed, being that the regiment was so soon to leave its quarters at York. It is intended to hold an emergency meeting, in order to enable the military brethren to take a farewell of their York friends.

ERITH.—St. John and St. Paul Lodge (No. 615).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Erith Avenue, when Bro. J. Aillud, S.W. and W.M. elect, was, with the usual ritual, placed in the chair and saluted in due form. Bro. T. W. Knight, P.M. and Sec., P.P.G.D.C. Kent, was the installing officer, and fulfilled the duties of that post admirably. The following officers were invested by the W.M.: Bros. H. King, S.W.; G. Mitchell, J.W.; R. Stone, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Kent, Treas.; W. Hills, P.M., Sec.; R. Bilby, S.D.; E. Bilby, J.D.; C. Barham, I.G.; J. Hutton, P.M., Wine Stwd.; and G. Martin, Tyler.

A cordial vote of thanks rewarded the labours of Bro. Knight, and he was unanimously re-elected representative for the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee. A handsome jewel was presented to Bro. Hills, I.P.M.; and he returned thanks. Bro. Aillud announced that he intended to serve as Steward at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and then the lodge was closed in due form.

At the banquet, which was served by Bro. Starling in good form, the following brethren, beside the above enumerated, were present: Bros. G. Churchley, P.M., P.P.G.S. Kent; H. H. Poole, late Treas.; B. R. Banks, W.M. 147; W. Ansell, P.M. 30; T. Butt, P.M. and Treas. 700; R. Anson, P.M. 829; J. Coombes, P.M. 829; G. Kennedy, P.M. 1536; R. H. Perryman, 140; A. J. Mitchell, 700; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*).

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been honoured, that of "Lord Holmesdale, P.G.M. of Kent," was drunk with enthusiasm.

The toast of "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," was coupled with the name of Bro. Knight, who, while regretting that there was not a more worthy officer than himself present to respond, yet cordially thanked the brethren, and assured them of the earnest work done by both their Prov. Grand Master and Deputy Prov. Grand Master, while the rest of the Grand Officers felt it their duty to emulate the industry of their leaders.

The Immediate Past Master having briefly proposed the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Aillud, after thanking them for the toast, said that it had been the object of his life to occupy the position he held that night; for the last eight years he had worked hard for it, and now he had attained the summit of his ambition. Should he have health and strength he would carry out the duties in such a manner as he trusted would win their approbation. As he was not at present in the best of health, he would ask them kindly to excuse him from making a long speech that night, but trusted to be with them and spend many a happy hour with them upon future occasions.

The next toast was that of "The Installing Officer," and in putting it the W.M. spoke highly of the admirable manner in which Bro. Knight performed the ceremony. Having known Bro. Knight for many years, he, the W.M., was not only pleased, but felt it an honour to be installed by such a good Mason as Bro. Knight.

Bro. Knight in reply could only say that at all times it was a pleasure for him to do anything he could for the benefit of the lodge, or the happiness of the brethren. He had not performed the ceremony since last year, and hoped he should not have to do it again, but that for the future the outgoing Master would endeavour to install his successor. He cordially thanked them for the toast, and resumed his seat amid cheers.

Bro. Poole, one of the oldest and most respected members of the lodge, had a very cordial toast drunk to him as the I.P. Treas., a post he had held for many years past, and in response said he did not expect to receive at their hands such an ovation; it was true that he was one of the oldest members of the lodge, and, if he remembered rightly, Bro. Knight and he were two of the original members who took over the charter of the lodge in 1872, or 1874, he was not quite certain which; however, he had held the post of Treas. since that date, but thought the time had now arrived when he could fairly render the post up to some younger brother. They had kindly accepted his resignation and accepted Bro. R. Stone as Treas., than whom a better man and Mason they could not have. He congratulated them upon their choice, and also the W.M. upon arriving at the chair, and wished both the lodge and its Master every prosperity.

Bros. Butt, Kennedy, Anson, Coombes and others responded to the "Visitors," and Bros. Churchley and Hills, for the "Past Masters." Bro. Mitchell replied for "The Officers," and then the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were most harmonious and agreeable.

WESTON.—Royal Albert Edward Lodge (No. 906).—The first regular meeting of this lodge since the installation of the present Worshipful Master was held on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., when there were present Bros. F. W. Dingle, W.M.; F. Glover, I.P.M.; J. Knight, S.W.; W. H. Young, J.W.; T. B. Moutrie, P.M. and Treas.; C. Beckett, P.M. and Sec.; L. Howes, P.M. and D.C.; J. Banks, S.D.; R. Bull, J.D.; G. H. Bartlett, acting I.G.; T. Maslen, Steward; C. Pinkett, Tyler; E. L. Hill, P.M.; T. S. Keene, P.M.; J. Hayward, W. Clemens, W. Gayner, F. Greene, H. Humphries, T. R. Gill, E. W. Loveless, and T. Cross. Visitors: Bros. E. J. B. Mercer, I.P.M. 41; and Frank A. Smith, 1429.

The lodge having been opened in due form and the minutes of the last regular lodge read and confirmed, Bro. E. L. Hill, P.M., P.P.G.P. Somerset, rose, and in the most feeling and felicitous terms presented the I.P.M., Bro. Francis Glover, with a Past Master's gold jewel, with an inscription on the reverse stating the fact and date of the presentation by the members of the lodge. He stated that the manner in which Bro. Glover had carried out the duties of his high office during the past year (which had been all of more than usual difficulty and anxiety) had been such that it was the unanimous opinion of the brethren that he was entitled to something more than the usual vote of thanks, and that some more lasting memorial of their appreciation of his services to the lodge, and regard for himself personally, should be given him, and they had therefore subscribed for the jewel which he then had the pleasure of presenting; but, knowing the native modesty of the I.P.M., they felt that he would not be likely to proclaim the regard in which he was held by the brethren of the lodge by directing attention to the inscription on the jewel, and they had therefore decided to also ask his acceptance of the illuminated address which he then handed to him. This had been framed so that it might be hung up in his house, and indicate to those who saw it the esteem in which he was held by his brethren in Freemasonry.

The address, which was beautifully illuminated and framed, was as follows:

"This scroll, accompanied by a Past Master's gold jewel, was presented by the members of the Royal Albert Edward Lodge of Freemasons, No. 906 (meeting at Weston, near Bath), on the 13th day of August, 1884, to Worshipful Brother James Glover, I.P.M., in acknowledgment of the indefatigable zeal, tact, and urbanity shown by him during his year of office as Worshipful Master.

"Signed, on behalf of the brethren,
"FREDK. W. DINGLE, W.M.
"THOS. B. MOUTRIE, P.M., Treasurer.
"CHAS. BECKETT, P.M., Secretary."

The presentation, which elicited loud approbation from the brethren present, was acknowledged by Bro. Francis Glover, I.P.M., who heartily thanked the officers and brethren for their appreciation of his services, which, he assured them, had been freely placed at their disposal, and that, as his desire to do right had been appreciated and so handsomely acknowledged, he was more than amply repaid for the trouble and anxiety he had undergone, and he very heartily thanked the members of the lodge for their handsome present, which would be ever highly prized by him.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held

in the Masonic Hall. The lodge was opened by Bro. T. Mason, W.M., and was supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. H. Peacock, P.M., I.P.M.; Col. F. R. Sewell, P.M., P.P.G.S.W.; J. Gardiner, P.M. 371, P.P.G.J.W.; T. Milburn, P.M. 371; H. Simpson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Wiltshire; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; W. Shilton, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., as S.W.; H. Carruthers, J.W.; J. Fidler, Secretary; F. A. Cooper, J.D.; J. Sewell, S.; J. Taylor, S.; S. Ferguinson, R. Harrison, F. Smith, I.G.; T. Hewson, Tyler, and others.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Henry Carter, and also for Mr. Thomas Atkinson, proposed at the last regular lodge, and proved unanimous in both cases. The candidates being in attendance were duly initiated by the W.M., the working tools being presented by Bro. Shilton, P.M., acting S.W., and the charge given by Bro. Peacock, P.M., I.P.M.

The lodge was afterwards closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, spending the remainder of the evening in harmony.

LIVERPOOL.—Duke of Edinburgh Lodge (No. 1182).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this lodge was held on Thursday afternoon, the 14th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors. The consecration of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge took place at Wavertree in 1867, and during its existence many worthy brethren have occupied the chair of W.M., foremost amongst whom is Bro. R. Martin, who at present occupies the onerous and honourable position of joint secretary of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The chair at the opening of the lodge on Thursday week was occupied by Bro. John O. Rea, W.M., and he was supported by Bros. Thomas O. Dutton, I.P.M.; A. Barclay, P.M.; R. Martin, P.M.; John Williams, P.M.; T. Davies, P.M., P.G.P.; Thomas Wareing, S.W.; Jos. H. Tysan, J.W.; G. B. Kirkland, S.D.; J. Pittaway, J.D.; A. D. Hesketh, P.M., D.C.; Councillor Edward Paul, P.M. 1356; and others. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. H. S. Alpass, Past G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; J. Ashley, W.M. 1356; R. Brown, P.P.G. Treas.; J. B. Bryan, P.G.O.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; S. W. Halse, W.M. 673; J. B. McKenzie, P.G.S.D.; C. Roberson, J.W. 673; Isaac Turner, S.W. 594; R. H. Webster, J.W. 823; G. Morgan, P.M. 155; R. Foulds, W.M. 667; J. T. Callow, P.P.G.T.; John Tunstall, S.W. 1035; W. Blunsum, J.W. 594; John Lees, J.W. 1356; P. M. Larsen, P.M. 594; H. H. Hughes, S.W. 1356; Dr. F. J. Bailey, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Hughes, W.M. 1675; J. H. Pagen, J.D. 594; J. Evans, J.D. 1086; W. Evans, P.M. 594; R. Washington, P.P.G.S.D.; and H. H. Smith, P.M. 1505.

The chair was afterwards taken by Bro. R. Martin, P.M., to whom the W.M. elect, Bro. J. H. Tyson, was presented by Bros. J. O. Rea and A. Barclay, and the ceremony was performed in an admirable manner. The following officers were afterwards invested: Bros. J. O. Rea, I.P.M.; T. Wright, S.W.; G. B. Kirkland, J.W.; A. D. Hesketh, P.M., Treas.; J. Pittaway, Sec.; W. Hudson, Org.; J. B. Galloway, S.D.; J. Edwards, J.D.; W. Rawsthorne, I.G.; A. Morris, S.S.; G. Bramley, J.S.; A. Barclay, P.M., D.C.; and Bro. Peter Ball was unanimously re-elected Tyler. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. R. Martin for the admirable manner in which he had performed the installation ceremony.

After business, the brethren banqueted in the large dining hall, the catering of Bro. J. Casey, the House Steward, giving universal satisfaction. Bro. J. H. Tyson, the newly installed W.M., presided, and during the evening he presented Bro. J. O. Rea, I.P.M., with an exceedingly chaste and valuable P.M.'s jewel, in recognition of his services to the lodge. A capital musical selection was given in the course of the evening by Bros. Major Nicholls, J. A. Muir, W. Lewis, J. Busfield, A. Childs, W. Burnett, and others.

FELTHAM.—Lebanon Lodge (No. 1326).—The regular meeting of this well-established lodge was held at the Railway Hotel on Saturday, the 16th inst., when Bro. Joseph John Marsh, P.G. Std. Br. Middlesex, W.M., opened the lodge punctually at 3 o'clock p.m., there being present Bros. Fletcher Knight, S.W.; W. R. Vassila, J.W.; J. W. Baldwin, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M., Chap.; E. Gilbert, P.P.G. Stwd. Middx., P.M., Treas.; Frederick Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; J. Laurence, S.D.; E. A. Smith, J.D.; C. W. Baker, I.G.; R. Pooley, as D.C.; W. J. Babb, as A.D.C.; C. Citroen, as Org.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; J. C. Goslin, A.W.S.; W. H. Walters, C.S.; J. A. Wilson, Stwd.; J. Gilbert, P.G. Tyler Middx., Tyler; J. Mason, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M.; D. Steinhauer, P.M.; F. Dunstan, G. H. Eaton, F. G. Mitchell, G. Verney, W. White, T. M. Prescott, and many others whose names we were unable to ascertain. The very large list of visitors included Bros. H. Purdue, W.M. 834; J. Sims, S.W. 834; W. W. Williams, 834; H. Forss, S.W. 917; J. Rambert, 1178; and many others.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. An excellent rule is adopted in this lodge in this respect. Before the ballot is taken for any candidate who wishes to become a member of this lodge, both the proposer and seconder state all they know of the candidate. There were three gentlemen—Messrs. John St. Aubin Paul, Arthur Lawton, and Charles Augustus Rambert—candidates for initiation, and to become members of this lodge. The veteran Secretary, Bro. Fredk. Walters, stated that in his native town, Deptford, he had known the great grandfather, grandfather, and father (who was present) of one of the candidates whom he had proposed, his friend coming from an old and highly respected family in Deptford. Similar statements were made about the other candidates, who were very well known to those who were proposing and seconding them. The ballots taken separately, were unanimous in favour of their being admitted, all being present in single file (as always is the custom in this lodge), and in this order they were admitted, Mr. Charles Augustus Rambert (a Lewis) first, followed by Mr. John St. Aubin Paul, and lastly Mr. Arthur Lawton. The candidates seemed deeply impressed with the ceremony, and pleased all present with their marked attention to every detail. They then retired, and Bro. Thomas Mills Prescott was passed to the Second Degree; Bros. G. H. Eaton, G. Verney, W. White, F. Dunstan, and F. S. Mitchell, in order named, were each raised to the Third Degree. This being the first meeting since the installation, all the members were anxious to see how the

new Master would acquit himself. All expected something good from him; nor were they disappointed. There were two venerable Masons in the audience, one of over 40 years' standing and the veteran Secretary of nearly 30 years' growth, both well able to give an authoritative opinion on the work of the ritual. They both expressed themselves as highly satisfied with all the work done. Their opinion was shared by all who were present. A letter of apology was received from the R.W.P.G.M. of Middlesex, Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., excusing and regretting his non-attendance. Great rejoicing was felt amongst the members when it became known that their R.W.P.G.M. had recovered from his late illness. His letter was ordered to be placed on the minute book. Congratulations were offered to their highly esteemed and deservedly respected Worshipful Master on his appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Standard Bearer of Middlesex, and there was a unanimous feeling of gratitude and thankfulness to the R.W.P.G.M. for his having once more selected this lodge for honours. Their highly esteemed Treasurer (who year by year in lodge and chapter is unanimously re-elected), Bro. Edwin Gilbert, had received the offer of Provincial Grand Sword Bearer of Middlesex, but in consequence of being from home for the benefit of his health, he had lost that much coveted rank. He is such a popular Mason that any recognition of his many services to Masonry would be hailed with delight, and give general satisfaction. When the question came on as to who should stand as Steward to represent the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' School, 1885, no one volunteered; so, to prevent any such calamity befalling the lodge as not sending a Steward, he stated that he would most cheerfully again represent the lodge, unless there was any other member who might wish to hold that coveted position. Should any member express such a desire, he would willingly retire in his favour. What he wanted, in common with the other Past Masters, was to see the lodge maintain its prestige, which could only be done by continuing in an unbroken line the Stewards for the Charity. An eloquent appeal was made by the W.M., supplemented by a few practical remarks by the Secretary, Bro. Frederick Walters, who stated it would be an utter impossibility for every member to pass the chair of his lodge. That could not be done. Every member, if he choosed, could become a Life Governor and Past Steward of all the Masonic Charities, it resting with himself how far he wished to go for the great honours amongst them. Should he become a V.P. then his fame would be spread over the world, for his name twice a year (in case of Girls' or Boys' being selected) would appear on every voting paper that was issued. The Secretary went on to remark that the position of P.M. only entitled its possessor to the privileges of attending at Freemasons' Hall five times a year—viz., four Grand Lodges and the Festival of Grand Lodge—and that only so long as its possessor was able and willing to continue his subscription to a lodge. But by becoming a Life Governor of either Girls' or Boys', then for each Institution he could attend for life no less than 16 times every year; its meetings at Freemasons' Hall making a total of 32 every year. He could, as a Vice-President, claim his right to attend the 13 meetings of the Benevolent Institution. By being a Life Governor he could attend one (its annual), but would be eligible to be put on the Committee by selection or votes. He fully impressed upon them that these privileges were life ones, and would exist when, through any unforeseen event, they might cease to subscribe to any lodge. His own feelings were these, he felt just as much pride in being a Past Steward of the Charities and of the lodges and chapters he had in his time represented, and ever felt it as high an honour as being P.M. Of the two, he preferred his honours of Past Stewardships far beyond any other rank he ever held in Masonry. It was rank and privileges within the grasp of all. To smooth down any difficulty that might present itself over the purchase of Life Governorships, about 17 years ago was started in his native town, Deptford, by a well reputed and very old Mason, (who is ever on the alert to do good service anywhere), Bro. George Bolton, P.M. 147, P.M. 169; &c., the Charitable Associations, whereby by paying a shilling a week for a trifle over four years each member became an owner of a Life Governorship of any of the charities he might select. Those excellent associations had done and were doing very good suit and service everywhere.

During the evening eloquent and forcible appeals were made by Bro. John Mason, of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on behalf of the Charities; these appeals were urgently commented on by the W.M.; and Bro. John Mason achieved the happy result of getting an additional Steward for the Benevolent Institution to Bro. Henry James Dawe in Bro. Wm. Robert Vassila, J.W.

Before the brethren separated, Bro. Edwin Gilbert's noble offer to fill up the gap in the Stewards' list was reluctantly declined, for a younger Mason, Bro. Jas. Clark Goslen, A.W.S., volunteered and was accepted as a Steward for the Boys' School, and as he is already a Life Subscriber to that Institution no doubt he will use his best endeavours to get a good list.

A clergyman, a D.D., and an M.D., were proposed as candidates for initiation, and to become members of the lodge.

Notices of motion in the names of the Treasurer and Secretary were given to vote a sufficient sum from lodge funds to purchase a suit of provincial clothing (full dress) to be presented to the W.M. That ten guineas be taken from lodge funds to be spent in completing the purchasing of a Life Governorship of the Girls' School—in the name of the Senior Warden for the time being, in perpetuity. Ten guineas also from lodge funds to purchase a Life Governorship of the Female Annuity Benevolent Institution in the name of the S.W. for the time being, in perpetuity. The Secretary brought before the lodge a very distressing and sad case of one of their members, a native of Deptford, whose father and grandfather were known to him. This unfortunate brother had nearly lost the sight of his eyes. He had been so very bad for a long time past that as far as his business is concerned, a master printer, his eyesight was useless to him. He had been quite ruined by this terrible misfortune. When in his prosperity, employing men and trade flourishing, he was a most liberal subscriber to the Charities, possessing four Life Governorships and five Stewardships of the Masonic Charities, besides doing a great amount of good everywhere. His truly deplorable case was

met with every kind sympathy, which it so richly deserved. For his immediate wants ten guineas were voted from the lodge Benevolent Fund, and the Treasurer in his eager desire to relieve distress at once forwarded the money to the unhappy brother, taking a thoughtful care at his own expense to send a telegram informing him of this vote and telling him the money was on the road to him. As the Treasurer justly observed, he would receive the money by the last post that evening, and would next day, Sunday, be able in church to renew his thanks to the G.A.O.T.U. for this blessing shown to him. His petition to the Lodge of Benevolence was unanimously recommended, and all hoped it might be in time for the following Wednesday, and wished him God speed over it. After some long hours of labour in doing so much work the lodge was closed. It was ordered to be summoned to meet on Saturday, September 20th, at two o'clock p.m.

An abundant refreshment followed labour—the host, Mr. H. P. Harris, personally attended to its being served; he gave universal satisfaction to all who were there. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The Worshipful Master, in glowing terms, spoke of Bro. James Terry, Secretary of the Benevolent Institution, and others, whilst Bro. John Mason, in replying especially for the Benevolent Institution, did not fail to mention the other Charities, and in doing justice to them. Songs and recitations were given. The brethren separated after nearly eight hours of mutual pleasurable enjoyment.

GREAT STANMORE.—Abercorn Lodge (No. 1549).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Abercorn Hotel, on the 6th inst. The retiring Master, Bro. T. J. Villiers, ably supported by his officers, opened his lodge at 5.30 in the presence of Bros. E. Bamford, I.P.M.; G. Tidcombe, P.M.; C. Long, P.M.; R. Roy, P.M.; W. S. Marshall, P.M.; Haines, Troutbeck, Arcott, and Biggs, and the following visitors: Bros. J. Tickle, P.M. 1702, P.P.G.R. Middx.; C. E. Keyser, P.M. 404, P.P.G.W. Herts; John Hill, Sec. 1702; W. Wilson, Sec. 1984; James Rogers, 1984; George Whitaker, 1791; T. McDonald, 820; H. W. Pyatt, 211; and C. Hobbins, 893.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the report of the Audit Committee having been duly confirmed, the W.M. presented Bro. Dr. W. A. Rogers, S.W., to Bro. P.M. Tickle for the benefit of installation, which ceremony was ably performed according to ancient custom, and the worthy brother most heartily congratulated by the P.M.'s present, the brethren under the rank of P.M.'s having saluted the W.M. in the various degrees under the direction of P.M. Roy.

The following were selected and appropriately invested by the W.M. as his officers: Bros. K. C. Puckett, S.W.; E. Dalzell, J.W.; G. Tidcombe, P.M., Treas.; C. Veal, P.M., Sec.; H. B. Didsbury, S.D.; C. Tolman, J.D.; D. R. Soames, I.G.; and J. Middleton, Tyler. The W.M. then presented the handsome Past Master's jewel to Bro. Villiers on his retirement, which was suitably responded to. On the completion of the addresses from the chairs, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Installing Master for his valuable services, and Bro. Tickle expressed great pleasure in having been allowed the opportunity of placing so distinguished a brother in the chair of K.S., more especially as the worthy Prov. Grand Master had selected Bro. Rogers as one of his Prov. Grand Officers for the current year. Nothing more presenting, the W.M. made the usual enquiries, and received "Hearty good wishes" from all the visiting brethren, with also notice of a joining member for next meeting of Bro. L. Keyser, P.M., a visitor from the Watford Lodge, 404.

The lodge having been duly closed, the brethren adjourned to their customary banquet, provided by Bro. C. Veal, so long associated with the hotel, and which passed off admirably. The W.M. soon proved his fitness for every portion of his important office. All the toasts were happily given and responded to; that of "The Visitors" being especially well chosen, and was answered by all the visiting brethren. "The Officers" were warmly welcomed, and the W.M. feelingly alluded to the fact that himself, the Treasurer, and Secretary were now the only founders left. The musical contributions from Bros. Dalzell and Pyatt were of the highest order and heartily approved. Everything passed off satisfactorily, and the Tyler's toast dispersed all in peace and harmony.

INSTRUCTION.

DORIC LODGE (No. 933).—At the meeting held on Friday, the 8th inst., at the Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, there were present Bros. B. Cundick, P.M., Preceptor; W. Musto, P.M., Sec.; J. L. Dale, G. H. Stephens, J. West, and others.

Owing to the heat, and in consequence of many of the brethren belonging to the lodge being away upon their holidays, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the weekly meetings until the first Friday in October.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 18th inst., at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, when there were present Bros. D. Stroud, W.M.; J. H. Wood, S.W.; R. C. Curson, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; F. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; C. G. Wetzler, S.D.; H. Chandler, J.D.; H. Robinson, I.G.; T. Stretch, jun., Stwd.; C. Horton, and C. R. Wickens.

Lodge opened in due form and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Stretch, candidate. Bro. Horton was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Lodge closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Wood was elected W.M. for the 25th inst., and the lodge was closed. A ballot took place afterwards.

WANDERERS' LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer-street, Westminster, when there were present Bros. Hayes, W.M.; Grist, S.W.; Folson, J.W.; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Musson, Sec.; Holmes, S.D.; Green, J.D.; Forscutt, I.G.; Martin, Purnell, Nicholl, and Brindley.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Martin being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Purnell having answered the questions leading to the

Third Degree, was entrusted. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Purnell was duly raised to the degree of a M.M. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in harmony. Brethren are reminded there will be two ballots for the Charities next meeting.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—A capital meeting was held on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Clarence Hotel, 88, Aldersgate-sreet, E.C. Present: Bros. Chatwin, W.M.; Lardner, S.W.; Jolly, J.W.; W. Pennefather, P.M., Preceptor; Stephens, Aynsley, Barnett, Smyth, and others.

The working included the first ceremony, well rendered by Bro. Chatwin, a young and promising member of the mother lodge, and the second by Bro. Lardner, who, as W.M. of the parent lodge, is "facile princeps" in the art. Bro. Barnett acted as candidate. A vote of thanks was awarded Bro. Chatwin, it being his maiden effort in the chair, and well deserving the special mark of appreciation from the brethren.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the weekly meeting, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on the 14th inst., there were present Bros. Brindley, W.M.; Ford, S.W.; G. H. Reynolds, J.W.; H. Robinson, S.D.; Vaughan, J.D.; Baines, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; Wilkie, Jones, Ludwig, Seymour, Potter, and Corby.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, worked the First Section of this Lecture. Bro. Seymour having offered himself as a candidate to be raised, he was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the Sublime Degree of M.M., giving the charge and explanation of the tracing board. The lodge was closed in the Third and then to the Second Degree. Bro. Ludwig, 179, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Ford, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes of this lodge of instruction to Bro. Brindley, W.M., for the very able and efficient manner in which he had occupied the chair for the first time in this lodge of instruction, more especially as to the distinct and clear way he had worked the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bro. Corby seconded, and carried unanimously. The W.M. having made a suitable reply, the lodge was closed in ancient form, with peace and harmony.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, 15th inst., at the Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road, when there were present Bros. Green, W.M.; Hayes, S.W.; Brindley, J.W.; Boulton, Chap.; Coughlan, Sec.; Grist, S.D.; McCullagh, J.D.; Hiel, I.G.; C. White, and Purnell.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Coughlan answered the questions leading to the Third Degree and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed very ably indeed by the W.M., seeing that it was a maiden attempt. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Hayes was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Committee appointed to select a suitable meeting place made their report, and after discussion it was decided that the Committee make another report in a month's time. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

Royal Arch.

STANMORE CHAPTER (No. 1549).—The installation meeting of this improving chapter, which combines the lodges held at the Abercorn Hotel, was held on the 9th ult., Comps. T. J. Maidwell as M.E.Z.; C. H. Webb, H.; and J. S. Fraser, J., in their respective chairs, opened the chapter, and after the minutes of the previous chapter and the audit report had been duly confirmed, Bro. F. W. A. Cossey was accepted on the ballot as a candidate for exaltation at next meeting. Comp. Wm. Fraser, of 214, was also accepted as joining member. The ceremony of installation was then proceeded with in the presence of Comps. J. Tickle, F. Brown, and H. F. Browne. Visitors: Comps. D. H. Jacobs, P.Z. 619; Wm. Fraser, 174; and C. G. Butler, 414. Each of the Principals installed his successor, viz.: Comps. C. H. Webb, M.E.Z.; J. S. Fraser, H.; J. Tickle, P.Z.; J. Tidcombe (by deputy) Treas.; C. Veal, S.E.; E. B. Haynes, S.N.; T. J. Villiers, P.S.; and J. Middleton, Janitor. Comp. D. H. Jacobs, P.Z. 619, having been proposed as a joining member for next meeting, the chapter was duly closed.

A very recherché banquet followed, the M.E.Z. duly honouring the customary toasts, which were well responded to, the companions present contributing to the harmony of the evening. Comp. Webb was warmly welcomed to the chair of M.E.Z., with "Hearty good wishes" from all. After a very enjoyable evening the Janitor's toast dispersed the companions.

Red Cross of Constantine, De La Pole Conclave, No. 132. Hull.—At the last meeting of this Conclave Em. Sir Knight A. P. Wilson, V.L., and Sir Knight Dr. Cooper were elected Most Pius, Sovereign and Em. Viceroy respectively.

HOTEL WINTER GARDEN.—The South-Eastern Railway Company are about to make a novel addition to the Pavilion Hotel at Folkestone. They intend to erect, adjoining and having a direct entrance from the hotel, a spacious Winter Garden and Promenade for the use of their guests. The building will be maintained at a genial temperature summer and winter, and the plants used in its adornment will be of an elegant but hardy character. Chairs, tables, lounges will be interspersed among the vegetation, and everything will be done to render the Garden an agreeable promenade. Messrs. J. Weeks and Co., of Chelsea, have furnished the design, and are to carry out the work.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN HAVERS, P.G.W.

We have expressed elsewhere, but briefly, of course, the deep regret with which we, and we will confidently add, the whole body of the English Craft will receive the sad announcement of the death of Bro. John Havers, who for many years past has occupied so prominent a position among the chief councillors of the Fraternity. A fuller expression of our sorrow will be given next week, when we shall be in a better position to do justice to the memory of our deceased brother. In the meantime, however, a hurried sketch of his Masonic career will doubtless be acceptable to our readers. Bro. Havers was initiated on the 8th March, 1838, in the Jordan Lodge, No. 201, then No. 237, and exalted to the Royal Arch Degree on 8th October, 1839, in the Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185, then No. 218. In 1840 he joined the St. George's Chapter, No. 5, of which he subsequently became Z., and in 1843 he joined the St. George and Cornerstone Lodge, No. 5, of which likewise in the ordinary course of things he became the W. Master. In 1848 his services to Freemasonry were thought so highly of by the late Earl of Zetland, the then M.W.G. Master, that Bro. Havers was appointed G.S. Deacon, and it must have been about the same time that he had conferred upon him the Grand Standard-bearership of the Supreme Grand Chapter. During the years 1858-60 he held the important and responsible office of President of the Board of General Purposes. In 1861 he was appointed Grand Scribe N. in Grand Chapter, and the year following his honours may be said to have culminated in his appointment and investiture as Grand Junior Warden of England. In 1865 he was made Grand J. of Supreme Grand Chapter, but probably his greatest services to the Craft were rendered in the capacity of Chairman of the Building Committee, charged with the erection of the new premises consecrated on the 14th of April, 1869. As regards our Institutions, Bro. Havers had qualified as a Life Governor of all three, and had served the office of Festival Steward twice for the Benevolent Institution and once each for the Boys' and Girls' Schools. These are the leading facts in a career which had extended over more than six and forty years, and which we may truthfully describe as having been even more brilliant than it was prolonged. But, as we hinted at the outset, it will be more appropriate that the services of so distinguished a brother should be made the subject of special comment editorially, and for this week, at all events, our readers will be no doubt content with these bare particulars.

FUNERAL OF BRO. E. M. DAVIES.

The mortal remains of Bro. E. M. Davies, of the Harmonic Lodge, 216, who was very highly respected as a brother, and as a tradesman in Liverpool, who carried on business in James-street, in that city, were interred on Wednesday, the 13th inst., in the Jewish burying-place, Deane-road. The deceased, who was only 41 years of age, died at Llandudno on the previous Sunday afternoon. He took a very active part in various schemes of charity in Liverpool, and was especially prominent and self-denying in his efforts to relieve the wants of the numerous poor Jewish refugees who passed through Liverpool on their way to New York to escape persecution in Russia. He also held the position of senior warden at the Prince's-road Synagogue, and the gathering at the graveside on the 13th was largely representative of the chiefs of the Hebrew persuasion in this city. The service, which was of a most impressive character, was conducted by the ministers of the congregation with which Bro. Davies had been more immediately identified, and amongst the others present were Bros. J. Sewill, Simmons, Cohen, Stern, Hamson, Levy, Abrahams, J. Price, U. Lake, Wilson, Prescott, and A. Brcknall, besides numerous relatives.

BRO. HENRY MILTON, 1382.

By the death of the above brother the Corinthian Lodge, No. 1382, has lost another valued member, and the Craft a loyal and constant supporter to its charities. Bro. Milton was a senior member of the lodge, and had recently recovered, as it was hoped, from a long and severe illness. Our late esteemed brother died at Yarmouth, where he was on a visit.

The Duke of Westminster has withdrawn his name from the National Thrift Society as a patron and subscriber.

Owing to the recent death of her father, Madame Trebelli has postponed her return to America till October, 1885. During the winter she will remain in England, and will sing at concerts in London and the provinces.

The new council chamber at the Guildhall is rapidly approaching completion, and will be formally opened by Bro. the Lord Mayor prior to the next meeting of the Common Council. The cost of the chamber, including furniture and fittings, will be about £42,000.

At a meeting of the Governors of the Consumption Hospital, Brompton, it was reported that the Committee, owing to the expenses having been augmented to the extent of £24,000 per annum by the opening of the extension building, are very anxious relative to the funds, and trust not to be compelled to make a further sale of stock.

IMPROVED AMBULANCE VANS.—With the view of avoiding risk of contagion in the conveyance of patients suffering from small-pox or contagious fevers to hospitals, Dr. Gayton, senior medical officer of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, has constructed an ambulance van of new and improved form. Instead of having open glass and wooden louver shutters, its apertures consist of a double layer of perforated metal, enclosing an absorbent material saturated with an acknowledged germicide or destroyer of the minute microscopical particles which tend to propagate disease. Fresh air is admitted through modified and improved "Tobin" ventilators of a horn shape, with the larger end opening externally, whilst inside the van the smaller extremity of this air-tube is provided with a disinfecting air-chamber, constructed like those attached to the other apertures or windows. The Metropolitan Asylums Board use these ambulances for conveying small-pox convalescents from Hampstead to their river wharf, en route to the hospital ships off Purfleet.



In recording the announcement of the lamented death of Bro. John Havers, P.G.W., elsewhere, we have reason to know that no later than Saturday last he entertained some Masonic friends at Whitehill, and that his interest in our Order continued unabated, rather, most active, to the last.

Bro. H. Lovegrove has received information through a private source of the death of R.W. Bro. Wm. Donald, M.D., District Grand Master of Canterbury, N.Z., after a long illness. Bro. Donald was greatly respected in Canterbury, both by the Craft and the general public.

The remains of the late Duke of Wellington were deposited in the family vault in Strathfieldsaye Church on Tuesday afternoon. There was a large attendance, and representatives were present of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Crown Prince of Germany. A wreath had been sent by the King of the Belgians.

Grand Mark Lodge, at its half-yearly communication in June decided to make an alteration in the collar to be worn by Past Grand Officers. The pattern has now been submitted to the Grand Lodge by Bro. George Kenning, of 1, 2, 3, 4, Little Britain, 195, 196, and 197, Aldersgate-street, and has been approved and sealed by Grand Lodge as the regulation pattern.

A Joint Committee of the Hon. Artillery Company and the Balloon Society have made arrangements to celebrate, on Monday, the 15th September, the centenary of the first aerial voyage in England. The first ascent was made by Vincent Lunardi, the then Secretary to the Neapolitan Embassy, from Finsbury Fields, in the presence of King George III. and his son the Prince of Wales.

The *Belfast Journal* says that on the farm of John Snow, of Sedgwick, Me., are two rocks, one bearing the cross of the Knights of Jerusalem, and the other the cross of St. Andrew, both of which were engraved prior to 1761, when the farm was taken up by Mr. Snow's father. The place appears to have been a resort for early voyagers, as is proved by frequently finding tools of soft iron.

The installation meeting of the Beadon Lodge, No. 619, was held on Wednesday evening at the Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich, quarters which it has occupied now, with satisfaction to all the members and visitors, for more than twenty years. Bro. C. Norrington, of Wood-street, City, was installed as Master of the lodge, and a Past Master's jewel was presented to the outgoing Master, Bro. R. P. Forge.

The scheme for the electric lighting of a number of streets in South Kensington, in the neighbourhood of Cromwell-road, has collapsed, the Board of Trade having, through Mr. H. T. Calcraft, the Assistant Secretary, given notice that they have revoked the South Kensington Electric Lighting Order, 1883. The revocation of the order has been a source of much regret to many of the inhabitants of the South Kensington district.

W. Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z., has accepted an invitation to deliver his lecture, entitled "Knobs and Excrescences," and explanatory of the ritual and ceremonial of the First Degree, at Kidderminster, on Saturday evening, the 30th inst., under the auspices of Lodges 377, 560, and 1874, and in connection with the Masonic Soiree and Exhibition at Worcester during the week. A large attendance of provincial brethren may be expected to avail themselves of the opportunity for hearing Bro. Stevens' views on perfect ritual.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and their children visited Newcastle-upon-Tyne on Wednesday, and went through a long programme. They opened an addition to the public park, where the Princess planted a tree, and opened a Natural History Museum and a Free Library. The city was gaily decorated, and great crowds in the streets gave the Royal visitors a hearty welcome. At one point on the route a restive horse caused its rider's sword to swing near the Prince's head; but the Prince saw and avoided the blow. In the evening Newcastle was illuminated, and there were displays of fireworks.

The Grand Lodge of Canada held its twentieth Annual Communication on July 9th ult., at Toronto, Grand Master Spry presiding. During the past year the Grand Lodge had expended 9825 dols. in charity. Bro. Theo. S. Parvin, P.G.M. of Iowa, was present, introduced to the Grand Lodge, and delivered a spirited address. Bro. Hugh Murray was elected Grand Master, and Bro. J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, Grand Sec. A grand evening reception was given to the officers of the Grand Lodge by the Toronto brethren in the Horticultural Gardens.

Preparations have been commenced for the rebuilding of Garden-court, in the Temple, the old buildings in which were demolished a few months since. Workmen are at present engaged in excavating the ground, and making it ready for the foundations to be got in. The erection of the superstructure will be proceeded with in about a month. The new buildings will be classic in architectural design, partaking to some extent of a mixed Gothic character. The plans and designs have been prepared by Mr. St. Aubyn, architect to the Middle Temple Authorities. Messrs. Patman and Fotheringham are the contractors.

250 to 2500.—Tobaccoists commencing.—A pamphlet, How to open a shop respectably for £50; post free. H. Myers & Co., 109, Easton-rd., London. Wholesale only.—[Advrt.]

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Notable Facts.—Summer heats augment the annoyances of skin disease, and encourage the development of febrile disorders, wherefore they should, as they may, be removed by these detergent and purifying preparations. In stomach complaints, liver affections, pains, and spasms of the bowels, Holloway's Ointment well rubbed over the affected part immediately gives the greatest ease, prevents congestion and inflammation, checks the threatening diarrhoea, and averts ineffectual cholera. The poorer inhabitants of large cities will find these remedies to be their best friend when any pestilence rages, or when, from unknown causes, eruptions, boils, abscesses, or ulcerations betoken the presence of taints or impurities within the system, and call for instant and effective curative medicines.—[Advrt.]

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., is giving Mr. Sheldon sittings for a bust.

The Clothworkers' Company have voted £500 to the experimental Aquarium of the Marine Biological Association to be erected at Plymouth.

*The Prince of Wales has consented to become patron of the congress of the British Archaeological Association, to be held at Tenby on September 2.

The Duke of Rutland on Wednesday opened a piece of ground of 20 acres which has been devoted for purposes of recreation to the people of Bakewell.

In our report of the Moveable Grand Mark Lodge at Exeter on the 6th inst., we omitted to give the name of Bro. G. P. Festa, who acted as Senior Grand Deacon.

The Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, is to be rebuilt from designs prepared by Mr. Sparkes. The tenders for the reconstruction range from £21,260 to £18,000.

Bro. Charles Henry Hart, of Philadelphia, U.S., has written an article on "Philadelphia," for the forthcoming eighteenth volume of the new edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica."

Bro. Sir T. Brassey's yacht, Sunbeam, arrived in Ramsey Bay, Isle of Man, on Tuesday morning, and landed Sir W. Harcourt, who proceeded by rail to visit the Lieutenant Governor at Government House.

A patent has just been issued to R.W. Bro. Sir Pryse Pryse, Bart., as P.G.M.M.M. for South Wales, for a further term of three years. Sir Pryse Pryse was originally appointed to this high office in July 1881.

Mr. Wilson Barrett has resolved, in consequence of so many inquiries for "Chatterton" having been addressed to him, to include it in the evening programme at the Princess's Theatre for a few weeks only.

Lord Dalhousie, Chairman of the Trawling Commission, and Professor McIntosh, the naturalist, attached to the Commission, are now at St. Andrew's for the purpose of making a series of experiments as to inshore trawling. They have the use of the Medusa, steam yacht, which has been lent to the Commissioners.

A violent tempest broke over the region extending from Leghorn to Rome, including both cities, on Tuesday night. Rain and hail fell heavily, and the flashes of lightning, followed by deafening peals of thunder, were incessant. At Leghorn the cathedral was struck and set on fire, but the flames were quickly got under.

Our German brethren of the various Grand and Subordinate Lodges of Germany have undertaken to establish a "Home for Sisters"—*Schwesterhaus*—for the relief of the widows and orphan daughters of Freemasons from all parts of Germany. Our Brother the Crown Prince of Germany has approved the movement, and suggested that the institution be called the Victoria Institute, in honour of the Crown Princess. The fund for its erection now amounts to about 50,000 marks.

The Lyceum season, previous to the departure of Bro. Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, and the Lyceum company for America, will close on Thursday evening Aug. 28th, on which occasion Bro. Irving will play Richeieu. On Saturday and Monday next "The Bells" will be performed, and on Tuesday and Wednesday "Louis XI." Miss Ellen Terry has not yet sufficiently recovered the use of her hand to be able to act, and Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson advises further rest. But, although unable to appear in character, Miss Terry will, as an expression of gratitude for the sympathy which has been so widely manifested, on the last night of the season bow her acknowledgments to the audience.

A convocation of the North London Chapter of Improvement was held at the Alwyn Castle Tavern, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, on Thursday, 14th inst. Comp. Dean occupied the chair of Z.; Comp. Gregory, H.; Comp. G. W. Knight, J.; Comp. F. Shaw, S.N.; and Comp. Dehane, P.S. There was a good muster of the companions notwithstanding the close atmosphere. All Royal Arch Masons are kindly invited, and will receive a hearty welcome at this chapter of improvement. On Thursday, the 7th inst., Comp. A. Nicols delivered a lecture on "Moses' Rod" in a most able and masterly manner, and all present on this occasion were deeply interested and edified. We trust this will only prove the beginning of these instructive lectures.

ROYAL ARCH IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.—We have been asked whether the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England has violated the terms of recognition, granted in 1877 by the General G. Chapter of the U. S., whereby it was bound not to establish Mark lodges where Grand Bodies claimed jurisdiction over that degree. We briefly answer, "No;" and presume our correspondent has mixed up the course of the Grand Lodge of M.M. of England towards Canada; for particular information on this point, however, it would be well to see Comp. Robinson's letter to Lord Henniker, published about a month ago. The United States has not been invaded or interfered with either in the Grand or in the General Grand Body. The quarrel between England and Canada is a different one from what it would be by an invasion of our Royal Arch Jurisdiction.—*Hebrew Leader*.

In the last days of August there will be celebrated in the old capital of Flanders an historical pageant of no ordinary interest. In honour of her patron and former Sovereign, Bruges will place before the world, in the form of a mediæval procession, the chief incidents in the life of St. Charles the Good. Many ladies will take part in the procession, and, wearing the costume of their ancestresses, will assume their parts as ladies in attendance on the court of their ancient Count. The mediæval streets of Bruges lend themselves admirably to such a representation, and the spectator will see pass before his eyes a series of tableaux, unique of their kind, which will exactly reproduce one of the grand pageants of the middle ages. The procession will pass through the principal streets of the town on the 24th, 26th, and 28th August. It will consist of a succession of groups, among the chief of which will be the marriage of St. Canute of Denmark with Edede of Flanders, the parents of Charles, celebrated with all the pomp then customary; with heralds, flower-girls, incense, and a grand retinue of courtiers and pages.