

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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THE opening speech of the Presiding Officer at the last Quarterly Communication did all credit to his distinguished position and his kind heart. In a few feeling words he alluded in most appropriate and dignified terms to the great loss English Freemasonry had sustained by the lamented death of Bro. JOHN HAVERS, P.G.W. It would have been impossible in even a long address to do full justice to the many and invaluable services to the Craft of JOHN HAVERS, and, therefore, the Presiding Officer most wisely confined himself to a few sensible and straightforward words, rendered more impressive by their soldierly brevity and sincerity. A vote of condolence with the bereaved family was duly moved and seconded and carried by an heartily assenting Grand Lodge. And here we could have wished we might have stopped, but our duty as honest journalists compels us to say that we deeply deplore certain unseemly proceedings at last Grand Lodge. The old feuds and the ancient controversies are dead, buried, and forgotten, happily for the peace and honour of the Craft. To rake up forgotten struggles, to allude to bye-gone strife, at a time when a brother has passed away from this sublunary scene, is generally amongst us all, whether Freemasons or not, considered alike unkind, indecorous and unbefitting. We regret, therefore, sincerely, for the prestige of English Freemasonry, for the honour and dignity of Grand Lodge, for that kindly, sympathetic, and natural feeling which ought at all times and under all circumstances to distinguish not only our Masonic Brotherhood specially, but all bodies of men in similar circumstances, the distressing episode and painful in Grand Lodge, an account of which appeared not only in our columns last week, but previously in an evening contemporary. We fear that others will think and say a good deal "there anent," though the general sense of Grand Lodge at such an unprecedented exhibition was forcibly and indignantly expressed.

WE entirely agree with an evening contemporary as to the regret to be felt that Grand Lodge did not see its way to grant the £50 asked for the restoration of St. Giles's Church. Undoubtedly it must be admitted in the outset it was not a question of amount. But we cannot discern the question of principle, in our humble opinion, very inopportune raised. Grand Lodge, it is true, is a purely undenominational body; but yet, curiously enough, its large body of able and enlightened Chaplains and Grand Chaplains is drawn mainly from one great religious body. To assert that we were encouraging thereby the "narrow end of the wedge," to assume that thereby Grand Lodge displayed any denominational leanings, are surely needless paradoxes, and establishing a precedent which it will be difficult to pass by, and yet past movement to adhere to as time runs on. The provinces, on the contrary, have very wisely, in our opinion, never allowed themselves to be diverted from being helpful to others in doing good, and manifesting their respect for religious efforts as connected with the "houses of God in the land" by any fear of what "Mrs. GRUNDY" might say, or what others might think of them. They have done their duty in their time and generation, and feared nought; neither have they yielded to timorous counsels, childish vaticinations, unseasonable declarations of alleged first principles. Up and down this good country of ours they have not been ashamed to aid many a great and many a needful work, and our Grand Master shewed us in this, as in all other matters, the plain and straightforward path of Masonic sympathy and practice when he laid the foundation-stone of

the new Cathedral at Truro. On the principles so glibly enunciated the other evening in Grand Lodge he was wrong in doing so, and our provinces are wrong in the kindly feelings they have avowed, and the liberal offerings they have made, simply to demonstrate as before a doubting world, or amid mocking tongues, their respect for religion, and their unchanging anxiety to help forward as best they may, not only the material but the spiritual welfare of their friends, neighbours, and fellow countrymen. Just now, amid the many charges brought against our Order by one great body of religionists, that we are an indifferent, freethinking, irreligious corporation, that we help forward no good work except our own Societies, that we make ourselves a religion to ourselves, and that we practically oppose the work of religion in the world, we regret, we confess, to have to announce to Cosmopolitan Freemasonry that a division took place at all, on a modest proposal of the Board of General Purposes to vote £50 for the repairs of the Church of the parish in which Freemasons' Hall is situated, and above all that our Grand Lodge by 110 to 92 refused the vote altogether. We think the announcement thus made will be used by our "old enemies" to the disparagement and detriment of English Freemasonry, and therefore it is we are sincerely sorry, that the reasonable and Masonic proposal of the Board of General Purposes was not carried "nemine dissente," instead of being rejected by a small majority.

DEATH has been very busy with our Masonic Order lately, and has taken away, in its irresistible power, those whom we can ill-afford to spare from amongst us, whose words of wisdom and sympathy we should always gladly hail amid our mundane life and struggles to-day. It often happens with us all, alike in our public pursuits and our private circles, that we hardly realize a person's worth until we lose him altogether. Then it is that we sometimes sadly call to mind how little we valued him, how coldly we appreciated him while with us. Now that we can greet his kindly presence no more, we feel how much we have lost, how little we can fill up the void. But it is then a gratifying recollection to us that friendship and goodwill mutually cheered us until the end, and that we have left to us no clinging recollections of hard words or uncourteous acts, this "epea pteroenta" of controversy or disagreement, which, in a moment of haste or inconsideration sometimes escape from us all, and come between benignant natures and mar long friendships. The friendship of Freemasonry is meant to be something more than a name and a profession; let it unite us in pleasant bonds of amity now; let it gild the fast fading "souvenirs" of the past with the ever fragrant corona of interest, regard, and affection.

FREEMASONRY has ever had its charm for many of us, in that it seems to hallow friendship and elevate sympathy one for another, each for each. And if this be so of the living Fraternity, how much more is it so of our departed friends and brethren? Then if we differed from them, or they from us, how ought all to be forgotten, except their common work and lifelong services to our great Order. When old friends and loyal brethren pass away from our midst, every voice except that of kindest memory should be hushed. It is simple cant to talk of Masonic friendship and brotherly love if we can put no restraint on unruly tongues and angry passions, and forget every profession of Freemasonry in the self-assertion of idle complaint, or noisy vindictiveness. The voice of that true charity which is bound up with every portion of our Masonic lore would bid us one and all, be we who we may, never let go our sympathy for living brethren, never forget our respect and reverence for those who have passed into the Eternal East before us.

WE call attention to an item in our Tidings column, by which it would seem, if our contemporary the *Montreal Daily Star* of the 20th August is correctly informed, there is a prospect of a movement for peace as between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the English lodges. We should ourselves rejoice to announce the fact, but we fear much that at present any such hope would be delusive. The position of the English lodges is so good and Masonic, and legal, that our brethren of Quebec must bid high to obtain what they want. We hope the Councillors selected are good ones.

CONSECRATION OF THE LONDONDERRY LODGE, No. 2039.

The consecration of the Londonderry Lodge, No. 2039, to be conducted on temperance principles, took place on Saturday afternoon last, in the New Assembly Hall, Fawcett-street, Sunderland. This is the first lodge formed upon temperance principles in the North of England. About 18 months ago, the Wolsley Lodge was formed on similar lines at Manchester, and has proved very successful. Since then, the Lodge of St. George has been consecrated at Plymouth, and the lodge of King Solomon in London—at the latter, Bro. Dr. W. B. Richardson, the well-known temperance advocate, being the presiding officer—has been formed on similar principles. Early in the present year a desire was made known that a lodge upon temperance principles should be inaugurated in the North of England, and several of the leading brethren connected with Sunderland immediately intimated their willingness to join in petitioning for the formation of such a lodge. This would then complete the number of lodges in the province to 30. It was also thought fitting to obtain the permission of the Provincial Grand Master, the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., to call the new lodge by his name, to which his Lordship very graciously acceded.

The petition for the new lodge was signed by Bros. R. Hudson, P.G. Sec.; S. P. Austin, P.P.G.J.W.; John C. Moor, W.M. 97; John Deans, J.W. 80; J. R. Pattison, S.W. 97; the Rev. J. J. Brown, P.P.G.C.; Wm. A. O. Sutcliffe, 97; J. E. Nelson, W.M. 80; John Potts, P.P.G.S.D.; T. Pinkney, W.M. 1389; and G. W. Errington, S.D. 949. The petition was also supported by the Masters and Wardens of the Palatine Lodge, No. 97—Bros. Moor, Pattison, and R. Singleton. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the M.W. Grand Master of England, granted the warrant for the new lodge in May last, and accordingly arrangements were made for the consecration of the lodge, which took place on Saturday last at the place named. There was a large gathering of the brethren.

Amongst those present were—

Bros. the Marquess of Londonderry, P.G.M.; Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., D.P. G.M.; J. Horsley, P.G.S.W.; John Wood, 48, P.G.J.W.; B. Boulton, P.G. Treas.; H. Maddison, P.G. Reg.; R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec.; T. Bradley, P.G. Asst. Sec.; R. S. Hopper, P.G.S.D.; G. C. Watson, P.G.J.D.; J. J. Clay, acting P.G.D. of C.; R. Kimmond, P.G. Purst.; B. Levy, P.P.G.J.W.; S. P. Austin, P.P.G.J.W.; the Rev. W. Harris, P.G. Chap.; M. Frampton, P.G.S.B.; C. McNamara, P.G. Std. B.; J. Potts, P.P.G.S.D.; W. Skelton, P.P.G.S.B.; Charles Lane, P.P.G.J.D.; Joshua Curry, P.G. Tyler; the Rev. J. J. Brown, P.P.G. Chap.; J. Riseborough, P.P.G.P.; A. T. Munroe, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Robertson, P.P.G.P.; E. D. Davis, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Graham, P.P.G.R.; J. A. Witter, P.G.P.; W. Foster, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. D. Hill Drury, P.P.G.R.; R. H. Dickinson, W.M. 636; J. C. Wilson, P.G.P. Northumberland; J. Bailey, P.P.G.J.W.; Henry Ritson, 97; G. A. Allan, P.P.G.J.W.; J. G. Mabane, P.P.G.S.D.; T. Coulson, P.P.G.J.D.; J. C. Moor, W.M. 97; J. S. Kirtley, W.M. 949; E. Atkinson, W.M. 661; T. M. Barron, W.M. 137; S. Chadwick, W.M. 1643; J. Sedcole, W.M. 1119; R. Graham, 94; W. Birch, 97; John Dixon, W.M. 94; A. Robertson, 97; Wm. Dalrymple, S.D. 48; W. Dawson, S.D. 48; G. Wanless, P.M. 94; J. Hewson, S.W. 949; E. G. Watson, 97; C. Bell, 949; R. Smith, 80; J. Eggleston, P.M. 949; J. Scorsfield, P.M. 661; J. R. Smart, P.M. 94; J. Wetherell, Sec. 531; T. Smith, 80; J. Russell, 94; J. Probert, P.M. 424; J. Rainbow, S.W. 94; W. Smailes, P.M. 1650; J. B. Wells, P.M. 661; F. Heckaday, J.W. 531; T. Henderson, P.M. 94; D. Whitehead, P.M. 80; W. Hall, P.S.W. 97; T. G. Garrick, J.W. 94; H. Simpson, J.D. 949; H. Horner, J.W. 949; T. Bowman, P.S.W. 111; W. Beattie, P.M. 1389; F. S. Cowper, P.S.W. 764; John A. Hall, S.D. 240; H. McDougall, P.M. 1119; M. J. Wheatley, J.W. 1970; J. Heppell, S.W. 1970; John W. Ramsay, J.W. 1119; G. T. Walker, Sec. 1862; W. Mayson, P.M. 764; J. B. Spiers, 173 (Largs, St. John); H. Fenner, 1095 (Burmah); T. Broilinson, 80; J. Potts, 661; John Nutton, 124; R. Hanswell, 1334; C. Pemberton, 94; P. Stabler, 84; W. Mason, 94; E. G. Walthew, 31; J. H. Nisbet, 949; G. T. Leatham, 124; T. Hunter, 94; J. G. Nasbet, I.G. 97; M. Harrison, S.W. 531; A. Broughton; G. W. Richardson, 94; J. Colling, 97; S. Holdsworth, P.M. 124; H. Crisp, I.G. 949; R. C. Thompson, 971; A. G. Rudd, P.M. 507; J. D. Todd, P.M. 94; F. Sutcliffe, 1970; D. M. Ward, 1970; G. Forster, 1119; T. A. Reed, 1119; J. Peterkin, 80; A. Anderson, 96; James Gale, 80; J. Abbey, 1862; S. W. Buckley, 80; and others.

The lodge was opened in due form by the W.D.P.G.M., Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., after which the petition and warrant were read by the acting Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Bradley.

The consecration ceremony was impressively performed by the Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Officers, the musical portion of the ceremony being gone through by Bros. Whitehead, Leatham, Hauxkell, and Nutton, of Durham Cathedral; Bro. Talintyre, Prov. G. Org., officiating as Organist.

The installation of Bro. R. Hudson, Prov. G. Sec., as W.M. of the new lodge was performed by Bro. Levy, the W.M. being presented to him for installation by the W.D.P.G.M.

The appointments and investiture of the officers of the new lodge then took place, which were as follows: Bros. S. P. Austin, I.P.M.; J. C. Moor, S.W.; J. Deans, J.W.; J. R. Pattison, Sec.; the Rev. J. J. Brown, S.D.; W. A. O. Sutcliffe, J.D.; J. E. Nelson, D. of C.; and J. W. Brown, Tyler.

A number of propositions for initiation and joining members was made by the S.W. and other officers, which, with the eleven founders of the lodge, will at once bring up the membership to 43; Bro. Moor, S.W., proposing of that number no less than 24 joining members and four for initiation.

Bro. R. HUDSON, W.M., said he should like on behalf of the founders of the lodge and the brethren about to join it, to express their obligation to the Provincial Grand Master and to the Provincial Grand Officers and the visitors that day for their attendance at the consecration of the new lodge. He trusted that it would prosper, and in future years occupy a prominent position in the Craft. He proposed a vote of thanks to the Provincial Grand Master and officers.

The motion was seconded by Bro. S. P. AUSTIN, I.P.M., and carried with acclamation.

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER, in reply, said he had had very much pleasure in consecrating the lodge, and he had been pleased to give his name to it. He trusted that the words which had fallen from the Master of the lodge would be verified, and that it would go on and prosper to the advantage and honour of the Craft.

A number of the Principal officers of lodges then expressed their "Heartly good wishes" towards the Master and officers of the new lodge. The lodge was closed in due form.

The meetings of the new lodge will be held in the lecture room of the Young Men's Christian Mission Hall, John-street, on the fourth Friday of each month.

In the course of the day the Worshipful Master privately entertained at luncheon the Prov. G.M., the Marquess of Londonderry, who supported him on the right, the Installing Master, Bros. B. Levy, P.P.G.

J.W.; E. D. Davis, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Horsley, P.G.S.W.; and a number of visiting Provincial Grand Officers, who were joined by the principal founders of the lodge. Bro. R. Hudson, W.M., occupied the chair; Bro. J. C. Moar, S.W., being in the vice-chair. After luncheon, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said he was exceedingly sorry that the time at their disposal was so limited, and, as the Right Worshipful Grand Master and other officers had to leave by train, he should at once briefly address them. He said: I should like to assure my brother Provincial Officers and our Prov. Grand Master how much I esteem your presence here to-day. As the first W.M. of the Londonderry Lodge, I take it as an honour, and shall remember it with gratitude. I am only sorry that most of you are to leave early, but I trust our little entertainment has been comfortable to you. (Applause.)

The R.W. PROV. GRAND MASTER said: I am obliged to leave you at this time in order to get to my home to-night. It has been a source of great satisfaction to me to consecrate the Londonderry Lodge—called after my name—on this occasion, and it is with feelings of very great and deep regret that I have to leave now. I do not think, however, I shall be doing my duty if I did not ask you to honour the sentiment "Health and Prosperity to the Londonderry Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. Hudson, the first W.M.

Bro. HUDSON said: I sincerely thank you for the honour you have done in wishing success to the lodge over which I am called to preside for the ensuing year. I think it is an effort which will commend itself to every right-thinking Mason in the province, and I hail with satisfaction that we are going to bring within our borders a number of gentlemen who will honour our ceremonies and extend our usefulness. I consider it a very great honour on this occasion to have been so well supported by my brother Provincial Officers, and so many brethren. (Applause.)

Bro. R. S. HOPPER briefly proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," coupled with the name of Bro. J. C. Moor, S.W., who briefly responded.

Bro. J. DEANS, J.W., also returned thanks, and expressed a hope that he should merit the confidence of the W.M. during the ensuing year.

The furniture for the new lodge was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, Little Britain, London, E.C.

CONSECRATION OF THE SINCERITY CHAPTER, No. 428, NORTHWICH.

A warrant having, on the petition of Comps. R. N. Banks, W. Masters, T. E. Skidmore, C. W. S. Stanhope, G. F. Willis, W. M. Wylde, L. W. Marsh, G. B. Cliff, J. E. Fletcher, J. D. Murray, and others, been granted for a Royal Arch chapter to be held in connection with the Sincerity Lodge, No. 428, meeting at the Angel Hotel, Northwich, the ceremony of consecration was performed on Thursday afternoon, the 28th ult., by the M.E. Comp. G. W. Latham, P.G.E., the officer nominated for that purpose by the Right Hon. Lord de Tabley, M.E. Grand Superintendent of Cheshire. At three o'clock p.m. a chapter was opened by Comp. W. Goodacre, P.Z. 1045, M.E.Z. 1730, as Z.; Comp. W. A. Renshaw, P.Z. 1045, as H.; and Comp. H. Balshaw, P.Z. 1045, as J.

Amongst the visitors present were Comps. P. Wadsworth, P.G. Treas.; H. Finch, P.G.D.C.; H. Bulley, P.P.G.H.; T. Marwood, P.P.G.H.; W. Fair, P.P.G.S.B.; T. H. Kirk, P.P.G.O.; J. G. Kearns, Grand Master's Lodge, Ireland; G. F. Smith, P.Z. 1045; W. Mellor, P.G.P.S.; W. Dutton, P.G.A.D.C.; James White, J. 758; W. Prince, 321; R. H. Yeomans, 758; W. Nicholls, 941; H. Kenyon, P.P.G.S.B.; M. Stone, 1045; W. Booth, 323; J. W. N. Tanner, P.P.G.J.; T. Knowles, 721; J. Humphreys, 721; J. Salmon, P.P.G.J.; H. Moore, 1051; M. Stafford, H. 361; and M. Alcock, 941, P.G. Janitor.

The following members of the new chapter were in attendance: Comps. C. W. Spencer-Stanhope, W. Masters, T. E. Skidmore, R. N. Banks, W. M. Wylde, G. F. Willis, J. E. Fletcher, L. W. Marsh, and G. B. Cliff.

The M.E. Comp. G. W. Latham, as Consecrating Officer, was assisted by Comps. the Rev. C. W. Spencer-Stanhope, as H.; the Rev. J. W. N. Tanner, as J.; and W. Goodacre, P.P.G.P.S., as E. The four Prov. Grand Officers who bore the elements of consecration were Comps. H. Bulley, T. Marwood, W. Fair, and P. Wadsworth. The following Principals-Designate were presented for installation by Comp. H. Finch, the P.G.D.C.: Comps. R. N. Banks, as Z.; W. Masters, as H.; and T. E. Skidmore, as J. The ceremony was impressively performed by Comp. H. Bulley, P.P.G.H., who subsequently invested the following officers: Comps. G. F. Willis, S.E.; L. W. Marsh, S.N.; and W. M. Wylde, P.S. The P.S. appointed Comps. G. B. Cliff and J. E. Fletcher as Assistant Sojourners. The music during the proceedings was effectively rendered by a choir of four voices from Chester Cathedral, under the direction of Comp. J. Humphreys.

A banquet was afterwards capitally served by Mrs. Edwards. Comp. Banks, as Z., presided, and was supported by his two Principals. Comp. Wylde, as P.S., was in the vice-chair. The customary lists of toasts was gone through.

FREEMASONRY IN YORK IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

AS TOLD BY AN OLD NEWSPAPER FILE.

BY BRO. T. B. WHYTEHEAD, YORK.

(Concluded from Page 425).

On 28th December, 1785, the Rodney Lodge again invited attendances, and announced a sermon by the Rev. Mr. Clarke, M.A., the notice being signed by J. P. Hendrey, Secretary.

In the *Courant* of December 20, 1784, Milnes, Prov. G. Master, summoned the Apollo Lodge to the Merchants' Hall to a sermon by Johnson, and in the number for December 19, 1786, is an announcement by Rodney Lodge of a sermon at Holy Trinity Hall, on the 27th, by Rev. P. Rogers, Chaplain, signed by Anth. Atkinson, jun., Secretary. The Rev. W. Johnson, who must have been a very prominent brother, was advertised to preach at Merchants' Hall at the summer meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, under Milnes, in June, 1787, C. Wilson signing himself Grand Secretary; and in June, 1788, there was notice of the usual meeting at the same rendezvous.

The latest Masonic advertisement I have come across of the last century is the following, in the *Courant* of June 21, 1791:

MILNES—Provincial Grand Master.

"The brethren of the Union Lodge, No. 410, held at Mr. John Seller's Golden Lion Thursday Market, are desired to meet on the 24th inst. at 10 a.m., and go to St. Sampson's Church, where an occasional sermon will be preached by the Rev. Bro. Johnson, Prov. G. Chaplain. Visiting tickets, 5s. each, to be had of Bro. Seller. Dinner at 2. L. Lund, Secretary."

This Union Lodge was warranted in 1777 from London, and is now the York Lodge, 236.

York has always been a musical and theatrical centre, and the Masons of last century were not backward in patronising the talent. The Eboracum Lodge has an old playbill of 1791 announcing the patronage of the Freemasons, and a performance at the Theatre Royal. The name of the Apollo Lodge would seem to point to some regard for music; and as early as 1764 the Grand Lodge ordered "that the Freemasons' songs, set to music, be bought for the use of the lodge." Bro. Camidge, organist of York Minstr, was an active member of Apollo Lodge in those days. His portrait in oils is now in possession of the York Lodge, No. 236.

Judging from the specimens of the Masonic muse that have come down to us, it must be admitted that poets must have been scarce in the lodges, and in looking through a curious collection of old broadsides and tracts from the York Press collected by Mr. J. H. Carr, of Fossigate, I stumbled the other day upon an extraordinarily rude sample called the "Mason's Song," from the press of "J. Kendrew, printer, Colliergate, York." I could well suppose that it was first heard at the York Tavern on the occasion of the great gathering I have mentioned in 1770:—

When Adam in the garden was
Along with his companion, Eve,
And all the time of their innocence
I cannot tell how long they liv'd;
In the cool of the day to her he did say,
Why could you thus break my command?
She was not asham'd, who could her blame?
To kiss her love with his apron on.

It was on the twenty-first of June,
When all things were both fresh and fair,
With fifes and drums we march'd along,
Our hearts being light and free from care.
Then to the church we all did go
Where the Scriptures were made known,
In unity we did agree
Each brother wore his apron on.

See the sun, with his bright beams,
He shines o'er all the verdant plain;
The moon by night she gave her light
To all the free born sons of men.
All things were fair and beautiful:
Just when the season does come on
A pretty maid was very glad
To kiss her love with his apron on.

Did you hear the Mason's word
Was whisper'd round the other night?
No girl at all doth us annoy,
Or cares to put us in a fright;
Brethren dear, be of good cheer,
Our brandy comes both stout and strong,
Twelve times a year you must appear
Before us all with your apron on.

When winter frost and snow comes on
The fairest flower will decay;
Mortal man when his glass is run
See how he lies in the earth's cold clay!
The pretty maid, as well as Eve
Must leave this world and soon be gone;
And in short time she will not mind
To kiss her love with his apron on.

Brethren dear, I beg your leave
All for to end my simple song,
Eight hundred and two, both just and true,
Unto this loyal lodge we do belong.
There are five steps that we must take,
Before the jewels can go on;
Our Master fair sits in his chair,
God save him with his apron on.

Is it possible that the number (802) may refer to the returns of lodges acting under Grand Lodge of York at this period?

The few comments I have thus strung together hinge upon the public advertisements and newspaper notices I have observed, and do not pretend in any sense to give a history of York Freemasonry during the last century. Far more information is to be had from the Grand Lodge minutes now in the custody of the York Lodge, 236, and to which I have referred for many facts and dates given above. Still, it is interesting to note the peculiar fashions of our Masonic forefathers, which differ so widely from our present ideas of the best way of conducting our Masonic work, and this must be my excuse for presuming to occupy so much valuable space in the *Freemason*. Probably if brethren would take the trouble to examine old files of provincial papers we might come into possession of many facts connected with Masonry that are at present hidden away in dusty corners of sub-editor's rooms.

REVIEW.

ORIGIN OF THE ENGLISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY.

By Bro. W. J. HUGHAN. London: George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street.—SECOND NOTICE.

When we come to the second part of Bro. Hughan's valuable work, we are struck with much that is new, and more that is important. Bro. Hughan's may be fairly said to be the first scientific attempt to write the history of the Royal Arch Grade, as Oliver's history is not really a history at all, it is a composition not critical nor careful, and in which, in his old age to boot, the good old Doctor excels himself in those tendencies to imagination for reality, and suppositions for certainty, and hasty conclusions for careful inductions, which have rendered his voluminous works less valuable and authoritative than they might have been, and have even rendered nugatory these points in which he excelled, great industry, laborious researches, and wide reading. In this work of his on the Royal Arch he clearly overruns his own theory, and his sentences contradict his conclusions. At this time Dr. Oliver had passed from his first stage of the elevation of Craft Masonry, and had taken up a sceptical view as to Craft evidences, and his idea of a foreign origin for the Arch was so contradicted even by the facts he cited, (as it is in itself completely incorrect), that though his work on the subject ought to be studied it cannot be accepted as authority. Curiously enough, the whole question turns upon the reality and extent of the Third Degree.

It has always been clear to us that the whole matter resolves itself into a question of verbiage and of detail. Holding as we do that all the Revivalists did in 1717 was to "methodize" the old traditional ceremonial, and re-

jecting as we do entirely the suggestion that Desaguliers and Co. added the Third Degree, the question, as Bro. Hughan puts it well, comes in. Whence came the Royal Arch? Is it the Grade alluded to by Bro. Samber, for he does allude to a Grade of some kind? or is it the "Highordians" of the Swallow minutes? Whence does the term Royal Arch come?

So far, Bro. Hughan's, as well as Bro. Gould's, researches seem to trace the Royal Arch to Dublin, and we may have a connection there with Ramsay, though that is doubtful; but that it has anything to do with a foreign Order, or the Red Cross of Babylon, is, as we believe, a complete blunder of Oliver's. We doubt, we repeat, very much Ramsay's connection with English or Irish Freemasonry. Bro. Hughan truly says that so far the first authentic mention of the Grade is in Fifield Dassigny's invaluable testimony of 1744,—and we have it in Dublin 1746, in London before 1765, and probably much earlier, and York 1762. But how could it have come from France? There is no French Grade at all approaching to it, though the terms "Arche Royale" are, as we took occasion to say some time back, of old French usage. There was a "Confraternite de l'Arche Royale" in the mediæval times, which took charge and care of French pilgrims at Jerusalem, and there is the "Arche d'Énoch." It is possible that Dermott himself, (of whose early career little seems known), may have seen the term, translated it into Royal Arch, and when the Schism was a settled thing, to attract members and make the chasm greater between the two bodies, gave to a development of the Third Degree, rather than a "mutilation,"—not only this new name, but certain striking accessories to influence those who were to share in the most Sublime Degree of Ancient Masonry. The old Masonic tradition that there were two portions in the Master's Degree, of which the second was only communicated to the Masters of lodges, has a great deal to commend it.

It is quite clear there was no essential difference between the "Moderns" and the "Antients" on the subject, though there was a distinction of form and development. The speech of the Grand Secretary,—that they knew nothing of the often quoted "Arch or Royal Arch," as I understand, only relates to the terminology, and the action of the Moderns themselves in winking at and allowing Royal Arch chapters about 1765-6-7, and the "compact," &c., serve to confirm Bro. Hughan's view that there was a "distinction" without a "difference."

Dunckerley's alleged ritual was both brief and inchoate, and is very like what was once prevalent, and as we are unaware of any authentic antient ritual, we may assume that the Chapter of Promulgation, like the Lodge of Reconciliation, found no essential differences to harmonize, only certain minutiae to control or curtail, to rearrange and methodize, as generally happens in like circumstances. It is a very curious fact that this alleged Dublin use and origin of the Royal Arch seem to have been forgotten by the Irish Freemasons, and after a time they appear to have repudiated the source from which Dermott apparently obtained his knowledge of the Grade in 1746. We say apparently, for there is something mysterious about the possible connection of Dermott and Ramsay with the Royal Arch. But was Ramsey ever in Dublin? It is quite clear that the old story that he came to England about Freemasonry is untrue. As a Roman Catholic and preceptor of the Pretender's son he would be a "persona ingrata" at our head quarters. He left Freemasonry apparently also about 1736, and it is even doubtful now whether he had actually anything to do with the Rite de Bouillon,—called so after the "Duc De Bouillon," or Godfrey De Bouillon. If, however, he was in any way connected with the "Relation Apologique," said to have been published in 1728, by Patrice O'Donoko, in Dublin, reprinted in London in 1749, and at Frankfurt, in German, 1738 and 1740, and again in 1743 and 1764, he may have been. His "Discours d'un Grand Maître" appeared, in "Varrentraapp's Constitutions," &c., Frankfurt, 1742, and then in a separate form at Paris, in 1760. There is, however, a doubt on this point, as it was printed we are assured earlier at the Hague, that is between 1742 and 1760.

We have no trace of Ramsay after 1736, when he seems to have delivered (if he did deliver at all,) his famous address, "The Foundation of the Templar, or Crusading Theory rather of Freemasonry."

We are then inclined to conclude on the whole absolutely that the Royal Arch is essentially an English Grade, though perhaps foreign derivatively in its name. But here we must stop to-day, as our space is exhausted. We recommend all students to read Bro. Hughan's work for themselves, and we shall rejoice to hear that it is much asked for.

TENEBRÆ E TENEBRIS.—No. I.

Such is the heading of a very able article by Bro. Robbins in the "Voice of Masonry" for September, and I think it is a very good heading, inasmuch as, unless we take care we shall drift into "confusion, worse confounded" about the vexed questions of "degrees," concerning which I see some are greatly "exercized" in America. In the controversy between Bros. Robbins and Bromwell I naturally side with Bro. Bromwell, and as I never am ashamed of standing by my flag, I certainly endorse to a great extent all he has said. The state of the case as regards degrees under the English Grand Lodge is simply and undoubtedly this: In 1720-1-2-3 the Grand Lodge of England recognized the three separate and distinct degrees of Master, Fellow Craft, and Apprentice. The private lodges "initiated," and had also a power, apparently "by dispensation," to "craft" and "raise." Otherwise the two last degrees could only be given in Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communications. This law was repealed in 1725, and the "limitation" taken away. The members of Grand Lodge were the Masters and Wardens of lodges, and the then few Grand Officers, namely, the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, the Secretary and Treasurer. But the Secretary and Treasurer, though members of Grand Lodge "virtute officii," were not to vote in the election of a Grand Master. So any idea that Apprentices were permitted to be present is absolutely erroneous and absurd. The Treasurer and Secretary were allowed a clerk, "who must be a Fellow Craft," but "never" a member of Grand Lodge. The doorkeeper was also to be a "Fellow Craft." In case the Grand Wardens were absent, their places were to be filled by two private Wardens, and theirs also by two Fellow Crafts of the same lodges, as I understand, respectively. A Board of "Fellow Crafts" was to receive the tickets on the Grand Feast, and to prove all comers, if need be.

Such are the simple laws which our forefathers thought needful in 1723, and which seem to me to savour of much greater antiquity, owing to their very simplicity. As time passed on, more complex laws and more precise regulations became needful; but those which Payne compiled, regularized,

and amended, do not profess, as I understand, to be *new* ones in 1720, but old ones put into order, as is expressed by the use of the word "compiled." Indeed, it is said expressly in 1723 that these general regulations had been compared by Anderson with the "ancient records and immemorial usages of the Fraternity," so that we have not actually before us, which ought to be noted, Payne's actual Orders or Regulations, though probably as near as possible, but really Payne, plus Anderson.

In 1738, when Anderson is more implicit and less condensed, he gives us this specific information, that the General Regulations were compiled first by Bro. George Payne when Grand Master in 1720, approved by the General Assembly at Stationers' Hall, on 24th June, 1721. "Next by order of the Duke of Montague when Grand Master, the author, James Anderson compared them with the antient records of the Fraternity, and digested them into this method, with proper additions and explanations from the said records, and the Grand Lodge having revised and approved them, ordered them to be printed in the Book of Constitutions on 25th March, 1722." In 1738 Anderson sets out paginally "the old and new regulations," that is the old ones of 1720 and the new ones that had been passed since. Unfortunately, the Grand Lodge minutes only begin in 1723, so that we have no official record of what took place between 1717 and that date. It would be interesting to see Payne's original Regulations, if extant, as the verbiage he uses would settle many questions.

A good deal of our present difficulty and debate arises from our attempting to explain English customs by Scottish regulations, which are "sui generis," and, as far as we know at present, had little or nothing in common with our English ones. It is a pure assumption that the rules which governed the Scottish bodies in any way affected our English lodges.

We are still in complete darkness as to what was the normal life of English seventeenth century Freemasonry, and until we see that a little clearer it is idle, and worse than idle, critically and historically to lay down clever hypotheses for facts, and to dogmatize where all is doubt and confusion.

Thus far in England the earliest trace of lodges conferring the Third Degree is in 1724-25, though probably other examples exist previously to the withdrawal by Grand Lodge of the prohibition in the earlier regulations of 1720. This took place at the two lodges at the Queen's Head, in Holles-street, and near Temple Bar. The second was constituted by the Duke of Richmond, Grand Master, December, 22nd, 1724.

The same brethren had been made "Masons" December 15th, 1724, at the Queen's Head, in Holles-street. The Second Degree is not mentioned, but they are said to be "Passed Masters," that is, before the "limitation" as to Fellow Crafts and Masters was withdrawn by Grand Lodge, November 27th, 1725.

It seems to me we must still deal with the subject very cautiously. When I note in some of these discussions the dogmatically confident tone of some, and the amusing egotism of others, I am reminded of the Scottish story: "It is very sad," said a Scotchman, "to think on the number of the world's greatest men who have lately been called to their last account. And the fact is," added he, with unction, "I don't feel very well myself." The one real question is where the Three Degrees mentioned in the regulations of 1720 came from? The idea that they were invented by Desaguliers and Co. then, for the first time, is really too absurd critically to consider, and until we get a little more light as to the lodges in the seventeenth century, we had better, I think, be both careful and hesitating in laying down the law. All I can say is, having studied the question closely since 1858 in every way specifically, and having seen all available evidences, I feel certain that it is impossible at present to speak distinctly or definitely on the subject.

Bro. Sadler, Grand Tyler, tells me no copy of Payne's Regulations is to be found among the Grand Lodge records, and he has kindly furnished me with an exact copy of the resolution passed 27th November, 1725, which slightly differs from the form in Anderson 1738. Bro. Hughan gives it correctly.

"27th Nov., 1725.—A motion being made that such part of the 13th article of the Genl. Regulations relating to the making of Mastrs, only at a Quarterly Commn. may be repealed, and that the Mastr of each lodge, with the consent of his Wardens, and the majority of the brethren being Mastrs, may make Mastrs at their discretion.—Agreed, nem. con."

A good deal might be said on various points brought out by this order; but I prefer keeping what I have to say until No. 2. I may just add, curiously enough, as Bro. Sadler tells me, there is no record between 1723 and 1725 in the Grand Lodge minutes of any "passing" or "raising" in Grand Lodge.

A. F. A. W.

HISTORY OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

(Concluded from page 425).

We have now completed our history of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. We have traced out who was the Founder or "Institutor" of the Charity—a point hitherto veiled in obscurity—and have shown that Sir F. Colombine Daniel, to whom has commonly been ascribed that honour, played only a secondary, albeit a prominent, part in its establishment. We have marked out the several stages of its development, the depressed state of its fortunes during a not unprotracted term of years, the strenuous opposition exhibited by the Duke of Sussex, in his official character of President, to the extension of the Charity—which opposition was, in fact, the cause of that depression—the more enlightened views which prevailed under the Duke's successor, the late Earl of Zetland, and the almost unparalleled rapidity with which the policy of extension, when once it had been resolved upon, was carried out. There is, however, one part of our duty unfulfilled—that of describing, in fuller detail than was possible in the narrative itself, the invaluable services rendered by him who, since the first School was opened at Wood Green and the House Committee became a necessary part of the Executive or Governing body, has had the chief hand in formulating and giving effect to all the important measures passed for the purpose of protecting and promoting the interests of the Charity and enlarging the sphere of its benefits. That Bro. Binckes, who has been the Secretary of our Boys' School since the spring of 1861, is a man of superabundant energy, and possesses gifts, both mental and physical, above the ordinary run of mortals, is so well known to our readers, that to repeat it here—or indeed at any time or in any place—would be about as sensible as to point out that the man who can translate the *Iliad* of Homer must have studied the grammar of the Greek language. All of us know more or less circumstantially, how hard and how successfully he has

laboured in his Secretarial capacity, but few are able to grasp, in idea, the full extent of those labours, or the full measure of that success. Now and again we see it announced that a new dormitory or wing is to be added to the School at Wood Green; that ten or a dozen more boys will shortly be placed on the establishment; that a particular Festival yielded its £10,000 or £12,000, which, it may be, was £1000 or £2000 in excess or defect of previous Festivals. We glance rapidly down the columns of the Masonic press, and we find Bro. Binckes one week in Northumberland strenuously advocating the cause of the Boys' School, the next in Cumberland or Lancashire, then back at head quarters in London, then in Devonshire, Wales, Norfolk, the Midlands, and so on. We mark all this with the accustomed notes of admiration, exclaiming from time to time, "Wonderful man that!" "Man of tremendous energy!" and our excitement terminates with, possibly, a "thank heaven we need not be as ubiquitous as he is." But not so his labours, which continue always. More dormitories or wings have to be built, more boys received into the School, more Festivals held, and the feat of traversing the provinces in all directions in the briefest possible compass of time again and again repeated. These, indeed, are only the ordinary incidents in a career which has endured for about a quarter of a century; and yet there are those who fancy they have gauged the extent of Bro. Binckes's labours, and some even who look hesitatingly at a policy, which has enlarged this Institution from such humble to such magnificent proportions. Be it our present task, in fulfilment of what is manifestly an imperative duty, to lay before our readers a somewhat circumstantial account of what has been effected by him or through his instrumentality during the period of his association with the School.

It may be as well, perhaps, to state at the outset that Bro. Binckes's connection with Freemasonry dates from December, 1851, when he was initiated in the Enoch Lodge, No. 11. He was elected to the chair of Master in 1856. In 1855 he was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, in Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 19, and is a P.Z. of the Royal Union Chapter, No. 382, a member of the Westminster and Keystone Chapter, No. 10, and the present J. of the Royal Naval Chapter, No. 59, as he is also a Past Master of several of the lodges he has joined as member, but particularly of the Lewis Lodge, No. 1185, of which he was both founder and first Master, the Crescent Lodge, No. 788, of which he was a founder and the second Master, the Peace and Harmony, No. 60—which he represented on the Board of Grand Stewards in 1867, in the capacity of its Hon. Sec.—and the Grand Stewards Lodge. He is likewise a member of that old and influential lodge, the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10. He was perfected Rose Croix, 18°, of the A. and A. Rite in 1862, is a Past M.W.S., and took the 30° in 1864; was installed a K.T. in 1866, and is a P.E.C.; joined the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine in 1869, was subsequently elected Sovereign of his Conclave, and for some time past has been an Intendant-General of Division unattached; and is a leading member of the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees. But his chief distinctions have been achieved under the banner of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, soon after the constitution of which he was appointed Assistant Grand Secretary. In 1861 he was invested Grand Secretary in succession to Bro. Louis Collins, and took a prominent part in determining the rivalry between the Mark Lodges of English and Scotch origin in this country, and uniting them as one body under the Mark Grand Lodge. It was mainly at his instigation that some 17 or 18 years ago the Mark Benevolent Fund was established, while his eminent services to the Degree have been again and again recognised, but more particularly when there was conferred upon him some time back the honorary rank of a Past G.J. Warden. These honours, however, great as they undoubtedly are, and testifying, as they do, to the rare merit displayed by Bro. Binckes, in the many and various important positions of responsibility and trust to which from time to time he has been elected, weigh but lightly in the balance against what more immediately concerns us here—namely, the inestimable services he has rendered to the Masonic Boys' School. His name has of necessity figured prominently on very many occasions during the latter portion of this narrative; but though it might savour of exaggeration if we described him as the Executive, we make bold to affirm that whatever of progress there has been since Bro. Binckes was chosen Secretary in 1861 is due, primarily, to the energy and determination of his character, and in the next place, to the almost magical influence he seems to have exercised over well-nigh every one he has been associated with in the government of the Institution. His earliest effort in its behalf was made in 1856, during his Mastership of the Enoch Lodge, when he gave his services as Festival Steward and qualified as a Life Governor. In the latter capacity he became entitled to a seat on the General Committee, and was appointed one of a Sub-Committee to visit the newly-purchased Lordship Lodge, Wood Green, and report upon the repairs and alterations which would be necessary in order to make it suitable as a School. The year following he served on several other Sub-Committees, among them being those appointed to arrange for the election of a Master and Matron, and the definition of their respective duties, and to make provision for the inaugural ceremony; in July he was one of the 12 brethren elected to act as the first House Committee. In 1858, and again in 1860, he was re-elected on the same Committee, and was likewise told off, in conjunction with Bros. J. Symonds and the Rev. W. H. Lyall, to report on the financial position of the Institution, and offer such recommendations as in their opinion were calculated to improve it. In 1861 he was elected Secretary, in succession to the late Bro. Thiselton, by an overwhelming majority of votes over his solitary opponent, Bro. Spencer Compton. In that position we still find him displaying the same energy and determination of character, and exercising the same magical influence for good over his associate workers. If there are times when we may fancy he is less active than of yore, we have the consolation of knowing that with his greater experience his judgment now in all cases of doubt and difficulty is well-nigh unapproachable. There may be a greater amount of deliberation in the fulfilment of his duties, but there is the same vigour of thought; the same readiness to grasp a subject in all its bearings on the instant, and, as it were, intuitively; the same fertility of resource in grappling with difficulties, whether anticipated or unforeseen; and the same imperious will to conquer them at all hazards. Had there been any diminution of energy on his part, we should not now be contemplating him in the very heart of a fresh undertaking, as though he had done little or nothing during his past career. To the infusion of his "new blood" into the government of the Charity we owe the erection of the splendid building at Wood Green. To him we owe its rapidly progressive enlargement, till now it accommodates thrice as many boys as the premises it replaced. It was he who boldly counselled the appropriation to building purposes of the whole capital of the Institution—the slowly accumulated savings of some

five-and-thirty years. It was he who suggested borrowing largely on mortgage and of the bankers, so that no pecuniary impediment should delay the work of extension. But it is likewise through his unceasing advocacy that the mortgage and loans have long since been satisfied and a fresh and even larger capital accumulated; and it is he who, after a long series of successes unprecedented in the annals of eleemosynary institutions, is now engaged heart and soul in an enterprise large and costly enough when completed to establish the reputation of any ordinary man. In fine, if it was Bro. William Burwood who founded the Institution, it is Bro. Binckes who has made the School, and our hope is that he may be spared yet many years to confirm and even extend successes, in the achievement of which he has played so conspicuous a part. He, more than any brother of whom we have read or heard, is entitled to bear on his achievement of arms the proudly expressive device "Non omnis moriar," and thrice fortunate will our Boys' School be, if, in what we hope and trust will be the far distant future, the inheritor of Bro. Binckes's cares and responsibilities shall prove to be the possessor of Bro. Binckes's energy, ability, and will.

Our task is ended, and the Craft may now learn how it is and after what labours and discouragements, succeeded by what brilliant triumphs, our Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has won its place among the scholastic establishments of England.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DURHAM.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Durham was held on the 1st inst., in the Masonic Hall, Durham, under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Superintendent, the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., who was supported by the following officers: Comps. B. Levy, P.P. H.; T. J. Turnbull, P.P.J.; A. S. Fowler, P.G.H.; R. A. Luck, P.G. J.; R. Hudson, P.G.S.E.; F. Maddison, as P.G.S.N.; R. Candlish, as P.G.P.S.; G. J. Wilson and M. Frampton, P.G.A.S.; B. Boulton, P.G. Treas.; T. Coulson, P.G.S.B.; S. Fenny, P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Clay, as P.G.D. of Cers.; J. Curry, P.G. Janitor; the Rev. Canon Cundill, P.G. Treas.; the Rev. Canon Tristram, C. S. Lane, D. Sinclair, J. H. Barker, W. Coxon, J. S. Wilson, and others.

The whole of the thirteen chapters were represented on the roll being called, and satisfactory reports were given from all.

The Marquess of LONDONDERRY, addressing those present, said he had much pleasure in meeting them on that occasion. At their last meeting the Norman Chapter was consecrated, which brought up the number to 13, and from the careful analysis of the returns which the Prov. G.S. (Comp. R. Hudson) had furnished him, he found the number of individual Royal Arch Masons was now 455, as against 408 returned in the province last year. He was happy to find that during the past year every chapter had been visited, either by the Prov. G.S.E. or by other officers, and were found to be working well together.

The statement of accounts read by the P.G. TREASURER showed a balance in hand, and was adopted on the motion of Comp. LEVY, seconded by Comp. LUCK.

The P.G. Superintendent then appointed and invested the following Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year, except three who were unavoidably absent:—

Comp. B. Levy	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" J. Potts	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" R. Hudson	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" W. J. Watson	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" W. Donkin	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" T. M. Watson	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.A.S.
" R. Kinmond	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.A.S.
" B. Boulton	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" M. H. Dodd	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. D. Coxon	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. C. Martin	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" E. Hudson	...	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" G. Wilson	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Joseph Curry	...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

CATALOGUE OF THE WORCESTER EXHIBITION.

The conversazione held in the Guildhall, Worcester, on the 27th ult., was one of the most successful, and it undoubtedly was one of the most agreeable Masonic meetings it has been our privilege to attend. There was, to begin with, a strong muster of brethren, among them being several who may justly be described as representative Masons. The presence of the fair sex added greatly to the brilliancy of the scene, while the hearty reception accorded to all visitors was such as even the known hospitality of our Worcester friends would hardly have justified them in expecting. Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., P.G.M. Worcestershire, played his part right courteously as the Masonic President of the occasion, and Bro. Williamson, as the municipal chief of the old Cathedral town, supported him most loyally. Nothing, indeed, could have been better than this gathering, in which the "feast of reason and the flow of soul" were so harmoniously combined, and though it is the first of its kind ever held here, we sincerely trust it will not be the last. As regards the exhibits, it may be regarded as a sign of the increasing favour with which this kind of meeting is viewed by the Craft at large, that the responses to the appeal of the Executive Committee for the loan of Masonic relics of interest or value should have been made so numerous. A very large proportion of the curios came from districts remote from Worcester, and it is certain that had the space at the disposal of the Committee been more considerable, there would not have been the slightest difficulty in occupying it. Our readers, of course, will be able to form a good general idea of the display, but there were many of the exhibits which would prove exceptionally attractive in any Masonic collection or Museum, and to these it is our present object to call the attention of our readers, Bro. Hughan, who has briefly, but most ably, annotated Bro. Taylor's catalogue, being our principal guide.

Curiously enough, No 1 in the catalogue is a "Masonic gallon jug" of the year 1788, with emblems and flowers, and an inscription—"A heart that conceals, and the tongue that never reveals." Bro. Hughan says that very

few of these jugs are to be seen now, and that the value of this particular specimen is enhanced by the fact of its being dated. If our Hughans and Woodfords ever permit themselves a respite from their severer Masonic studies, we would suggest to them that the presence of this and other capacious jugs in the Worcester catalogue might serve as the text for an elaborate essay on the antiquity and importance of the Fourth Degree. However, if this gallon reminds us of Hogarth, and his delineation of the brother returning home after a lodge meeting, we are not long in reaching an exhibit that will accord better with the inclinations of the Masonic student. No. 8 is an old MSS. of Masonic Charges, known in Masonry as the "Lechmere MSS.," in compliment to the owner. Experts appear to differ as to the age of this valuable relic, Bro. Woodford setting it down as not "later than 1646, and probably earlier," while Bros. Gould and Hughan place it as "late seventeenth century." The difference in point of time is not considerable. Bro. Newton's contributions extend from No. 11 to 67, and consist of medals, tokens, and books, several of the first-named being marked by Bro. Hughan as of great rarity; while under the head of books, we have Pine's List of Regular Lodges for 1734, which Bro. Hughan believes to be unique. An "Old Illuminated Certificate," dated 1764, and an "Old Scroll," in two parts (circa 1680), are amongst Bro. Sillitoe's exhibits. The latter has appended the following remarks:

There are two copies of the "Old Charges" at Colne, this (the senior) and another of early last century (circa). They were both sent to me by Bro. Sillitoe for examination, and I at once recognised them as copies of the Old Operative Constitutions, of which now there are about fifty known. This version is of special value, because it contains the rare Apprentice's Charge.

We need not dwell on the curios loaned by the York and Eboracum Lodges and Bro. T. B. Whytehead, as the majority of them must probably be known to very many of our readers. But among those loaned by Bro. William Kelly, P.P.G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland, are some possessing a personal interest, such as Nos. 116 to 119, which formerly belonged to Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., and Earl Howe. Bro. Hughan's annotation is worth quoting:

I have, he says, left the descriptions by the R.W. Bro. W. Kelly untouched, but must add a few words to express my appreciation of several of the articles. Many of the relics are most valuable and exceedingly curious. The "Atholl" Masonic certificate of 1764 (familiar to the readers of Bro. Kelly's "History of Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire") is the earliest I have heard of. Certificate No. 122 was issued by a lodge warranted by the regular Grand Lodge (or "Moderns") in 1755. It is strange, however, that though it is dated 24th October, 1785, when the number was 125, the old number (*i.e.*, 156) was retained which it had borne—1770 to 1781. The next on the list, granted by the "Atholl" Grand Lodge in 1761, and again in 1775, for Leicester, as No. 91, became 114 at the Union; but was erased prior to the re-numbering of 1832. The engraving of the "signs" and numbers of the old lodges was published by Picart in his "Ceremonies," from the engraved list by John Pine, A.D. 1734-5. None of us have been able to discover whether Sir R. Steele, editor of the "Tatler," was a Mason or not.—W. J. H.

Passing rapidly over the exhibits loaned by sundry brethren, amongst which, however, must be noticed No. 166—"A Book of the Ancient Constitutions of the Free and Accepted Masons, by Benjamin Cole; dedicated to Lord Kingston, Grand Master"—dated London, 1729, which our worthy guide says is "one of the rarest Masonic books known, and was printed from engraved plates;" some half-dozen of old York newspapers of last century—Nos. 191-196—three of which were exhibited in York in February last, the other three being new to Bro. Hughan; and the three exhibits by the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 259, per Bro. T. Fenn—Nos. 249-251, being respectively "The Grand Lodge Clothing of the Duke of Clarence" (afterwards William IV.), "Three ivory gavels, presented by Lord Manser," and the "Sword of the Duke of Cumberland (Culloden Cumberland), presented by Chevalier Ruspini," we come upon a list shown by the Worcester Lodge, No. 280, in which occur several highly interesting prints, some editions of the Constitutions of Grand Lodge, and a "Large Volume of Scraps" (No. 284), respecting which list Bro. Hughan says:

A most interesting and unique set, simply impossible to be procured now at any price, because many of the uniques have long ago disappeared.

Bro. T. Lamb Smith, a Past Master of the same lodge, is also a liberal contributor, the majority of his exhibits being jewels of various kinds, one of these (No. 289) being a "Master Mason's jewel, Chelsea enamel, date about 1750." There is also what Bro. Hughan designates as "rare, curious, and valuable," namely, copy of "The Complete Freemason," or Multa Paucis for Lovers of Secrets. 1763." Bro. Lane, of Bannercross, Torquay, figures as exhibitor of sundry certificates, jewels, and aprons, and Bros. T. and J. Bragg, 18, Victoria-street, Birmingham, are exhibitors of jewels and medals, chiefly foreign, of which Bro. Hughan writes:

This splendid collection, chiefly of Foreign Masonics, would require considerable space to thoroughly describe, and especially as several of the medals are of unusual interest and importance. Jubilee and centenaries of Masonic lodges have been most popular with the Fraternity on the Continent, and when so celebrated have been likewise visibly commemorated by special medals being struck. "Loyalty and Charity" have been, on the whole, the prevailing features of Masonic celebrations abroad, and none more so than the various medallic memorials of Prince William Frederick of the Netherlands, an impression of one, which was struck in 1841, when that estimable Prince had been Grand Master for 25 years (Marvin's XXIV), is exhibited by Messrs. Bragg and Co. The medal issued by the Lodge "Star in the East," Batavia, Java, on celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 1844, was warranted by the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands (Marvin's 493), and is said to be the eighth as regards age on the roll of that body. The medal which refers to the apocryphal document, known as the "Charter of Cologne," is curious, of course, but believing, as I do, that it perpetuates an error based upon a fabricated document of modern date, the "30th Anniversary" is in truth and reality scarcely a centennial. Failing more particulars of several of these choice specimens I must content myself with expressing my satisfaction that they are to be exhibited at Worcester during "the Masonic Week."

Bros. F. H. Goldney, Prov. G. Treas. Wilts, and J. E. Le Feuvre, Prov. G. Sec. Hants and Isle of Wight, lent their valuable assistance, the exhibits of the latter including an almost perfect set of the editions of the Constitutions published last century by the regular Grand Lodge of England, and a Royal Arch minute book of Royal Arch Chapter, No. 174, Southampton. Respecting the latter we read:

This minute book is one of several remarkable exhibits which have been made known to the Craft through the Worcester Masonic Exhibition, 1884. I have never met before this with a separate Royal Arch minute book of the "Ancients," and thought it probably one of the "Moderns," as a chapter was granted for Southampton by the Grand Chapter formed by many of the latter brethren, as No. 13, and named the Concord in 1777, now apparently under the wing of the Southampton Lodge, No. 394, but still named Concord. The explanations afforded by Bro. Le Feuvre, Prov. G. Sec., however, clearly prove that this chapter was in connection with the Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 174, of the "Ancients," warranted in A.D. 1772. There was, however, a "Modern" lodge chartered and worked in that town by many of the brethren who belonged also to the rival organisation. This lodge was also called Royal Gloucester, was warranted in 1792, but dropt at the "Union," hence the members secured a higher number by retaining the "Atholl" charter, the lodge now being No. 130.

(To be continued.)

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To Correspondents.

An interesting account of the opening of the Sheldonian Theatre, from the *London Gazette* of 1669, will appear in our next week's Notes.

LEX, BRISBANE.—Considered unadvisable to publish, as not Masonic in tone and temper.

H. H. RIACH.—Under consideration.

The following stand over:—Suffield Lodge, No. 1808, and North London Chapter of Improvement.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Die Bauhütte," "Jewish Chronicle," "El. Porvenir," "New York Dispatch," "Sunday Times" (New York), "Report of the Grand Lodge of Indiana," "Hull Packet," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "Freemasons' Chronicle," "Broad Arrow," "Liberal Freemason," "Le Moniteur de la Chance Universelle," "Victorian Freemason," "Victorian Masonic Journal," "Court Circular," "Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada," "Metropolitan," "Freemasons' Repository," "Allen's Indian Mail," "La Espana Masónica," "La Abeja," "Western Daily Mercury," "Tricycling Journal."



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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.]

HOME FOR SISTERS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the *Freemason* of August 23rd you mention the establishment of a "Home for Sisters" to be erected by the German brethren, and announce that the fund amounts to 30,000 marks. This last statement is not quite right. The fund is about 100,000 marks, and will be increased probably in these days by the members of the "Union of German Freemasons" at further 15,000 marks. By inserting this you will greatly oblige, Yours fraternally,

ADOLF OBERDIECK.

Ulzin, Hanover, September 4th.

THE GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your issue of the 14th June last you were pleased to notice the establishment of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, as reported in the *South Australian Register* of the 18th April. You say "We should have ourselves augured better for the reality of the movement, and the stability of the venture, if we had not noted the absurd statements by many itinerant agitators. To one we called attention some time back, but no response has come from the Antipodes, namely, the bold assertion of the contributions of the brethren of the English lodges in South Australia to benevolence, those contributions in fact representing the admirable figure of 0." The term itinerant agitators may not have been meant offensively, but it is not a pleasant epithet as applied to brethren, who honestly believe that they have acted in the interest of an overwhelming majority of the Craft in the Colony. "The report of the proceedings in connection with the establishment of the Grand Lodge of South Australia," of which copies have been forwarded to you, gives a full and correct statement of the whole of the proceedings in connection with the movement from the very commencement, exactly a year ago, and I venture to say that no unprejudiced person could read this report without giving the South Australian brethren credit for true Masonic conduct, due respect for constituted authorities, obedience to our ancient land-marks, respectful consideration for the feelings and opinions of others, and yet firmness in acting in a righteous cause. I know of only one public utterance that in any way warrants your strictures upon us as regards the question of Benevolence, and, curiously enough, this unique expression of opinion, which has to some extent brought disgrace upon us, comes from the Master of the only lodge in the Colony of the English Constitution which refused to join the movement. You quote Bro. Ingleby's remarks in your issue of 1st March; these remarks were of course made in ignorance. The Mount Gambier Lodge, of which Bro. Ingleby is Master, is a small country lodge situated nearly three hundred miles from the city, and as its Officers and members have but scant opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the business of Freemasonry outside their own lodge, the blunder may be considered a venial one. The lodge, at the instigation of Bro. Ingleby, have resolved not to join the South Australian Grand Lodge until recognition is accorded by the Grand Lodge of England. Although the District Grand Lodges of the English Constitution in the Colonies do not contribute to your Charitable Institutions, a very considerable amount of money is annually paid to the general funds of the Grand Lodge of England by way of certificate and joining fees. During the last twelve months the sum of £153 has been forwarded to the Grand Secretary from the District Grand Lodge of South Australia—I quote from District Grand Lodge Books. The leaders of the Craft in the Colony have not urged this as a strong motive for the severance. Other and far more important reasons influenced their action, the election by the members of the head of the Craft being not the least important; this boon is particularly appreciated by the brethren recently belonging to the English Constitution, who have for nearly a century been ruled over by a brother who has been singularly successful in making himself the most unpopular man in the Craft. Appointed in the first instance against the expressed wishes of the brethren, he has been nothing but obstructive ever since, and

the peace and prosperity of the Craft were only obtained when pressure was brought to bear to compel him to place the actual government of the District in the hands of his Deputy. His attempt on several occasions to interfere with the authority so delegated has been productive of confusion and discord.

You further say "The English Grand Lodge, of course, is not likely to seek to put any impediment in the way of such a deliberative enunciation of Masonic opinion." I sincerely trust and believe that your prediction is a true one, but I do demur to the succeeding statement, "for it the matter ends." We not only seek fraternal recognition, but co-operation, correspondence, and mutual support, and we shall not be satisfied merely with a blessing that at the same time bids us depart.

With regard to Benevolence, your Masonic brethren in the Colony have not been behindhand in affording assistance to the distressed and needy amongst the Fraternity, and it is a fact that of the considerable amount of money expended yearly in relief, nine-tenths of it have been given to Masons hailing from England, Ireland, and Scotland, who have not in any way been connected with our lodges. We are still continuing this, and I trust the day is far distant when a poor and distressed brother, come from where he may, will apply to the Charity of South Australian Masons in vain. In the concluding paragraph of your notice you quote from the *Sydney Freeman*. Without wishing to accuse you of being disingenuous, I must say that this is calculated to mislead and possibly to harm our cause; the *Sydney Freeman* is published in another Colony, and has nothing whatever to do with us, and does not at all represent our views; it would be almost as fair for you to quote from the Pope's Encyclical Letter as evidence against us. No word has ever emanated from our Masonic press, or from any other source, derogatory to the Grand Lodge of England, for which we all have the most sincere respect, admiration, and esteem. The following extract from the speech of our Most Worshipful Grand Master at his installation will convey better than I can write the feelings and opinions of all the Masons of South Australia on this matter:—"I have never heard, and never expect to hear, from a South Australian Mason, one disloyal or unfriendly word respecting the Grand Lodges under whose warrants we have hitherto worked. We shall always be proud of the three sources of the ever-widening stream of South Australian Masonry. The English, Irish, and Scotch Constitutions, to which we have now ceased to be subordinate, but from which we hope never to be severed in friendship, will continue to be regarded by us with much the same feelings as in after life we have for the homes of our youth, with the same affection as we who have become South Australians will always retain for our Mother Country—for our Fatherland."

Trusting that your well-known character for fairness and true Masonic conduct will ensure the insertion of this letter,—I am, dear Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,

JAMES H. CUNNINGHAM, Grand Sec.,

Grand Lodge of South Australia.

Adelaide, S.A., July 30th, 1884.



EGYPT: AND THE WONDERS OF THE LAND OF THE PHARAOHS. By WILLIAM OXLEY. London: Trübner and Co., 1884.

This work is largely the result of a visit made by the author to Egypt. He was convinced, after seeing the sculptures of many of the temples, "that there was, and is, an affinity between ancient Egypt and modern Great Britain, which had either been unseen or ignored by previous authors on this deeply interesting subject," that is to say, as stated in another part of the work, "that Egypt, being the birthplace of the British nation, and consequently its inheritance." This would alone be sufficient to startle sober-minded students, but the author is a believer in the inspiration of the Great Pyramid, spiritualism, what is called theosophy, and the rest—therefore, many things which have presented difficulties for ages he would have us believe are now cleared up. For centuries the scientific world has been groping about in utter darkness; but now there is light, if only the world will follow in the path of Mr. Oxley and others who think as he does! What vanity there is in all such books as this! Yet what do they really teach us? What new fact is there to lay hold of? We are bound to confess we have found none. The author's knowledge of the special literature of Egyptian studies, and other subjects he treats of, is small, and he has evidently not "covered the ground," so to speak, nor does this indeed seem to be required from him—where there is a difficulty the Psychological Key, if applied, will open the lock. Once it is admitted and there is a wide field for speculation,—we would rather say imagination—to which there is literally no end. Deeper study and more reading will probably cause Mr. Oxley to modify many of his ideas. Apparently he is unacquainted with the works of the late Dr. Inman, Colonel Forlong, and others. Mr. Oxley makes a number of statements with regard to ancient history and other matters which will startle the more thoughtful of his readers, based, we think, on error. His quotations, except where he refers to Egyptian texts, are in most instances taken and his praise is given to works of very inferior merit—if of any merit at all. Should these works survive the wear of time, it will not be as marking any epoch in the course of thought, but they will only do so in the opinion of scholars as curiosities, showing how far diseased minds of speculative dreamers will run loose when there is no serious study or competent knowledge to restrain them.

CALENDRIER MACONNIQUE DU GRAND ORIENT DE FRANCE. 1884. 16, Rue Cadet, Paris.

By this official publication, now in its 112th year of issue, it would seem as if there were still 294 lodges under the Grand Orient of France, 36 chapters, 1 consistory, and 1 Grand College of Rites—in all 340 bodies. Of these 66 lodges, chapter, and conseils are in Paris; 13 in the Department of the Seine; 208 in the various Departments of France; 12 in Algeria; 11 in French colonies; and 28 in foreign countries. We were curious to see in what foreign countries these lodges were, and we find in the list Spain, Greece, Roumania, Wallachia, Nedelavia, Switzer-

and, Turkey, Egypt, Mauritius, Argentine Confederation, and the Republics of Chili and Uruguay. We should be afraid from what we hear that French Freemasonry is losing yearly a large number of its respectable members, and its position, numerically and socially, has greatly deteriorated of late years. We are very sorry for it; but at present there is no help for it, and nothing can be done to rally the minority of French Freemasons. If the French Freemasons do not take heed some fine day,—oh! most wonderful consummation of all things—a Republican Government will close the lodges. French Freemasonry can never be anything higher or better until it sets to work to do something seriously for charity, and to give up for ever sterile discussions and childish controversies on social, municipal, and political questions. We are struck with the little knowledge possessed in the Rue Cadet of the officials of the Grand Lodge of England; but we presume that it either arises from a difficulty of understanding English, or since the Masonic "entente cordiale" is at end, from that "refroidissement" and "éloignement" which have arisen necessarily between the two jurisdictions. Some American Masonic writers hold that the Grand Orient of France by its defection from, and desertion of Cosmopolitan principles has ceased to be a legal jurisdiction. We cannot quite see that point as regards France itself, though we can quite realize the fact, that if an Ecumenical Masonic Congress was to be held, Anglo-Saxon Masonic bodies could rightly refuse to recognize the legal position of the Grand Orient of France. In fact, it is still a jurisdiction for France and French Freemasons, but dormant and defunct suicidally as regards all other jurisdictions. We repeat we are sincerely sorry for the French Freemasons!

Masonic Notes and Queries.

WORCESTER EXHIBITION.

The "Moir" apron which was exhibited at Worcester by Bro. John Lane, P.M. 1402 (on behalf of the Torbay Lodge, Paignton), does not contain all the figures that are mentioned by Bro. H. T. Bobart (*Freemason*) May 5th, 1875. I had not noticed this difference until examining it this week, and comparing the design with that recorded in 1875. The date also is March 13th, 1813, not January 6th; so there were evidently two issues at least of the printed apron. The one belonging to No. 1358 lacks "The Prince Regent, the Earl of Moira, and the Duke of Sussex," but has the Earl of Moira at the head of the apron.

W. J. HUGHAN.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

As a question has arisen as to who really designed the Sheldonian Theatre, I refer "A Worthy Brother at Oxford" to "Parentalia," page 335, where it is declared to be the "first public performance of the surveyor in architecture." Reference is made to the opening of the theatre at page 337, when a cross of gold is said to have been given to the architect, Sir C. Wren, and he was made joint curator with the Vice-Chancellor. Dr. Plot, in his *Past History of Oxfordshire*, is quoted, and perhaps "A Worthy Brother at Oxford" will see if he can cull any notes about Sir Christopher and the Freemasons' house. Anderson must have some authority for what he advances. IGNOTUS.

The following references to letters, &c., of Sir Christopher Wren in the Tanner MSS., in the Bodleian, at Oxford, may not be without interest to brother students; they were forwarded by a "worthy brother there."

MASONIC STUDENT.

Tanner MSS.

- | | | |
|-----|-----|--|
| 340 | 295 | About Sir C. Wren's fellowship at All Souls. |
| 338 | 117 | From Mr. Wren to Dr. Baylie, Vice-Chancellor, explaining why his cousin Wren stayed in Oxford, viz., to assist at some observations to be made by the Earle of Sandwich, his desire. |
| 155 | 17 | John Breton (?) writes from Eman. Col. Camb. to the Dean of St. Paul's about Dr. Wren's coming to Cambridge. |
| | 35 | Same to same. Passing allusion to Dr. Wren. |
| | 37 | Do. Do. |
| | 61 | Do. Do. |
| | 105 | Do. Do. |
| | 106 | Do. Do. |
| 142 | 21 | The briefs of the account of Sir Christopher Wrenne for the churches from Michal., 1673, to Xmas, 1677. |
| 42 | 64 | From Humfr. Linden (?) to "Deare Mr. Deane." A reference to Sir C. Wren going to Oxford to compete for the place of Burgess for the University. (Dec. 15, 1673.) |
| 40 | 123 | Letter signed "Chr. Wren," dated Dec. 30, 77, to congratulate Dr. Sancroft on being nominated Archbishop of Canterbury. |
| 31 | 35 | From Tho. Raffin (?) to "Your Grace" (name not given), arranging for himself, St. Ch. Wren, to meet His Majesty in the "Abby." |
| 44 | 101 | From Humfr. London, to Deare S ^r an allusion to Dr. Wren's succession to Sir John Denham. |
| 145 | 110 | "Proposals to y ^e right Hon ^{ble} y ^e Comissioners for y ^e Reparation of S. Pls. Cathedral." 5 pages. Signed "Chr. Wren." |
| | 115 | Letter from Dr. Wren to Dr. Sancroft, dated May 7. |
| | 117 | Do. Do. Aug. 5 |
| 145 | 127 | Letter signed "Chr. Wren" to "Reverend Sr," dated Nov. 29th, 1666. |
| | 129 | "Advice to the Reverend the Deane and Chapter of St. Paul's concerning the ruins of that Cathedral." Unsigned, but apparently by Wren. |
| 131 | | Another copy of the same, but in a different handwriting. |
| 144 | | Letter from "C. Wren" to "R ^d S ^r ," dated April 28th, 1668. |
| | 145 | Do. Do. May 24th, 1668. |
| | 171 | From "Chr. Wren" to "S ^r ," Sept. 16, 1671. |
| | 183 | From John Tillison to Dr. Sancroft, with passing allusion to Dr. Wren. |
| 185 | | From John Tillison (superscription torn off), passing allusion to Dr. Wren. |

399] SCOTS MASONS.

Is this term met by the Royal Order of Scotland in any way? The expression must have some meaning, and so far nothing seems clear. SCOTUS.

400] THE SLOANE MS. 3329.

Bro. Hughan alludes to this MS. in his recent and very interesting history of the Royal Arch. I am preparing a third edition of the Sloane MS. for publication, and may add that careful study and conference with experts enable me to say, that the date of the MS.—be it earlier or later,—in no way affects the value of the MS. itself, as an early testimony whether Masonic or non-Masonic, to certain landmarks of our Order. The MS. itself is a transcription from an older document, and the handwriting may be really and truly of any period from 1680 to 1715, or it may even be somewhat later. The verbiage of the MS. is undoubtedly early seventeenth century, and Mr. Wallbran's approximate date is, I fancy, not far out. I never knew him wrong as to actual date of a MS. Curiously enough he always saw the point that the language was older than the handwriting. As to the bearing and testimony of such a document on the vexed question of the Degrees, I myself have no doubt and never have had any. If we compare the Grand Mystery of 1725 with the Sloane MS., we shall trace a great similarity of idea and design. Bro. Hughan seems to think that the transcriber of 3229 saw Dr. Plot's work. The transcriber of this MS. must have seen a somewhat similar MS. and Dr. Plot wrote in 1686. But then the question arises, what was the date of the copy, the transcriber of the 3329 took his transcript form. If it was subsequent to 1686, (which is not likely), then of course Bro. Hughan's argument tells, but if it was earlier, as the probabilities of the case would suggest to the student to-day, Findel's old remarks as to the coincidence are still very pertinent to the whole question in discussion. The testimony of the Hudibrastic poem of 1723, is in favour no doubt of the assertions made both by Plot and the 3329 MS. being generally well known, but Dr. Plot writing in 1686 got his authority from some other MS., and probably from an earlier copy of this very MS. For it is useless to say, that because a MS. was copied any time bear in mind from 1680 to 1715 say, from an older MS., therefore we are only to give it the date of its latest possible transcription, when by internal evidence it is clear that its verbiage is before 1650. Dr. Plot writing in 1686 saw probably a parchment roll, and certainly an old form of our Constitution, and though Findel was a little hasty in jumping to the conclusion that the allusion to "Dr. Plot's Catalogue" in the volume connects him with 3329, yet as it is not known apparently whence Sir Hans Sloane obtained the MS., there is no absolute impossibility in the idea that he saw a form of this very MS. But here I leave the question. A. F. A. W.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE LATE BRO. W. H. RICHARDSON, P.M. 1348.

About a month before his lamented decease, Bro. W. H. Richardson received a gold watch, with the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. W. H. Richardson, P.M. 1348, in recognition of his services as Preceptor of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, 1614, A.L. 5884," accompanied with a vellum testimonial, signed by the subscribing members of the lodge of instruction and many other brethren, by whom he was much esteemed—Bros. J. Terry, G. Coleman, W. H. Gulliford, Simeon Jacobs, E. Jacobs, W. Bourne, John Jacobs, H. Kedgley, Bowers, Solomon, T. A. Dickson, John W. Ford, William Fowles, James Woodward, Henry Robinson, Charles A. Ralph, G. H. Reynolds, Frank Gulliford, J. Figgiss, Willie Jones, Moreton Graham, E. Farwig, W. Ponsford, C. J. Shannon, W. B. Fendwick, W. H. Read, T. Nathan, Z. Mordecai, J. Hawks, S. Dicketts, J. Williams, G. Read, D. Mordecai, H. Hyams, H. Dickinson, S. Hewitt, R. Head, J. H. Watts, G. Legge, G. Taylor, H. Ludwig, W. Wade, R. Blum, J. Flint, G. Stevens, David Stroud, James Hemming, John Paul, Charles J. Jones, Gilbert Dunmore, C. Thorpe, D. N. Wetherill, W. Brindley, W. Rolls, Herbert J. Capon, Samuel Lloyd, J. Grieve, T. Harvey, George Deaton, John Holmes, F. Green, John Hurdell, James Seymour, J. Hall, J. Blunden, G. H. Kay, G. W. Meacock, John Skinner, E. J. Langdon, M. Elvin, W. Smale, G. Bignell, R. A. Kirkaldy, S. H. Barrow, A. H. Price, F. P. Marx, W. Woodruff, Charles Corby, George W. Harrington, W. Howard Smith, W. C. Smith, and G. Reynolds, Sec. The testimonial was most beautifully written, illuminated, and framed by Bro. George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. W. Roebuck, P.G. Steward, in the chair.

Among the minutes read were those of the Building Committee.

Bro. BINKES reported from the bank that the £1000 India Four per Cent. Debentures were paid off; and the amount had been placed to the credit of the account of the Preparatory School Building Fund at the London and Westminster Bank. He also reported the receipt of £500, the unconditional grant of Supreme Grand Chapter.

It was then resolved that this amount should be placed to the credit of the Preparatory School Building Fund.

With reference to the funded stock of the Institution in Three per Cent. Consols, it was resolved that no steps be taken for their conversion into stock of a lower value.

The Committee afterwards placed two candidates on the list for election in April, 1885.

An application having been made on behalf of a former pupil of the Institution for a gift of £40 towards his advancement by placing him with some electrical engineers, the consideration of the application was deferred till further information could be obtained. Grants of £5 each were made to two former pupils of the school, after which the Committee adjourned.

We understand the building of the Preparatory School has been already commenced. It is satisfactory to note that no time has been lost, considering the many preliminary difficulties that had to be encountered.



Craft Masonry.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Lodge of Truth (No. 521).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday, the 5th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Fitz William-street. Bro. J. B. Matthewman, W.M., opened the lodge at 7.30. The minutes of the last regular meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. John Shoesmith, W.M. 1783, assisted by his Senior Warden, Bro. B. Oxley, worked the tracing board in the Second Degree in such an efficient manner as to meet with the approval of all the brethren present, and on the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bros. Shoesmith and Oxley.

Business being concluded the lodge was closed in the two Degrees, when the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room for refreshment. In consequence of the death of two members of the lodge, the usual toasts were proposed and responded to very briefly.

MORPETH.—De Ogle Lodge (No. 636).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, the 4th inst., the W.M., Bro. R. H. Dickenson in the chair. The principal business was the installation of Bro. Thomas Ashton, S.W., W.M. elect, which was most ably performed by Bro. W. Davidson, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. H. Dickenson, I.P.M.; John Watt, S.W.; John Hunn, J.W.; John C. Wilson, P.M., P.G.P. Treas.; E. Ashton, Sec.; Robert Edgar, S.D.; J. B. Robson, J.D.; W. Davidson, P.M., D.C.; John Kennedy, Org.; W. Storey, I.G.; W. J. Atkinson, S.S.; Ralph Crawford, J.W.; James Thompson, Tyler.

"Hearty good wishes" were tendered by a number of visiting brethren from the Crook, Wear Valley, Blagdon, St. Cuthbert's Lodges, and Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren (upwards of 50) dined at Bro. John Heddon's, New Phoenix Hotel, Bridge-street, and after the usual toasts had been duly honoured, the following brethren added to the harmony of the evening by recitations, songs, &c.; Bros. J. Barker, R. H. Dickenson, T. Hutchinson, A. Carter, J. Kidd, T. Haisman, W. Storey, J. G. Robson, J. Kennedy, W. J. Atkinson, J. MacNab, T. Dick, and others. The Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a close.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Priory Lodge (No. 1000).—The first meeting of the session took place at the Middleton Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst., when there were present: Bros. W. G. Brighton, P.M. 72 and 569, P.P.G. Org., W.M.; Dr. F. D. Grayson, I.P.M. 160, S.W.; G. R. Dawson, J.W.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, P.M. 160, P.P.G. Chap.; A. Lucking, P.M., P.Z., Prov. G.D.C., Sec.; J. F. Harrington, P.M., Treas. 160, S.D.; C. Floyd, I.P.M. 1817, Prov. G.P., J.D.; L. Warren, jun., I.G.; J. C. Johnstone, P.M., P.P.G.D., D.C.; C. F. Woosnam, Stwd.; A. W. Martin, Tyler; W. D. Merritt, I.P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. F. Barrett, P.M., P.P.G.R.; W. M. Peacey, W. E. Bridgeland, S.W. 933; W. Tyler, E. F. Wood, G. L. Wood, S.D. 160; T. A. R. Whistler, A. M. Genissi, G. H. Baxter, and others. Bro. G. H. Baxter was passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. R. W. F. Martin, having been balloted for and approved, was duly initiated. The bye-laws of the lodge were revised and re-arranged, and four gentlemen having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting the lodge was duly closed.

WHITTLE-LE-SPRINGS.—Townley Parker Lodge (No. 1032).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the lodge room, Howard Arms Hotel, on Thursday, the 4th inst., those present being Bros. A. G. Leigh, W.M.; A. Hall, P.M.; J. M. Kerr, P.M. 730, P.G.S., as S.W.; A. G. Bird, J.W.; T. F. Jackson, Sec.; W. C. P. Grimshaw, J.D.; H. Gardner, I.G.; R. Clayton, and T. Whalley. Visitors: Bros. Dr. Farmer and L. Eccles, 730.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The correspondence was also read and discussed. The somewhat sudden and unexpected death of our highly esteemed and much respected Provincial Grand Secretary was referred to in feeling terms, and fitting tributes to his memory having been paid, the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That the members of this lodge hereby express their sincere regret and their deep sense of the loss Freemasonry has sustained in the death of Bro. H. S. Alpess, J.P., Past Grand Standard Bearer England and Prov. Grand Secretary West Lancashire, and that a letter of condolence be forwarded to his sorrowing widow." "Hearty good wishes" were then tendered, and the lodge was closed in the usual manner, the brethren afterwards adjourning to supper.

TWICKENHAM.—Era Lodge (No. 1423).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, on Saturday, the 9th ult. Among the brethren present were: Bros. George L. Wingate, W.M.; E. T. Henman, I.P.M.; Geo. S. Elliott, P.M., S.W.; Frederick Jenkins, J.W.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Treas.; William Henry Matthews, S.D.; Wm. Beaton, I.G.; J. T. Moss, P.M., P.G.R. Middx.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M., P.G. S.B. Middx.; J. Fixter, H. B. Hassel, C. Neison, William Lovelock, A. E. Carter, and John Gilbert, Tyler. The visitors were: Bros. J. W. Long, P.M. 569; James Bayne, Org. 1897; and W. Wright, 1897.

The lodge was then opened and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Neison and Lovelock were examined in the usual questions by the I.P.M., Bro. E. T. Henman, and raised by him to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons. The way in which the work was done received from the brethren high praises, which was afterwards confirmed by a vote of thanks of the lodge to him. The acting Secretary brought up the report of the Permanent Committee on the revision of the bye-laws; it was moved, seconded, and carried, that they being in accordance with the revised Constitutions

they become the bye-laws of the lodge, subject to the approval of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master.

There being no further business the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were cordially proposed and received.

HEXHAM.—Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1557).—A regular meeting of the above lodge was held on the 4th inst. This was the inaugural meeting in the commodious new Masonic hall, just built and handsomely furnished at the expense of the generous and true-hearted Mason, Bro. T. Ellis, W.M., whose successful year of office is unfortunately drawing to a close. In addition to the beautiful lodge room, preparing room, and offices, is a spacious billiard room, house room, and kitchens, suitable for a serving brother residing on the premises. There was a large gathering of members and distinguished visitors, the following officers of the lodge being present: Bros. T. Ellis, W.M.; Turner, P.M., Treas.; Shield, S.W.; Spence, J.W.; Harrison, S.D.; Fisher, Sec.; and Dr. Stewart, I.G. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed, after which Bros. Fenwick and Crisp were raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M. in his usual able and efficient manner. The ceremony was throughout admirably performed, every officer being perfect in his work. The brethren afterwards enjoyed a sumptuous banquet in celebration of the happy event of the possession of its own Masonic hall.

YORK.—Eboracum Lodge (No. 1611).—On Monday last the regular meeting was held at the Queen's Hotel. The W.M., Bro. Blenkin, occupied the chair, and there were also present Bros. T. B. Whytehead, P.M.; J. S. Cumberland, P.M.; Geo. Simpson, P.M.; M. Millington, P.M.; Geo. Balford, P.M.; Geo. Garbutt, W.M. 236; Sir F. G. Milner, M.P., S.W.; A. T. B. Turner, J.W.; and a large number of officers, brethren, and visitors.

The initiation of a serving brother was the first business, and this having been done by the W.M., Bro. Storey was raised to the Third Degree by Bro. Millington, P.M. Several presentations were made to the lodge library by Bro. Whytehead and others, including a copy of the Worcester Exhibition catalogue by the W.M. Bro. Cumberland also presented a Worcester commemorative medal. Bro. Whytehead reported that the exhibits lent by the lodge had all been returned in good order and condition, and spoke of the success of the exhibition as a landmark in the history of the Order. Several other matters were disposed of, and the lodge was closed.

Subsequently, in proposing "The Health of the Master of the Lodge," Bro. Sir F. G. Milner, S.W., apologised for his frequent inability to be present owing to his Parliamentary duties. He should, however, use every effort in the recess to be with them.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Officers," expressed the hope that the Senior Warden would next year be spared in health to preside over them as Master, and thanked the brethren for their kind support during his own year, which was fast drawing to a close.—The election takes place next month.

INSTRUCTION.

FAITH LODGE (No. 141).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the Queen Anne's Restaurant, Queen Anne's-gate, when the following were present: Bros. Dutton, W.M.; March, S.W.; Shepard, J.W.; Cottebrune, Preceptor; Cross, Sec.; Masefield, S.D.; Mason, J.D.; Chapman, I.G.; Carter, G. F. Edwards, Mount, A. Edwards, Morse, Bowen, Gourley, Cobham, Wetzlar, Stroud, and Chandler.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. A. Edwards being the candidate. Lodge was opened on the square. Bro. Wetzlar offered himself as a candidate for the Third Degree, and was duly examined and entrusted. Lodge was opened on the centre, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bros. C. G. Wetzlar and F. Chandler were unanimously elected members of the lodge. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. at the next meeting and appointed his officers in rotation. The Secretary announced that Bro. E. Ayling would work the ceremony of installation at the last meeting in this month—the 30th. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. At the meeting of the Faith Masonic Charitable Association, Bro. Cottebrune obtained the ballot.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 8th inst. at the Fountains Abbey Hotel, 111, Praed-street, Paddington, W., when the following were present: Bros. H. Pardue, W.M. 834, W.M.; D. Stroud, S.W.; M. E. Spiegel, P.M. 188, J.W.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; F. Chandler, S.D.; J. H. Wood, J.D.; E. J. Brown, I.G.; W. J. Mason, Stwd.; C. S. Mote, C. J. Morse, H. Robinson, J. J. Thomas, M. J. Green, and G. Simpson. Visitor: Bro. J. Sims, 834.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge was called off and on, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Sims being the candidate. The First and Fourth Sections were worked by Bro. Spiegel, and later on the First of the Third, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees and resumed to the First. Bro. Stroud was elected W.M. for next meeting, and Bro. Sims a joining member, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the usual weekly meeting, held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on the 28th ult., there were present Bros. Graham, W.M.; G. H. Reynolds, S.W.; Fowles, J.W.; Fendwick, S.D.; Read, J.D.; C. Ralph, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Secretary; Hyams, Corby, Barnes, and Potter.

The lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. H. Reynolds, S.W., worked the First Section of this Lecture. Lodge was then opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Fowles worked the First Section of this Lecture. Bro. Barnes offering himself as a candidate to

be raised, he was duly questioned, entrusted and retired. Lodge opened in the Third Degree, and the W.M. rehearsed the Sublime Degree of M.M. Bro. W. C. Smith worked the Second Section of this Lecture. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. Bro. G. H. Reynolds, S.W., was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing week, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. At the third time of rising, Bro. G. Reynolds, Sec., gave the brethren the sad intelligence of the death of their most able Preceptor, Bro. W. H. Richardson, who had devoted himself for five years to the establishing of this lodge of instruction. Upon receipt of the melancholy news he consulted with Bros. W. H. Gulliford, I.P.M., and W. C. Smith as to the sending of a wreath from the brethren of this lodge of instruction as a mark of their sincere regard. This was done, and a letter from the family stating "that the beautiful tribute of affection" had been received and appreciated. The Secretary then proposed that a vote of heartfelt regret for the loss of their late brother be recorded on the minutes of this lodge of instruction, and that a letter of condolence be addressed to the late Bro. W. H. Richardson's family, and also that the expense of the wreath be defrayed out of the funds of the lodge of instruction. This was seconded by Bro. W. C. Smith, who said that the brethren had lost a good, earnest, and zealous worker, for whom he had a deep regard. The motion was carried unanimously. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed in ancient form, with peace and harmony. The lodge was in mourning for their late Preceptor.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Adam and Eve Tavern, Palmer-street, Westminster. Present: Bros. Bowen, W.M.; Gibson, S.W. and Treas.; White, J.W.; Coleman, S.D.; Mumms, J.D.; Purnell, I.G.; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Brindley, P.M. 1604; Taylor, Balchin, Vincent, Grist, Smith, Coughlan, C. White, and Fraser. The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Coleman being the candidate. Bro. Taylor answered the usual questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Taylor candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree and closed down to the First Degree. Lodge resumed in the Second Degree. Bro. Fraser answered the questions leading to the Third Degree. Lodge was resumed in the First Degree. Bro. Gibson was duly elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A brother of Lodge 316 was peculiarly relieved. There being no further business the lodge was closed in perfect harmony. The ceremony of initiation will be worked in this lodge on the last Wednesday this month by Bro. Cox, W.M. St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE (No. 1922).—The weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, when there were present Bros. Sherring, W.M.; Johnson, Preceptor; Norden, S.W.; Jacobs, J.W.; Paton, Sec.; Mackie, Sutton, Baker, Stafford, Youens, Mattock, La Feuillade, Eidmans, and Hook.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of previous lodge were read and confirmed. The W.M. worked the Second Section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. La Feuillade acting as candidate. Bro. Hook, S.W. 186, was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Norden was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the W.M. for his able working, the same to be entered on the minutes. Bro. Sherring thanked the brethren for the vote and kind attention. Nothing further offering for the good of Masonry, the lodge was closed, according to ancient custom, in peace and harmony.

A meeting of the Charitable Association in connection with this lodge was then held, under the presidency of Bro. Johnson. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which two ballots were taken, the draws being in favour of Bros. Johnson and A. J. Clarke.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Hampshire Hog, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. E. Ayling, W.M.; G. Gardner, S.W.; Purdue, J.W.; G. Gardner, Treas.; A. Strong, Sec.; J. Brown, S.D.; Wing, J.D.; W. Wilson, I.G.; H. Furze, Stwd.; W. Johnson, P.M.; A. Williams, W. W. Williams, Simms, and B. Wimpey. Visitors: Bros. A. Bishop, Hayes, and J. Davis.

The re-opening meeting of this lodge took place as above, W. Preceptor being in the chair of King Solomon. Several sections of the First and Second Lectures were worked by the brethren, Bro. Purdue asking the questions of the Second Sections of the First Lecture. The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees and resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Hayes and Davis were elected members of the lodge. A vote of thanks was recorded on the minutes to Bro. Ayling for his able conduct in the chair of W.M. and Preceptor. Bro. Gardner was then elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Secretary asked the brethren to mark the occasion of the re-opening by making a subscription to the Hospital Fund, which on lodge being closed in ancient form was done, and so ended a very enjoyable and instructive evening.

Royal Arch.

LIVERPOOL.—Hamer Chapter (No. 1393).—On Thursday evening, the 4th inst., the annual installation of Principals took place at the above chapter, in the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, where there was an unusually strong muster, a sitting close to a very prosperous year. There were present: Comps. W. C. Erwin, M.E.Z.; John Houlding, P.Z.; J. McCarthy, P.Z.; F. J. Pentin, P.Z.; Dr. Henry Pitts, H.; Rev. R. J. Leslie, J.; J. Pilling, P.S.; and others. Comp. Thomas Sammons very effectively installed the following as the new officers: Comps. Dr. Hy. Pitts, M.E.Z.; Rev. R. T. Leslie, H.; J. Pilling, J.; R. L. Stockton, S.E.; Dr. W. A. Soldat, S.N. (by proxy); W. H. Bucknell, P.S.; and Walter Burnet, Org. Comp. M. Williamson was re-elected Tyler.

The companions afterwards dined together, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

Knights Templar.

YORK.—Ancient Ebor Preceptory (No. 101).—A meeting of this body was held on Tuesday last. Fra. J. S. Cumberland, P., presided, in the absence of Fra. Marshall, the E.P., and there were also present Fratres A. T. B. Turner, Const.; G. Simpson, P., as Marshal; T. B. Whytehead, P., Reg.; W. Brown, Capt. of Guards; and others. The minutes having been read, and a ballot taken for Major A. H. H. McGachen as a joining member, the Registrar read several letters of apology for absence, and also letters of thanks from brethren in America acknowledging receipt of honorary certificates. Fra. Whytehead gave notice at the next meeting to propose, and Fra. Cumberland to second, the election as an honorary member of Dr. Rob. Morris, the American poet Mason. The preceptory was shortly thereafter closed.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BY BRO. E. L. HAWKINS.

It appears to be a matter in dispute among Masonic historians whether Boston or Philadelphia was the first home of Freemasonry in America; but, without attempting to settle that point, it may be safely asserted that the examination of the Constitutions of either State should be of interest to us in England, as showing some of the points of difference between American and English Freemasonry.

Having recently, through the kindness of Bro. Sereno D. Nickerson, P.G.M., and now Recording Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, become possessed of the Constitutions now in force in that State, and also of some recent reports of the meetings of its Grand Lodge, I have noted the following points in them which I trust may not prove wholly without interest to Masons in this country.

On opening the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts one is at once confronted by a copy of the Act of Incorporation which passed the Senate and House of Representatives of Massachusetts on March 1st, 1859, and by which the Master, Wardens, and members of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts are formed into a corporate body, with power to sue and be sued, to make By-laws, &c., and to hold real estate up to 200,000 dollars, (since increased to 500,000,) and personal estate up to 50,000. Consequently all financial matters of the Grand Lodge are managed by a Board of Directors, consisting of the Grand Master and eight other members, of whom four are to be chosen annually for two years; but this Board must report at each December meeting of Grand Lodge, and can exercise no powers not expressly given to it.

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge differs somewhat from that of the English Grand Lodge; its members fall into three classes—1st, the Grand Officers for the year; 2nd, the permanent or life members; 3rd, the representatives of lodges.

The Grand Officers are:—M.W. Grand Master; R.W. Deputy Grand Master; R.W. Senior Grand Warden; R.W. Junior Grand Warden; R.W. Grand Treasurer; R.W. Recording Grand Secretary; R.W. Corresponding Grand Secretary; R.W. District Deputy Grand Masters; two W. and Rev. Grand Chaplains; W. Grand Marshal; three W. Grand Lecturers; W. Senior Grand Deacon; W. Junior Grand Deacon; four W. Grand Stewards; W. Grand Sword Bearer; W. Grand Standard Bearer; two W. Grand Pursuivants; Bro. Grand Organist, who has no vote; and Bro. Grand Tyler, who also has no vote.

The second class, the permanent or life members, consists of Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, and Past Grand Wardens, who rank between the actual Wardens and the Treasurer, and who are the only Grand Officers who enjoy past rank. It may here be noticed that a Past Grand Master ceases to be "M.W.," and becomes "R.W." Would a Past Grand Master of England become "M.W."? Our Constitutions are silent on the point.

The third class—the representatives of lodges—consists of the Masters, Wardens, and proxies of lodges; thus Past Masters as such have no seats in Grand Lodge. Each lodge has three votes, and is represented by its Master and Wardens, or by a proxy duly appointed for a year by the lodge, such proxy having no vote when the Master and Wardens are present, and each lodge may cast its three votes whether one or more of its representatives be present.

Of the Grand Officers, the Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, the Grand Treasurer, and the Recording Grand Secretary are elected annually by ballot; the rest are appointed by the Grand Master. The Grand Master and the Grand Wardens are not allowed to hold office for more than three successive years, unless Grand Lodge is unanimously in favour of their re-nomination; and the practice appears to be to change the Grand Master every three years, but the Wardens annually.

The Grand Treasurer receives instructions from the Board of Directors as to the investment of unappropriated funds, and has to render an account to them of his receipts and disbursements.

The lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge are grouped by the Grand Master into districts, of which there are now 28 in Massachusetts, each containing about eight lodges; there is also a Chili District with three lodges, and a China District with one lodge. For each district, except that of China, a District Deputy Grand Master (who must be a Past Master) is appointed annually by the Grand Master, so that there are now 29 District Deputy Grand Masters among the members of Grand Lodge. Their powers are very similar to those of Provincial Grand Masters with us, except that they apparently appoint no District Officers; through them all returns and dues from subordinate lodges are presented to Grand Lodge, and they report annually to the Grand Master on the state of the lodges in their districts. They are repaid their expenses for visiting the lodges in their districts, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors; and the expenses of their meetings before each Communication of Grand Lodge are borne by the Grand Lodge. (For 1883 their visiting expenses amounted to 860 dollars—about £180—and the expenses of their quarterly meetings were 183 dollars.)

The duties of the Grand Marshal are to proclaim all Grand Officers on their installation, to direct the organization of the Grand Lodge before it is opened, to collect communications, introduce visitors, &c.

The Grand Lecturers must be Past Masters, and are to "exemplify the work and lectures of the several degrees, at

such times and in such places as the Grand Master shall direct. They shall also impart instruction to any lodge requiring their services—the lodge paying them a reasonable compensation therefor." They are also to visit lodges and report any deviations in the working from the system adopted by the Grand Lodge; for the Grand Lodge takes to itself, among other powers, that "of establishing and preserving a uniform system of Work and Lectures."

Each member of Grand Lodge has one vote only, unless he is an officer or permanent member and also Master, Warden, or proxy of a lodge; each member must vote on all questions, unless personally interested or specially excused; and no member can leave Grand Lodge during the session without the permission of the Grand Master.

As with us, there are four regular Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge, held at two o'clock p.m. in Boston on the second Wednesday of December, March, June, and September; there is also a Grand Festival for the installation of officers on December 27th; and it is provided that all meetings of Grand Lodge shall be advertised in one or more Boston newspapers, at least a week in advance.

The Constitutions provide for a Charity Fund of 50,000 dols., to be in the hands of a Board of Trustees, of which the interest is to be employed for the relief of poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans; but this fund is now non-existent, having been swallowed up by the expenses incurred in building the present Masonic temple, and no trustees have been appointed since 1864. However, the debt then incurred has now been wiped out, and no doubt this Charity Fund will soon be re-established. The present Masonic temple is a very imposing granite building, seven stories high, with three large halls for meetings; and, with the exception of the street and basement floors, it is entirely devoted to Masonic purposes. Its corner-stone was laid in 1864, and it was dedicated in 1867.

It appears from the accounts for 1883 that in spite of the non-existence of this Charity Fund 1200 dols. were disbursed in charity during that year.

The Constitutions contain very elaborate regulations for the trial of Masonic offenders; there are five "Commissioners of Trials" annually appointed by the Grand Master, and before them all charges against brethren are to be brought, according to certain specified regulations, unless a lodge decide by a vote of the majority to try an offender itself; but a lodge has no power to suspend or expel, and the sentence of the Commissioners must be reported to Grand Lodge for approval. It is provided that due notice of his trial must be given to a delinquent, unless his residence is out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge or is unknown, when no notice is required. These Commissioners are to receive compensation for their services and expenses, and it is provided that the expenses of all committees are to be paid by the Grand Lodge, but no such payments are to be found in the accounts for 1883.

In constituting a new lodge the practice is to first issue a dispensation after petition by seven Master Masons; this dispensation empowers them to work for a year; they then return the dispensation with an account of their proceedings, and if these are satisfactory they receive a Charter of Constitution. Apparently a lodge under dispensation has the same powers as a warranted lodge, except that its officers cannot sit in Grand Lodge.

Each lodge pays annually to Grand Lodge ten dollars, and five dollars for every candidate initiated; and a subordinate lodge is required to pay the expenses of Grand Officers, when specially invited to visit it; but at the constitution of a new lodge the Grand Lodge bears the travelling expenses. It is ordered that each lodge shall meet once a month, except during June, July, and August.

Any vote passed in Grand Lodge, or in a subordinate lodge, can be reconsidered, but only on the motion of one of the majority which decided the question; an amendment to the Constitutions can only be carried by a two-thirds majority.

In a subordinate lodge, as in Grand Lodge, the Master, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary must be chosen by ballot; the others may be chosen by ballot if the lodge so provides in its bye-laws, if not they are appointed by the Master.

Past Masters receive diplomas from the District Deputy Grand Master; their jewel is the blazing sun, within the compasses, extended on a quadrant.

The regulations dealing with the admission of members seem stringent but salutary, if really enforced; their main points are the following—an applicant for initiation has to sign a form stating his name, &c., and whether he has ever applied for initiation before; his application is backed by a recommendation from some member of the lodge; if he is rejected on the ballot he cannot be proposed in any other lodge till after six months, and then only on the written recommendation of six members of the lodge which has rejected him; and if without this recommendation he be made a Mason under some other Grand Lodge he cannot be admitted as a visitor to any Massachusetts lodge until he has been formally "healed" by the Grand Lodge, or under some circumstances by the Grand Master. (The fees for "healing" during 1883 amounted to 55 dollars, but what the fee in each case is does not appear). A candidate must apply to the lodge in the town where he lives, or to that nearest his residence; and in the latter case the lodge must inquire about him of respectable persons living in the place of his residence. Where there are more lodges than one in a town each has a certain district which is said to be under its jurisdiction; so that no one can be in doubt which lodge has the prior claim to him. No person living in a town where there is a lodge can be initiated elsewhere without the written consent of the Master, one Warden, and two members at least of each lodge in the town where he resides, unless there are more than two lodges in the town, in which case the consent of two is sufficient. No resident in another State can be received without the written permission of the Grand Master of such State. A member of one lodge cannot receive degrees in any other without the consent of the Master and Wardens of his own lodge, or dispensation from the Grand Master. All elections of members must be unanimous, and every member present must vote. Physical deformity is no bar to admission, unless it amounts to an inability to meet the requirements of the ritual, or to honestly acquire the means of subsistence. Only Master Masons can be admitted as members of a lodge, and no brother discharged from a lodge for non-payment of dues can join any other till his dues are paid or remitted. The W.M. may at his discretion allow three ballotings for a candidate, provided

that no other business shall intervene between them. Finally, no one can be a member of more than one lodge.

The following rule appears to enunciate an important principle: "By-laws cannot deprive a brother of membership by any language therein; every Mason is entitled to due notice and trial before being deprived of any Masonic rights;" though it is hard to reconcile this with the rule referred to above, which provides that no notice is required when a brother's residence is out of the State or is unknown.

Among minor regulations the following may be noted: Lodges of instruction require the permission of the Grand Master on the application of not less than two lodges.

The fee for the three Degrees shall be not less than twenty-five dollars.

No lodge shall confer any Degree in the absence of the Master and Wardens.

Only one candidate at once can be present in the First Section of the First Degree, or in the Second Section of the Third Degree.

Only the work and lectures are to be performed when the lodge is open in the First and Second Degrees; all business, such as elections, discussions, &c., must be transacted in a Master's lodge.

No public processions can be formed by a lodge, except to attend the funeral of a Master Mason, without permission from the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master.

Only a Master Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, and then only by dispensation from the Grand Master, unless it be at his own special request.

Some statistics may be interesting to conclude with: The total number of lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was last year 227, being 223 in Massachusetts itself, three in Chili, and one in China; the total number of members was 26,583, being 26,406 in Massachusetts, 125 in Chili, and 52 in China.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of Management of this Institution was held on Wednesday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Col. Creton, P.G. Treas., in the chair. There was a strong attendance of members of the Committee. Bro. Terry reported the death of two male annuitants, one of whom had been on the books since 1873 and the other since 1877. The Warden's report was read, and cheques ordered to be signed. The Secretary reported that he had received a cheque for £500 from Supreme Grand Chapter for the Institution, and another for £70 from Grand Lodge for coals for the residents at the asylum at Croydon for the winter months. A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Bro. Col. Creton for obtaining the vote of £500 from Grand Chapter. A letter from Lady Wilson, acknowledging the vote of condolence passed at the last meeting on the occasion of the death of Bro. Sir Erasmus Wilson, was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

A largely attended meeting of the General Committee of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was held at the Hall, in Hope-street, Liverpool, on Friday, the 5th inst., under the Chairmanship of Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G.R.

A number of applications on behalf of children for the benefits of the Charity, and several proposals for the grant of sums for the advancement in life of boys and girls already on the foundation of the Institution, were favourably considered, and recommended for adoption by the Court of Governors.

Two applications on behalf of children to be placed on the combined Education, Clothing, and Maintenance Fund were referred to the standing sub-Committee for consideration.

At the conclusion of the business, Bro. Dr. SMITH, Chairman, called the attention of the brethren to the great loss the Charity had sustained by the recent death of Bro. H. S. Alpess. He referred to the many excellences of character displayed by the deceased in public and private life, and said it would be exceedingly difficult to fill the place vacated by his sudden death.

Bro. G. Broadbridge, one of the Honorary Secretaries of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, Bro. R. Brown, a Past Secretary, and Bro. Councillor Lunt, Prov. G. Treas., also spoke in high terms of the valuable services rendered by Bro. Alpess to the Institution and Masonry generally during his long and useful life.

It is understood that a resolution conveying the feelings of the brethren on the subject will be proposed at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge on the 24th inst.

It was intimated that lodge returns might be sent to Bro. R. Wylie, Castle-street, or to Bro. E. Pierpoint, Chapel-street.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to Bro. Dr. Smith for presiding.

MASONIC RELIEF IN WEST LANCASHIRE.—The twenty-fifth annual report of the West Lancashire Masonic Relief Committee (of which Bro. Dr. J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G.R., is Treasurer; Bro. J. Pemberton, P.P.G. S.B., Chairman; and Bro. J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treas., the Honorary Secretary) states that every application had had full consideration, and relief had been extended to the needy and deserving to the fullest extent consistent with the bye-laws of the Institution. Communication with the Committees of similar institutions in the country continued to be maintained, thereby preventing imposition; and the Committee desired to tender their hearty thanks to the officials of the kindred charities for their kind co-operation and assistance. The great usefulness of this Institution has now been proved by the work of a quarter of a century; and the Committee thought it a fitting time to appeal to the lodges of the province and to the brethren generally for increased support. The alteration in the bye-laws which enables the Committee to vote increased grants had proved of the greatest service, especially in the cases of brethren desiring to go abroad, and which oftentimes obviated the necessity of appeals being made to the various lodges.



Bro. the Lord Mayor will complete the 56th year of his age to-day (Friday).

Bro. G. S. Graham, who has been on a visit to the United States, will be again amongst his English brethren in a few days.

Bro. Alderman Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., has become a patron of the Richmond Philanthropic Society, and forwarded a subscription to its funds.

Bro. the Earl and the Countess of Carnarvon will leave their Hampshire seat, Highclere Castle, about the 13th inst., and make a succession of visits, returning in October.

We are asked to announce that a slight delay has occurred in the binding of Bro. Hughan's new work, which accounts for the copies not having been sent out; but it is now ready for delivery.

The Royal Yacht Osborne is under orders to leave Portsmouth to-day (Friday), to take the German Crown Princess to Flushing. Her Royal Highness will embark at Fort Victoria on the 13th inst.

In the list of names of those present at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hants and the Isle of Wight, on the 10th ult., we incorrectly gave that of Bro. W. Shalden-Smith, W.M. 2016, P.P.G.S.W., as Bro. H. Smith, W.M. 2116.

The Duchess of Albany has purchased from the Royal Tapestry Works at Windsor, in which the late Duke took so great an interest, a classic and allegorical panel of tapestry representing Europa, executed by one of the young English weavers.

Bro. the Marquess of Londonderry, K.P., has fixed the Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham annual meeting to be held in the Lecture Hall, Palace Green, Durham, on Thursday, October 2nd, and the banquet thereafter will be held in the Castle Hall.

In our notice of the next meeting of the Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, which appeared a week or two since, we gave the date as Tuesday, the 1st October. It should have been the first Tuesday in October.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.—A petition from the ladies of Salthouse, Norfolk, has been presented to the Queen praying that her Majesty will head the movement to provide harbours of refuge or ports of shelter for safety in time of storm or danger. Committees of ladies are being formed in various places to assist in the efforts being made in this direction.

One of the candidates elected to the Girls' School in April has died before admission. Her name was Emily Pinder, and she belonged to the Province of West Yorkshire. To fill the vacancy thus created it is probable that the Committee will admit the highest unsuccessful candidate at the last election.

Bro. Sir Charles Dilke, Bart., M.P., reached Bridport on Monday from London, and there met Mr. B. Fleming, the inspector of the Local Government Board for Dorset, with whom he is to visit the villages of Powerstock and Nettlecombe, the condition of which has been described by witnesses before the Royal Commission on the Dwellings of the Working Classes.

The M.W.G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales will shortly issue warrants for the constitution of two additional Mark Lodges, which will be known respectively by the style and title of the St. Albans Lodge, Nottingham, and British Lodge, Capetown, S.A. They will stand on the roll of Grand Lodge as Nos. 344 and 345.

At a meeting of Additional Curates Society held on Wednesday in the grounds at the residence of the Hon. Mrs. Watson, the mother of the Rev. Wentworth Watson, vicar of Monmouth, the Bishop of Hereford (in the chair) and the Bishop of London delivered addresses in support of the society, expressing the opinion that such societies formed the vitality of the Church, and they strongly urged the formation of ladies' societies.

"Masonic Hints" is the title of a pamphlet just issued by Bro. M. C. Hime, M.A., LL.D., head master of Foyle College, Londonderry. Among the practical suggestions it contains is one advocating a "Masonic Monday" for the Freemasons of Ireland—that is, the setting apart of a day in each year for a musical and literary entertainment in every town in aid of the Masonic Boys' and Girls' Schools. The suggestion is well worthy of consideration, as are the hints which follow on the organisation of amateur entertainments and the best methods of making them successful.

In Masonic circles in Quebec there seems to be a growing disposition evinced to put an end to the strife which has been carried on for some year past between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and that of England. With this end in view the Grand Master of Quebec has appointed a Committee composed of three well-known members of the Craft to enquire into the alleged abuses which are said to exist and to report thereon, and, if possible, to suggest a compromise between the English and Quebec lodges. This Committee is constituted as follows: Messrs. M. M. Tait, Q.C., J. F. Walker, and L. H. Stearns.—*Montreal Daily Star*.

£20 TO £500.—Tobaccoists.—A pamphlet (80 pages) How to commence from £20; three stamps. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Sample cigars 6, 5, 4, 1/1, 14 stamps. [ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The changes of temperature and weather frequently upset persons who are most cautious of their health, and most particular in their diets. These corrective, purifying, and gentle aperient Pills are the best remedy for all defective actions of the digestive organs; they augment the appetite, strengthen the stomach, correct biliousness, and carry off all that is noxious from the system. Holloway's Pills are composed of rare balsams, un-mixed with baser matter, and on that account are peculiarly well adapted for the young, delicate, and aged. As this peerless medicine has gained fame in the past, so will it preserve it in the future by its renovating and invigorating qualities, and its incapacity of doing harm.—[ADVT.]

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire will be held at the Literary Institute, Altrincham, on Thursday next, Sept. 18th, at 12.30 p.m., under the presidency of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton.

With a view to trains passing from Charing-cross to the main line without touching London-bridge and the Cannon-street system at all, the London and South-Eastern Company are understood to contemplate the construction of a new line from their junction with the Chatham and Dover Company's line to Bricklayers' Arms Station, there to unite with the existing main line between London-bridge and New Cross.

In the course of Saturday's proceedings of the British Archaeological Association, Mr. H. H. Vaughan showed the visitors a goodly collection of Shakesperian literature, and also a copy of "Euripides," once belonging to John Milton, and having his name and manuscript annotations within it. In the evening, in Tenby Town Hall, a paper was read by Mr. Loftus Brock, F.S.A., on "Historical Evidences of the Extent of the Ancient British Church," which caused an interesting discussion, in which Mr. Lambert, F.S.A., took part.

W. Bro. H. Baldwin, Prov. G. Std. Br. Middx., Secretary of the Royal Hanover Lodge, 1777, asks us to notify that the members of this lodge have unanimously decided to hold their future meetings at the Town Hall, Twickenham (by kind permission of Sir Charles Fieake, Bart.) instead of the Albany Hotel, as heretofore, and, providing the consent and approval of the M.W. the Grand Master and the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., is obtained, the "installation" of Bro. Walter Samuel Dunkley, of Balham, the W.M. elect, will take place at the next meeting in their new abode on the 25th prox. The Royal Arch chapter attached to this lodge is about to remove to the same place.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, M.P., has received the following letter from his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales:—"International Health Exhibition, South Kensington, S.W., September 5th, 1884.—My Dear Lord Mayor,—I have much pleasure in enclosing herewith a cheque for four thousand pounds, being as nearly as can be at present ascertained the amount arising from the proceeds of the Hospital Fête held here on the 26th of July, and I beg that you will have the kindness to apply this sum for the benefit of the London hospitals. It is probable that a small additional sum may be yet forthcoming, and I have therefore given directions that as soon as its amount is ascertained it shall be forthwith transmitted to your lordship.—I remain, my dear Lord Mayor, yours faithfully, ALBERT EDWARD.—The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P."

A few days since, we had an opportunity of inspecting the Masonic Hall, at 8A, Red Lion-square. Till quite recently it was in the hands of the painters and decorators, and the change they have effected in its appearance is most satisfactory. This work has been done with very great taste, the decorative part being all the more effective from its being so quiet and even subdued in character. This hall is well adapted for the meetings of Masonic bodies. Its capacity is greater in reality than in appearance, as it will comfortably accommodate a lodge or chapter of 60 members, while, in emergencies, when there is a more numerous attendance, quite a hundred brethren can be seated easily. The fittings and appointments harmonise well with the general character of the hall, which, of its kind and size, we do not hesitate to describe as among the best and most convenient, and—what is even more in its favour—one of the most accessible in the metropolis.



The 450th representation of "Confusion," at the Vaudeville Theatre, will take place on Saturday the 13th inst.

Bro. Irving will entertain a large party of friends at supper at the Hôtel Continental, Regent-street, on the 14th inst., previous to his departure for America.

On Monday night the 100th performance of the revival of "Our Boys" was given at the Strand. The astonishing vitality of this remarkable comedy is, even in these days of "long runs," one of those exceptionally remarkable events which happen once only in a generation. It seems only a brief year or two since its withdrawal from the Vaudeville after an unprecedented run of 1489 nights; and now it is reproduced at the Strand and has taken its position again as the best and most thoroughly enjoyable comedy in London, and who can wonder at it? Bro. David James is as broadly humorous, as genuinely funny, and as sprightly as of yore, and the honest old butlerman in his hands, so far from losing any of the attractions which gave such a world-wide popularity to the piece, has rather improved, and has, like his friend, "Sir Giffy," become mellowed by age. We confess to having seen "Our Boys" at least half-a-dozen times during its first performance at the Vaudeville, and we could look forward with perfect equanimity to witnessing it again as often during the extended run it is certain to have at its new home. Bro. James's part is so prominent a one, and his inimitable personation is so all-important to the piece, that one is almost in danger of underrating the excellent company which supports him. Nothing could be more natural and artistic than the acting of Messrs. Moore and Gardiner, the latter very worthily filling the part originally taken by Mr. Thorne, while Miss Fortescue and Miss Buckstone were equally successful in their respective roles; Belinda also, whose popularity is second only to that of the immortal butlerman, brought down the house by her really artistic personation of that very inartistic individual, the London slavey. In these days of meretricious melodrama and spectacle, it is refreshing to witness the success of such a bit of real comedy as presented to us in "Our Boys," and in addition to the debt of gratitude we owe to those concerned in its original production, our thanks are due to Bro. Swanborough and Warren Wright for giving us an opportunity of renewing our acquaintance with it at the Strand.