

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
 SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND AND THE GRAND MASTERS
 OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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A REPORT appears elsewhere of a most pleasant meeting which took place at the Girls' Institution on Tuesday, when an illuminated address on vellum was presented to the Head Governess, Miss DAVIS, in commemoration of her having completed a period of twenty-five years' service, and in testimony of the valuable services rendered by her in that all important capacity. But we should consider we had left unfulfilled one of the most agreeable duties that has ever devolved upon us, if we were to let slip the opportunity of adding our slight tribute of congratulation to that of the House Committee of the Institution. We cannot presume to know so much of Miss DAVIS personally as the members of that Committee, nor have we enjoyed the same opportunities of judging as to the extent and character of the influence she has exerted so beneficially over the children entrusted to her care. But the many prize meetings at St. John's Hill, which we have had the privilege of attending, have enabled us to note the kindly relations existing between Miss DAVIS and her pupils, while the successful results which have been achieved by the latter at the University Middle-Class and other public examinations, and which we are every now and then called upon to publish, demonstrate clearly how excellent an instructress she must be. We, therefore, tender to Miss DAVIS our congratulations on the auspicious event of Tuesday, and trust she may be spared yet many years to continue her successful labours.

WE must congratulate Bro. the Earl of HARDWICKE on his selection of a successor to the late Bro. J. NEAL YORK as Deputy P.G.M. of Cambridgeshire. Bro. A. J. MOYES is a member and Past Master of the Scientific Lodge, No. 88, Cambridge—Bro. YORK's lodge—was Prov. G.S. Warden of Cambridgeshire in 1882-3, and is a P.Z. of the Pythagoras Chapter of R.A. Masons, as well as a member of other Degrees. He is also a supporter of our Charitable Institutions, his name figuring among the Life Governors of the Benevolent Institution and Girls' School. No doubt Bro. MOYES has his work cut out for him in succeeding so able and popular a man as the late Bro. YORK, but time, tact, and temper are the three essential qualifications for a good Deputy, and we venture to think he will justify the favourable expectations formed of him and the choice of his respected chief.

WE have much pleasure in giving publicity to certain efforts which are being made by Bro. W. A. BASKCOMB, of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127, in behalf of the Gordon Boys' Home. Our readers do not need to have explained to them the value of an Institution which, while it perpetuates the name and fame of the heroic soldier who died at the post of duty in Khar-toum, is intended to fulfil the object which was nearest to that soldier's heart, that is, to provide for the outcast boys of this country such a course of training as will fit them for a life of honourable usefulness in the Army, the Navy, or other calling, either in the old country or in its colonies. Moreover, though the late General GORDON was not a member of our Society, there was something so purely benevolent about his character, and something so essentially Masonic about the Home which bears his name, and the purpose for which it has been established, that we need make no apology for bringing the matter under the special notice of our friends. We trust our brother's efforts will be productive of good, and we may add, that

any contributions, however small, will be most thankfully received and acknowledged if addressed to "Mr. W. A. BASKCOMB, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W."

A MASONIC journal may have no particular respect for its reputation, or it may have no reputation that is seriously worth respecting; but it is under a certain obligation to respect that section of the press of which it is a constituent member. Moreover, it is always possible for a journal to express opinions which may be directly at variance with those of other organs of its class without violating the proprieties. For instance, there is no reason why this wretched Quebec difference with the Grand Lodge of England, so far as it is arguable at all, should not be argued in a friendly spirit. It is a misfortune that any differences of opinion should have arisen upon this question; but it is doubly unfortunate when those who take part in the controversy adopt a course which can have no other effect than to embitter the dispute, and make wider than ever the breach already existing between the disputants. The active hostility of Quebec towards England may be justifiable; the passive resistance of England to what she considers the absurd pretensions of Quebec may be considered the right policy to pursue under the circumstances. Vermont may give its view in favour of Quebec, and New York may decide for itself that the position taken up by England is above reproach—all these opinions may reasonably be urged by those who hold them, and until one or other is proved to a demonstration to be wrong, no one need hesitate about upholding or defending them. But it is quite another thing when the advocate of a policy or opinion sets to work abusing his opponent, and roundly asserts that he is actuated by sordid motives in the course he is pursuing. Conduct of this kind is indefensible, and should have no other effect than to bring general disgrace upon its author. The Grand Lodge of Vermont, for example, may be right in supporting Quebec, in which case it must follow that the course pursued by New York in siding with England is wrong. But the Toronto *Freemason* has no need to "regret New York's cowardly action," a public and very decided expression of opinion in favour of one or other of the disputants being the reverse of "cowardly." Neither is it possible to affirm, as our Toronto contemporary has had the hardihood to affirm, that New York, in declaring in favour of England, "has stultified its record." On the contrary, the policy it has pursued on the present occasion is framed on precisely the same lines as the policy it pursued a few years since under precisely similar circumstances, that being the reason why Grand Master LAWRENCE recommended, and the Grand Lodge of New York adopted it. This being so, the disgraceful insinuation that New York has "sold its principles for GOODALL'S English jewel"—Bro. GOODALL being the representative of the Grand Lodge of England at the Grand Lodge of New York—has only to be quoted in order to be reprobated by all honest Freemasons, whether hailing from British North America, the United States, or England. This kind of advocacy is like certain guns we have heard of lately which are calculated to injure their friends rather than the enemy. Quebec must blush for very shame at support of this description. For ourselves, who are thinking chiefly of the effect such low abuse as this must have on the outside world, we can only trust the Toronto *Freemason* will mend its ways, if not for its own sake, at least out of respect for Masonic journalism generally.

AND the cause of all this extremely bad form, what is it but a wretched attempt on the part of Quebec to evade the honourable obligations contracted more than thirty years since between the Grand Lodges of Canada and England, the Grand Lodge of Quebec being an offshoot of the former and a section, therefore, of one of the high contracting bodies, when the treaty was signed? With the exception of New York, which bases its resolution in favour of England in great part on the articles of this treaty, and some few other Grand Lodges of the United States, the majority of the Grand Lodges of the North American continent, which, like Illinois and Vermont, have entered into the squabble with so much unnecessary violence, either ignore or are ignorant of the terms of the Anglo-Canadian engagement, and our belief is that, if they really understood the origin and nature of the present dispute between England and Quebec, they would steadfastly avoid having anything to do with it. Do they know, or, knowing, will they be at the trouble of calling to mind that the Three Anglo-Montreal Lodges, whose desire to remain under the Grand Lodge

which constituted them is the cause of this present trouble, were warranted in 1824, 1836, and 1854 respectively; that the Grand Lodge of Canada was not formed till 1855, and not recognised by England till a few years later; and that the secession of Quebec from the Grand Lodge of Canada did not take place till 1869, that is to say, till fifteen years after the constitution of the youngest of our three Anglo-Montreal Lodges? Will they be at the pains of remembering that R.W. Bro. the Hon. Judge BADGLEY was appointed District Grand Master of Montreal in 1849, that is to say, six years before there was such a Body as the Grand Lodge of Canada, and twenty years before that of Quebec came into being? Then if they will be at the trouble of remembering or ascertaining these facts, will they still venture to affirm that, while it was legal for the other lodges in Canada than these three in Montreal to secede from the Grand Lodges of the Old Country and set up an establishment of their own, it was not legal for these three—and others which at the time acted in concert with them—to remain in their old obedience? Or, as any such doctrine as this, in the teeth of the treaty so solemnly entered into between Canada and England at the recognition of the former by the latter, is untenable, will they feel disposed to adopt the theory that, while the Anglo-Montreal lodges were free—as was recognised by Canada at the time—to remain aloof from its Grand Lodge, they do not enjoy the same freedom as regards the Grand Lodge of Quebec, which, as we have said, is nothing else than an offshoot from the Grand Lodge of Canada? Will they go the absurd length of arguing that in Freemasonry—of all societies in the world—vested interests and perfect freedom of action within the prescriptions of the law are of no account whatever, and that because 20 lodges, forming part of an existing Grand Lodge, are free to set up a Grand Lodge of their own, five or six lodges forming another part of the same Grand Lodge, are not free to remain as they were, the vested interests in the old order of things and freedom of action of the five or six being annihilated by the conduct of the 20 lodges? These are hard nuts to crack, and if some of the Grand Lodges of the United States will but imitate the bold—not “cowardly”—course pursued by the Grand Lodge of New York, the monstrous claims of Quebec to evade its just liabilities and its determination to keep the whole Anglo-Saxon branch of the Masonic community in a state of turmoil until it succeeds in its discreditable purpose, will very soon receive their quietus.

GREAT preparations are being made in order that the *Shanklin Masonic Exhibition* may be the largest and best of its kind, which certainly it bids fair to be. Many of the largest collectors, who so kindly placed their valuables at the disposal of Bros. WHYTEHEAD and TAYLOR, have signified their intention to do the same for Bro. ALFRED GREENHAM. Several new collectors have also promised their aid, so that there is no lack of material, and the printing of the catalogue is going on as briskly as possible. The catalogue itself will be a most important part of the Exhibition, for it is expected to run to 90 pages or more, and is literally brimful of information and interest. There will thus be the largest catalogue and the largest Exhibition, and, to complete the trio, it is to be hoped, as it is confidently expected, there will also be the largest attendance, so that in every sense the Shanklin Exhibition will be a grand success.

MUCH of the success will be due to the generous co-operation of such large collectors as Bros. GEORGE TAYLOR, GEORGE L. SHACKLES, WILLIAM KELLY, JAMES NEWTON, THOMAS FRANCIS, JOHN E. LE FEUVRE, THOMAS B. WHYTEHEAD, T. LAMB SMITH, J. S. CUMBERLAND, F. H. GOLDNEY, J. C. ROBINSON, J. RAMSDEN RILEY, and others, not forgetting Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, who supplies a number of notes to various important exhibits, as well as does his part to make the vast collection as complete and varied as possible. Several old lodges have also forwarded lists of their old records, medals, which will be sent in due course, so that all is now in good trim, and whatever the patronage may be, the success of the exhibition is fully assured.

BRO. GREENHAM has worked well, assisted by Bros. HUGHAN and TAYLOR, who are most anxious that Bro. GREENHAM should lack neither support nor information in his self-imposed but most onerous duties; and the proprietor of the *Freemason* has also been most hearty in offering his services, and in placing the numerous facilities of his establishments at the disposal of the Shanklin friends, which offers have not only been accepted, but handsomely acknowledged. We hope that the catalogue will be ready at least a week or more prior to the opening of the Exhibition on the 9th September, for we are persuaded that an examination of its contents will induce many wavering brethren to decide for Shanklin and the Exhibition, and take a week's holiday and Masonic enjoyment in that beautiful neighbourhood.

WE have made application to Bro. JOHN LANE as to the progress of his “Masonic Records,” and have also put a series of questions to that indefatigable brother respecting the details of the volume, the system adopted, and other points of interest to our numerous readers who, like ourselves, are waiting for information on the subject. We hope to announce these and other particulars in our next issue, and will do our best to make known, as far as possible, the character, extent, and special features of Bro. LANE'S researches.

THE FIRST GRAND STEWARDS AND THEIR LODGES.

THE RED APRON LODGES PRIOR TO THE UNION.

By BRO. H. SADLER.

V.

(Continued from page 484.)

No minutes are recorded in the Stewards' book between 1798 and 1804, and in the last-mentioned year the names of the lodges are omitted, but in the following year, 1805, they are precisely the same lodges, returning the same number of Stewards as in 1798, except that the Shakespeare Lodge has taken the place of the London Lodge. This is also the case in 1806 and 1807.

No minutes are recorded in 1808, and in 1809 the names of the lodges are not all given. A couple of extracts from the minutes of this Board will give an idea of the expense attending the office of Grand Steward in the last century.

“It was also upon motion duly made and seconded—Resolved that the sum of Thirty-five pounds be paid into the hands of the Treasurer by each Member of the Board at their next meeting towards defraying the expences of the ensuing Grand Feast, and that notice of this Resolution be given in the Summons.”

On the 27th of May, which was settling day, it was

“Resolved that the Members of this Board do pay into the hands of the Treasurer the further sum of Ten pounds each towards discharging the above-mentioned Bills, which the Members present accordingly did.”

It appears to have been a custom of long-standing for the Grand Stewards of the year to give a supper to the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and other brethren of “Quality and distinction” after the Quarterly Communication preceding the Grand Festival. This will in some measure account for the heavy expences of the Stewards.

At the first meeting of the Board of Stewards for 1810, the following letter from the Earl of Moira, acting Grand Master, was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes—

“St. James' Place,

“Sir,

“March 7th, 1810.

“It has been more than once observed to me that the Grand Stewards are subjected to a heavy and very unnecessary expence by the custom of giving a supper, the weight upon that board is sufficiently heavy without that additional charge, which is really a work of supererogation, as I know it is difficult to collect Brethren enough to fill the Tables on that occasion. I thence wish that you should submit it to the consideration of the Stewards whether this supper may not for the future be dispensed with. They cannot fear to have any imputation on the liberality of their dispositions when it shall be known that the recommendation for the discountenance of such an useless expence has come from the Grand Master.

“I remain Sir

“Your H^{ble} Servant

“& Sincere Brother

“W. White Esqr

“Grand Secretary.”

“MOIRA

“A.G.M.

The Board of Stewards ultimately acted upon the suggestion of the Grand Master and dispensed with the supper, but this does not appear to have brought a corresponding reduction in their expences, for precisely the same amount was subscribed as in the preceding year, and the total expenditure of the Board was £755 1s. 4d (£50 8s. of which was for music and vocal performers), as against £743 3s. in 1809. The next year witnessed a sensible decrease, although nearly as much was spent in music and singing; the first subscription of £35 with the money received for tickets was sufficient to meet all demands and enable the Stewards to present a very handsome silver cup to their Secretary at a cost of £25 6s.

In 1812 a gold snuff box, value £30, was given to the Secretary, and in 1813 a new and, in my opinion, a much better use was made of the surplus funds. I cannot do better than let the Secretary give his own version of the new departure on settling day—

“The members present having expressed a strong desire that the Officers of the Board should be presented with some handsome and lasting testimonial of their sense of obligation for their constant attendance and unremitting attention to their respective duties, the Officers begged to return their warmest thanks for this additional proof of esteem from the members of the Board, but at the same time that they expressed their gratitude for the kind assistance they had received from every individual of the Board, requested to state that nothing could be more congenial to their feelings than the unanimous approbation of their Brother Stewards, and at the same time took the liberty to state that in their opinion the surplus funds of the Board could in no way be better applied than in paying over the same to that excellent Institution the Female Charity School so immediately under the protection and patronage of the Craft.”

The suggestion of the Officers of the Board having been taken into consideration, it was

“Resolved That the surplus monies should be paid over to the Female Charity School.”

As this excellent piece of self-denial on the part of the Officers resulted in a sum of £50 5s. 6d. being paid to the Treasurer of the Girls' School (a very handsome contribution in those days), it is only fair that their names should be mentioned; they were

Brother Mich^l Zachary, President, Lodge of Friendship.

” Thompson Scott, Treasurer, Shakespeare Lodge.

” James H. Deacon, Secretary, Somerset House Lodge.

The Grand Stewards for 1810, 11, and 12 were from the same lodges, and in the same proportion as in the year 1807. In 1813 the brother representing the St. Alban's Lodge, Capt. Lind, could not attend any meeting of the Stewards, by reason of his being with his regiment in Portugal; the Board therefore elected Bro. J. C. Burkhardt, of the Lodge of Antiquity, in his place, and at the Grand Festival in 1813, the last-named brother presented Bro. Jas. Asperne, of the same lodge, to succeed him, so that the actual Red Apron Lodges at the time of the Union, 1813, were as follows:—

				Number of Stewards.
Lodge of Antiquity No. 1	now No. 2	1
Somerset House Lodge No. 2	”	”	4	3
Lodge of Friendship No. 3	”	”	6	2
Lodge of Emulation No. 12	”	”	21	1
Globe Lodge No. 14	”	”	23	1
Corner Stone Lodge No. 26	”	”	5	1
Old King's Arms Lodge No. 21	”	”	28	1
Lodge of Regularity No. 117	”	”	91	1
Shakespeare Lodge No. 131	”	”	99	1

The Stewards for the Festival in honour of the Installation of H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex on the 2nd May, 1814, were Past Grand Stewards nominated by the W. Master of the Grand Stewards Lodge at the command of the Grand Master, who gave strict injunctions that they were not to allow their expenses to exceed the amount of money received for the tickets, which on this occasion were to be One Guinea each; this, under the circumstances, was rather hard on the Stewards, and, like many other orders issued by authority, was found to be somewhat difficult of execution, especially after the lavish expenditure at former Grand Festivals, and, notwithstanding the experience of the Stewards (for they seem to have been most judiciously selected), their expenses exceeded their receipts by £194 13s. 6d. Meanwhile, I presume, the Grand Master had quite decided what lodges were to have the privilege of the Red Apron in the United Grand Lodge, for he himself nominated the Grand Stewards for 1815, and they at the conclusion of their duties reverted to the old custom of presenting their successors. There cannot be two opinions as to the wisdom of the Grand Master's selection, when we consider that out of the eighteen lodges from which his choice was made sixteen have maintained the privilege unimpaired up to the present date; he seems to have carefully included all the lodges then in existence that had formerly been most regular and punctual in returning Grand Stewards, at a time when Masonic matters generally worked less smoothly than now; and this distinction was not looked upon with any particular favour by the great body of the Craft, and it was only by the strenuous exertions of the heads of the Order that brethren could at first be found willing to undertake an office, attended as it was in the old days with a great amount of trouble and responsibility as well as considerable expense.

The 18 lodges referred to are :—	No.
The Grand Masters' Lodge	1
„ Lodge of Antiquity	2
„ Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge	4
„ St. George and Corner Stone Lodge	5
„ Lodge of Friendship	6
„ British Lodge	8
„ Tuscan Lodge	14
„ Lodge of Emulation	21
„ Globe Lodge	23
„ Castle Lodge of Harmony	26
„ Old King's Arms Lodge	28
„ St. Alban's Lodge	29
„ Lodge of Felicity	58
„ Lodge of Peace and Harmony	60
„ Lodge of Regularity	91
„ Shakespeare Lodge	99
„ Pilgrim Lodge	238
„ Prince of Wales' Lodge	259

The Pilgrim Lodge, which in 1815 was in a very flourishing condition, being composed of a large number of wealthy Germans resident in this country, relinquished its privilege in 1834 for want of members,* and the Grand Master nominated the Jerusalem Lodge to take its place.

The Old King's Arms Lodge, one of the first of the old lodges to send a Steward to the Grand Festivals, lost its privilege in 1852 through not returning the name of a Grand Steward in time for the Festival of that year, and was succeeded by the Old Union Lodge, No. 46.

At first sight it would appear that the selection of the Grand Master partook of a rather one-sided character, as 17 out of the 18 lodges mentioned were all, prior to the Union, on the "Modern," or Regular, Grand Lodge side, the only one from the so-called "Ancients" being the Grand Masters' Lodge, No. 1, which I should say was by far the most respectable lodge on their list.

I am not aware that there is anything of a documentary nature now in existence that can enlighten us as to the reason the red apron was not more equally distributed between the two former rival bodies, but it must be borne in mind that there was a considerable difference (from a purely social point of view) in the character of the lodges, and it may be that the heavy expense attached to the office of Grand Steward had a deterrent effect, for, as I have shown, the Grand Stewards of the "Moderns" were expected to dip their hands pretty deeply into their pockets every year, whereas the expense of a Stewardship on the other side was comparatively nothing.

There is not a word in the records to indicate the least dissatisfaction with the appointments made by the Grand Master; indeed, the Duke of Sussex seems to have been quite as popular in the United Grand Lodge as he had previously been amongst those brethren with whom he had first identified himself, as is evidenced by the following extract from the minutes of Grand Lodge, 6th September, 1815:

"A motion was made by Brother Goldsworthy, P.M. of Lodge No. 3, and seconded by Brother Godwin, P.M. of the Lodge of Peace and Harmony, No. 82: That the Thanks of the United Grand Lodge be most dutifully presented to His Royal Highness The Duke of Sussex, M.W. Grand Master, for his zealous, unremitting, and paternal care in watching over the Interest of the Craft, in maintaining its Ancient Landmarks and preserving inviolate its true principles and tenets.—And all the Brethren present testified their unanimous and unqualified concurrence by the accustomed Honors."

Bro. Goldsworthy had formerly been a most active member of the "Athole" Grand Lodge. At the next meeting Bro. Perry, a Past Deputy Grand Master of that body, nominated the Duke of Sussex as Grand Master, which nomination, the minute book says, "was received with every demonstration of respect, gratitude, and attachment."

Having now furnished all the information concerning the Red Apron Lodges of the last century which is contained in the official records of the "Modern" Grand Lodge, I will conclude by expressing a hope of being able shortly to devote some little attention to the method of keeping holiday adopted by its energetic contemporary. Bro. Gould's "History of the Athole Lodges" gives a list of 127 lodges now in existence, which were constituted by the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, and I make no doubt that many of the present members of these lodges will be glad to know something of the Stewards and festival arrangements of their ancestors.

* See *Freemason* January 3rd, 1885.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg honoured Lady Cochrane with their presence at a garden party at Quarr Abbey on the 12th inst.

Bro. the Earl of Euston, eldest son of the Duke of Grafton, was admitted to the Mark Degree in the Simon de St. Liz Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 245, Northampton, on Tuesday, the 10th inst., the ceremony being very ably and impressively rendered by Bro. C. H. Percival, W.M.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY IN ENGLAND.

I have lately come across a curious certificate, dated 20th July, 1813, purporting to be issued by a number of officers and members of the lodge "Enfans de Mars et de Neptune," held at Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, in favour of Bro. Benjamin Plummer, as a *joining member*, who originally belonged to an "Ancient" or "Atholl" Lodge, but later on became connected with a "Modern," or Regular Lodge and R.A. Chapter. I have been able to trace several points of interest relating to Plummer, who was a member of the Baldwin Encampment of K.T. Bristol, in 1816, and it appears also once belonged to another French lodge "Le Paix desiree," assembling at Wincanton, Somersetshire. The certificate in question is signed by De Grasse Tilly, 33°, as the W. Master in the chair. ("Le Ven. en Exercise") and ten others, officers and brethren. It is written in French and English, around being a number of Masonic emblems drawn by an expert artist, the certificate proper, being enclosed by two columns, with a tessellated pavement at foot, and surmounted by eradiated circular rays, with the triangle in centre having the sacred word in Hebrew, under which are the familiar letters "A.L.G.D.G.A.D.L'U."—The seal stamped on the certificate has the name of the lodge "Enfans de Mars et de Neptune" in capital letters, which enclose a column on either side, above being a five pointed star, and below, the orthodox square and compasses. My friend Bro. G. W. Speth, who is the best authority I know of on Continental Freemasonry (to whom I sent the document for examination), states that the certificate is a rarity, and agrees with me in the belief that the brethren who composed the lodge, as also the one at Wincanton, were prisoners of war from France. Bro. Speth considers one of the lodges named most appropriately, viz., "Desired Peace," or "Longed for Peace." De Grasse Tilly was not only the Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for France, but was also an officer of the Grand Orient. He was a prisoner in England, so Bro. Speth tells me, from 1809-10 to early in 1815. The Grand Orient warranted lodges and chapters up to the Rose Croix, the Supreme Council keeping to the Degrees from the 19° to the 33°, inclusive, at least, down to 1816. On this point Vol. 5 of Bro. Gould's "History of Freemasonry" should be consulted, as it is rich in valuable information respecting the Craft in France. The portion in French in the certificate is not quite the same as the English side, the former not having the words "Dedicated to St. John of Scotland. . . . According to the old and new constitutions held under the sanction of the G.O. of France." Neither is the Duke of Athol's name mentioned. The names of those who signed the certificate have been deciphered by Bro. Speth, for I could not make out any but the Master's, De Grasse Tilly, 33°. The R.W. Bro. William Kelly refers to French lodges at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Northampton, a fact (which he rightly declares in his most interesting History of the Prov. G. Lodge of Leicester-shire, 1870) "hitherto unnoticed by any of our Masonic writers." Bro. Kelly will exhibit at Shanklin photographs of two certificates (Craft and Rose Croix) belonging to a member of the lodge, "Des Vrais de L'Ordre," held in the former town by prisoners of war from France, *on parole*, of 1810-1, the lodge being held under the immediate protection of the Earl of Moira (afterwards Marquis of Hastings) acting Grand Master of England. Copies are also to be found in Bro. Kelly's history aforesaid. The Craft diploma bears the signatures of 27 members, and the Rose Croix of 16. My impression is that these French brethren restricted themselves to conferring Degrees on any of their fellow prisoners; refraining, of course from initiating English residents, though they may have elected some of the latter as joining members, just as was done in the case of B. Plummer in 1813. Otherwise we may be assured that Lord Moira would not have patronised them in any way. His lordship's seat at Donnington Park was in the vicinity of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Appended is a copy of the Certificate of A.D. 1813, of which De Grasse Tilly, 33°, was the Master, and the names of all the signers, excepting two that it is impossible to make out; at least Bro. Speth cannot, and that amounts to the same thing in my view:

Certificate, 1813 (English side *verbatim*).

"The right worshipful Lodge held at Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, in England, dedicated to St. John of Scotland, of free and accepted M.M.: according to the old and new constitutions held under the sanction of the G. O. of France, under the title of Enfans de Mars and de Neptune, to all free accepted lawful M.: all over the World, Union, Strength, and Salvation.

"We free, accepted, lawful M.M. do hereby certify that Br.: Benjamin Plummer, Superintendant, grand commander of the Order of Knights Templars, &c., for the principality of Wales under the patronage of his royal highness, the Duke of Kent, and past Senior Grand Warden of the free and accepted Masons in England, according to the old Constitutions (his grace the Duke of Athol; —Born the 10th Day of October, 1771, in the town of Shepton Mallett, County of Somerset, and at this time resident in London (profession) Commercial Agent,—Late member of the French Lodge under the title of desired peace, held at Wincanton, county of Somerset, has been affiliated in our lodge, that he has behaved in every respect as a true and faithful Br.: and has proved himself worthy of our friendship and brotherly love. Promising the same kind welcome to every lawful brother who may come from your part, we beg you to give him joy, satisfaction, and assistance.

"Given under our hand and Seal, this 20th of the 5th month A.L. 5813."

"The W.M. in the Chair. . . . ?)
"De Grasse Tilly, 33°. R.C.

"Senior Warden. Junior Warden.
"E. De..... Ormier du Medic.
"R.C. K.H.

The Orator.
"Solmac. K.H.

("Chapter do.) Lampo.

"Pasquier, R.C. "31° Inqr.
"1st Axpert "A. L'avelan, The Hospitaller
"R.C. St. Martin,
"R.C.

"Sealed and stamped by us "By command of the Wor. Lodge,
"Keeper of the Seals Menard, Sec.

".....(?)"

The certificate is beautifully written, and its size is 16 by 14½ inches. The Craft diploma mentioned by Bro. Kelly is brief compared with the foregoing, and is of a different form. The Rose Croix certificate is longer and states that "en raison de L'impossibilité de communiquer soit [avec] le Grand Or.: soit avec aucun autre Chapitre Regulier de France, confere au sus dit F.: Jean le grade le Ch.: D'or." I find that the brethren were Rose

Croix Masons who signed the certificate, but the text does not state that Bro. Jean took the 18°, but simply the Ch.: D'or. (i.e., Knight of the East). Any information additional from Bro. Speth will be most acceptable.

I shall exhibit the Certificate at Shanklin, because of its rarity and interest.

W. J. HUGHAN.

BRO. SIR ALBERT WOODS, G.D.C.

We need offer no apology for introducing to our readers another of those graphic sketches of our "Celebrities at Home," which for years past have been gracing the columns of the *World*. The subject on this occasion is Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), Grand Director of Ceremonies of England, and about the greatest living authority of the day on Heraldry—in England, at all events. The pen of the writer is a familiar one, and many will no doubt fancy they recognise in it that of the able advocate, who so stoutly upheld the cause of Arabi Pasha, after the defeat by Lords Alcester and Wolsley of that rebel against the Khedive's authority:—

The venerable building in which the thirteen official exponents of the mysteries of blazonry "congregate, speak, confer, and agree (or disagree) amongst themselves" has certainly witnessed many striking changes since Albert Woods first passed under its "hollow arch" and accompanied his father down St. Bennet's Hill on his way to Windsor to act as usher at the funeral of the Duke of Gloucester in St. George's Chapel. The once famous entrance is itself buried out of sight; Sir Christopher Wren's Ionic pilasters and time-mellowed brickwork seem to shrink timidly from the whirl and bustle of the new thoroughfare to which they are ruthlessly exposed; and Mr. Darbishire's elaborate portico and stucco balustrade wholly fail to console the Garter King of Arms for the banishment of the leaded window-panes of his youth, or the disappearance of the far-famed pump which was once the pride of Doctors' Commons, and has long ago been sacrificed in its old age on the altar of sanitary improvement. The dusty ivy which surrounds the four doves of the Heralds over the porter's lodge mutely protests against the provoking smartness of the gilded portals through which you pass to the modest door in the right-hand corner of the quadrangle which leads to the private apartment of Sir Albert Woods. A clerk in sober apparel conducts you at once to the well-lighted room on the first floor, where his master is already occupied with his morning's letters. Mahogany bookcases of almost phenomenal solidity are ranged along the pale green walls; the wooden crests of deceased Knights of the Garter which surmount them harmonise strangely with the funereal character of the massive bronze handles of the drawers below; the faded red drugget is littered here and there with books and papers; the monumental mantelpiece and square eight-day clock occupying the centre of a three-sided apse opposite the tall windows near the door, and the four well-laden writing-tables are in perfect accordance with the horsehair seats and cane-backed writing-chairs, which form the sole adornment of the inner sanctuary of modern heraldry. You are, of course, somewhat disappointed to find the Garter King of Arms in the garb of every-day life; you would naturally like to have seen him in the gorgeous tabard and silver-gilt crown, with the oak leaves and inscription, "Misereri mei Deus magnam misericordiam tuam;" but these, with the sceptre and his other insignia, are far away in St. George's-road, for the age of defiance, truces, tilts, tournaments, and duels has passed away, and it is in an ordinary frock-coat that Sir Albert Woods, undismayed by his threescore years and ten, has just attacked the six hours' work he generally gets through at the College of Arms. The present month is essentially one of creations, promotions, and investitures, so the Heralds are busier than usual. Peers, peeresses, baronets, and knights in embryo write perpetually and persistently to "Dear Sir Albert" for counsel and advice; new members of the House of Lords ask for information as to the manner of taking their seats in that august assembly; complicated pedigrees demand conscientious investigation; "supporters" must be discovered and "devices" invented; heraldic collisions and infringements must be avoided; a hundred pressing and perplexing questions of procedure and ceremonial require the "Garter's" immediate and personal attention, and he is superintending with due care the preparation of the arms and banners of the Dukes of Norfolk and Northumberland and Lord Abergavenny for St. George's Chapel. While Sir Albert proceeds with the perusal of his letters you glance rapidly at his characteristic surroundings. On the ledge of the bookcase behind him the red and blue cover of the last special statute of the Order of St. Michael and St. George half hides the current number of the *London Gazette*; pedigrees and Scotch patents lie side by side in their tin cases; elaborate sketches of "emblazonments" on vellum and proofs of seals rest on some well-used book of reference, and on the table near the door a dozen MS. "Grants of Dignities," bearing the Royal sign-manual, are ready for transmission to those who are to be their happy recipients. The roomy shelves are given up entirely to genealogy, topography, and county history; the dull drab binding of the Family Records is somewhat relieved by the brighter covers of Sir H. Nicolas's "Historic Peerage," "German Armorial," or "Burke;" but the ornamentation of heraldry is almost wholly wanting in the unromantic work-room of the chief of the Corporation of Arms. The badge of the first order of English chivalry is, however, placed above a doorway in one side of the recess; the photograph of "Garter" Sir Charles Young on the wall hard by is now scarcely recognisable; but Sir Albert Woods just remembers Sir George Nayler, another "Garter," who died in 1831, and whose portrait hangs below it.

By this time Sir Albert Woods has finished the last of his letters, and as he lays down his pen across the great glass inkstand he is accustomed to use, he tells you that just half a century has passed since he worked at the same table, as his father's factotum, in the comparatively humble capacity of Fitz-Alan Pursuivant Extraordinary. In a few minutes he has forgotten all about his correspondence and the burning question of the title of the De Bressies of Bulkeley (which just now greatly exercises the College), and you revel in the reminiscences of the pageants of the past. It was at the funeral of William IV., of pious memory, that Sir Albert donned his tabard for the first time; and while he describes the effect of the solemn ceremonial at night, he produces the volume in which he has bound up every scrap of information relating to it, down to one of the painted escutcheons from the hearse, and an impression of the "Depositum, serenissimi, potentissimi et excellentissimi," &c. A month after the coronation of the Queen he became Portcullis Pursuivant, and in this capacity assisted at the Royal marriage in the Chapel of St. James's. He was Lancaster Herald when he helped Sir Charles Young to "marshal" the public funeral of the Duke of Wellington; and while speaking of the burial of Queen Adelaide, he explains the subtle distinctions between the

functions of the Duke of Norfolk and those of the Lord Great Chamberlain. Sir Albert now passes to the more cheerful phases of his multifarious duties. Vases, portraits, and snuff-boxes still serve to remind him of his presence as Garter at the investiture of the Kings of Spain, Italy, and Saxony in their respective capitals; and he was also attached as Herald to similar missions at Brussels and Vienna. During the present reign he has never missed a single ceremonial. He saw the Prince of Wales christened and married; and he sometimes feels a little sad when he turns over the pages of one of the earlier of the unique volumes of "orders" and "directions," and finds himself the solitary survivor amidst a whole page of official spectators. He can of course relate innumerable stories of the investitures of the different orders of knighthood he has taken part in during the past 30 years; but time presses, and he has promised to show you the Court of Chivalry below-stairs before you leave. He tells you that the long leather-covered purple case, stamped with crowns and Royal monograms, contains an engraved grant of arms with his seal and that of Clarencieux; the modest casket beneath it is, it appears, nothing less than a "Garter Dispensation Box;" and while he explains to you its precise signification, he takes you to the adjoining room, where his grandson is working hard at the science of heraldry, and where a portrait of George IV., in his coronation robes, occupies a conspicuous place above the gray marble mantelpiece which supports a framed collection of the distinctive ribbons of the various orders of English knighthood. In another chamber on the floor below an artist labours diligently at an elaborate emblazonment in the congenial society of a pile of purple patent-boxes and an enormous bookcase filled with innumerable volumes of the "Annual Register," and crowned by the carved crests of departed Lansdownes, Gordons, and Percys, as well as a couple of tarnished Imperial diadems, which remind one forcibly of the mutability of things in general, and of chivalric honours in particular.

You next enter the court in which the Hereditary Earl Marshal (of whose official conscience Sir Albert Woods is the keeper) once did stern justice in matters of descent, style, and escutcheon. A century and a half have elapsed since its crier called on the case of "Blount *versus* Blunt," and from that day this portion of the region of "gorgeous blazonments" at least has been practically deserted. No Duke of Norfolk has ever sought to occupy the uncomfortable carved throne over which hang the tattered and dingy banners last used at the coronation of George IV.; chests of worm-eaten records rest against the rails over which the lawyers once argued abstruse questions of pedigree; the carved wooden chandelier is still suspended candleless from the ceiling, and the golden lion of the Howards above the door at one end of the hall surveys complacently the Royal crest at the other. In the office beyond the picture of Lord Arundel "the collector" finds an appropriate background in the charming tracery of Grinling Gibbons's overmantel, and the portraits of Sir William Dugdale and Ralph Sheldon occupy places of honour on the dark oaken wainscoting at either side of the door. "Rouge Croix," Pursuivant, is the officer in attendance, and he is engaged at present in inspecting the accounts of some ancient "visitation" at the polished table which commands a view of the Record Room beyond. Mr. Farnham Burke is treading worthily in the footsteps of his father, the Ulster King of Arms. Nobody knows better than he does how to deal gently with casual visitors who believe the College to be a post-office or a savings-bank, or country cousins who come there for grants of "initials," information as to long-lost relatives, or in search of some other impossible intelligence; he even succeeded a few hours ago in appeasing the just wrath of the legal adviser of the Bulkeley family of Bulkeley, when he appeared there to solemnly protest against an alleged unwarrantable invasion of the name and style of his clients. He rises at once as you enter, and is only too delighted to do the honours of the Record Room.

Oaken presses and galleries fill every available space. Long bookcase-tables are devoted to the requirements of the investigators of heraldic lore, and they are covered at present with the ponderous volumes which contain the story of the Brasseys and the Bressies. Never since the time when "Windsor," five-and-thirty years ago, effected a genealogical junction between Thomas Brassey and the lineal descendants of "le Sieur" Ralph Bressie of Bulkeley, through a long-since forgotten country parson, has there been more keen excitement known in the Heralds' College. Your eye at once lights on the mallard "argent" and the "Arduis scepe metu nunquam," with which visitors to Normanhurst are possibly familiar. The Somerset Herald is pursuing, with feverish and disinterested anxiety, the investigations which will permit him to satisfactorily certify that the ex-Lord of the Admiralty comes "of a family as ancient and well allied as that of nine-tenths of the existing nobility;" the solicitor of Major Owen Bulkeley is peering anxiously into the great register marked "Norfolk," with a view of demolishing the elaborate pedigree which has been attested in form by Thomas Brassey the elder. You refrain from interrupting their serious occupations, and Mr. Burke speaks with a softness suitable to the semi-religious character of the precincts while he shows you the portraits of "Garter" Ralph Bigland in his collar of ss, and Sir John Vanbrugh, the architect of Blenheim, and the author of the "Provoked Wife" and the "Relapse," over the sarcophagus-like black marble mantelpieces; the sword and dagger taken by Thomas Duke of Norfolk from the blood-smear body of James IV. of Scotland on the field of Flodden; the delicate turquoise ring sent to the luckless King by Queen Anne of France; the marble bust of James Robinson Planché perched high up on the summit of the bookcases in the gallery which contains Sir Charles Young's library and the scarcely visible features of Queen Elizabeth's "Garter" Dethick (the exemplifier of treasonable emblazonments), John Anstis, the historian of the Garter and the College, and several departed "Blue Mantles" and "Chesters." You look hastily, under his guidance, at the County Visitations, the Earl Marshal's Registers, the Baronets' Pedigrees, and the Licenses; you smile at the record of Sir Gervase Clifton and his seven wives, the frequent ill-treatment of the too inquisitorial "visitors," Prince Arthur's picture of the Ark, and the entry of the decease of Adam, from an attack of the "gowte," at the mature age of nine hundred and ninety-nine. The friends and foes of the Brasseys still continue their researches; so you repair once more to Sir Albert's sanctum, where he talks to you with some pride of his 30 years' career as Grand Director of Ceremonies to the Freemasons, and of the responsibilities belonging to the "doyen" of the corps of Masonic Grand Officers, when you are interrupted by the arrival of one of the new Colonial knights on business of pressing importance connected with his coat armorial. You are naturally unwilling to cause him any unnecessary delay; so you leave the kindly Garter Principal King of Arms to explain the mysterious details of the emblazonment on vellum to his delighted visitor, while you bid farewell reluctantly to one of the most interesting of the historical buildings of the capital.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

PRESENTATION TO MISS DAVIS.

The Girls' School at Clapham was, on Tuesday last, the scene of a very interesting gathering. The children had all, or nearly all, returned from their holidays a day earlier than usual, the House Committee had anticipated its ordinary meeting by two days, and a visitor would have found the Large Hall at seven o'clock filled with children, whose eager looks and bright faces betokened an interest in the proceedings, quite unusual in such assemblies. The entrance of the Chairman of the month, accompanied by the House Committee and Miss Davis, and two or three visitors, was the signal for a great clapping of hands and other demonstrations of delight on the part of the juveniles, warmly supported by the resident governesses and several ex-pupils. On silence being restored,

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON opened the proceedings. He said: Children, we meet this evening on a very important occasion—an occasion important to all of us, and I hope it will be indelibly engraven on your memories. On this day twenty-five years ago, when Miss Davis took up her residence as Head Governess, this School was in a very different position in all respects to what it is to-day. This hall had not been built or even thought of. There were only 81 scholars to be looked after. Education was considered secondary to household duties, and £2600 only was about the amount annually collected at our Festival. Now we have 241 of you to look after; an education is given which will not only hold its own with that of any kindred institution in the country, but with very many private schools, and unless at our Festival we collect £12,000 or £13,000, we think ourselves ill treated. Now I venture to say that a part of this great success is due to Miss Davis. No doubt the fact of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales being Grand Master has induced many to join our ranks, and hence a great increase of subscriptions; but had we not had a lady here capable of preparing you for your examinations and bringing the School to its present creditable state of efficiency, it is only reasonable to suppose that the subscribers would have been dissatisfied, and that a large portion of the money which has fortunately found its way into our coffers would have gone elsewhere. The House Committee as the legally elected representatives of the subscribers, as you know, take a great personal interest in everything connected with this Institution and of all within its walls; they therefore consider themselves well qualified to judge of the excellence or defects of any one; but so satisfied are they with the state of efficiency into which that lady has brought this School, that at their last meeting they unanimously passed the following resolution: "That, on the completion of the 25th year of Miss Davis's appointment as Head Governess, the Committee desire to record their high sense of the eminent services rendered by her to the Institution, and their appreciation of the ability, the attainments, and the religious and moral influence by which she has raised the School to its present most creditable state of efficiency. The Committee trust that for many years to come the School may continue to benefit by the services of Miss Davis, whose merits they so fully recognise, and to whose influence the high standard of tone and bearing, which are among the most notable characteristics of the scholars, have been maintained." The resolution, Miss Davis, expresses in far more eloquent terms than I can use the feelings of those whose mouthpiece I am this evening. I only preside in consequence of the absence, through illness, of our esteemed Bro. Mather. I could have wished a brother more eloquent than myself had been in the chair; but, whatever my shortcomings may be, I must ask you to attribute them to the head, and not to the heart, for I can, with all sincerity, assure you that no member of the House Committee could have enjoyed more pleasure and gratification from making the presentation than myself. In your commencement of life, I fear, you suffered from the great misfortune of not being the daughter of a Mason—(laughter). After, however, having so well and so worthily done such good suit and service to the Craft, and resided amongst Masons for 25 years, we now look upon you as one of ourselves, and feel that both in heart and spirit you are so. We have, therefore, adorned this volume with some of our symbols, while within you will find the colour that prevails is that in which our children are clothed, and which all Masons so justly love and reverence. It only remains for me to deliver this into your hands. Those of us who are present have affixed our signatures; the others, as well as the Trustees, will do so shortly, when I trust you will think it worthy of your acceptance, and that it will be something to remind you that, even in this world, merit does not always go unrecognised. Although you have been with us so many years you are only now in the very prime of life, which does not often fall to the lot of many of us, but it gives the Committee hope that you may for many years be spared to continue and perfect the work so well begun, and that you may enjoy thorough health for it.

Miss DAVIS, who was visibly affected and evidently taken by surprise as to the nature of the presentation, replied, thanking the Committee very warmly for the gift. It was, she said, more acceptable to her than anything else could have been, and, in addressing the children, said that it was a happy day for her when, 25 years ago, she came into that Institution. She had thoroughly enjoyed her life amongst them during that time. It was the great aim of her life to help them, and she desired only to know that her counsel and example had resulted in good to them. She told them not to be afraid of work, it would make them so much happier in every way to be industrious. It was, as they might imagine, a great pleasure to her to have her services acknowledged in this way—she little thought they would have been so appreciated. In conclusion, she expressed a hope that there were many years of usefulness before her.

Bro. JOSHUA NUNN also offered his congratulations to Miss Davis, and hoped that many of those present would witness the completion of another 25 years of her genial rule.

The address, with the signatures, occupied four pages, elaborately illuminated on vellum, and bound in Russia, having on the side Miss Davis's monogram, with appropriate emblems. The chasteness of design and execution were much admired and gave general satisfaction. It was produced at the office of the *Freemason*.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE MARINERS LODGE, No. 249.

The annual outing in connection with this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., the place of rendezvous being Parkgate. The party, numbering between 60 and 70, including lady friends, assembled at Woodside at ten a.m., and were conveyed in a stage coach and two waggons through Birkenhead Park, Upton, West Kirby, Thurston, past the beautiful mansion of Mr. Ismay, and, after a splendid drive through beautiful scenery, arrived at the Union Hotel, Parkgate, greatly delighted with the drive. After dinner, which was excellent in quality and well served, the party adjourned to an adjoining field, where old English sports and pastimes were indulged in, and a select programme gone through, numerous prizes being competed for, and the ladies were not forgotten. After tea Mrs. White, wife of the W.M., distributed the prizes, and the remainder of the evening was spent in enjoyment, music and singing being the chief characteristics. A cordial vote of thanks was passed before leaving to Bro. Acton, mine host of the hotel, for the admirable way in which he had catered and assisted to the party's enjoyment. After a pleasant drive on the return journey, the party reached Woodside about ten p.m., all delighted with the pleasant and enjoyable day spent, the members affirming that it was the best outing ever they were at in connection with the lodge. The weather was beautifully fine, and the arrangements made by the W.M., Bro. J. White, assisted by a Committee of the officers, were all that could be desired, and gave great satisfaction.

SUMMER OUTING OF THE JOHN HERVEY LODGE, No. 1260.

On the 12th instant the summer outing of this lodge took place, about 30 brethren journeying to Taplow by train, where carriages were in waiting to convey them to the Ray Mead Hotel, at Maidenhead, for luncheon, from whence they drove to Burnham Beeches. Upon their return to the hotel an elegant repast was provided, Bro. Frank Tayler, C.C., the W.M., presiding. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and duly honoured.

Bro. JABEZ HOGG, P.G.D., Treas., responded in an able manner for "The Grand Officers."

The I.P.M., Bro. G. T. SALMON, then proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Frank Tayler," observing that they all knew and appreciated the great amount of interest which he displayed in the Craft.

The W.M., in reply, sincerely thanked the brethren for their kind expressions, and assured them that it would be always a pleasure, as he considered it was his duty, to do his utmost for the interest of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren.

The W.M. next proposed "The Health of the Visitors," trusting that they had been gratified at their visit to the charming spot—Burnham Beeches—which the Corporation of the City of London had so generously acquired about seven years since for the use of the public, and which, he added, comprised 375 acres, and had cost them over £10,000.

Bro. MOUNT BROWN, of 1097, responded in an excellent speech, and mentioned the fact that his friendship with the W.M. was of nearly 40 years' duration, they having been schoolfellows at the City of London School.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was responded to by Bro. S. H. BAKER in his usual kind and genial manner, after which the brethren returned to London by rail.

FIRST ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY OF CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

A fashionable and largely attended garden party took place on the lawns and grounds of the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Thursday evening, the 12th inst. The arrivals commenced about six o'clock, and dancing commenced some hour or hour and a-half later. The idea was originated by the Chiswick Lodge, and carried out under their auspices. Mr. Brill's grounds are admirably adapted for such occasions, while the excellent accommodation afforded in the building itself is so capacious and convenient as to ensure general satisfaction. The grounds on Thursday night were illuminated with numerous fairy lamps and festoons of Chinese lanterns, while at a high eminence the limelight shed an intensified glow on the scene, bringing into prominence the fountain, which continued to play during the evening, the circles of dancers, and groups of ladies and gentlemen who chatted on the seats or promenaded round the outskirts of the lawn. Refreshments were served, under the active supervision of Miss Benham, in a tent, and the first portion of dance music was furnished by the juvenile band belonging to the District Schools, Isleworth.

Shortly after nine o'clock the party partook of supper in one of Mr. Brill's large rooms. After the repast, which was admirably served,

Bro. GARDNER, the Chairman, gave the toast of "Her Majesty," which was drunk with enthusiasm, and a verse of the National Anthem was then sung.

After an interval the Vice-Chairman, Bro. TYLER, proposed "The Health of the W.M. of the Chiswick Lodge," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Gardner. In a few words he eulogised that gentleman for the prominent part he had taken in securing so decided a success as was apparent in connection with that evening's party. Bro. Gardner, as most of them knew, was a man of sterling worth; he was indefatigable as a Mason, and universally beloved in his private and public life. There were none present who did not recognise in him all the elements that went to make up a jolly good fellow, and the right man in the right place. He therefore asked them to drink cordially "The Health of the Chairman and Miss Gardner."

Bro. GARDNER, in acknowledging the compliment, thanked them for the kind manner in which they had received his name and that of Miss Gardner. He trusted that would not be the last occasion upon which they would meet together, but that that evening's first garden party of the Chiswick Lodge would be the precursor of many similar re-unions. As long as he had health and strength he would continue to render what service he could to the organisation.

After the lapse of a few moments, Bro. GARDNER gave "The Ladies," to which Bro. WILSON responded; and dancing was then re-commenced in an adjacent room to the strains of Mr. J. K. White's quadrille band. The various parts of the hotel were decorated with flowers and foliage plants, and dancing, of which the following is a programme, was kept up with zest for some hours: Valse, "My Queen;" quadrille, "Patience;" polka, "Sly-boots;" lancers, "Carmen;" valse, "Sweethearts;" quadrille, "Pirates of Penzance;" valse, "Isis;" quadrille Parisienne, "Nell Gwynne;" valse, "See Saw;" lancers, "Forty Thieves;" valse, "Myosotis;" and galop, "Bon Jour."

It should be added that Lord George Hamilton, who was unable to be present, forwarded a telegraphic communication asking that all excuses and apologies might be made to his friends, as other engagements prevented his being among them.

Among those present were Bro. and Miss Gardner, Miss George, Bro. Frewen and party, Bro. Clowes and party, Bro. Brill and party, Mrs. R. Tomlinson, Mrs. Walden and party, Bro. Tyler and party, Bro. Packer and party, Bro. Tyser and party, Bro. Edwards and party, Bro. Dickey and party, Bro. J. D. Ashby, Bro. A. J. Wise, Bro. Pittard and the Misses Pittard, Bro. Defries, Bro. and Mrs. Lister, Bro. Slatter, Bro. Tappenden, Bro. and Miss Sales, Bro. W. H. Ellis, Bro. and Mrs. J. Saunders, Bro. A. Bradbury, Bro. F. W. Lacy, Bro. John Edwards and party, Bro. H. Ewan, Bro. F. W. Wheeler, Bro. T. M. Coleman and family, Bro. W. Lewin, Bro. Wyld and family, and others.

MASONIC PRESENTATION AT STONEHOUSE.

A very pleasing presentation was made to Bro. Moxey by the members of the Ebrington Lodge, No. 1847, at their ordinary meeting on Tuesday, the 10th inst. The usual business of the lodge being over, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly proposed and responded to, the W.M., in a very able speech, informed the brethren that one of their members—Bro. J. A. Moxey—having been appointed to a more lucrative appointment at Sittingbourne, he was about to leave them. The brethren, to mark the deep regard and high esteem in which they held Bro. Moxey, had voluntarily subscribed towards the purchase of a jewel—a globe, square, and compass. (Applause.)

Bro. J. H. STEPHENS, P.M., Sec., then read a letter which he had drawn up. It expressed the regard in which Bro. Moxey was held by his brethren generally, the regret they experienced at his departure, and a wish that success would attend him in his new home.

Bros. FINCH, FARR, JEWRY, MOORE, FIRKINS, and J. LOSE all spoke in the very highest terms of Bro. Moxey, and the way in which he had been ever ready to render assistance in the working of the lodge.

THE WASHINGTON BIBLE.

The Washington Bible, on which the Father of his country, the immortal Washington, was sworn into office on his inauguration as President of the United States, has on the cover, printed in gold letters, the following words: "God shall establish."

St. John's Lodge (New York), constituted,

Burnt down the 5th of March,

5770.

Rebuilt and opened

5770.

Jonathan Hampton, M.

William Butler, S.W.

Isaac Horn, J.W.

On the inside, on one of the fly leaves, is the following:

On Sacred	Likeness of WASHINGTON.	This Volume.
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On the 30th day of April, A.L. 5789.

In the City of New York,

Was administered to

GEORGE WASHINGTON,

The First President of the United States of America,

THE OATH

To support the Constitution of the United States.

This important ceremony was

Performed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the

State of New York.

The Honorable

ROBERT B. LIVINGSTON,

Chancellor of the State.

Fame stretched her wings, and with her trumpet blew,

"Great Washington is near," what praise is due?

What title shall he have? She paused—and said,

Not one—his name alone strikes every title dead.

The bible, on the title page, bears this announcement:—

"Sold by Rich'd Ware, at the Bible and Sun,

On Ludgate Hill, London:

Printed by Mark Baskett, printer to the King's

Most Excellent Majesty, and by the

assigns of Robert Baskett.

MDCCLXVII."

New York Dispatch.

The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and attended by the members of the Court, left Osborne for Edinburgh on Tuesday evening, and reached her destination the following morning. After a brief rest her Majesty visited the International Exhibition, and was presented with an address of welcome, the Royal Archers, or Queen's Body Guard for Scotland, being in attendance on her. The Royal party were subsequently conducted through the building, and shown the principal objects of interest, returning to Holyrood Palace for dinner. On Thursday her Majesty was to pay a private visit to the Exhibition and also receive the keys of the city, and an address from the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh, and in the evening the Court were to leave for Balmoral Castle, when it will make the usual stay during the autumn.

FISH, POULTRY, GAME, OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW, NEW BROAD ST., E.C. (Outside Railway Station). HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE. 93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C. 125, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W. JOHN GOW always has on sale the Largest Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices. Barrelled Oysters. PERFECTLY-FITTED OYSTER SALOON Now Open at New Broad Street.



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LODGE OF QUATUOR CORONATI No. 2076.—Freemasons' Hall.—Sir Charles Warren (G.C.M.G.), W.M. A Paper "The Steinmetz Theory, Critically Examined" will be read by Bro. G. W. SPETH, Sec., on THURSDAY, Sept. 2, at 5.30 p.m. Visitors are hereby invited to attend. Notice of such intention is not necessary, but will be esteemed as a favour by the Secretary, G. W. Speth, Margate, in order to facilitate the arrangements. Dinner Tickets of the Secretary in the Lodge-room at 3s. 6d. each (exclusive of Wine).

THE MASONIC EXHIBITION, SHANKLIN, I.W.

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER of the CHINE LODGE has the honour to announce that the Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, the R.W. Bro. W. B. BEACH, M.P., will OPEN the EXHIBITION on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th. The Exhibits will contain representative Medals of nearly every country, sent by Bro. G. Taylor, P.G.S. Worcestershire. Among the many and very large Contributors are Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Dep. P.G. Master Hants and I.W., G.J.D. England; Bro. F. H. Goldney, P.G.D. Wilts; the R.W. Bro. Kelly, F.S.A., P. Prov. G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland; Bro. T. Frances, Prov. S.G.D. Sussex; Bro. G. Kenning, P.P.G.D. Middlesex; Bro. J. Shackles, Hull; Bro. J. Nilsson, Dublin; Bro. J. S. Cumberland, P.P.G.J.W. N. E. Yorks; while Bro. Hughan, P.G.D., who is kindly appending his notes, will, with Bro. Lanc, P.M., send a large selection of rare articles. Considering the beauty of the Grounds surrounding "The Chalet," which is so admirably adapted for an exhibition, a magnificent success is confidently hoped for. Already it has created immense interest in the Island; the principal residents it is believed will be present at the opening.

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At 10.45 a.m.—For Newbury, Hungerford, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Westbury, Frome, Wells, Yeovil, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, &c.

At 12.10 p.m.—For Swindon, Chippenham, Bath, Bristol, Clevedon, Weston-super-Mare, Bridgewater, Taunton, Chard, Williton, Minehead, South Molton, TIVERTON, &c.

Passengers return following Monday week or fortnight; but they can in most cases, on payment of 20 per cent. on the fare, return on the intervening Saturdays or Sundays during the time their tickets are available. Excursion passengers will also be booked at Kensington (Addison-road), Uxbridge-road, Hammersmith, Shepherd's-bush, Latimer-road, and Westbourne-park. Bills can be obtained at the Company's Stations and Offices.

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To Correspondents.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Allen's Indian Mail," "Watchman," "Freimaurer-Zeitung," "Light," "Cassell's National Library," "The Revival of Trade by the Development of India," "Annals of the Grand Lodge of Iowa," "Jewish Chronicle," "El Ideal Masonico," "Sunday Times" (New York), "Lancaster Daily Examiner" (Lancaster, P.A.), "Court Circular," "Hull and East Yorkshire Times," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "Citizen," "Times of India," "Free and Open Church Advocate," and "Public Ledger" (Philadelphia).



SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1886.

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.]

BRO. BINCKES' TESTIMONIAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, I am pleased to find that, instead of voting the funds of the Boys' School for a testimonial to Bro. Binckes, it has been decided to raise a voluntary fund to commemorate his 25th year of Secretaryship of that Institution. It thus gives the friends of Bro. Binckes all over the country an opportunity of acknowledging his services, not only on behalf of the Boys' School, but in the cause of Masonic Charity generally. Of course the movement will be pooh-pooed by some on the plea that he has been well paid for his services. But, Sir, it is not what a person receives, but what services he renders for the money, which forms the basis for such a statement. One person may be cheap at £400, while another in the same situation awfully dear at £200.

I have watched the great progress made in the amount subscribed at the annual Festivals since Bro. Binckes' appointment, which, in a great measure, must be attributed to his persuasive eloquence; and I hope he may long be spared to plead the cause of that noble Institution. I enclose a donation, which please hand to the Secretary of the Committee when formed.—I remain, yours fraternally, THE SECRETARY OF No. 1302. August 16.

THE QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother, It may interest many of your readers to learn that the next meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, 2076, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, at 5 p.m., on Thursday, 2nd September. All Masons who take an interest in the history of the Craft are invited to attend (as per advertisement in another column). The paper before the lodge will be "The Steinmetz Theory, Critically Examined," wherein the author enquires with minuteness into a theory of Masonic origin, which, originating in Germany, became known to English readers by the publication of Findel's History in 1869, and met with universal acceptance, both in the Old World and the New. The subject has been fully treated in all recent works on Freemasonry, and may be referred to in the well-known books of Mackey, Steinbrenner, Fort, and Findel, as also in the pages of the Encyclopædia Britannica. The object of the paper is to show the fallacy of the theory, which has been gradually built up by Grandier, Schneider, Heldmann, Stieglitz, Heidehoff, and Fallou, whose individual contributions thereto will be carefully criticised. A discussion is sure to arise which cannot fail to prove interesting, as much diversity of opinion prevails on the subject, and for the benefit of those unversed in the ways of our lodge, I may mention that visitors are permitted to take part in the discussion. Visitors and members alike desiring to join the W.M. at refreshment must purchase dinner tickets of the Secretary (3s. 6d. each) before leaving the lodge room.—Yours fraternally, G. W. SPETH, Secretary No. 2076.



Craft Masonry.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, when there were present Bros. R. R. Lisenen, W.M.; J. Garside, S.W.; W. B. Akerman, J.W.; W. J. Cunliffe, P.M., Treasurer, P.G.S.D.; E. Smith, Secretary; E. G. Chesworth, J.D.; E. Wormleighton, I.G.; J. Sly, Tyler; John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Griffiths, S. Megarity, S. Staton, A. Wild, W. Rennie, Mark Vickers, P.M.; J. Smethurst, P.M.; H. Walmsley, P.M.; J. Dawson, P.M.; and W. A. Jellicorse. The visitors were Bros. R. Mansell, St. Andrew's, Aberdeen; A. H. Jefferis, P.M. 1161, 645, 1970, 1170; and J. L. Aspland, P.M. 633, P.G. Reg. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Jellicorse, was raised by the W.M. to the Sublime Degree of M.M. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

ERITH.—St. John and St. Paul Lodge (No. 615).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Schools, Erith-

avenue, when Bro. R. W. Bilby, S.W., W.M. elect, was installed W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, or until a successor shall be installed in his stead. The lodge was opened by Bro. G. W. Mitchell, and the minutes having been confirmed, Bro. Bilby was duly presented and installed by a Board of Installed Masters, and saluted. He appointed his officers as follows: Bros. W. L. Dodrell, S.W.; H. King, J.W.; C. Watkins, S.D.; W. Mud-dick, J.D.; A. W. Davis, I.G.; R. Stone, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Kent, Treas.; J. Aillud, P.M., P.G.A.D.C. Kent, Sec.; G. Cashfield, W.S.; and W. Larder, Tyler. Bro. Mitchell then gave the addresses admirably, and was generally congratulated for his good work. He was then elected to represent the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, and was presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel. It was also unanimously resolved that a vote of thanks should be accorded him, and inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, for all of which Bro. Mitchell severally and conjointly returned thanks. Bros. Penfold and Aillud were saluted with Grand honours and returned thanks. The brethren then returned to the Prince of Wales Hotel, where they banqueted.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. G. Churchley, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd. Kent; J. Hutton, P.M.; C. H. Barham, 615; F. Binckes, P.G. Stwd. Eng., Sec. Masonic Boys' School; C. Hogard, P.M. Israel Lodge, P.P.G.S.W. Surrey; A. Penfold, P.M. 913, P.G.S.D. Kent; H. Watson, P.M. 1050, P.G.J.D. Kent; E. West, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.S.D. Herts; J. Tickle, P.M. 1702, P.P.G.R. Middx.; C. Neale, P.M. 889, P.P.G.S.D. Surrey; Quartermaster G. Spinks, P.M. 1536, P.P.G. Std. Br. Kent; D. Pearse, P.M. 1293, P.P.G.R. Middx.; J. Michael, P.M. 1151, P.P.G. Stwd. Kent; T. R. Richardson, W.M. 913; G. Chapman, W.M. 299; J. Tynes, W.M. 1867; F. Nicholls, W.M. 1050; H. Mason, P.M. 913; Capt. W. Richey, P.M. 700; W. Akers, P.M. 13; G. B. Moody, S.W. 1967; C. Winstanley, S.W. Suburban Lodge; W. Tyler, S.W. 59; B. Hancock, 700; W. Anson, 13; A. W. Jackson, 913; S. Southgate, 700; G. Letton, 913; A. Deans, 13; J. Manger, 1260; W. Harris, 913; G. Bashford, 1604; G. Frost, 913; H. Clifford, 1319; and C. Jolly, 913, W.M. 1472.

The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England," having been honoured in bumpers, that of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M.; the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M.; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was coupled with the name of Bro. Binckes.

Bro. Binckes, in response, said he often had occasion to say how wonderfully things were done in the Province of Kent, sometimes in order, and sometimes out of order, but always with the kindest intention and the very best of good feeling; and that night was one of the times that they were out of order in associating his name with the Past Officers of Grand Lodge. It was a mistake; but one that was committed with the kindest intention, and, as he said before, with the best good feeling. He wanted them, however, to know that his office as a Grand Steward only lasted for one year, and now he was like Mahomed's coffin—between earth and heaven—a most difficult position, a position that had been a most expensive one; but certainly not one that entitled him to respond for the Grand Officers, Past and Present, unless under very exceptional circumstances. Bro. Hogard had, however, assured him that he might, and ought to, do so under the present circumstances, and he would therefore most cordially thank them for their hearty reception of the toast. Now, with regard to the lodge, he was exceedingly pleased to see such an excellent Mason as Bro. Bilby placed in the chair, and felt sure that, if he did not exceed those Masters who had preceded him, he would, at least, carry out his duties with credit to himself and the lodge. If the Grand Officers of Grand Lodge could have, or had, been present they would have felt gratified at the handsome manner in which they had been spoken of by Bro. Bilby. The next thing that struck him was that the W.M. had declared his intention of standing Steward at one of the Charities next year. Well, let him (Bro. Binckes) at once say that the best and most needy of those Charities was said that he otherwise could not speak about. What he had said he hoped would be like a little seed that would take root and fructify, and next year bring forth harvest a hundred-fold; might it not fall on stony ground and wither. He concluded an eloquent speech by expressing his pleasure at the prosperity of the lodge, and fervently wished it many years of prosperity, and its Master and members long life.

The next toast was that of "The Right Hon. the Earl Amherst, R.W.P.G.M. of Kent," and, in giving it, the W.M. said their esteemed Grand Master was a Mason "par excellence," and nowhere had he heard such devotion expressed to any man as the Masons of Kent expressed by word and deed to their beloved ruler and head.

Bro. Penfold, who is deservedly popular for his universal kindness and liberality, especially in things Masonic, rose amid cheers to respond for "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the P.G. Officers, Present and Past." He said he was once at a meeting of that description, when their esteemed Provincial Grand Master was present, and he (their Provincial Grand Master) said that he had heard of some one saying that "life would be bearable if it was not for its pleasures." Now he (Earl Amherst) thought "Masonry would be very enjoyable if it were not for the speeches." Well, he, Bro. Penfold, had come for the purpose of witnessing the prosperity of the lodge and its working, and having seen that, it was only right that they should enjoy themselves. He had done so, and was in hopes that Bro. Aillud would have been called upon to respond, and he, Bro. Penfold, would have only had to listen. It was a very great honour to be a P.G. Officer, the way was narrow, and few could enter it. Masonry was a broad road, but P.G. honours were a long way up it, and as they strove to reach the goal of their ambition, if it laid in that direction, they found the pathway very narrow and difficult to reach. It was also a very difficult thing for the D.G.M. to decide who he should recommend for those honours. Their P.G. Master was one that was eminently entitled to their respect, and on all sides, and by everyone who came within his sphere, it was said that a more "gentlemanly gentleman" could not be found in the Province of Kent, or one that was more willing to assist any brother, if in his power to do so. For himself, he could say that he had been a Past Master for ten years, and had gained the summit of his ambition, and nothing should be wanting on his part to make himself worthy of the honour

conferred upon him by one who, both in his public and private life, was a good and upright man and a Mason.

The I.P.M. then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and in so doing said he had that day installed into the chair of K.S. a gentleman and a brother well worthy of the position. From the time he first knew Bro. Bilby he had always found that brother's whole heart and soul in Masonry. He (Bro. Bilby) had been many years ago initiated into Freemasonry, but from circumstances had not had an opportunity of taking the chair of his mother lodge. Bro. Bilby had, since he had joined the St. John and St. Paul, done his duties well, and he had in fact been a great acquisition to the lodge. It was a great pleasure to him, Bro. Mitchell, to have the honour to install such a good Mason, and he felt assured that at the end of that brother's year of office they would find the lodge even stronger and more prosperous than it was at the present time.

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Bro. Bilby thanked them most sincerely for their kind reception of the toast, so eloquently and kindly put by Bro. Mitchell. He had for many years aspired to the chair, but there were circumstances connected with one or two lodges that he had been a member of that prevented him arriving at that position, not from any fault of his own, but if they took into consideration a lodge with from fifty or sixty or even a hundred members, all anxious for office, they would easily understand the difficulty one had to get office in such lodges. Well, some years ago, he paid a visit to that lodge, and being kindly invited to join, he did so, and was immediately placed in office, and now occupied the proud position of its Master. As its Master he should have but one object in view, and that would be the prosperity of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren. The attributes of Masonry, were, as he took it, Charity and brotherly love, and during the time he had been a Mason he had endeavoured to carry out those attributes by his conduct both in and out of lodge, and hoped to do so till the end. He thanked them again for their kindness, and they might depend upon it that so long as he lived he should look upon that day as the "red letter day" of his life. He then resumed his seat amid continued applause.

The other toasts were "The Installing Master," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," "The Treas. and Sec.," "The Officers," and Tyler's toast. Bro. J. Hancock presided at the piano, and selections were sung by Bros. Deans and Anson, Bro. Muddick doing a flute solo.

TEDDINGTON.—Strawberry Hill Lodge (No. 946).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Clarence Hotel, when there were present Bros. Alfred Soft, W.M., W. Beard, P.M., acting S.W.; Inglis, J.W.; R. T. Whitley, Secretary; Walkley, Tyler; W. Smeed, P.M.; G. Mayor Cooke, P.M.; Rohrs, P.M.; Auton, Lyons, Gomme, and Brown. Visitor: Bro. R. W. Forge, P.M. 1793, P.P.G.D.C. Middx.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last regular lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Lyons was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. Gomme and Brown were passed to the Second Degree; the ceremonies being rendered in an efficient and impressive manner by the W.M. The lodge was then closed.

LIVERPOOL.—Duke of Edinburgh Lodge (No. 1182).—The annual festival gathering of the brethren connected with this lodge was held on the afternoon of the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, at which there was a large representation of the chiefs of the Craft within the province. There were present Bros. Thos. Wright, W.M.; J. W. Tyson, I.P.M.; R. Martin, P.M., P.P.G.T.; T. Davies, P.M., P.P.G.P.; John Williams, P.M.; A. Barclay, P.M., D.C.; A. D. Hesketh, P.M., Treas.; G. B. Kirkland, S.W.; J. Pittaway, J.W.; J. Edwards, S.D.; W. Rawsthorne, J.D.; and A. Morris, I.G. Among the visitors were Bros. H. Williams, P.P.G. A.D.C.; J. Ashley, P.M. 1356; J. M. Boyd, W.M. 1609; W. W. Sandbrook, P.M. 1609; W. H. Veevers, P.M. 594; W. Blunsum, W.M. 594; W. H. Cooke, W.M. 1013; R. Foote, P.G. Treas.; H. M. Molyneux, P.M. 155; T. Salter, P.P.G.J.D.; Geo. Morgan, P.G.J.D.; J. B. Mackenzie, P.P.G.S.D.; D. Cumming, 1609; T. W. Walker, P.M. 1673; J. Keet, P.M. 1356; George Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; Dr. A. Samuels, P.P.G.J.D.; H. H. Smith, P.D.D.C.; Joseph Shield, S.W. 1086; J. Williams, W.M. 1675; H. H. Hughes, J.W. 1366; W. Savage, P.M. 1609; and H. J. Nicholls, J.W. 2114.

The W.M. elect, Bro. G. B. Kirkland, S.W., was presented by Bros. R. Martin, P.P.G.T., and A. Barclay, P.M., and very effectively installed by Bro. T. Wright, the retiring W.M., after which the following officers were invested for the ensuing year: Bros. T. Wright, I.P.M.; J. Pittaway, S.W.; J. B. Galloway, J.W.; A. D. Hesketh, P.M., Treas. (re-elected); J. Edwards, Sec.; W. Rawsthorne, S.D.; A. Morris, J.D.; G. P. Bramley, I.G.; J. Williams and W. F. Ferguson, Stewards; W. G. Stott, Org.; and A. Barclay, P.M., D.C.

Bro. Casey afterwards catered satisfactorily for the brethren, and a very pleasant evening was spent, during which a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to the I.P.M. on behalf of the lodge. Bros. D. Williams, Greenlees, H. J. Nicholls, W. Cooke, and W. Lewis, under the direction of Bro. W. G. Stott, Organist, gave a varied programme.

BROMLEY.—Hervey Lodge (No. 1692).—The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge took place at the White Hart Hotel on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when there were present Bros. J. W. Baldwin, W.M.; Harman, I.P.M.; Balding, S.W.; King, J.W.; Grinstead, P.M., Treas.; Fey, Sec.; Dickens, S.D.; Howard, J.D.; Saunders, I.G.; R. Whiting, Tyler; Newsom, P.M.; Gore, P.M.; Grundy, Burkit, Burr, Mallett, and Payne. Visitors: Bros. Bishop, W.M. 1892, and Elverstone, 1155.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Burr was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the W.M. being very impressive in his work. Bro. Mallett, being present, was passed to the Second Degree. The W.M. presented Bro. Harman, I.P.M., with a handsome jewel for his very able services during the past year as W.M., paying a high compliment to him for the very excellent and efficient manner in which he had carried

out the duties during his year of office, and leaving the lodge in such a prosperous condition.

Bro. Harman, in returning his sincere thanks to the W.M. and brethren in presenting him with such a handsome jewel, said he should never look upon it but what it would remind him of the very happy year he had spent as W.M. of the Hervey Lodge, and hoped he should be many years with them to wear it on his breast.

After lodge was closed, the brethren partook of an excellent banquet. The usual loyal toasts were given by the Worshipful Master, and duly responded to by the brethren.

The Immediate Past Master proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master," who responded in a brief speech.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," who returned thanks.

The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of "The Visitors," to which Bros. Bishop and Elverstone replied.

The Tyler's toast brought a very successful meeting to a close.

HERNE BAY.—Ethelbert Lodge (No. 2099).—On Tuesday, the 10th inst., the installation of the Worshipful Master of this lodge, Bro. Edward Ayre, for the ensuing year took place at the lodge room. The installing ceremony was most impressively performed by Bro. H. Ward, P.P.G.J.W. The proceedings were to a great extent shorn of its usual enjoyment owing to the lamented death of the Senior Deacon, Bro. Fawcett, which sad event took place on the Saturday evening previous, therefore the usual banquet after the ceremony did not take place, but refreshments were served to those who attended the installation in the lodge room. The W.M. appointed the following officers: Bros. Fenhoulet, S.W.; Jones, J.W.; Pullen, P.M., Treas.; Rothschild, P.M., Sec.; White, S.D.; Larkin, J.D.; and Selaria, I.G. The funeral of the late Bro. Fawcett took place on the 11th inst., and was attended by a number of the home lodge and other brethren.

MANCHESTER.—Arthur Sullivan Lodge (No. 2156).—The second regular meeting of this young lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, King-street. Present: Bros. N. Dumville, W.M.; J. Varley, P.P.G. Org., I.P.M.; A. Williams, S.W.; C. Turner, acting J.W.; E. Irving, Treas.; B. Brierley, Sec.; A. Harrop, S.D.; W. O. Pettit, Org.; Oliver Gags, Steward; Joseph Gags, I.G.; N. Jones, Tyler; L. Lord, John Goss, F. W. Lean, and J. Whittaker. Visitors: Bros. George Hunt, P.M. 1009; R. Williamson, S.W. 1055; J. P. Wadsworth, 1458; H. Hayes, 128; T. H. Thomason, W.M. 1993; George Board, W.M. 1798; E. Nathan, P.M. 1798; J. W. Abbott, P.M. 1030, P.G.D.C.; C. Dottridge, 1609; R. Mansell; John Garside, S.W. 317; T. Thornhill; and R. R. Lisenden, W.M. 317.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Several candidates (including Bro. Peter Watson, of the Theatre Royal) were balloted for and elected joining members of the lodge, after which Bro. Irving, P.M., occupied the chair, by permission of the W.M., and initiated Mr. Thos. Matthews into Freemasonry, Bro. W. O. Pettit, Org., delivering the E.A. charge in a most impressive manner, and delivered the working tools. Bros. Massey, Mort, and Blacon, who had been initiated at the last meeting, were passed to the Degree of F.C.; Bro. Massey by the W.M., Bro. Mort by Bro. Irving, and Bro. Blacon by Bro. Wm. Dumville.

During the afternoon, the S.W., Bro. A. Williams, who was leaving this country for a long stay in Spain, obtained permission to retire from the lodge, and the W.M. wished him, in the name of all the brethren, "God speed," and hoped he would return safe and sound.

Bro. Williams expressed his thanks for this mark of the brethren's kindly feeling towards him.

Bro. E. Irving was unanimously elected Charity Representative of the lodge, and assured the brethren, however much they might require cash, which he hoped never would be the case, that the Charity Fund should not be touched for any other purpose than Charity.

After some minor business, the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards had tea, and subsequently passed a pleasant couple of hours together.

"The Health of the Initiate, Bro. Thos. Matthews," was proposed and responded to, likewise "The Healths of the Newly-passed Brethren, Bros. Massey, Mort, and Blacon."

"The Healths of the Joining Brethren" was next given, to which Bro. Lisenden and others responded.

"The Visiting Brethren," "Masonic Charities," &c., were also "toasted," after which the brethren separated. Some very excellent singing was given by Bros. Dumville, James Whittaker, C. Turner, and Thos. Matthews; and Bro. Ben. Brierley gave one of his quaint Lancashire recitals.

INSTRUCTION.

FIDELITY LODGE (No. 3).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at Bro. Silvester's, the Alfred, Roman-road, Barnsbury. Bro. Messer occupied the chair, supported by Bros. W. H. Ross, S.W.; R. Ross, J.W.; Ferguson, Preceptor; Silvester, Treas.; Dimsdale, Sec.; Ament, S.D.; Bleakley, J.D.; Gregory I.G.; Pitt, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Messer vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Silvester, who rehearsed the ceremonies of passing and raising, Bros. Dimsdale and Bleakley acting as the respective candidates. Between the two ceremonies, Bro. Ferguson worked the 2nd and 3rd Sections of the Second Lecture. Bro. Dimsdale reported that the brethren of the Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction had unanimously agreed to work the Fifteen Sections at this lodge on Wednesday, the 27th October. Bro. W. H. Ross having been unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, the lodge was closed.

MANCHESTER LODGE (No. 179).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 14th inst., at the Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square. Present: Bros. Hosgood, W.M.; Koester, Preceptor; Stroud, S.W.; Thom, J.W.; Nickolls, S.D.; E. Smith, J.D.; Palmer, I.G.; G. Wood, S.D. 1681, Secretary; Hemming, Burgess, and Greenway.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section was worked by the W.M., and the 2d Section by Bro. Thom, J.W. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Read candidate. Bro. Geo. Read,

111 (S.C.), was proposed by Bro. Thom, and seconded by Bro. Stroud, to become a joining member—carried. Bro. Stroud was elected W.M. for ensuing meeting, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 16th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. E. C. Mulvey, W.M.; J. Cruttenden, S.W.; O. W. Battley, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1443, Sec.; J. C. Conway, S.D.; Jos. Bailey, J.D.; E. F. Ferris, I.G.; W. C. Williams, Stwd.; O. L. M. Larricelle, P.M. 1269; Capt. A. Nicolls, P.M. 1974, P.D.G.S. of W. Punjab; G. Davis, P.M. 167; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; G. D. Bailey, E. G. Van Tromp, S. Bullen, J. H. Wood, R. E. Cursons, H. P. Fowler, W. Death, and J. Smith. Bro. J. Morgan Gregg, 243, was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the W.M., assisted by the brethren. The ceremonies of passing and raising were rehearsed, Bros. Gregg and Cursons candidates respectively. Bro. Bullen answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. Bro. Gregg was elected a member. Bro. Cruttenden was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. In consequence of the death of Mrs. Cruttenden, it was resolved that a letter of condolence be written to Bro. J. Cruttenden, P.M. 1425; and one to Bro. Captain H. S. Andrews, expressing the sorrow and anxiety felt by the brethren at his dangerous illness; and also a letter to Bro. J. Smith, congratulating him on the happy event that had just occurred in his family. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A meeting took place on Monday, the 16th inst., at the Moorgate, Finsbury-pavement. Present: Bros. G. W. Knight, W.M.; Surridge, S.W.; Powell, J.W.; Thom, S.D.; R. Ross, J.D.; E. R. Smith, I.G.; Burgess, P.M., acting Preceptor; E. Storr, Sec.; J. Saunders, Asst. Sec.; and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Conford offered himself as a candidate for raising, and after answering the usual questions, was entrusted. Lodge opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. Lodge closed down to the First Degree. Bro. Hemming worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. After rising for the first time, Bro. W. M. Stiles, Preceptor, said he was sorry he could not be with the brethren at the opening of the lodge, in August of each year his duties requiring so much of his attention elsewhere, but should always be there before the lodge was closed. After rising for the second time, Bro. P. M. Burgess proposed that the S.W., Bro. Surridge, be W.M. for the next meeting—seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 18th inst., at the Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Coughlan, W.M.; Badderley, S.W.; Brindley, P.M., J.W.; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Musson, Sec.; Jardine, S.D.; Jackson, J.D.; Holms, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; and Hayes.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Jardine answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Jardine duly raised to the Degree of a M.M. The W.M. gave the traditional history. The lodge was closed down. The lodge was called off and on. The Preceptor worked the 1st Section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bros. A. Jardine, 2029, and W. S. Jackson, 1564, were unanimously elected joining members. There being no further business, the lodge was closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge of instruction was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, W. (Masonic Temple), on the 12th inst., when there were present Bros. E. C. Mulvey, W.M.; W. H. Dean, P.M. 417 and 1900, P.P.G.S.D. Dorset. I.P.M.; G. Restell, S.W.; O. B. Battley, J.W.; Henry Crookes, S.D.; E. Chamberlain, J.D.; J. E. Laurence, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; W. Ham, C. Itter, Howard Sammons, G. W. Nightingale, John Skinner, Frank Gulliford, H. F. Mitchell, C. Lambert, R. W. Williams, G. F. Swan, G. H. Reynolds, James Hemming, and W. Culverhouse.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. worked the 1st Section of the First Lecture. Lodge opened in the Second Degree. Lodge opened in the Third Degree. Lodge resumed to the Second Degree. Bro. W. Ham, offering himself a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, he was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. Lodge resumed to the First Degree. Bro. W. C. Smith worked the 4th Section of the First Lecture. Lodge called off and resumed. Bro. J. Hemming worked the 5th Section of the First Lecture. On rising for the second time, Bro. W. C. Smith proposed that Bro. G. Restell, S.W., be W.M. for the ensuing week—seconded by the J.W., and carried unanimously. The W.M. elect was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

CREATON LODGE (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 12th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, W. Present: Bros. Cavers, W.M.; Sims, P.M., S.W.; Brierbart, J.W.; Austin, Treas.; Chalfont, P.M., Sec.; Purdue, P.M., S.D.; Child, P.M., J.D.; Jennings, I.G.; Spiegel, P.M.; Davies, Preceptor; W. W. Williams, Wood, Strout, Cross, and Head.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. Davies. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Cavers offered himself as a candidate for raising, and answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The 3rd Section of the Lecture was then worked. The lodge was closed down to the Second Degree, and then to the First Degree. Bro. Cavers, W.M., then again took the chair. The 2nd Section of the First Lecture was then worked. Bro. Sims, P.M., S.W., was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

CHINGFORD.—Hope and Unity Chapter (No. 214).—A convocation of the above chapter, which formerly met at the White Hart Hotel, Romford, was held on the 6th inst. at the Royal Forest Hotel. There were present Comps. F. Dolard, M.E.Z.; George Wallace, H.; F. W. Imbert Terry, J.; E. J. Barrow, P.G.S.B. Treas.; Geo. Cooper, S.E.; Charles Godfrey, S.N.; F. B. Page, P.S.; W. W. Brown, P.Z.; J. S. Fraser, P.Z.; J. L. Nissen, W. Wiles, M.D., and W. B. Stirling, M.D. Visitors: Comps. H. M. Hobbs, 463; F. A. White, 907; and J. M. Bastowe, 435.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, after which Comp. J. C. Quennell, the popular W.M. of Lodge 214, was ably exalted into R.A. Masonry. Notice of motion was given to alter the days of meeting to the first Friday in May and July.

The companions then adjourned to a banquet, provided by the new proprietor, Mr. James. This was the first meeting at Chingford, and approval was freely expressed on all sides at the change. The banquet was capitably served, and the wines were of excellent quality.

INSTRUCTION.

CAMDEN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 704).—A convocation of the above chapter was held at the Moorgate, Finbury-pavement, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. Present: Comps. Dean, M.E.Z.; Jenkins, H.; Gregory, J.; H. Syman, S.E.; Sheffield, S.N.; G. W. Knight, P.S.; Edmonds, Preceptor; Dehanc, and Cursons.

Chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Cursons candidate. Comp. Dehanc proposed, and Comp. Edmonds seconded, that Comp. Cursons, of the Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1507, become a joining member—carried unanimously. All Masonic business being ended, chapter was closed, the companions having spent a very pleasant and instructive evening.

HORNSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 890).—A convocation was held at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W., on Friday, the 13th inst. Present: Comps. T. C. Edmonds, 890, 1507, M.E.Z.; G. Gregory, P.Z. 1538, H.; J. Cruttenden, J.; H. Dehanc, J. 890, 862, S.E.; Capt. A. Nicols, Z. 890, P.Z., S.N.; Capt. H. S. Andrews, Treas.; and W. C. Williams, P.S.

The chapter was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Nicols being the candidate. The three Principals were re-elected for the next two meetings. After the M.E.Z. had acknowledged the "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

Mark Masonry.

NORTHAMPTON.—Simon de St. Liz Lodge (No. 245).—One of the most noteworthy gatherings of the Simon de St. Liz Lodge was a special emergency meeting, held on Tuesday evening, the 10th inst., under the presidency of the Worshipful Master, Bro. G. H. Percival, Provincial Grand Inspector of Works, assisted by Bros. J. J. Hart, Prov. G.M. Overseer; Henry Brown, P.P.G. J.W.; G. Ellard, P.P.G. Overseer, Past Masters; and the following officers and brethren: Bros. Butler Wilkins, S.W.; R. Croft, J.W.; J. Curral, M.O.; A. Jones, S.O.; H. V. Tebbutt, J.O.; Rev. T. C. Beasley, P.P. G.C., Acting Chaplain; T. Emery, Treas.; T. Phipps Dorman, Reg. M.; G. Butcher, Sec.; H. Hodges, J.D.; G. Edmund, Org.; J. A. Jowett, I.G.; H. A. Robinson, S.S.; G. Robinson, Tyler; J. Eunson, W. J. Howe, C. R. Nunn, H. J. Eunson, E. B. Fletcher, J. R. Shear-smith, J. A. S. Bouverie, R. J. Johnston, and others. After the routine formalities a ballot was taken, and Bro. the Earl of Euston was introduced for the purpose of being advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M.M. The impressive ceremony was performed in a faultless manner by the Worshipful Master.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet arranged by Mrs. Forth, of the Peacock Hotel, in the Lower Hall, where the usual toast list was opened by "The Queen and Mark Masonry" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.M.; the Earl of Kintore, M.W. Pro G.M.M.; Lord Egerton of Tatton, Deputy G.M.M.; H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, G.S.W.; Lord Saltoun, G.J.W.; and the Officers of Mark Grand Lodge."

Bro. Wilkins proposed "The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Bro. William Kelly, F.H.S., and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Hart, Prov. G.M.O., responded, and Bro. Beasley was entrusted with "The W.M. Simon de St. Liz Lodge."

Bro. Dorman proposed "The Past Masters." Bro. A. Brown, P.P.G.J.W., responding, and "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. Jones, and was responded to by Bro. Johnston.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was submitted by Bro. Eunson, and responded to by Bro. Crofts, J.W. Other toasts followed.

The pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by Bro. Edwards's manipulation of the pianoforte.

Scotland.

CONSECRATION OF THE ST. NINIAN'S LODGE, No. 732, AT ALYTH.

The beautiful and unusual ceremony of erecting and consecrating a new Masonic lodge was performed at Alyth on the 14th inst., by Bro. the Marquis of Breadalbane, Provincial Grand Master of Perthshire East. The lodge owes its origin very largely to the enthusiasm and energy of Bro. Captain R. S. Hunter, who gathered around him all the members of the Craft in the town and district, and procured a charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, constituting them into a regular lodge by the title and designation of Lodge St. Ninians, No. 732. The brethren accompanying the Provincial Grand Master as his officers were Bros. R. F. Shaw Stewart, acting P.G.P.M.; Andrew Heiton, acting P.G.S.M.; Thomas Hunter, D.C., acting S.W.; A. J. Stephenson, P.G. Marshal, acting J.W.; A. J. B. Baxter, P.G. Chaplain; Thomas Chalmers, P.G. Sec.; Rev. Robert Ritchie, acting P.G. Director of Music; W. M. Cadenhead, S.D.; G. S. Duncan, J.D.; Robert Young, I.G.; and Charles Dewar, O.G.

On arriving at Alyth, the Provincial Grand Lodge was received in the Schoolroom by a large assembly, upwards of 50 being present. Representatives were present from Lodge Scoon and Perth, No. 3; Lodge St. Andrew, No. 74, Perth; Lodge Glamis, No. 99; Lodge St. John, No. 105, Coupar Angus; Lodge Royal Arch, No. 122, Perth; Lodge St. John, No. 137, Blairgowrie; Lodge Airlie, No. 286, Kirriemuir; and several of the Dundee lodges. The Provincial Grand Master examined the furniture, books, jewels, &c., which had been provided for the proper conducting of the lodge, and found everything most complete, remarking that no lodge could be better furnished, everything being of the best possible description. The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, the P.G. Chaplain engaged in prayer, followed by Grand Honours and solemn music on the harmonium by Bro. Rev. Robert Ritchie. The P.G. Chaplain then read Psalm cxxxiii., followed by Grand Honours.

Bro. BAXTER, P.G. Chaplain, next stepped forward to the altar, and delivered an oration as follows:—"The consecration of a lodge here, forming as it does an era in the Masonic history of Alyth, may well lead our thoughts to the dignity and responsibility of Masonry. In doing this we are led away at once to the good old times—away

from the commonplace surroundings of the 19th century to a time when life was clothed in poetry, and when simple minds sought in a simple way to beautify the most ordinary actions. Masonry comes to us, venerable with the hoary of antiquity and hallowed with the recollections of the distant past. It presents to us a beautiful and often touching ritual, and shows a record of worthy names, in every rank of society and in every age of the world, who have valued its privileges. In seeking an explanation of this remarkable power, which has always adhered to Masonry, we are naturally directed to its fundamental principle, which may be described as 'The Masonic Brotherhood.' A lodge is an assembly of brethren. All distinctions are left on the outside. Here all meet on the level and receive their dues. Outside the war of politics may be fierce and determined. The opposing hosts may find no language too bitter for their use; but here the din is hushed, and those who a little while ago were stern foes are seated peacefully together as brethren. Outside, religious sectarianism may embitter life, but here all doctrinal discussions are left behind, our differences are forgotten—we meet as brethren. And when we think how this principle permeates every class, binding in the bonds of a common fellowship the Prince and the peasant, we see what a power for good it has. Indeed, to sweeten and strengthen life, what is chiefly needed is that in the world around us there should be more of this feeling of brotherhood. Let us try not to separate class from class, but rather to bind them closely together, as all are children of the same Heavenly Father. Let us try not to increase the distance between rival sects, but rather to diminish it, for we are all brethren with the same hopes. If we do so we shall not only illustrate the spirit of our Order, but shall confer an unspeakable benefit on the community at large. We shall brighten the neighbourhood in which we live, and help to remove the national disgrace which attaches to many of our unbrotherly proceedings. Before concluding, let me remind you that this brotherhood is an active principle, leading to acts of beneficence, by which the various lodges have ever been distinguished. We might, in connection with this, refer to the large and flourishing institution for orphans maintained by the brethren in England, to the fund of Masonic Benevolence recently started by our own Grand Lodge of Scotland, and to munificent gifts to philanthropic purposes from Masons in all parts of the world. What is done in these ways is an ample proof that our profession of Charity is not an empty boast, but unless, in like manner, by word and deed, we proclaim our Charity to the world, there is no use coming to our lodge and making loud professions of a virtue we do not possess. It is, therefore, abundantly clear that you, brethren, who are this day restoring the fallen fortunes of our Craft in this place, are members of an ancient and honourable Order, and that the principles you will be taught in this lodge are not only reasonable, founded on the volume of the Sacred Law, which is the Great Light in all our temples, but conducive in the highest degree to the good, temporal and eternal, of the dependent creatures of God. I have, therefore, every confidence in urging you to follow the Three Great Lights, by which every member of our Order is guided, assured that they will conduct you in a path of well-doing, and assist you in rearing a noble edifice, as you are all endeavouring to do." (Applause.)

The brethren then sang the Masonic anthem, "When earth's foundation first was laid," accompanied by Bro. Ritchie on the harmonium.

Bro. CHALMERS, the Provincial Grand Secretary, next read the charter granted by the Grand Lodge, after which the brethren chanted the 95th Psalm, followed by prayer and Grand Honours. The members of the new lodge were afterwards called upon to do homage to the P.G. Lodge, which was done with appropriate music.

By the direction of the P.G. Master, Bro. THOMAS HUNTER, P.G. Director of Ceremonies, made proclamation of the constitution of the new lodge, the members of P.G. Lodge responding. Portions of Scripture appropriate to the occasion were afterwards read by the P.G. Chaplain, the ceremony concluding by the singing of an anthem and Grand Honours.

The new lodge having been fully erected and consecrated, it was opened in the First Degree, when the following office-bearers were installed by the P.G. Master: Bros. Captain Robert Scott Hunter, R.W.M.; James Armit, D.M.; Rev. J. R. McLaren, S.W.; William Harris, J.W.; John Robertson, Treas.; W. S. Wilkie, Sec.; James Valentine, S.D.; James Kinloch, J.D.; David Doig, I.G.; and John Munro, O.G.

The P.G. MASTER having congratulated the R.W.M. and members upon the foundation of the new lodge, Bro. Captain HUNTER thanked Bro. Lord Breadalbane and his office-bearers for the services they had so ably and impressively rendered.

The baton having been handed to Bro. Captain Hunter, and his office-bearers having taken their proper places, the members of P.G. Lodge being present as visiting brethren, four candidates were proposed for initiation, viz., John Smith, William Japp, George Duncan, and Hugh Leslie. The First Degree was conferred upon the candidates in a manner that was most pleasing and impressive, after which the first meeting of the lodge was closed in due and ample form.

Bro. the Marquis of Breadalbane and a number of others were entertained to luncheon by Mr. John Smith, the other brethren present being entertained to luncheon in Bro. Harris's, Commercial Hotel.

The proceedings throughout were as successful as they were interesting.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. JAMES MIDDLETON AS P.G.M. OF ROXBURGH.

On Friday, the 6th inst., the M.W. Grand Master of Scotland, Colonel Sir Archibald Campbell of Blythwood, Bart., M.P., assisted by a deputation from the Grand Lodge, installed Bro. James Middleton, M.D., as Prov. Grand Master of Roxburgh and Selkirk shires. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened in the Town Hall, Stow, at a quarter past four o'clock, the officers present being Bros. Dr. Middleton, P.G.M.; James Wolfe Murray of Cringeltie, P.P.G.M.; Dr. Mackenzie, P.G.S.W.; Thomas Hogg, P.G.J.W.; Rev. W. Workman, P.G. Chap.; Robert Sanderson, P.G. Sec.; John Peden, P.G.J.D.; Robert Miller, P.G. Swd. Br.; Thomas Mercer, P.G. Treas.; Robert Hogg, P.G. Tyler; and others.

There was a large attendance of members. The Grand

Lodge deputation assembled shortly afterwards, and was received by the Prov. Grand Lodge with the usual formalities. The office-bearers present were the Grand Master Mason, Bros. W. Maclean, acting G.S.W.; Jas. Dalrymple Duncan, acting G.J.W.; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary; David Kinnear, Grand Cashier; Alex. Hay, Proxy P.G.M. of Jamaica; James Carmichael, acting G.S.D.; Hugh Munro, acting G.J.D.; Major W. Hills, acting Grand Marshal; James Smith, acting Grand Jeweller; and J. O. Fraser, acting President of the Board of Grand Stewards.

Immediately on the entrance of the Grand Lodge, Bro. Sanderson, who was in the chair, vacated it in favour of the Grand Master, and the ceremony of installation and investiture was at once proceeded with. The Grand Secretary, at the desire of the Grand Master, read the commission in favour of Bro. Middleton, and also the charge; and thereafter the Grand Master administered the usual obligation, and duly installed the Prov. Grand Master.

The Masters and Wardens of the several lodges in the province then advanced to the east and saluted their new provincial Head.

The GRAND MASTER, in addressing the newly-installed Prov. Grand Master, referred to the manner in which the Grand Lodge carried on its business through Prov. Grand Lodges to all the daughter lodges and members thereof. He had followed a Grand Master who had taken great interest in these Grand Lodges, and he trusted that Bro. Middleton would choose good officers, and that they would be a blessing, and not a burden. It was only by proper co-operation that he could hope to be able to accomplish the wishes which were those of every Scottish Mason. (Applause.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER thanked the Grand Master for the kindness he had shown to himself and the Prov. Grand Lodge, and the honour he had conferred on them to carry through the ceremony of the day. (Applause.) Praise and prayer were then engaged in.

The brethren afterwards sat down to dinner—the Prov. Grand Master in the chair—about 100 being present.

The CHAIRMAN gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales," and "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," and after these had been duly honoured, he proposed the toast of "The Grand Lodge of Scotland." In doing so he said that in his various relations in life, in public, in private, and as a Mason, he believed there was no one who was more highly and more deservedly esteemed than the Grand Master. (Applause.) But even to so worthy a brother he felt assured it must afford no little pleasure and satisfaction to know that he was deemed worthy to occupy the chair that had been so well filled by a long line of worthy and illustrious predecessors—(applause)—and to Grand Lodge it must be equally a source of satisfaction to know that the throne was filled by so worthy a brother. (Applause.)

The GRAND MASTER, in responding, thanked the Master and brethren for their friendly reception of the toast and reference to his discharge of his duties. He had, he mentioned, been a Provincial Grand Master now for 20 years, and he knew the work that could be done by a Provincial Grand Lodge, presided over by one who was determined to the best of his ability to see the work was done according to the laws of Grand Lodge. As to the extended scheme of benevolence, he was sorry he had not been able to take the active part in regard to it which he would have liked to take; but he felt a great interest in it, and it was only because he had not the necessary time that he was not oftener at the meetings for furthering the object in view. (Applause.) There was one thing, he proceeded to say, that seemed strange when they came to consider it. On the previous day they had, at the meeting of Grand Lodge, representatives from Masonry in Gibraltar, in Canada, and in New Zealand. Masonry, as it was taught by us, was probably different from what it was elsewhere. They knew that there were Grand Lodges that had fallen away from the fundamental truths on which their Order was founded, and unless the precepts of the sacred law were upheld it would not be able to go on and flourish as they should wish. (Applause.) But when he saw these representatives from distant parts he could not but think that it was strange that wherever this country was represented, and flourished, and our tongue was spoken, there were our Grand Lodges represented. When they saw that, could it be wondered at that one who loved his country and loved the unity of our Empire, hoped that it would flourish?—(applause)—and as they had a hierarchy in this Grand Lodge, so must they all hope to see a representation throughout the world by the magnificent arrangement of Queen, Lords, and Commons. (Applause.)

The toast of "The Provincial Grand Master" was then proposed by the GRAND MASTER, and received with all honours; and a fitting reply was made from the chair.

At this stage, the Grand Master and his deputation had to leave the meeting, in order to be in time for the train; and they were seen off with Masonic honours.

The other toasts included "The Depute Provincial Grand Master," "The Past Provincial Grand Master," and "The Lodges Represented."

India.

EDWARD TYRRELL LEITH, D.G.M. OF BOMBAY.

The Times of India publishes the following sketch of the District Grand Master of Bombay. It is accompanied by an excellent lithographic portrait.

"Mr. Edward Tyrrell Leith, LL.M., Knight of the Order of the Crown of Italy, District Grand Master, and Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch for Bombay and its Territories, 33°, is descended from an old Scottish family long settled in Aberdeenshire, and is the second surviving son of John Farley Leith, Esq., Q.C., late M.P. for Aberdeen, for many years a leader at the Calcutta Bar, and afterwards in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. He was born at Calcutta towards the end of the first half of the present century, and was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he graduated in the Law Tripos in 1865. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1866, went the Home Circuit, and was admitted an Advocate of the High Court at Bombay in 1867, and has since practised at the Bombay Bar, where he enjoys a large business, and has been employed in many cases of public interest

and importance. For some years he has filled the post of Government Professor of Law at Bombay. It is, however, as a Freemason that Mr. Leith finds his way into our columns, and many of his brethren in the Craft will read with interest the following details about a Masonic career of unusual distinction. Mr. Tyrrell Leith was in 1864 initiated in the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge, in which he successively held the offices of Deacon and Warden, and he was exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch in the Euclid Chapter, No. 859, Cambridge, in 1866. Mr. Leith is founder and Past Master of the University Lodge, No. 1118, London, one of the leading London lodges, established for Masons who are members of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. He had been twice Master of Lodge 'St. George,' No. 549, Bombay, in which he formerly served for some years as Secretary. He is the Founder and a Past Master of Lodge 'Aryan,' No. 1709, Bombay, the only existing Hindoo lodge. It was started with the object of opening the portals of Freemasonry to Hindoos of high character, social position, and education, and their admission has always been warmly advocated by him as an important social and political measure. He is also Founder and a P.M. of Lodge 'Hiram,' No. 1784, Bombay, consisting of Masters and Past Masters of lodges in the district. It was founded in order to promote facilities for intercommunication and uniformity of working in the lodges. He was for some years a member and afterwards Chairman of the District Grand Board of General Purposes, Board of Benevolence, and Freemasons' Hall Committee, and is the Founder of the present Bombay Masonic Association for supporting, clothing, and educating the orphans of deceased Freemasons, of which he is the patron, and in which he has always taken a deep interest. Mr. Leith was, in 1879, appointed District Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch for Bombay and its Territories. His jurisdiction extends over a wide range of country, including the Bombay Presidency, from Kurrachee, Hyderabad, and Sukkur in the west, to Jubbulpore and Nagpore in the east, and as far north as Mhow and Nusseerabad. He thus rules over 21 lodges containing over 700 members. He is Past Inspector General of the 33rd Degree, and Past Prov. G.M. of Mark Masonry for Bombay, and he has held high rank in the Masonic Orders of the Temple and Hospital, the Red Cross, and the Royal Order of Scotland. In addition to this Mr. Leith is an Honorary Member of various Craft lodges and other Masonic bodies both in England and India. He is Honorary Past G.M. of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, and has ever warmly supported cordial relations with the Scottish Constitution in this country. He is Life Governor of the three great Masonic Charities in England. Mr. Tyrrell Leith is, however, widely known in Bombay, out of Masonic circles, as a scientific student, and, what is very rare in India, a great collector of books. He is, of course, a Fellow of the Bombay University and a Justice of the Peace for the Town and Island of Bombay, and was formerly a member of the Bombay Municipal Corporation. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, Member of the Royal Asiatic Society and of the Anthropological Society of Italy. He is, as all our readers are aware, the Founder and President of the recently established Anthropological Society of Bombay, which is the first of its kind in India. Mr. Leith has always devoted considerable attention to anthropological studies, especially to the branch known as Sociology. Among the subjects of his original researches may be named the following: The Funeral Rites of the Parsees, the Religion of the Non-Aryan Races of India, the Primitive Disposal of the Dead by Exposure, Cannibalism in India, the Dog in Myth and Custom, and Spirit Possession in India. He was a member of the Bombay Committees for the Calcutta, Antwerp, and Indian and Colonial Exhibitions, and in each case he arranged for the ethnological collections representative of Western India. In 1884 Mr. Leith received the Order of the Crown of Italy as an acknowledgment of his services in promoting scientific research, and especially for scientific services rendered to the Italian Government. In conclusion, we may perhaps add that Mr. Leith is a keen yachtsman, and that while owner of the well-known racing yacht, the 'Cinderella,' he carried off the two most important prizes of the Royal Bombay Yacht Club."

THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LODGE OF INDUSTRY, No. 48.

The 150th anniversary of the Lodge of Industry, No. 48, was celebrated at the last meeting of the year at the Masonic Hall, Jackson-street, Gateshead.

During the evening Bro. R. B. Reed, P.M. 48, Prov. G. Treasurer, delivered an historical address. One hundred and fifty years ago, he said, the Lodge of Industry joined the London lodges. Freemasonry was then emerging from a cloud that had enveloped it for nearly three centuries. In the third year of the reign of Henry VI. an Act was passed for the abolition of the Societies of Masons. The art was not altogether extinguished, however; in secret and stealth, our glorious principles were kept alive. Upon the achievement of the great Revolution of 1688, the surface of society became calmer, and learned and good men had time to turn their attention to the principles of Masonry, which continued to develop from that time. Having referred to the labours of Sir C. Wren, who was permeated with a love of both practical and speculative Masonry, he said it was not till the year 1717 that the London lodges met together, at the sign of the Goose and Gridiron, when they resolved upon electing a Grand Master. In 1721 a Deputy Grand Master and Wardens were appointed for the first time, and then began the organisation of the Grand Lodge of England as we now know it. How the Lodge of Industry began, and how it was begun, they did not know; but, by tradition and inquiry, they found that in 1690, or about that time, when Sir Ambrose Crowley, an ironmonger, of London, established his works at Winton, in the county of Durham, the Operative Masons also practised the Speculative Art. Minutes of this date were perhaps the rarest things to be got in Masonic lodges, because it was dangerous to keep them while Masons were under the ban of the law. The minutes of Industry Lodge went back to 1723, however, two years after the commencement of the Grand Lodge, and the first entry was dated 29th September, 1725: "Then Matthew Armstrong

and Arthur Douglass had their names registered as Entered Apprentices." In 1735 they joined the Grand Lodge.

In turning over the ancient records he found the following entries:

"That no Master or Fellow shall take an apprentice for less term than seven years, and one that is able of birth, free born, whole of limbs, and as a man ought to be."

"That no man go into the town at nights except he has fellows with him that may bear witness he was in good company."

"That every Master and Fellow shall cherish strange fellows when they come out of strange countries, and set them on work if they have any, and they willing to work—if not, to supply them with money to the next Lodge if need be."

Amongst the valuables of the lodge were the shear legs from the old lodge at Swalwell, the scagliola pillars, presented by the late Earl of Durham; a Bible, dated 1615; a copy of the "Constitutions of Freemasonry," published in 1723, edited by Dr. J. T. Desaguliers. They had also "Entick's Constitutions of Freemasonry," 1767. The Master's chair—a very valuable one—was presented to them by the Duke of Sussex, the first Grand Master after the Union in 1813. He urged upon the brethren individually to promote the welfare of such a lodge, and eloquently pointed out that the working tools were only the symbols of rules of moral conduct. He was one of those who believed that Speculative Masonry began when Operative Masonry began. He had no doubt that while the building of the Tower, prior to the confusion of tongues, was going on, Speculative Masonry had its beginnings. It was carried on by the Phœnicians, the Egyptians, and the Israelites; and just as architecture was developed, and great and material buildings were erected, so Speculative Masonry was developed. They knew the position it occupied in reference to King Solomon's Temple. While the Temple grew another unseen temple was rising—a temple founded on the claims of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth—a house perfect in its parts—a house not made with hands, eternal in the skies. The real lodge was not the building. The lodge was found in the principles they imbibed. In the course of his (Bro. Reed's) own researches he had come across a curious piece of information, which he had not seen communicated to any lodge hitherto. In the journal of Mr. John McDouall Stuart, the celebrated Australian explorer and a brother Mason, kept during his fourth expedition in 1850, for fixing the centre of Australia, he spoke of encountering some natives. "One was an old man, and seemed to be the father of these two fine young men. He was very talkative, but I could make nothing of him. I have endeavoured by signs to get information from him as to where the next water is; but we cannot understand each other. After some time, and having conferred with his two sons, he turned round, and surprised me by giving me one of the Masonic signs. I looked at him steadily; he repeated it, and so did his two sons. I then returned it, which seemed to please them much, the old man patting me on the shoulders and stroking down my beard. They then took their departure, making friendly signs until they were out of sight." So that where a white man or a civilised man had not been before, they found the Masonic signs in use amongst the heads of tribes, for no doubt the natives put the Masonic sign to Mr. Stuart to see if he were a headman.

FIRST ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL OF THE COVENT GARDEN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1614.

This lodge of instruction held its first summer festival on Wednesday, the 11th inst. The party, which met at Waterloo Station at 10.30 a.m., and were received by Bro. G. Reynolds, S.D. 1614, Secretary to the lodge of instruction, with Mrs. G. Reynolds, consisted of Bro. W. B. Fendick, P.M. 1321; Bros. W. Schenick, P. and Wm. A. Stuart Montauk, 286, Brooklyn, New York; and Bro. R. A. Kirkaldy, W.M. 1321; Bro. G. Deaton, I.G. 25, and Mrs. Lockwood, and Mr. S. A. Deaton; Bro. A. Freeman, 1614, and Miss M. Freeman; Bro. W. F. Thorpe, J.D. 1614, Miss Thorpe, and Mrs. Clewitt; Bro. W. A. Clench, 1776; Bro. W. Ponsford, 25; Bro. E. Mills, 1614, and Mrs. Mills; Bro. G. Dickinson, Miss Honeyball, Miss A. Moore, and Mr. Brown; Bro. John Collins, 860, and W. H. Honeyball, jun.

After a pleasant run to Windsor they were conducted to Bro. T. G. Tagg's steam launch Serapis, and were soon comfortably settled.

The loving cup having been passed round, luncheon was served in the cabin, and the members and their friends had no difficulty in enjoying the trip or appreciating the beautiful scenery of the Thames. Amidst fun and laughter the launch stopped at Cookham, where there was a short stoppage and a pleasant dance on the banks.

The party then continued their journey without further break to Bourne End, and thence back to Windsor, where a capital banquet was in readiness, at the Star and Garter Hotel, under the personal superintendence of Bro. W. J. McCloskie. Bro. W. B. Fendick, P.M. 1321, presided, and Bro. G. Deaton, I.G. 25, Vice-Chairman, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. W. Honeyball, I.P.M. 1681.

After the CHAIRMAN had given the usual loyal toasts, which were warmly responded to with musical honours, Bro. G. DEATON, in a humorous speech, proposed 'The Health of the Ladies,' and in doing so, said they were all pleased to have their company, as their presence enlivened the proceedings very much, and made them more sociable. In summer Masonic outings Masons were always delighted to have amalgamations of ladies and friends. He trusted they had all enjoyed the day, and that in future years there would be a still larger gathering.

Mr. BROWN having responded, The CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction Summer Festival," coupling with it the name of Bro. G. Reynolds, the Secretary, whom all knew to be indefatigable in whatever he undertook to perform. The popularity of the lodge of instruction was in a great measure due to his perseverance, and those brethren who attended on Thursday evenings at the Criterion would agree with him in his opinion. That day's excursion was the first they had ever had, and as it had proved so successful he hoped it would be continued annually. Bro. G. Reynolds had done all in his power to make every one comfortable, and all the arrangements had been most satisfactory.

Bro. G. REYNOLDS having thanked them most heartily

for all their good wishes, proposed "The Chairman's Health," which was duly honoured and acknowledged.

Bro. W. SCHENICK replied for "The Visitors;" and "The Vice-Chairman's Health" having been given, a few dances just to pass the time were indulged in, and the party returned to London, which was reached about midnight, the day having been one of unalloyed pleasure throughout.

AN INTERNATIONAL MASONIC DIFFICULTY.

An erroneous statement has been going the round of the Press relative to what is known as "The Quebec Trouble." It is said that "All the American Masons sympathise with their Quebec brethren. It has long been an inexorable law of Masonry that each Grand Lodge is supreme in its own jurisdiction."

The Grand Master of New York (the largest organisation of the kind in the United States), so far from siding with Quebec, has expressly declared in favour of the Grand Lodge of England, on the ground that whilst upholding the doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty, he does not consider such a belief renders Masonic bodies previously enjoying a lawful existence within such territory clandestine or illegal, because of their refusal to abandon their previous allegiance, and place themselves under the authority of the newly-created Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has also expressed itself in support of England, and it has been authoritatively declared that a majority of the Grand Lodges in the United States will have nothing to do with the question, but will allow England and Quebec to settle their own difficulties in their own way and at their own pleasure.

The facts are these. Soon after the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, its status was recognised by England, when the late Earl of Zetland was Grand Master, on the condition that if any English lodges preferred to continue their allegiance, Masonically, with the Mother country, they should be at liberty so to do. At that time Quebec was under the authority of the "Canadian Freemasons," but when the change was made by the formation of independent provinces all being included in the Dominion of Canada, the Grand Lodge of Canada became simply, if not by name, the Grand Lodge of Ontario and Quebec; Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and other provinces were constituted into Grand Lodges. Nova Scotia has had no objections to a lodge at Halifax, established in 1829, continuing under England, and both bodies are on the best of terms. In New Brunswick and other provinces all the lodges joined the new organisations, save in Quebec; there being three lodges at Montreal, formed in 1824, 1836, and 1854 respectively, which have from 1869 to now declined to join the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The Grand Lodge of Quebec has refused recognition from England unless the warrants of these three lodges are withdrawn.

The Grand Master (the Prince of Wales) replied that they are welcome to return their charters voluntarily, but having been guilty of no fault, they cannot be compelled to leave our jurisdiction. After many attempts at a settlement, the Grand Lodge of Quebec has now unwisely issued a decree of non-recognition of the members of these three lodges, and hence the difficulties with the Grand Lodge of England, which, of course, remains true to its progeny, the wide world over, and though refraining from granting new warrants in the territory of a newly-formed Grand Lodge, refuses to cut off any of its former subordinates who still prefer its rule. The Grand Lodge of England has recognised the newly-formed Grand Lodge of South Australia, on the condition that the inherent rights of the majority were respected. This was mutually agreed to, and happily since 1884, when the new body was started, all the lodges have voluntarily joined, and peace and prosperity prevail.

One or two Grand Lodges in the United States have sided with Quebec, and withdrawn their representatives, just as the Prince of Wales has cancelled the patents at this end in consequence; but generally speaking the action of England is warmly supported everywhere.—*Western Morning News.*

CHINESE MASONRY.

The San Francisco *Alta-California* in a recent issue has the following:—

"What, may I ask, was the subject of your ponderings? Had that roll of papers anything to do with them?"

"Yes, they are notes gathered by an old partner of mine, who devoted himself to a study of the Chinese people and their customs. I've got a whole case full of them once, and when I have nothing else to do I amuse myself by reading some of them. I have gained a great deal of information from them which is frequently of considerable assistance to me in my practice."

"Tell me what is the story contained in those papers in your lap?" said the reporter, instinctively producing his note book and pencil.

"It's a brief history of the Chinese Order of Masons. Now, I suppose you think theirs is like all other Masonry, and a branch of the great organisation established by King Solomon. You must disabuse your mind on that score, if such is your opinion. To be sure, it is a Society for mutual benefit and protection; but its original and present purpose as well is entirely revolutionary. The birth of the Order occurred soon after the Monogolians invaded China, and is nearly 400 years old. The Society was composed of the old Chinese nobles and their followers who were opposed to the new Emperor. Their numbers were naturally small at first; but the years added to their strength. Each member educated his children to a belief in the doctrines of the Order, until now their numbers include nearly one-third of the entire population of the empire. There are also about 30,000 in the United States. The influence of the Society is naturally very great, and its members have much to do with the formation of Chinese affairs of State. From its inception, four centuries ago, the Society has instigated innumerable rebellions, and all the members naturally imbibed a strong martial spirit. As a consequence, the Order has developed many famous soldiers, and among them the great General Loy Yee, who, at the age of 80 years, was the commander-in-chief of all the forces of the empire. His appointment to this position was, of course, a measure adopted by the Emperor to conciliate the Society to which he belonged. Many of China's foreign Ministers also owe their positions to this policy. Being statesmen of great ability they naturally became a power to be feared by the Government, and are accordingly

appointed as ambassadors to some foreign Court in order to get them out of the way. Chin Lin Pan, the first Minister to the United States, was one of these, and if the truth were known I would not be surprised if every Minister since was a Chinese Mason or a member of the Che Kung Tong, as the Society is called. You will gain some idea of the strength of this organisation when I inform you that the great Tae Ping rebellion of '57 was brought about by its leaders and fought by its soldiers. The famous armies known as the Black Flags and Yellow Flags, which performed such bloody work in Tonquin during the recent war with France, were also composed entirely of the members of the Che Kung Tong, and led by its officers.

The headquarters of the Order are in the district of Quong-Ton, or Canton, as it is known to us. It is from there the edicts are sent which so vitally affect the policy of the Chinese Government, and which in time may overturn the throne and establish a new dynasty. The cue worn to-day by the Chinese people is a symbol of their bondage to the Mongolian Emperor, and is a constant reminder to them of their subjection. The rites of the Society? Yes, I know something of them, though there are so many, and in such infinite variety that my knowledge of them is necessarily limited. There are thirty-three oaths to be taken, and regular cast-iron ones, too, before an applicant can become a fully constituted member of the Society. He can, however, withdraw before taking the last oath, providing he promise eternal secrecy about what he had previously seen and heard of the ritual. If this agreement should be violated, or a member of the Order should in any way disgrace himself in the eyes of his brothers, punishment swift and terrible is meted out to him. In China it is death, but in this country that is impossible, though they all go through the formula of an execution without the final culmination. The accused is always allowed a trial, but is seldom acquitted. The wise men and patriarchs of the Order assemble together upon that occasion in some one of their Joss houses, and there the accused and accusers are brought before them. The latter step forward first and, prostrating themselves upon the floor at the feet of the oldest of the wise men, they present their charges. The accused then prostrates himself and places the foot of the wise man upon his neck as a sign of submission. After this he tells his version of the story, still flat upon his stomach on the floor. When this is over the head man announces his decision in a long and impressive speech, which is interrupted at the end of every sentence by the others prostrating themselves and uttering words of assent. The judge next claps his hands and in comes the executioner with a long sword and wooden bowl, the latter being for the purpose of catching the blood that is not spilled. Going up to the condemned man, who is still lying face downward upon the floor, the executioner raises him to his knees and bares his neck for the fatal blow.

"Three times the sword is raised and brought down with terrific force until within half an inch of the kneeling man's neck, where it stops. This concludes the ceremonies, but the victim's punishment is not yet over, if he happens to be so fortunate as to live in this country. Great placards announcing his disgrace are posted on all the dead walls throughout the Chinese quarter, and as soon as the news becomes known the guilty man is completely ostracised by his old associates, and, in fact, by all the society. He can get no work from his own people, and if he goes into business for himself he will get no customers. His lot then is hard indeed, and according to our views his punishment is greater than his crime. Of the three who have been so served in the United States, one committed suicide, another is insane, and the third is a fugitive murderer, who took to a life of crime after his disgrace, and went from bad to worse. Where he is now no one knows.

"But there, that is enough for this time. Come again some other day when I am at leisure, and I will tell you another story."

A GENERAL BENEVOLENT FUND FOR NEW ZEALAND.

Again we make an effort to stimulate our brethren to united action for the institution of a Masonic General Benevolent Fund for this Colony, and, if anything were needed in addition to the repeated applications of poor widows and distressed brethren for relief, of late, in support of our assertions respecting the necessity for the adoption of this course, it has certainly been supplied by the deplorable loss of life in Australasian waters, the sad events being intensified by the terrific eruptions in the Auckland province. Scores of widows and orphans have, within the last year, been left unprovided for, while depression in trade has proved the means of drawing poor but respectable families into a state of destitution. To these facts our brethren cannot close their eyes—the appeals of the unemployed have been heard in every large centre in this Colony, and there is no doubt that many poor persons—too proud to make known their destitution—are dragging out a most wretched existence. And while our fellow-creatures are suffering the pangs of hunger—while poor little orphans cannot obtain sufficient clothing and nourishment to shield and strengthen their attenuated frames against the winter's chilling blasts, much parade is being made in some quarters of the glorious principles of Masonry. We do not say that any brother would willingly permit a poor widow or orphan to experience the pangs of hunger; we do not contend that our brethren are actually responsible for all the suffering that exists at the present time in this Colony; but we may assert, without fear of justifiable contradiction, that the institution of a General Benevolent Fund would be the means of aiding materially in lessening the deplorable amount of want now being endured by helpless people in many places in these islands. Shall it be said, then, that the sin of omission is to remain a charge against the New Zealand Masonic body, when united action on the part of our brethren would speedily wipe out the stigma? Will not influential brethren adopt the suggestions repeatedly made by us for the institution of a General Benevolent Fund? Brethren, do you desire to draw into your fold more men of refinement and kindly feeling? If so, you have only to unite in carrying out the good work we advocate the adoption of, and your lodges would very soon become attractive to worthy men, and worthy men alone, while many more poor widows and orphans could not but have cause to bless the Fraternity that has for its guidance the glorious principles of "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth."—*New Zealand Freemason.*

COLOURED MASONRY.

Grand Master Clark, of the (Coloured) Grand Lodge of Ohio, concludes an address entitled "The Negro Mason in Equity," with the following appeal for recognition to the white Grand Lodges of America and other countries:

But this is why we demand it: We have always been taught that Masonry is universal in its character; that neither race nor creed can debar one from an entrance therein; that the beggar and the prince are alike equals within its closely tiled doors, and that its "central idea is the 'brotherhood of man because of the Fatherhood of God.'" Because of all these things; because we desire that the stigma of hypocrisy, deceit, and injustice shall be for ever blotted out; because we desire that our ancient and noble grand Institution shall have a name honoured of all men and of all nations, in all countries and in all climes, of all creeds and of all faiths; and because we desire that our Institution shall be as beauteous and glorious as the noonday sun at meridian height, darting its rays to the north and the south, to the east and the west, bathing all humanity in a glorious flood of the sunshine of peace and goodwill, is why we demand that you bury your prejudices and prove yourselves Masons indeed. We have nothing to gain in your legal recognition of us as Masons; the gain is all for you and the Institution of Freemasonry. That we are just and legal Masons is so well established that it is now beyond the power of man to controvert it. For more than one hundred years we have existed as Free and Accepted Masons; we have now commenced the second century of our existence as such; from the lowest round of humility we have climbed far up the ladder of fame; from the small beginning of fifteen black men, scoffed at, sneered at, insulted, and ridiculed, we have grown to grand proportions, until to-day we command the respect of Masons in all parts of the world; what we are to-day has been accomplished by our own exertions, isolated and rejected as we have been; if, by our own exertions alone, we must build our second century, we will make it more illustrious than the first; we will proudly hold aloft our heads, and courageously fighting our battles, we will neither give nor ask quarter.—*Masonic Token.*

The Craft Abroad.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF MINNESOTA.

The twenty-first Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery was held in Owatonna, on Thursday, the 24th June last. Sir Knt. W. D. Cornish presided, and there was a good attendance, all the commanderies in the jurisdiction, but two, being represented. In the course of the proceedings, which were chiefly of local interest, the following were invested as Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely: Sir Knts. H. Birkett, G.C.; Thomas Montgomery, D.G.C.; Thomas Fee, G.G.; J. A. Schlener, G.C.G.; P. P. Hubbell, G. Prelate; C. A. Hubbard, G.S.W.; C. L. Spaulding, G.J.W.; J. G. McFarland, G. Treas.; A. T. C. Pierson, G. Recorder; A. Z. Levering, G. Std. Br.; C. V. Ferguson, G. Swd. Br.; and M. E. Powell, G.W. The members of Cyrene Commandery, under whose auspices the meeting was held, hospitably entertained the visiting sir knights.

Lake City was chosen for the next annual convocation.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF VERMONT.

There was a full attendance of Grand Officers, representatives of subordinate conclaves, and visiting sir knights at the forty-fourth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Vermont, held in the City of Burlington, under the auspices of Burlington Commandery, No. 2, on Tuesday, the 8th June last, Sir Knt. Thad M. Chapman being in the chair. Grand Conclave having been opened, it was announced that Sir Knt. Charles E. Roome, acting Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States was in attendance, and a deputation was thereupon appointed to introduce that distinguished frater into the assembly, and Sir Knt. Roome having been accorded the honours due to his rank, returned thanks for the cordiality of his reception. Business was then proceeded with. The Grand Commander delivered his annual address, and the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder were submitted, and referred to the proper Committees. The following were installed in office by Sir Knt. Roome, assisted by Sir Knt. George O. Tyler, Past G. Commander, as Grand Marshal, viz.: Sir Knts. George W. Wing, G.C.; D. M. Bacon, D.G.C.; C. J. Jones, G.G.; W. F. Lewis, G.C.G.; Rev. F. S. Fisher, G. Prelate; Chas. E. Campbell, G.S.W.; John R. Pilling, G.J.W.; Frank H. Bascom, G. Treasurer; Warren G. Reynolds, G. Recorder; G. H. Kinsley, G. Std. Br.; K. Hyskins, G. Swd. Br.; George W. Spinners, G.C. of G.; and Martin C. Healey, G.W.

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT.

This Grand Body held its annual meeting under the banner of Burlington Lodge, No. 3, on Wednesday, the 9th June, Bro. Marsh O. Perkins, M.W.G.M., being on the throne. The Grand Master in his address referred to the difference between Quebec and England, and endorsed the conduct of the former Grand Lodge, while later in the course of the proceedings, Bro. J. F. Walker, M.W.G.M. of Quebec, was introduced, and met with a most enthusiastic reception, his speech, in acknowledgment of the welcome, being loudly applauded. It was also resolved by the Committee on Foreign correspondence that unless the differences between Quebec and England were adjusted by the 1st July—now past—an edict of non-intercourse between Vermont and England should be issued. This will have very little weight with the Grand Lodge of the latter country. The so-called Grand Lodge of New South Wales was not recognised. The following are the Grand Officers for the year, namely: Bros. M. O. Perkins, M.W.G.M.; Alfred H. Hall, D.G.M.; D. M. Bacon, G.S.W.; George W. Wing, G.J.W.; J. A. Butler, G. Treas.; L. M. Read, G. Sec.; J. H. Whipple, G.S.D.; W. J. Sperry, G.J.D.; M. W. Johnson, G. Lecturer; Rev. Edwin Whulcock, G. Chap.; Rev. F. S. Fisher, Assist. G. Chap.; H. G. Sheldon, G. Marshal; J. H. Thorp, G. Purst.; E. S. Leonard, G. Swd. Br.; D. C. Barber and G. F. Morse, G. Stwds.; and A. T. Taft, G. Tyler. The communication was brought to a close on the evening of the 10th June.

GRAND CHAPTER OF VERMONT.

M.E. Comp. Killridge Haskins, G.H.P., presided at the 60th annual convocation of the Grand R.A. Chapter of Vermont, held under the banner of Burlington Chapter, No. 3, on the 11th June last. There was a large attendance, among the visitors being M.E. Comp. H. L. Robinson, G.Z. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, who was loudly cheered on being introduced to the meeting. Comp. Haskins's annual address was very well received, and the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, which were very satisfactory, were dealt with in the usual manner. The Finance report showed a balance in hand of 1200 dollars. The following are the Grand Officers for the year, viz.: Comps. K. Haskins, G.H.P.; Marsh O. Perkins, D.G.H.P.; G. H. Kinsley, G.K.; George W. Wing, G. Scribe; John A. Butler, G. Treas.; W. H. S. Whitcomb, G. Sec.; E. O. Hibbard, G. Capt. of H.; S. Terrill, G. Prov. Soj.; Frank H. Bascom, G.R.A. Capt.; F. W. Taylor, G.M., 3rd V.; M. J. Horton, G.M., 2nd V.; Warron R. Dunton, G.M., 1st V.; Rev. F. S. Fisher, Assist. G. Chap.; L. C. Parkhurst, G.L.; G. F. Morse, G. Stwd.; A. McGaffey, G. Sent.; E. B. Nue, G. Marshal; and Emory Town, G. Tyler.

GRAND LODGE OF NEBRASKA.

The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Omaha, on Wednesday, the 16th June last, under the presidency of Bro. M. B. Reese, M.W.G.M. The attendance was large, and the proceedings were of more than usual interest, the dedication of a new room in the Hall and the laying of a corner stone for a Chamber of Commerce for the city being the most noteworthy. The former measures 50ft. by 65ft., with an inside height of 20ft., and a gallery all round, with a banquet room 30ft. by 50ft., a fire-proof chamber for the library, and a fire-proof vault to serve as a repository for valuable papers, records, &c. The Grand Master's address related principally to matters of local interest, among his most important recommendations being (1) that 5000 dollars, out of the 12,000 dollars in the hands of Grand Treasurer, should be distributed among the lodges in proportion to their numerical strength, the money being of no good to anyone where it is; and (2) that a custodian, who should give security to the amount of 30,000 dollars, should be appointed for the Orphan Educational Fund, of close on 10,000 dollars. The Grand Secretary's report showed there were 150 lodges with a total membership of about 7000 brethren. The following are the Grand Officers for the year, viz.: Bros. C. K. Coutant, M.W.G.M.; M. J. Hall, D.G.M.; George B. Prance, G.S.W.; John J. Mercer, G.J.W.; Christian Hartman, G. Treas.; Wm. R. Bowan, G. Sec.; the Rev. Burgess, G. Chap.; W. H. Munger, G. Orator; E. A. Cosley, G.S.D.; and W. J. Mount, G. Tyler.

GRAND LODGE OF OREGON.

The following brethren were invested as Grand Officers for the ensuing year at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held in Portland, Oregon, on the 16th June last, namely: Bros. James Crowin Fullerton, M.W.G.M.; A. Nastung, D.G.M.; Brehnan Van Dusen, G.S.W.; James F. Robinson, G.J.W.; Dan. C. McKercher, G. Treas.; F. J. Babcock, G. Sec.; Rev. J. R. N. Bell, G. Chap.; J. C. Moreland, G. Or.; J. A. Richardson, G. Marshal; J. E. Bean, G.S.D.; W. P. Condey, G.J.D.; N. S. Roney, G. Std. Br.; H. C. Hill, G. Swd. Br.; H. E. Harris and John S. Vaughan, G. Stwds.; G. W. Percy, G. Org.; and Gustaf Wilson, G. Tyler.

DISTRICT G. LODGE OF NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA.

At the seventh half-yearly Communication of this D.G. Lodge, held at Addington, towards the close of last March, the D.G. Treasurer's account for the past year disclosed a very satisfactory state of things. The balance from the previous year's accounts was close on £42, and the receipts over £140, making a total income of nearly £183. The disbursements were not much in excess of £113, and the balance remaining in hand at the close of the account exactly £69 12s. The following are the new officers for the year ensuing: Bros. R. J. Fennimore, D.G.M.; Wesley Francis, D.D.G.M.; T. J. Hill, D.G.S.W.; B. Ireland, D.G.J.W.; Rev. A. Ikin and Ven. Archdeacon Colley, D.G. Chaps.; S. Marriott, D.G. Treas. (elected); E. H. Wiltshier, D.G. Reg.; J. Crowe, D. Pres. D.B. of G. Purps.; S. Hollick, D.G. Sec.; W. Sink, D.G.S.D.; T. Cook, D.G.J.D.; R. Willis, D.G.S. of W.; James Cottam, D.G.D.C.; W. A. Smith, D.G.A.D.C.; J. Wrighton, D.G. Swd. Br.; W. H. Kinsman and M. H. Emanuel, D.G. Std. Brs.; G. Pullock, D.G. Org.; G. Leask, D.G.A. Sec.; W. F. Stanton, D.G. Purst.; and J. H. Isaac, D.G.A. Purst.

MESSRS. M. C. DUFFY & SON'S WOOD BLOCK FLOORING.

We have much pleasure in calling attention to the system, recently patented by Messrs. M. C. Duffy and Son, of Bermondsey, of their perfectly "Immovable Acme" Solid Wood Block Flooring, and the success it has achieved, not only over the old-fashioned boarded flooring, but over the other block floorings which have been patented by other inventors. The great merit of Messrs. Duffy's system is that each block is firmly united with the adjoining ones by means of "dowel pins or plugs," inserted at the ends and sides, in such a manner that it is firmly held and becomes practically immovable. In the next place the strength, solidity, and "immovability" of the block flooring thus obtained is further increased by the "foundational binding blocks," which are built into the concrete and cement substratum at intervals, and to which the super-imposed flooring blocks or "briquets" are firmly secured. By this arrangement the disruption or upheaval of a floor thus constructed becomes an impossibility. From a sanitary point of view this invention is sure to prove most valuable, as the solidity of the flooring and its freedom from interstices will prevent the penetration of moisture and the accumulation of foul air or vermin. For this reason we can recommend it to the notice of our readers, who will be better able to judge of its character by inspecting the flooring laid on this system at the Great Eastern railway company's station at Stratford, also the London and Provincial Bank of England, Aldersgate-street. We may mention also in confirmation of what we have said, that the inventors were awarded three gold medals, one silver medal, and one bronze medal at the International Exhibitions in 1855 for their patent.]



THE EXHIBITION AT SHANKLIN.—We are asked to announce that no more exhibits can be received for this Exhibition. The response to Bro. Greenham's appeal has far exceeded all expectation, and it is now found necessary to complete the numbering and classification, so that the catalogue may be issued in good time.

Bro. H. B. Marshall, C.C., Past G. Treasurer, has been placed on the Commission of Peace for the County of Kent.

Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Manchester left England at the end of last week for the purpose of passing a few weeks on the Continent.

Bro. Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., H.M.'s Solicitor-General, addressed a political meeting at Burton-on-Trent on Tuesday.

Bro. Earl Granville returned to his residence in Carlton House-terrace, from Walmer Castle, on Tuesday, in order to be present in his place at the opening of Parliament.

Bro. Earl Cowper, K.G., has returned to St. James's-square from Homburg, and has been joined by the Countess, who has returned from her visit to Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Festivities on a large scale were held last week at Londesborough Park, Yorkshire, in celebration of the coming of age of the Hon. Francis Denison, eldest son of Bro. Lord Londesborough.

The will of the late R.W. Bro. Lord Waveney, Prov. G. Master of Suffolk, was recently proved by his brother, Sir H. E. Adair, Bart., the personalty being sworn at over £10,000.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, who left England on the 12th inst. on a visit to Germany, reached Schlangenbad the following day, and having paid a visit to the Empress of Germany, continued their journey to Homburg.

The address in the House of Commons in reply to the Queen's speech, delivered by commission at the opening of Parliament on Thursday, was to be moved by Bro. Col. King-Harman, M.P. for the Isle of Thanet division of Kent.

Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart., presided at the ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Great Western Railway Company held at the Paddington Terminus, on the 12th instant. The directors' report was submitted and adopted.

Bro. Charles Warner, in the absence through illness of Bro. Edmund Yates, presided at the farewell dinner to Bro. Wilson Barrett, at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 12th inst., Bros. Augustus Harris, T. Thorne, E. Ledger, Walter Gooch, Carl Rosa, Lennox Browne, and others being among the guests.

On Thursday, the 12th inst., Bro. General Lord Wolseley presented the prizes to the winning detachments at the recent annual meeting at Shoeburyness of the National Artillery Association, an expression of thanks to his lordship for attending at great personal inconvenience being tendered by Bro. the Earl of Limerick, President of the Association.

THE SHRIEVALTY.—Lieut.-Col. Kirby (Sheriff-Elect) has given the order for his chain and badge to Mr. George Kenning, of Little Britain and Aldersgate-street. The badge depicts the Sheriff-Elect's arms in the centre, surrounded by the arms of the City of London and the Fanmakers, Distillers, Loriners, Spectaclemakers, and Shipwrights' Companies, to all of which Colonel Kirby belongs.—*City Press.*

Among those who are recruiting their strength after the labours of the past season, we find that Bro. Alderman Sir H. E. and Lady Knight are at Matlock Bath, Bro. Major George Lambert, P.G.S.B., is at Chester, and Bro. Sheriff-elect Lieut.-Col. Kirby is at Great Marlow, while Bro. Justice Field sailed on Saturday last for Tenerife, and will proceed afterwards to Oratara and the Moroccan Coast.

A lodge of emergency will be held at the Foresters' Hall, Whitstable, by the Graystone Lodge, No. 1915, at seven p.m., on Wednesday next, the 25th inst., when Bros. James Terry, P. Prov. G.S.W. Norths and Hunts, and Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has very kindly consented to rehearse the ceremonies of consecration and installation. We have no doubt there will be a considerable attendance on the occasion, both on the part of the officers and members of the lodge, and by visitors from neighbouring lodges.

In his recent annual address, Bro. Peabody, M.W.G.M. of Colorado, expressed himself as strongly opposed to the public installation of officers of Masonic lodges. He considers the object of these ceremonials is "for mere show and display, to attract the attention of the profane, and should be classed as innovations." He is also of opinion that "a Masonic lodge cannot be regularly convened as a lodge where the world at large are invited to seats, and is in direct and positive antagonism to sound conservative teachings, and opens the door to other dangerous novelties."

According to some particulars which recently appeared in the Masonic columns of the *New York Dispatch*, the strongest subordinate Knight Templar Commandery in the United States is the Apollo, No. 1, Chicago, Ill., which last year numbered 651 members, Boston, No. 2, of Boston, Mass., ranking second with 604 members, St. John, No. 4, Philadelphia, third with 510 members, and Mary Commandery, No. 36, also of Philadelphia, fourth with 485 members. The four next in order of numerical strength are the St. Bernard, No. 35, Chicago, 408 members, the Chicago, No. 19, same city, 393 members, the Springfield, No. 6, Springfield, Mass., 389 members, and the Munroe, No. 12, Rochester, New York, 384 members. It is added that each of these commanderies has received a large accession of strength since the last statistics were compiled.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught will resume his command in India next month, and will be accompanied on his return to that country by the Duchess.

Bro. the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, who have been staying for some time past at Highclere Castle, will proceed thence to their Nottingham estate at an early date.

Bro. Admiral Sir W. Hewett, in command of the Evolutionary Squadron, has been conducting a series of operations and torpedo experiments in the neighbourhood of Milford Haven.

Bros. Lord A. Hill, the Hon. D. Plunket, and Lord George Hamilton are among the members of the new Ministry who have just been re-elected to the House of Commons without opposition.

Prince Albert Victor of Wales, after his visit to the Marquis of Abergavenny at Eridge Castle, Sussex, returned to Aldershot on Saturday last and resumed duty with his regiment (the 10th Hussars).

On Tuesday, the Canadian Artillery Volunteers visited the Mansion House, over which, in the absence of Bro. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, they were conducted by Alderman Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart.

Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord George Hamilton, Sir F. Stanley, and Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach were among the Ministers present at the Cabinet Councils held at the Foreign Office on Friday, the 15th inst., and on Tuesday.

Bro. the Earl of Onslow was to move the address in reply to the Queen's Speech in the House of Lords on Thursday evening, and it was expected that in the debate that followed the Prime Minister, Bro. Earl Granville, and other peers would take part.

In our congratulatory remarks on Bro. Sir Horace Jones having recently been knighted by the Queen, the date of his appointment as Grand Superintendent of Works was left partially blank. The year should have been given in full as 1882.

Among the principal witnesses examined before the Royal Commission Merchant Shipping, whose evidence is contained in their first report, were Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., now Lord Brassey, of Bulkeley, and Bro. C. M. Norwood, formerly M.P. for Hull.

At this week's usual monthly meeting of the New Forest Lodge, Bro. G. J. Gould was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and a P.M.'s jewel was voted to the retiring W.M., Bro. J. C. Budge for the assistance he had rendered the lodge during his year of office.

The 24th annual exhibition of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties' Agricultural Society, which was opened at Tunbridge Wells on the 12th inst., was visited in the course of the same afternoon by Prince Albert Victor of Wales.

The will of the late Earl Amherst, of 43, Grosvenor-square and Montreaux, Sevenoaks, Kent, has been proved by his son and successor, R.W. Bro. Earl Amherst, Prov. G. Master of Kent, the personalty being sworn at £109,000. After due provision for his wife, and an annuity to his butler, the testator bequeaths all his real estate and the residue of his personalty to the present earl.

Bro. Dr. B. W. Richardson, while riding on his tricycle one day last week, and in the act of turning the corner of George and Baker-streets, was driven into by a cabman, the machine being wedged against the pavement. Our worthy brother, fortunately, escaped with a few bruises, with subsequent stiffness of the muscles, caused by the shaking.

Tuesday, the 17th inst., being the hundredth anniversary of the death of Frederick the Great of Prussia, who was initiated into Freemasonry during the lifetime of his father, Bro. the Emperor William of Germany, his descendant and successor on the Throne of Prussia, attended a solemn commemoration service in the Garrison Church at Potsdam, and afterwards attended a church parade of the troops in the Lustgarten.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is on the eve of celebrating the centenary of its independence, and arrangements are being made which will enable each subordinate lodge to commemorate the event in its own locality, the stated meeting following the 25th September next, or a special meeting to be held for the purpose being recommended to be set apart for any appropriate action which may commend itself to the lodge. By this means it is hoped that the bulk of the brethren in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania will be enabled to participate in the celebration.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Dakota held its annual convocation in the city of Bismarck on the 7th June last. There was a full attendance of Grand Officers, and 25 chapters were represented. Comp. William Blatt, G.H.P., presided, and in the course of his address congratulated those present on the flourishing state of capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction. The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary were of a satisfactory nature. Comps. Peter Picton and Thomas J. Wilder are the G.H.P. and Grand Secretary, respectively, for the current year.

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—An Illustrated Guide of 110 pages "How to open respectably from £20 to £2000;" three stamps. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Telephone No. 7541.—[ADVT.]

MORTGAGES.—Messrs. JAMES are in a position to Supply Money to ANY EXTENT on the following Securities:—Landed Estates, Houses, Shops, and Offices, Warehouses and Wharves, Life Interests, &c., Reversions, Borough Rates, &c., at the lowest current rates of interest. Prompt Settlement. 11, Staple Inn, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

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Bro. Alderman Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., has left London for the purpose of taking a six months' holiday.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi has just presented to the Natchez Orphan Asylum a donation of 500 dollars (£100).

The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania will hold its next Annual Conclave in the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 24th May, 1887.

The Hon. R. Bourke, who has just been appointed Governor of Madras, is a younger brother of the late Bro. the Earl of Mayo, who was assassinated when Viceroy of India.

The Chiswick Lodge of Instruction will re-open on Saturday, the 28th inst., and the installation ceremony be rehearsed by Bro. E. Ayling, P.M., Preceptor. Lodge opened at 7.30.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Massachusetts was constituted in Boston, on the 13th March, 1798. The Grand Chapter of Michigan has 110 subordinate chapters on its roll.

The *Keystone*, of Philadelphia, offers its fraternal sympathies to Bro. the Hon. Richard Vaux, P.G.M. of Pennsylvania, on the recent death of his mother at the advanced age of 94 years.

Telegraphic addresses (Inland) for the Freemason Printing and Publishing Works—"Freemason, London." For Jewels, Clothing, Furniture, Banners, &c., &c.—"Kenning, London."

Bro. Henry Irving who, with Miss Terry, Bro. J. C. Parkinson, &c., is on a visit to America, entertained at dinner at Delmonico's, New York, on the 17th inst., a numerous party of his friends on that side of the Atlantic.

About 200 members of the Open-Air Mission availed themselves of the opportunity afforded them by Bro. Ex-Sheriff East, of spending their annual summer outing in the grounds of Woodcock Grove, Epsom, the result being a most enjoyable day's excursion.

Bro. Ira Berry, the respected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maine, U.S.A., who is in the 85th year of his age, is gradually recovering from an attack of paralysis, which for a time rendered him speechless. We trust that our worthy brother, notwithstanding his advanced age, may still have many years of usefulness before him.

According to the *Keystone*, the oldest member of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is Bro. Judge Donaldson, of Pottsville, who was born on the 28th July, 1799, and has consequently just entered on his 88th year. We join heartily in the wish expressed by our contemporary that Bro. Donaldson may live to see many happy returns of his birthday.

Bro. Earl Percy presided at the sitting on Thursday, the 12th inst., at Chester, of the Archaeological Institute. The architectural section afterwards met, and did some business. The Institute will hold its next annual meeting at Salisbury, and Norwich was named, but not decided upon, for that of 1888.

Bro. General W. P. Innes is Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Michigan, and Grand Recorder of its Grand Commandery. On him also devolves the onerous duty of arranging the Foreign Correspondence of the three Grand Bodies, so that our worthy brother must have his time pretty closely occupied.

Bro. Benjamin Flagler, Past Grand Master of New York, has lately had the good fortune to recover the warrant issued in 1822 to Old Niagara Lodge, No. 345, Niagara Falls, N.Y., which was lost during the time of the Morgan Excitement, and has presented it to Niagara Frontier Lodge, No. 132, which possesses all the books, papers, and other records of its predecessor.

MASONIC CHARITY IN WEST LANCASHIRE.—A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge Charity Committee of the Fund of Benevolence, was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, under the presidency of Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.W., the vice-chair being occupied by Bro. H. W. Johnson, P.G.D. The sum of £85 was granted from the fund on behalf of three widows of deceased Freemasons and two distressed brethren in the province.

Her Majesty held a Council at Osborne on Monday, at which Bro. Lord George Hamilton was introduced, and kissed hands on appointment as First Lord of the Admiralty. Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe also attended, and kissed hands as Lord Steward, and Bro. the Earl of Kintore was sworn in a member of the Privy Council. Previous to the Council, Bro. E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., H.M.'s Solicitor-General, was introduced, and received the honour of knighthood.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Perthshire was held in the Masonic Hall, Parliament-place, Perth, on Saturday last, to appoint office-bearers to fill several vacancies which had occurred since last meeting. M.E. Comp. the Marquis of Breadalbane, Prov. G. Supt., presided, and there was a good attendance. Comp. Col. Campbell, was appointed P.G.H.; Comp. John Mackenzie, P.G.S.E.; Comp. Pollock, P.G. 2nd A.S.; Comp. Duncan, P.G.S.N.; and Comp. Rae, Janitor. It was intimated that early visitations would be made to the different chapters in the province by the Provincial Grand Chapter. An adjournment was made to the Salutation Hotel, where refreshments were served, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent.

According to a statement in a recent issue of the *Philadelphia Keystone*, but quoted from the *Freemasons' Repository*, Matthew Thornton, of New Hampshire, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of American Independence, must have been a Freemason. It is so considered at least from the fact that a silver badge which belonged to him, and has his name inscribed upon it, has recently been discovered. This badge, which is oval in shape, and about two by two and a half inches in size, has carved on one side the principal emblems of the Craft lodge, and on the other those of the Royal Arch and other Degrees. The badge is in the possession of Bro. Aaron King, of Nashua, who is making strenuous efforts to trace out the Masonic career of Judge Thornton. Several others who signed the famous Declaration were members of the Fraternity.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the week ending Saturday, August 28, 1886.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21.

Lodge 1326, Lebanon, Railway Hot., Feltham.
 ,, 1641, Crichton, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
 Mark 251 Tenterden, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-street.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Alexandra Palace, Station Ho., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
 Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammersmith, 7.30
 Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, Pimlico, at 7.
 King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.
 Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
 Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
 Star, Five Bells, New Cross-rd., S.E., at 7.
 Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-rd., Herne-hill, S.E., 7.30.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23.

(No Meetings.)

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Kingston Hill, at 8.
 Coborn, Eagle Hot., Snaresbrook, at 8.
 Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hot., Page Green, Tottenham, at 8.
 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High-st., Camden Town, 8.
 Hyde Park, Porchester Hot., Leinster-place, Cleveland-sq., Porchester-terr., Paddington, at 8.
 Kingsland, Cock Tav., Highbury, N., at 8.30.
 Loughborough, Gauden Hot., Clapham, S.W.
 Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hot., Victoria-park-rd., E.
 Metropolitan, Moorgate Tav., 15, Finsbury Pavement, 7.30.
 Perfect Ashlar, Jamaica Tav., Southwark Park-rd., at 8.
 Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202, Whitechapel-road, 7.
 Royal Commemoration, Railway Hot., Putney, 8 till 10.
 Selwyn, East Dulwich Hot., East Dulwich, at 8.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st., at 7.
 St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hot., W. Kensington, at 8.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 St. Mark's, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
 Strong Man, Excise Tav., Old Broad-st., at 7.
 United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., Upper Norwood, at 8.
 Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10
 West Smithfield, New Market Hot., E.C., at 7.30.
 Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24.

Lodge 1580, Cranbourne, Red Lion Hot., Hatfield.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-rd., East Brixton, at 8.
 Capper, Railway Tav., Angel-lane, Stratford, at 8.
 Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bldgs., at 7.
 Chaucer, The Old White Hart, High-st., Borough, at 8.
 Corinthian, George Hot., Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 7.
 Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.
 Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
 Duke of Albany, Rock Tav., Battersea-park-rd., at 8.
 Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, 8.
 Emblematic, Red Lion, York-st., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
 Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-st., Edmonton, at 8.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Plough-rd., Rotherhithe, 8.
 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., at 8.
 Finsbury, King's Head Tavern, 42, Threadneedle-st., at 7.
 Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30.
 Islington, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., E.C., at 7.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
 Joppa, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., at 7.
 Kennington, Giraffe Tav., Newington Crescent, Newington Butts, S.E., at 7.30.
 Kensington, Courtfield Hot., Earl's Court Station, at 8.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8.
 Mount Edgcombe, Three Stags, Kennington-rd., at 8.
 New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-st., N.W., at 8.
 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood T., Finsbury Park, at 8.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd., Maida-hill, 8.
 Pilgrim (German language), Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., E.C., 1st and 3rd Tues.
 Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
 South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Waltham Green, 7.30.
 St. George's, Public Hall, New Cross, at 8.
 Wandsworth, East Hill Hot., Alma-rd., S.W., at 8.
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
 Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
 Earl of Carnarvon Chapter, Ladbroke Hall, Ladbroke Grove-road, Notting-hill, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25.

Lodge 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Tav., Tottenham.
 ,, 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7.
 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., 7 till 9.
 Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edwd. Hot., Mare-st., Hackney, 8.
 Earl of Lathom, Station Hot., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
 Fidelity, Alfred Hot., Roman-rd., Barnsbury, at 8.

Finsbury Park, Cock Tav., Highbury, at 8.30.
 Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford, at 8.
 La Tolerance, Portland Arms, Gt. Portland-st., W., at 8.
 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Mayfair, at 8.
 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.
 Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark-bridge-road, 8.
 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
 Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.
 Peckham, Lord Wellington Hot., 516, Old Kent-rd., at 8.
 Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
 Queen's Westminster, 79, Ebury-st., S.W., at 7.45.
 Ravensbourne, George Inn, Catford, at 8.
 Temperance in the East, Geo. the Fourth, Ida-st., E., at 7.30.
 United Mariners, Lugard Hot., Lugard-rd., Peckham.
 United Strength, Hope Tav., Stanhope-st., Regent's-pk., at 8.
 Vitruvian, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge, at 8.
 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st. S.W.
 Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26.

General Committee Girls' School, at 4.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett Coutts, Swan Tav., New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
 Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305, High Holborn, at 7.
 City of London, Tiptree Tavern, 6, Leadenhall-st., at 6.
 Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, 8.
 Creaton, Wheatshaf Hotel, Goldhawk-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Cape of Good Hope Tav. (opposite Limehouse Church), at 7.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsoby-st., Millbank, at 8.
 Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
 Guelph, Blackbirds Inn, High-st., Leyton.
 Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
 Highgate, Bull and Gate, Highgate-rd., N., at 8.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham, at 8.
 Justice, Brown Bear, High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, Cannon-st., at 5.30.
 Leopold, Old White Hart, Borough High-st., at 7.30.
 Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham-ct.-road, at 8.
 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hot. (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
 Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
 Rose, Sterling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tav., Liverpool-rd., at 8.
 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe New-rd., at 8.
 Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st. Kennington.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons'-avenue, 6.30.
 Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington-rd., Bow-rd., 7.30.
 Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Victoria Park, Yorkshire Grey, High-st., Stratford, at 8.
 West Middlesex, Bell Hot., Ealing, at 7.30.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd., Maida-vale, 7.30.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27.

(No Meetings.)

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
 Beacontree, Bell Tavern, Leytonstone, at 8.
 Chigwell, Loughton Public Hall, at 7.30.
 Clapton, Lord Stanley, Sandringham-rd., Hackney, 8.
 Doric, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
 Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, at 8.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement (for M.Ms.), F.M.H., at 7.
 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
 Loyal, Private Rooms, 206, Mare-st., Hackney, at 8.
 Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-st., Hammersmith, W., at 8.
 Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
 St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
 St. John's, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Temperance, Duke of York Tav., Evelyn-st., Deptford, 8.
 Ubique, 79, Ebury-st., Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
 Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 8.
 Wm. Preston, St. Andrew's Tav., George-st., Baker-st., W.
 Kintore Mark, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, 9.
 Hornsey Chapter, Porchester Hot., Leinster-pl., Cleveland-sq., Paddington, at 8.
 Lily Chapter, Greyhound Hot., at 8.
 Panmure Chapter, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 7.30.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28.

Lodge 1541, Alexandra Palace, Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct.

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 Every Evening at 8.35, THE MIKADO; or, THE TOWN OF TITIBU; at 7.45, THE CARP. Matinee every Saturday at 2.30.
VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
 Every Evening, at 8, THE ROAD TO RUIN.
GAIETY THEATRE.
 Every Evening at 8, Farce; at 8.45, ADONIS.
PRINCES THEATRE.
 Every Evening at 8.15, THE JILT.
COURT THEATRE.
 Every Evening at 8.45, THE SCHOOLMISTRESS; at 8, BREAKING THE ICE. Matinee Saturday next at 2.30.
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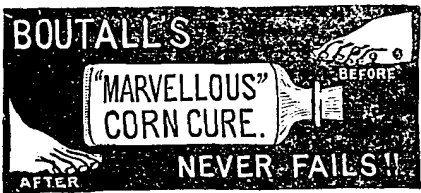
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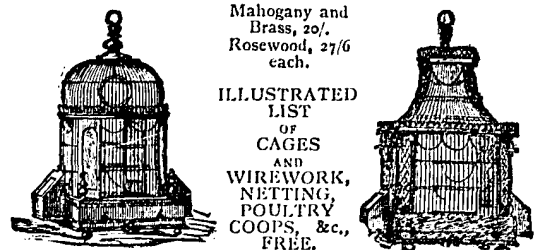
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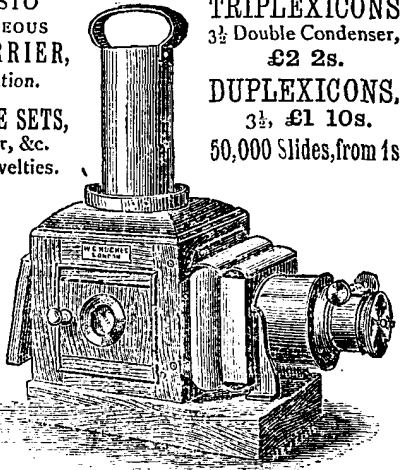
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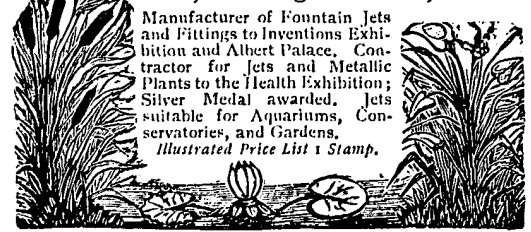


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