

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1866.

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN CORNWALL.

By ✠ Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, 18°, &c,

(Continued from page 282.)

It seems to have been the custom to use the minute book of the lodge for the purposes of the Province of Cornwall, as well as for the regular records of Love and Honour, for we find that on October 13th, 1752, the following minutes, of a nature similar to many which occur subsequently:—"This even a quarterly communication was held. Brother Smith, Master of Helstone Lodge, attended and brought half a guinea for their part of the general charity, and brought a list of their members. Their bye-laws are as before inserted."

"Brother Lake (in the absence of Brother Harrison, Master of Truro Lodge) brought a list of their members, together with a copy of their bye-laws, and gave notice of the removal of their lodge to the sign of 'The Masons' Arms' in Truro."

The next meeting of the lodge was held on October 26, 1752. "Brother Pender expecting to leave the country shortly, begged the favour to be made a Fellow Craft this even, and it was complied with."

"A stool was brought home this evening, and Brother Allison was ordered to pay Mr. Tiley for it."

November 9th, 1752.—"Our Right Worshipful Master being designed for London, he was desired to attend the quarterly communication on behalf of our lodge, and the Secretary was ordered to prepare a list of the members and send them by post. It was desired to purchase a handsome chair for the Master, as also to look at the candlesticks mentioned by Brother Carrie."

We suspect the brother just mentioned was the Grand Sword Bearer of England, whose name and worth were recorded in a previous communication.

November 30th, 1752.—"This even Captain Ralph Hutchinson was admitted to the degree of an Entered Apprentice, and was at the same time made Fellow Craft, he being going abroad before the next lodge." On December 4th we find that the same brother was raised to the degree of Master as he was going suddenly abroad. Thus, the three degrees were given under very different regulations then to now so far as relates to the Grand Lodge of England. To be made an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason within five days was surely very rapid advancement, although in conformity with the Book of Constitutions of that date and even more recently.

"A brother made a motion on November 30th that the Tyler, being somewhat better, the pension should be reduced to 3s. 6d. per week until further orders."

The next record requiring notice is on December 14th, "when a complaint was made by the Master of Helston Lodge that Brother ——, being guilty of some indiscretion, he had been voted out of their lodge till he has made due submission" The lodge after due consideration of the matter wisely resolved that the brother so offending should not be permitted to visit until the members of his own lodge rescinded their vote of expulsion

On December 28th, 1752, Brother Joseph Sherburne was elected Master, and appointed Brothers Edward Snoxell, Senior Warden, and Brother Richard James, Junior Warden. The W.M. was the last on the list of the original members, and the Wardens owned the Love and Honour to be their mother lodge. The number of members at this date had increased to forty; two, however, declined, and five were honorary. From the minute of January 11th, 1753, it would appear that honorary members consisted of such brethren who had ceased to reside in England for a time, as Mr. Clement Nicholson was admitted an Entered Apprentice then, "and set down as honorary member, as he is obliged to go abroad suddenly." The brethren stated to be honorary were initiates of the lodge, which still further confirms this view.

On March 8th, 1753, the Prov. G.M. for Cornwall honoured the lodge by a visit. According to the Book of Constitutions the P.G.M. was invested with the power and honour of a Deputy Grand Master ever since the institution of that office in 1726, and by the Constitutions of 1723, the Deputy Grand Master "hath authority and right, not only to be present, but also to preside wherever he is." We find that the Secretary of the lodge commences the minutes of that date by writing "Provincial in the chair." A good deal of business was transacted, and the chairs were the same even "brought home and approved of." An extra lodge was held on March 10th, two days afterwards, "Provincial in the chair," and also one on March 15th, and another on March 29th, which clearly evinced that the zeal of the members continued unabated. The meeting on March 15th was held by permission of the P.G.M., "the P.G.S. in the chair." (We take this to mean that Bro. Matthew Allison, Prov. Grand Secretary acted as W.M.)

The chairs, it should be stated, were made from the mahogany so kindly presented by Bro. Macnamarra, and did not cost more "than four guineas each." It appears also that about this time "Brother Ore was attended to the grave by the lodge in due form, properly clothed." Who the deceased was we cannot tell, as his name does not occur on the list of members, and no explanation is offered by the Secretary. A quarterly communication of the P.G.L. seems to have been held at Falmouth during the month of

February, but no minutes are registered of the fact by the Secretary, as was customary.

At nearly every meeting of late, a member was accepted and initiated the same evening, because of "leaving England to go abroad." This gives one a faint idea of how Freemasonry so rapidly became known, worked and flourished on the Continent so soon after its revival in 1717. On April 26, 1753, "Brother Lane Canon proposed himself as a member of the lodge, and it was unanimously agreed to." On reference to subsequent minutes we find that this brother was raised to the degree of a Master Mason on September 27th of the same year, and from the fact of the date of his receiving the third degree being the only notice appended to his name in the list of members at the commencement of the minute book, together with his "proposing himself as a member," we consider he was a joining member, and the second in that capacity since the formation of the lodge. The Master was in the chair, and apparently must have been much engaged for some hours, if we judge from the business done and suppose the rituals of the three degrees were of the same length as those agreed on at the union in 1813.

On May 10th, 1753, one Entered Apprentice, three Fellow Crafts, and two Master Masons completed the work for the evening. The unusual minute occurs of the "Provincial and Master in the chair, alternately."

Brother Sartorius received the public thanks of the lodge for the arms of the Freemasons which were brought this even (excellently performed) and placed in the lodge."

May 31st, 1753:—"Provincial in the chair; four brethren were raised. Brothers Bluett, sen., Kempthorn, Laskey, and J. Williams were desired to act as Stewards at the grand feast. The Secretary was ordered to advertise the feast day in the *General Evening Post* two separate days, and to prepare tickets and summonses for the general feast.

The next meeting we propose giving in full, as it refers to the election of the W.M. and other officers for the ensuing six months.

June 14th, 1753.—"Provincial in the chair. Mr. Stephen Gregg, Commander of the ship 'Conquest,' going abroad, requested to be admitted an Entered Apprentice, and it was unanimously agreed to by the lodge. Bro. William Mitchell was this even raised a Master. Bro. Lewis Jones was this even made a Fellow Craft. Bro. Josiah Cock was this even made an Entered Apprentice, as was also Brother Stephen Gregg. Brother Henry Pye favoured us with a visit. Bro. William Hill, Esq., was chosen Master of the lodge for the following six months, and appointed Mr. Thomas Milles, sen., and Mr. George Peard, Junior Wardens. Mr. M. Allison was desired to

continue Secretary. Bro. Stephen Jago Guenap was elected by ballot Treasurer. We are not quite sure whether the ballot was really necessary or optional at this date. (Art. 1, page 291, Constitutions, 1756, "The Grand Treasurer is *chosen* by the Grand Lodge." No reference is made to the Treasurer of a lodge either in this edition or in the old Constitutions of 1723).

"On July 12th, 1753, Brother Elias Pomeroy was made a Fellow Craft, and at the request of Brother Young, and by the permission of the Provincial, he was raised Master, as he sails to-morrow.

"Brother Cock unfortunately was ill with the gout, and sent an excuse, saying, he could not possibly attend."

At a quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, in 1721, "It was resolved that no man can be admitted a member of a particular lodge, without previous notice one month before given to the said lodge, unless by dispensation. The restrictions in regard to the three degrees, however, were not agreed to until November, 1753.

The P.G.M. occupied the chair of the third lodge following the above, and had the satisfaction of hearing that Lieutenant Hamilton, of the ancient and far-famed Pendennis Castle, had offered himself a member of the lodge, and the brethren unanimously accepted him. Subsequently, Bro. Enys desired to be excused as a member, as he was settled in London.

On September 13th, no less than six visiting brethren were present. The next four meetings were unimportant.

The Deputy Master occupied the chair, alternately with the P.G.M. on the 29th November, but the precise meaning attached to "deputy" in this case is not clear, as it may mean the D.P.G.M., or an Acting W.M. merely.

December 3rd, 1753.—"Extra lodge; Provincial in the chair. This even was balloted for and admitted to the degree of an Entered Apprentice, Captain William Leslie, and as he was going abroad, he was made a Fellow Craft.

"A motion was made for his being raised Master, and it was unanimously agreed to raise him next lodge night."

The next meeting occurred on the 13th of the same month, when the same brother was duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Unless the case was very special, indeed, this was the best that could be done for the emergency, as by resolution of Grand Lodge, Nov. 23, 1753, no lodge was permitted to make and raise the same brother at one and the same meeting.

Six months' term of office is much shorter than the time required for honours now, and almost as soon as the brethren of the Falmouth Lodge had quietly settled down to the work with their new officers,

the months of December or June presented themselves, and required their customary ballots, elections, and appointments. This December there was a close run for the Master's chair, but, as the Irishman would say, the *winner had it*.

(*To be continued*).

EARS OF WHEAT FROM A CORNUCOPIA.

By Bro. D. MURRAY LYON, *one of the Grand Stewards in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.*

Initiators, Pass or Past Masters.

Passing into Nithsdale, recently, we directed our steps to Thornhill, where, pulling the latch-string of Bro. A. C. Hislop's retreat, we found him on the point of testing a weary-footed stranger whose claims for needed relief were based upon the presumptive evidence of his being a Freemason presented by the possession of a Grand Lodge diploma. The due examination of transient brethren is among Craftsmen more theoretical than practical, less perhaps from lack of the desire to comply with a standing rule of the Fraternity, than from a sense of incompetency properly to conduct an examination,—such incompetency being traceable to the unskillful manner in which in too many instances the rite of initiation is performed, and the subsequent instruction of novitiates attended to. And how can it be otherwise, when we find Ignorance enthroned in the minds of brethren entrusted with such jewels as the square, level, and plumb, and whose highest Masonic aspirations seem to be after the possession of qualifications for conducting the conviviality of a lodge. What wonder then that so many of our number should fail to appreciate the beauty of our symbols, to apprehend the instruction they are meant to convey, or to be able either to undergo or to conduct a thorough Masonic examination. Grip, word, and sign communicated in a ceremony hurriedly performed, and the friendly interchange of sentiment over the social cup, are but poor apologies for Masonic instruction. In the case of the applicant for relief, above referred to, the examination was conducted with an amount of caution and intelligence which evidenced the thoroughness of the Masonic education of both interrogator and interrogated. The wayfarer hailed from Beith St. John—a lodge holding its original charter from Mother Kilwinning, and in which, apart from the Master, there is a recognised Initiator, elected along with the other officebearers, and in point of precedence

ranking next to the Inner Guard. The present Initiator in the Beith Lodge has long held that post, and for every intrant he receives from the lodge one shilling as a recompence for his services.

We know not whether there be now such an official in any other lodge; but from the records of another of the offshoots of the mother lodge, Ayr Kilwinning, reference is made to a somewhat similar practice—the Initiator being there designated the “Pass” Master. For several years Ayr Kilwinning would seem to have had the floor-work of the lodge conducted, as in our own day, sometimes by the Master, more frequently by other brethren. But in 1771, from a consideration that “a Pass Master was essential to the welfare and order” of the lodge, such an officer was ordered “to be put upon the establishment thereof.” The propriety of such an appointment was urged by the then Wardens of the lodge in these terms: “That in all well-regulated lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, there is an office-bearer called the Pass Master, whose business is to enter Apprentices, pass Fellow Crafts, and raise Master Masons, and likewise to assist the Master, Depute Master, and Wardens for the good government of the lodge;—that the Pass Master ought to be well-acquainted with Ancient and Modern Masonry, and especially he ought to be well qualified to instruct young brethren in the Ancient Noble Art, and in their duty to the lodge, as becometh Masons, that good order and harmony may always be preserved by every member of this body (which is the glory of Masonry).” The office of “Pass” Master (or Initiator) continued till 1809 to be discharged by brethren neither of whom had ever passed the chair; but in that year the “Pass” Master (who had precedency immediately after the Junior Steward) gave place to a real, though not the immediate, Past Master, with rank next to the Depute Master; and thus dropped from the officials of Ayr Kilwinning, one whose presence had by a previous generation of Craftsmen been considered indispensable in “all well-regulated lodges.” Mother Kilwinning, we find so recently as March, 1842, electing a “Pass” Master in room of a brother (not the Past Master). But it was only a few years prior to that date that either Pass or Past Master appeared among the office-bearers of the Kilwinning Lodge; it is twenty-five years since the “Pass” Master's office was abolished at Kilwinning.

In the second of Bro. Hughan's interesting articles on the History of Freemasonry in Cornwall, we observe "Pass" Master mentioned under date 1752. Was the brother so designated a *bona fide* Past Master, or was he the Initiator?

In 1839, the Grand Lodge of Scotland declared that, according to her Laws and Constitutions, and to the strict usages of Masonry, "the Past Master of a lodge is the senior office-bearer next the Master, and as such is entitled to precedence on all occasions."

FREEMASONRY IN THE UNITED STATES.

(Continued from page 246.)

MICHIGAN.

The address of the Grand Master of Michigan occupies about 32 pages of the printed proceedings, and is a very able paper. It contains many important decisions. They are as follows:—

"As this Grand Lodge, many years since, adopted the Barney-work and lectures, as they were then termed, and meaning the Baltimore national work; and again, at its last session, after mature deliberation, re-adopted it; and by a resolution, made it the duty of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and Grand Visitor and Lecturer, to procure, and place on file in the archives of the Grand Lodge, a correct copy of said work and lectures for future references, etc. The question naturally arose, What was that work, and those lectures? This question was of more difficult solution, for the reason that a great number of brethren, both in this and other jurisdictions, are in possession of keys made by Barney himself; no two of which, that I have been able to find (and I have examined many of them), are exactly alike; and many of them are widely different.

Our late venerable Bro. Philip C. Tucker, for many years Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, in his address in 1859, fully admits the fact, and explains the reasons why there was a difference in Barney's keys. And in a recent conference with the like venerable and talented C. W. Moore, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, he corroborates the statements made by Bro. Tucker.

"I, therefore, before complying with said resolution, deemed it of great importance to ascertain, as far as possible, what that true work was, so that when once established, no altera-

tion would be hereafter submitted to, by any one, from the youngest E. A. to the Grand Master, inclusive. And my own observation, for a few years past, has demonstrated the fact that there is a material difference between the work as recently taught and practised in some of the lodges in this jurisdiction, and that of three, five, and ten years since. Some gross innovations have been introduced, which I am confident have no precedent outside of this jurisdiction, since the first building was erected in the city of Baltimore, and consequently could not be rightfully termed "Baltimore work." Among which were the following: . . . These, and a few others of minor importance, I instructed our G.V. and L. to correct.

In order, therefore, to enable me to assist in preparing a correct and permanent standard of rituals for our future use, I have visited and witnessed an exemplification of the work, on the three several degrees; and heard all the lectures rehearsed, by some of the best ritualists in the States of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Illinois, and Wisconsin. And among those of whom I sought for light, were Bros. Cooledge, P.G.M.; C. W. Moore, G. Sec.; and E. D. Bancroft, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, each of whom are as highly polished, brilliant scholars as can be found in the United States.

Bro. Moore, it will be recollected, was on the committee at Baltimore, and reported the lectures and work, which Barney was authorised to teach, and ought to be considered as good authority for correcting any material discrepancy in the Barney work.

In all the States I have visited, they claim to work the Baltimore work; and claim that that is the Webb-work, differing only in a few non-essentials (which I can readily explain to you, if desired).

"And from all my researches, while I am of the opinion that a few corrections in our former work ought to be made (and would not require scarce ten minutes to perfect), still, as a whole, I believe the lectures and work as taught and practised in this jurisdiction six or eight years since, and in many of our subordinate lodges at the present day, to be as correct and free from errors as can be found within any jurisdiction in the United States.

Near the close of our last session, a select com-

mittee of five was appointed "to consider the whole subject of the keys, and report a plan of action at the (then) next communication of the Grand Lodge." That committee, I presume, will now be ready to report, and may render any further action of the committee, consisting of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and G. V. and L., unnecessary. But if not, said last mentioned committee would ask for further time to make their report."

A subject of grave and vital importance is also very justly attended to, as follows:—

"Brethren, I deem it to be my duty to call your serious attention to a growing evil, and violation of one of the most important ancient regulations of our order, to wit, admitting to membership many who seek admission through selfish, mercenary motives, who, if not a disgrace to the Institution, become drones in the hive.

"The time was, and should be now, that a brother, with a diploma showing him to be a Master Mason in good and regular standing, might travel the wide world over, and without any certificate of character or letter of credit, be received by the brotherhood as a gentleman of uprightness and integrity, one in whom the utmost confidence might be reposed, without any fear of his betraying that trust. But, alas! my brethren, it is not so now. This evil can, and must be remedied. Let our lodges be thoroughly sifted. Let it be everywhere known that the openly immoral, the profane swearer, the drunkard, the gambler, &c., have no right to a seat within our sanctum, and if any such are there, let them be expelled. And upon every application for admission, let your doors be strongly closed against the applicant until you have clear and undisputed evidence of his positive worth. Negative evidence such as "I know nothing against the candidate," is a fatal error into which we have too easily fallen.

Permit me to quote a sentence from the ancient charges, which every Mason should be able to repeat, but which I fear many have never even read, to wit:

"No man can become a Mason consistently with ancient usages of the Order, unless he be free born, of lawful age, good moral character, temperate, industrious, charitable, and possessed of public spirit and the social virtues. He must be of sufficient natural endowments to be respectable, and must have entire all the faculties

and senses of a man. He must also have an estate, office, trade, occupation, or some visible means of acquiring an honest livelihood. He must have a sound head and a good heart, and be exempt from all those ill qualities and vices which bring dishonour to the Craft," &c.

Let me put the question to you, brethren, do you require indisputable evidence of all these requisities before you allow a candidate to enter? If not, then you have violated your Masonic obligations.

Another test of the candidate's integrity should be closely scrutinised. I refer to the interrogatories propounded to every candidate, before admission, to wit: "Do you seriously declare upon your honour, that unbiased by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry?" To this and others the candidate gives an affirmative answer, while all the surrounding circumstances, if closely looked to, would, I fear in many cases, stamp that answer as false."

The address of the Grand Master for Missouri occupies seventeen pages, and touches upon many subjects of general interest to Masonry. Upon the subject of the increasing popularity of our Institution, he says:

"It cannot be denied, that at no period of our organisation in this State has Masonry been so popular. Hundreds, aye thousands, are seeking admission to our inner temple, who four years ago, never dreamed of becoming Masons. But now the rush is so great that our old and cherished landmarks, like the levees on the lower Mississippi, are about to be swept away by the great pressure brought to bear upon them. Is there no power in the Grand Lodge to stem this mighty torrent? I answer there is; and I call upon you, my brethren, to devise some plan whereby this incessant demand for Masonic privileges may be, in some measure, checked. If you will examine the returns of the subordinate lodges at this communication, you will find that the number of Masons made within the past year exceeds—largely exceeds—the number made in any previous year, even when all our lodges were working. As a consequence growing out of this wholesale making of Masons is the little regard entertained for the lessons which Masonry teaches. Too many believe that, now that they are Masons, they may use the Order for their own selfish purposes; and

it is with sorrow I say that this is a truth made evident to the most superficial observer. Is this, my brethren, the aim and object of Masonry? If so, I have learned its lessons in vain."

(*To be continued.*)

THE NEMESIS: A TALE OF THE DAYS OF TRAJAN.

By BRO. A. ONEAL HAYE, Author of "*The History of the Knights Templars*;" *Poet Laureate of the Canongate, Kilwinning*; *P.M. St. Stephens*; *P.P.Z. of St. Andrews R.A. Chap.*; &c.; &c.

(*Continued from page 287.*)

CHAPTER V.

THE EARLY CHRISTIANS' CHAPEL.

"Mid the silence of the tomb,
Mid the grave's sepulchral gloom,
Mid the darkness of the night,
Hid from ribald heathen's sight,
Rose the hymn of praise to Heaven
'Sinners saved, and sin forgiven.'"—*A O. II.*

Let us leave the princely halls of Rome, the streets through which the proud triumph has swept its splendid mournful course along, and descend to that other city, the city of the tombs, the catacombs, wherein the lawless murderer had his den, the philosopher his secret hall of mystery, and the early Christian his temple and his shrine. No longer might free uncurbed minds soar through the mysteries of philosophy and challenge the slavish worship and tenets of the priests, no longer might the humble follower of Jesus exercise the rightful devotions of his creed in the face of day; the spirit of the false gods, fearful for its power had arisen, and driven both philosopher and Christian to the secret places and the caves of the earth.

The persecution of the Christians which had raged during the reign of Nero, continued with less or more fury during those of his successors, and swelled into greater proportions during that of Trajan. Nothing less than the utter destruction of the sect was his aim and object. The emperor was mild and accomplished, tender of heart and cool in judgment, on all points save one. He had been taught to abhor the Christian name, as indicative of all that was vile and low in human nature; he believed that they united in their worship the prostitution of the votaries of Venus, with the vile excesses and awful depravity of the worshippers of Bacchus; he viewed them as dangerous fomenters of civil broil, persons who would stop at nothing to degrade humanity, and sub-

vert moral principle. The priests found him an easy tool in their hands, and he lent ready credence to all their tales of the dreadful doings of the Christian community.

In the earlier years after the ascension of our blessed Lord into heaven, the Christians escaped persecution at the hands of the Romans, who looked upon them as a sect of the Jews, a circumstance confirmed by the hatred which that people bore them: but when in course of time, their numbers increased, when patrician and plebeian alike enrolled themselves under the banners of the Cross, when they began to make incessant and deadly attacks upon the national worship, then the Romans, hounded on by their priests turned round and slew them. The Jewish religion was never one given to proselytising—it was essentially national and domestic; a convert never rose to rank among the Jews, he was rather looked upon as a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. Only to the pure descendants of Jacob was the Mosaic law applicable. Converts were undoubtedly received, but they were despised.

Thus the Roman priests found in the Christians a dangerous power, and one which if not in time curbed, would end in their overthrow. Every day some noble left their altars, ceased to supply victims for the sacrifice, the funds of the temples became smaller and smaller, while the Christian flock grew larger and larger. Then commenced the string of bloody persecutions, thousands died in the amphitheatre, torn to pieces by wild animals, till the name ceased to be acknowledged, and the faithful hid their heads in fear and trembling. They had hoped to have found in Trajan a just though perhaps a stern adversary, but such hopes were speedily blighted. Forth went the orders to hunt them down, rewards were offered for their discovery and capture, and many a miscreant joined their ranks for no other purpose than to betray. Old men, young and fair women were delivered up to the lions in the Colloseum, and the Romans were destined to reap many a goodly sight of murder and cruelty.

In a cell hollowed out in the side of one of the far off passages of the catacombs, known only to the initiated, a company of Christians met, under the pastorage of one Paulus a tanner on the Pontine Marshes. Paulus, had once been among the most distinguished of Corinth's citizens, rich and noble. He was descended from the virtuous patriot Aratus of Sicyon, who proving an insur-

mountable obstacle to the ambition of Philip of Macedon, the latter had him removed by poison. The grandfather of Paulus had settled in Corinth, and with Paulus died the last descendant of the noble Aratus. He was gentle by nature, of rare learning, and greatly beloved by all classes of the community. He had taken a great interest in studying the manners and customs of the Jews, and in these researches had learned the doctrine of the Cross, and become a Christian. Shortly after the death of his only son, a gallant youth of twenty summers, he disposed of all his wealth to the poor, and came to Rome, where he earned a precarious livelihood in farming. He took up his residence in the Marsh, that he might the better be enabled to carry out his great work of winning souls to Christ, and to escape the notice of the priests, whose myrmidons were everywhere. His ministry had been attended with the greatest success, and his flock numbered nearly a hundred souls drawn from all grades of society. There were other congregations who met in different parts of the catacombs, for it was not considered prudent for large numbers to assemble at one spot. Sentinels were stationed at various points to intimate the appearance of anything suspicious, and at the slightest indication of such the congregation silently but expeditiously dispersed in a hundred different directions.

In a cell hewed out of the earth, then, were assembled Paulus and his flock. Upon a rudely fashioned earthen kind of altar, was spread a white cloth concealing the bread and wine to be administered to the communicants. 'Twas a strange, 'twas a marvellously moving sight. There close beside the squalid beggar, knelt a descendant of the Claudii, a fair beautiful maiden beside a swarthy negro, a child just bursting into youth beside an ancient warrior tottering on the threshold of the grave. See, there in the far off corner, with her face buried in her mantle kneels one, whom it is almost incredible can have admission here. It is Myra, the younger daughter of Murtius. Yes, in this holy band we find her, the gentle Myra, whose soft pensive eye, and seraphic smile, tells as she eats the bread and drinks the wine of the sacrament that her heart is pure and true, her mind uncontaminated by vice, and her soul only knows the presence and will of God. Yes, even in the debauchery of his house, Murtius has one pure spirit, even as in the rebellious host of heaven, one was found faithful.

Low and trembling come the priest's words as he murmurs, "I am the Resurrection and the life—Come all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. This is my body which was broken for you, come eat you all of it, yea eat most abundantly." Then arose the sweet song of praise, and tenderly do they approach the altar, their hearts throbbing before that symbol of the great atonement. No fears of the dark and threatening world, for where one or two are gathered in His name, the Shepherd is with them to comfort and to do them good. The faint echoes die in the distant passages, and the parting song in praise of God and Him who died upon the accursed tree is ended. The worshippers arise and go forth to meet all dangers, dreading no ill, but having their trust in the God of Sabaoth. Myra goes forth with Paulus, and he leads her along the passages, till they enter the city at the Temple of Diana. Not far off is the house of Murtius; there the priest leaves her, and by other passages escapes from out the city to his own home.

"Not arrived yet," said Myra, as the janitor opened the door, "where can they be, what can detain them?"

"The pleasures of the Suburra, innocent child, the dance and the wine cup of Bacchus."

(To be continued.)

FREEMASONRY.

(Concluded from page 289.)

Ancient Craft Masonry consists of three degrees—including the Royal Arch—Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason. The regulations regarding the admission of members into the fraternity are necessarily very stringent, in order that none but worthy men may be admitted into the Craft. A lodge of Masons is called together by summons sent to each member, and in each summons are set out the names, addresses, and occupations of all persons applying for admission into the lodge. When the lodge is held, each candidate is proposed and seconded, and then balloted for. If three black balls appear against him he is rejected. In some lodges, one or two balls will exclude a candidate; but in any case three will. Each candidate must be of the nobler sex, of the age of twenty-one (except in certain cases), and at the time of his initiation, in reputable circumstances; and as the candidate has to sign his name to a declaration of these facts, an individual who cannot write is therefore ineligible.

The "Book of Constitutions," published in London by the command of the Grand Master, and

which forms the *lex scripta* of Freemasonry, declares that the officers of a lodge are the Master and his two wardens, two deacons, an inner and an outer guard, the latter being more usually known as the Tyler. There must also be a Secretary and Treasurer; and there are also in many lodges a Chaplain, Master of the Ceremonies, and Stewards. The Master, and Treasurer, and Tyler are elected yearly by the members by ballot. The appointment of the other officers rests with the Master of the lodge.

The fee for initiation varies in the different lodges: but the minimum is, except in certain cases, three guineas for a county, and five guineas for a London lodge. There is also a yearly subscription by each member of a lodge, varying in amount from a few shillings to as many pounds.

The Freemasons are not, like the Odd Fellows and Foresters, a friendly society, in the legal sense of that term. They are not legally entitled, in case of illness, to any pecuniary assistance from the funds of the Craft, nor will the widow of a deceased brother be entitled to anything from her late husband's lodge. But what Freemasons are not legally bound to do, they will often do voluntarily and for charity's sake. There is a very handsome school at Battersea Rise for maintaining, clothing, and educating children, daughters of decayed Freemasons. There is also a Masonic Institution at Tottenham for the sons of indigent or deceased Freemasons, of which excellent Institution our most gracious Queen is patroness; and there is also a Royal Benevolent Institution at Croydon for aged Freemasons and their widows. In addition to these, there is a benevolent fund of some four thousand pounds a year distributed monthly to distressed Masons. For all these charitable purposes, portions of each candidate's initiation-fee and yearly subscription are paid into the treasury of the Grand Lodge.

From what has been already stated, it will be seen that the ladies are excluded from all Masonic honours and secrets, giving rise, we dare say, to many matrimonial "tiffs." An anecdote is related of an occurrence at Vienna, showing that the fair sex are the same there as here with respect to curiosity. Several German ladies having been baffled in their attempts upon the secrecy of their husbands' and admirers, converted their curiosity into revenge, and attempted to inflame Maria Theresa, the empress-queen, against the lodges in Vienna. Their attempt was in some measure successful, as they persuaded her to issue an order for surprising all the Freemasons in the city when assembled in their lodges. This plan was, however, frustrated by the intervention of the Emperor Francis I., who, being himself a Freemason, declared his readiness to be answerable for the conduct of his Masonic brethren.

It is one of the inviolable rules of Freemasonry that none but males can be admitted. The ladies are therefore rigorously, and, as they say, unfeel-

ingly excluded from a participation in the mysteries and privileges of the Craft.

Notwithstanding this, one instance is on record of a young lady of noble birth having been made a Freemason; but the means she took to obtain the honour were dishonourable in themselves, and therefore unworthy of being adopted by other members of the fair sex. In France, the fair creatures, excited perhaps by the perfection of character which their husbands had reached through being Freemasons, or, what is much more likely, roused by the spirit of inquisitiveness which has accompanied all of them since our mother Eve, introduced a Masonry of Adoption for women. The members were called sisters; and the labours of the lodge being ended, balls and banquets pleasantly wound up the evening. The first of these females lodges, called *La Candeur*, was opened in Paris in 1785, a duchess being the Grand Mistress. After the Revolution, the Empress Josephine presided over the *Loge Impériale d'Adoption des Francs Chevaliers*, at Strasbourg.

The Royal Arch is the highest degree in Freemasonry recognised by the Grand Lodge of England. The Masons in this degree are called companions, and when assembled, a chapter.

In addition to those we have already mentioned, there are nearly thirty other degrees—to which, however, but very few Masons aspire. There are several Masonic Orders of chivalry, such as Knights Templars of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and of Malta. These hold encampments, and the members assume the most strange and high-sounding names.

After the revival of Freemasonry in the last century, it was customary to hold the lodges at taverns, each lodge being usually distinguished by the name of the house in which it assembled. But since Masonic halls have come into vogue, other distinctive names have been introduced, which are of a somewhat strange and fantastic character. Falmouth rejoices in a Lodge of Love and Honour; Winchester, in a Lodge of Economy; Gravesend, in a Lodge of Freedom; the London Tavern has a Lodge of Felicity; Fetter-lane, a Strong Man Lodge; Cambridge, a Scientific Lodge; Whitehaven, a Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge; Burnley, a Lodge of Silent Temple; Warrington, a Lodge of Lights; Preston, a Lodge of Unanimity; while Madras has a lodge of Perfect Unanimity; Calcutta has a Lodge of Humility with Fortitude, and another of Courage with Humanity; Crewe has a Lodge of the Four Cardinal Virtues; Haworth, a Three Graces Lodge; Freemasons' Tavern, a Lodge of the Nine Muses; while Heckmondwike has an Amphibious Lodge, composed, we presume, of frogs, crocodiles, and hippopotami.

There are nearly eleven hundred lodges under the control of the Grand Lodge of England: of

this number, some one hundred and seventy are in London, or within ten miles of the Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen-street; over five hundred and sixty are scattered over other parts of England and Wales. Rutlandshire has none; Bedfordshire, but three; while Lancashire has nearly one hundred. There are others in the Channel Islands, India (there are ten in Calcutta), Cape of Good Hope, West Indies, North and South America, Australia, New Zealand. The 1st, 6th, 12th, 14th, 31st, and 89th regiments of foot have lodges attached to their respective corps. In addition to these, there are nearly one thousand Royal Arch Chapters under the same jurisdiction. In the above numbers are not of course included lodges in Scotland, or Ireland; each of which countries has its own Grand Lodge.

In round numbers, there are about one million and a quarter of Free and Accepted Masons scattered upon the face of the globe. Of this number, some one hundred and fifty thousand are English Masons; one hundred thousand, Scotch; fifty thousand, Irish. There are about six hundred thousand on the continent of Europe; half that number in the United States; and fifty thousand in other parts of the world. In England, there are two or three thousand persons initiated each year; and papal allocations and feminine denunciations notwithstanding, the Masonic body is said to be everywhere increasing.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

POETS LAUREATE.

I observe in your report of the recent presentation to Bro. Murray Lyon, that some brethren have attached to their names, the title of Poet Laureate.

Will any of your correspondents inform me, if many of the Scotch lodges possess Poets Laureate; and also if the office exists, or has at any time existed in our English lodges?—M. M.

THE BUDDHISTS.

The Buddhists, writes a Lancashire brother, are estimated at 400 millions, more than one-third of the human race; and he makes some suggestions as to the admission of certain Buddhists into Freemasonry. But not one of those suggestions, as it appears to me, meets the great difficulty. Buddhism is an Atheistical Religion; and a Buddhist cannot be received into a lodge unless he previously changes his creed. Conversion to Theism must precede initiation in our Institution. "Comme les Bouddhistes n'admettent pas, en dehors des quatre éléments, d'Être suprême qui aurait créé le monde, on ne peut découvrir qu'ils ne soient athées dans le sens habituel du mot."—Dict. Sci. Phil.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY AND THE ENGLISH FREEMASON.

The letter from Canterbury has been duly brought to me by an East Kent brother. The ensuing lines have reference to the chief passage in it. The Christian Missionary, on some fitting occasion, speaks to the Atheist, or to the Pantheist, or to the Polytheist, or

to the Fetichist, of Christianity, but (as alas! too often happens) unsuccessfully. His task is ended. He had a holy duty to perform, and it is now performed; and he can speak of nothing more. The English Freemason also, on some fitting occasion, speaks to the Atheist, or to the Pantheist, or to the Polytheist, or to the Fetichist, of Christianity, and unsuccessfully. His task, however, unlike that of the Missionary, has not ended; it is only beginning. His duty is not yet performed, and there is something more of which he can speak. Accordingly he speaks of Natural Religion. He speaks of the One living God, the Great Architect of the Universe. He speaks of the obligation to do what is right and not to do what is wrong, of Charity, of Rewards, and Punishments in another Life. He speaks of the great Truths, discoverable by the just exercise of man's reason, and without the assistance of Revelation.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

MONOTHEISM OF THE ENGLISH FREEMASON.

I refer a correspondent to my communication, "English Freemasonry essentially Monotheistic," pages 72 and 168 of the present volume. Notwithstanding what a correspondent may have heard, it is, in my judgment, as probable that an Englishman should call his wife, or sister, the Goddess of Reason, and substitute the worship of such Goddess for Christianity, as that the English Freemason should substitute the Pantheism of a German Philosopher for his own Monotheism.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

USAGE OF A PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE ON CELEBRATION OF ITS YEARLY FESTIVAL TO PROCEED TO CHURCH.

In answer to the letter of a brother upon this subject I say—that where it has been the usage that a Provincial Grand Lodge should on the celebration of its yearly Festival proceed to a Church in the neighbourhood of the place where the Festival is held, and divine service having been performed, hear the Provincial Grand Chaplain's sermon, it appears to me, considering the very unsatisfactory state of Freemasonry, as regards the religious element, in many countries of Europe, most inexpedient that such usage should be discontinued at the present time.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR. PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIP- WRECK.

SIR,—I wish to ask through the medium of our valuable paper what are we doing by way of lending a helping hand to the cause of the "Shipwrecked Mariner's Society," or the "National Lifeboat Institution?"

I am glad to see that certain public bodies, as well as private individuals have provided lifeboats for places along the coast where no proper provision existed for saving life in case of shipwreck. Such places are, alas, too numerous!

A glance at a chart of wrecks that has been lately published cannot fail deeply to impress every true

Masonic heart! Can we not as a body do something on this behalf? I think we can.

If only every lodge in the kingdom agreed to espouse the matter, a very handsome sum might soon be raised. We can surely provide *one good lifeboat!* I do not know what the cost might be, but I imagine a contribution from each lodge of from 2s. 6d. to 3s. would be sufficient. If the Grand Secretary or some one of sufficient influence among us would take the trouble to suggest this, with "a long pull, and a strong pull and a pull altogether," the thing would speedily be done.

The boat might most appropriately have conferred on it the distinguished name of our ancient Order.

Please ventilate the subject, and oblige

THE THREE LEGS OF MAN.

St. Manghold, Oct. 8th, 1866.

LOST VOTES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Brother Biggs' letter certainly appears to be simply a trumpeting forth of his own great charity and philanthropy, mixed up with a considerable amount of railing against myself, but with very little bearing on the real question mooted in my letter, to which it professes to be a reply.

Misstatements, erroneous inferences, and fustian common-place declamation, I would remind your angry correspondent, are not arguments. What does he mean when he says that I "affect to censure" you? Where in my letter can he find a word of censure, either on yourself or any one else? I asked you, Sir, a very simple question, in, I believe, a perfectly courteous style. A difference of opinion on a plain abstract question as to the mode of canvassing at an election, is not, I apprehend, considered equivalent to a censure amongst ordinary mortals, whatever it may be by some, or at all events, one, of the moon-rakers of Wiltshire. What, let me ask again, was this preacher of charity thinking of when he branded another with the stigma of slander on the strength of words which that other never used, but which are put into his mouth; thus, as it were, making his giants first, to have the pleasure of destroying them afterwards? Where, pray, have I charged "those who exert themselves with such contemptible egotism as to suppose that all their exertions are simply for the gratification to tell," &c. The words here quoted are somewhat hazy, but the meaning is obvious, and is in no way justified or upheld by anything I have said—on the contrary, I have throughout spoken of the brethren referred to in favourable terms, and I distinctly stated that I did not blame them for anything but want of judgment, which surely any one has the right to do without being stigmatised as a slanderer. But here Bro. Biggs seems to have lost his logic, as well as his temper. He accuses me by implication of a want of charity, and finds fault with me because I termed certain active brethren "busy-bodies," as though he thought it a term of reproach, and that it was blameworthy to be "busy," even in good works, a quality on which he almost, in the same breath, pours forth the grateful aroma of his approbation. Some of my most intimate Masonic friends, I may add, are amongst those who take such active parts in canvassing, and you may be assured

that though I think them ill-judging in what they do, I have none but the most friendly feeling towards them, in what I write on the subject, and which I have, moreover, occasionally discussed with them in terms of gentlemanly mutual forbearance and courtesy, "agreeing to differ" where our opinion did not coincide. Alas! how different is a discussion with Bro. Biggs!

He does not apparently see the drift of my argument, which is that the collection or large accumulation of votes, by active canvassers, on behalf of any one candidate, must be and is, an abstraction of a similar number from some one or more of the other candidates who might otherwise have obtained them from disinterested and uncanvassed voters, solely in consideration of their claims. For instance, I have, as is most probable, no personal knowledge of any of the candidates. Well, I carefully look over the list of candidates, and find that Jemima Wiggins is one of twelve children, and that her widowed mother has literally nothing but her two hands to support herself and them. Naturally, I resolve to give her my votes. Soon afterwards, perhaps, comes my good friend, the busy brother, and solicits my votes for his candidate, who is, I find, perhaps, one of three or four children of also a poor and widowed mother. The question now is to which of these shall I give my votes, and I unhesitatingly answer to the former. But many brethren will listen to the seductive accents of the busy canvasser, and so the fitter or most distressed candidate may go to the wall, and the other be wafted triumphantly into the school, by the favouring breath of her active or busy supporter.

Bro. Biggs does not seem to be able to comprehend this simple argument, and so he lashes his sides, calls me rich, uncharitable, and a slanderer. At this last word he waxes magnificent, and like Jupiter Tonans hurling his thunderbolts from Olympus, "hurls back the slander to the slanderer." Very fine is this burst of his, "in King Cambyses' vein," but yet savouring, perhaps, a little too much of the style of "Bombastes Furiosi," and like it, exciting laughter rather than serious thought; and yet I ought to be serious, for the sentence is finished by a kindly assurance on the part of the erudite brother that "the Almighty did not make man for his own (whose own?) individual comfort and aggrandisement," a piece of information so novel and striking that I and all your readers ought surely to be grateful for its announcement.

Again, Bro. Biggs in his benevolence recommends me to read St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians, i. 13, to prevent my again being so uncharitable as to assume for imaginary persons such offensive names as Wiggins, Spriggens, Snooks, and Popkins. But "what's in a name," and why are the above offensive? I know at this moment an excellent Mason and his name is Wiggins, and not very long ago, I remember a brave man of war none the worse for the name of Snooks; but all this is but trifling—let it pass. In the Epistle of St. Paul, which I am recommended to read, and which, by the way, was always read at the opening and closing of lodge when I was young in Masonry, are the following words, which I in turn would recommend to Bro. Biggs's attention when he next comes out in print:—"Charity vaunteth not itself; puffeth not itself up; thinketh no evil." I observe that Bro. Biggs pities me. He is very kind; he pities me because I have never had the happiness

to be personally acquainted with any of the candidates for our Schools or Asylum. Wonderful, indeed! but really I do not see why I am to be bully-ragged on this account. If my Masonic friends do not choose to fall into calamity and misfortune, can I help it? And yet, because I have mentioned this simple fact I am accused of wishing the Masonic world to know that I am placed "above the rank of ordinary mortals, and blessed by Providence largely with this world's goods!" Was there ever such balderdash? Writing anonymously as I do, who can be the wiser, and what can it matter to me or to any person unknown what the world thinks, or Bro. Biggs thinks, whether that I am high or low, rich or poor. Suffice it to say that I am not a heartless, unfeeling savage! As I give no name I can afford to puff myself up, and no one will be wiser. Let me then tell Bro. Biggs that I am a Governor, and have served the office of Steward to all our Charities. I am also connected as governor or subscriber with several of the great non-Masonic charities of London. I am also an almoner of the Society for the Relief of Distress in the Metropolis, the duties of which lead me into the worst of its back slums, and courts, and alleys, in the alleviation of poverty and sickness, in a manner and Christian extent that I suspect Bro. Biggs can scarcely imagine; far less have ever contended with or relieved in his more fortunate town of Reading. I do not attach my name to praises of myself, but were I to do so in the present case, I have the comfort of knowing that Bro. Biggs's vituperations would be only the more effectually condemned and laughed at. Bro. Biggs says he will not call me brother. Very sad and distressing to my feelings, of course, but I find some consolation in the remembrance that some few years since I had the great happiness of being so called by him in a lodge in Wiltshire. I can go to my grave in peace and content. The great Biggs has actually called me brother.

Yours fraternally,

FORTY-ONE YEARS A MASON.

Oct. 15th, 1866.

GEMS FROM BRO. LAWRENCE STERNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I thank your correspondent for setting me right as to the Rev. Lawrence Sterne. I was always under the impression that this distinguished man was a member of our Order, and frequently heard him spoken of as such by well-informed brethren. However, as it appears that this was a mistake, I shall, in future, substitute the word "Rev." for "Bro."

Yours fraternally,

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

October 16th, 1866.

BRO. R. FLETCHER'S DIESINKING AND STAMPING WORKS.—

These works are situated in Winsley-street, Oxford-street, opposite the Pantheon, and were established for the purpose of supplying the trade with every article of the very best workmanship in diesinking, stamping, the engraving of seals, lever-presses of first-class only, &c., as also to execute the best class lithographic and copperplate printing. Our attention was directed to the extensive and costly stock of dies, which number upwards of 5,000, the net cost of the production of which, we were informed, exceeded £1,500. This accumulation of stock

has been the result of many years of labour and toil. They consist of some of the most artistic monograms, with reversed cyphers, or entwined cyphers, as also those which are not reversed. They differ entirely from the old-fashioned style, with moveable ovals round each letter. All the designs may be said to be new and original specimens, and price lists of which Bro. Fletcher sends to the trade free, on application. Every description of work is executed in best style, on envelopes and note-paper (Whatman's and Joynson's papers) with great despatch, orders being executed at a few hours' notice. Masonic emblems engraved on seals, rings, and stamped on note paper and envelopes, without charging for the die.

Mr. GRAVES, of 164, Upper-street, Islington, is exhibiting specimens of his transpirable waterproof cloth, at the Agricultural Hall. We have had the satisfaction of witnessing the entire process by which this waterproofing is accomplished. The piece of cloth to be operated upon is affixed to three revolving rollers, and then is passed through a liquid which is not, as might be imagined, at all of a glutinous nature, but seems to act upon the material, conferring upon it the properties of a repellent. After forty-eight hours saturation, being tightly wound round one of the revolving cylinders, the water-resisting process is then completed, when the cloth is gradually dried, and when quite dry it is ready for use. Several examples were shown to us; the first was a fragment of prepared cloth, properly secured to a small hoop, upon which two gallons of water was poured; yet, with that weight of water, the fluid did not percolate through the cloth. The next experiment was upon a piece of common thin muslin one yard long, one half of which had been subjected to the waterproof process, and the other half not: this muslin was then nailed to a frame, and water poured down, first upon the prepared part, which perfectly resisted its action; but the moment it passed over the line, on to the other part, it at once passed through the fabric to the floor. It is quite true to say that water poured upon this cloth, bears some analogy to the old saying, in regard to that element cast upon a duck's back. It is also clearly proven by the experience of the many who use these cloths that they do not prevent free exhalations from the body. We need scarcely add, in a climate like ours, that this is a most valuable, scientific discovery; and we have the more confidence, knowing that this prepared cloth is strongly recommended by several of the leading members of the faculty; and we may add, that the expense of these garments is not augmented by the improvement.

A NEW WONDER.—Although we have frequently explained the sewing machine, and discussed the merits of the various kinds, yet we are compelled to re-open the subject in consequence of a new and novel feature having arisen in connection with it. When it was proposed to introduce the sewing machine into general use, there were many who violently opposed it, and the utmost ingenuity was exercised to produce arguments against it, but without avail; the insinuating power of the machine, by its practical success, quietly refuted the objections one by one; until, finally, it was suggested that the difficulty of learning its use must prevent its being generally adopted. This, at one time, appeared a fact, and, until very recently, held good, but in a lesser degree; now, however, this objection has been removed, and to the Wheeler and Wilson Company must be conceded the credit of producing a *lock-stitch* machine of such great simplicity that it can be operated throughout (excepting threading the needle) by one *totally blind*, this marvellous fact is being practically illustrated in the hall. This enterprising company have a female at their stand, who, although deprived of sight, easily manipulates the machine, and executes various kinds of sewing with wonderful speed and neatness; even such as has been considered the most difficult with those who have the use of their eyes. By her touch she can ascertain both the length of stitch and the necessary tension. She can, without assistance, fill the under bobbin, put it into the machine, arrange her gauges to any desired width, and begin the work; she evinces a thorough confidence in her own powers and in the machine, although she has had comparatively but little practice. In our last we spoke in favourable terms of the Wheeler and Wilson machine, and this new evidence of its simplicity and practical usefulness more than confirms our good opinion, and we should advise those who contemplate purchasing a sewing machine to examine it before deciding. The offices and show rooms of the company are at 139, Regent-street, and 43, St. Paul's Church-yard.—*Illustrated Exhibitor.*

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

. All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW CHURCH AT MELTON, SUFFOLK, WITH MASONIC HONOURS.—Referring to the report of this ceremony which appeared in our issue of the 6th inst., the R.W. the Prov. G.M., has issued a circular notice, in which he expresses his entire satisfaction with the arrangements made by the Worshipful the Provincial Grand Officers, under the direction of the R.W. the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the new church at Melton, on the 26th ult. The Provincial Grand Master begs to thank the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the impressive manner in which he discharged the duties of his honourable and responsible office, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Worshipful Masters of Lodges, and the brethren at large, for their attendance in support of an officer as representing the provincial head of the Craft. The Provincial Grand Master states that he will always consider attendance at such ceremonials as tending to diffuse that just appreciation of the true uses and purposes of Masonry which it is his desire to see manifested in every appropriate and dignified manner.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The quarterly court of this admirable Charity was held at Freemasons' Hall, on the 15th inst. Twenty-one boys were elected as inmates for the school. A full report of the proceedings will be found on another page. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B., Past Deputy Grand Master, has consented to preside at the anniversary festival in March, 1887. The names of brethren willing to act as Stewards will be gratefully received, and it is hoped the amount required to defray the debt still encumbering the new building will be provided, in addition to that required for the annual maintenance of the Institution. Bro. Frederick Binckes, the Secretary to the Institution announces that every information will gladly be afforded by him. The offices are, it will be remembered, now removed to 6, Freemasons Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

OUR MASONIC CHARITIES.—As a further evidence of rapidly increasing tangible acknowledgment of the claims upon the Craft of our three Masonic Charities, we notice that at the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting of Yorkshire North and East—the report of which will be found on another page, the Provincial Grand Registrar gave notice of his intention to move at the next Provincial Grand Lodge, "That the subscription of two guineas hitherto paid annually to each of the three Masonic Charities, be increased to ten guineas each."

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

A quarterly general court of this institution was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Monday, 15th inst.; Bro. John Hervey, V.P., in the chair.

The following was the business on the agenda paper:—

1. Minutes of the quarterly court of 16th July, 1886.
 2. Minutes of General Committee for Information.
 3. Transaction of general business of the institution.
 4. Confirmation of declaration by General Committee of five additional vacancies, to be filled at this court.
 5. Consideration of the undermentioned notices of motion.
- Election of twenty-one boys from an improved list of forty-three candidates.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

1. By Bro. B. Head, V.P., Chairman the General Com-

mittee—To strike out Rule 34, providing for the election annually of a Chairman of the General Committee; and in Rule 36 to omit from the list of brethren constituting the House Committee "and Chairman of the General Committee."

2. By Bro. R. W. Stuart—That the "special privilege" of two votes, instead of one allowed to ladies and 'Lewises' (sons of Freemasons) for every five guineas contributed by them to the funds of this institution be made a permanent qualification, and be embodied in the rules accordingly.

3. By Bro. Jno. Symonds, V.C.—That any brother having paid an annual subscription or donation of not less than one guinea for ten consecutive years shall thereafter be entitled to two votes, instead of one vote, for each annual subscription or donation of one guinea.

The minutes of the last quarterly court having been read, a proposition was made and seconded, "That that portion of the minutes referring to a grant of £95 to Mr. Fredk. Russell, on his retiring from the office of Head Master in June last, be not confirmed." This motion was negatived by 19 to 15.

It was then proposed and seconded, "That the confirmation of this portion of the minutes be deferred to the quarterly court in January next, and that a committee be now appointed to inquire into the circumstances in connection with Mr. Russell's resignation of the office of Head Master, and to report to the next quarterly court." The motion was adopted unanimously.

The minutes of the General Committee of August, September, and October were read for information. The declaration by the General Committee, on the recommendation of the House Committee, of five additional vacancies, consequent on the expulsion of five boys from the institution, to be filled at this court, was then moved and seconded.

Before the motion was put considerable discussion took place, and a request was made for information on the subject of the expulsion of the five boys, and the minutes of the special meeting of the House Committee of August 22nd, detailing at length the nature of the offences and the grounds upon which the House Committee based, and justified their proceedings were read by the Secretary.

On the motion being put, it being understood that the division should be taken as expressive of the sense of the Court on the course pursued by the House Committee, it was carried by a very large majority, *five hands only* being held up in opposition to its adoption.

The attendance was much more numerous than ever previously known, and tested the accommodation afforded by the spacious new board room. Another noticeable feature is the large number of votes polled, for which information we are indebted to the Secretary, Bro. Frederick Binckes.

The votes brought from the election in April last in favour of the then unsuccessful candidates, were 4,848
The votes issued specially for this election, were..... 11,096

15,944

The votes absolutely recorded being..... 14,797

Leaving unpolled..... 1,147

This contrasts wonderfully with the neglect of their privileges by subscribers at former elections, and may fairly be taken as evidence of the increasing importance of the institution and of the value set upon the advantages and benefits it affords.

The following is the list of twenty-one successful candidates, from an approved selection of forty-three candidates. The numbers to the left of the candidates' names, showing the order of precedence on the balloting paper.

35. Oldfield, A. L.....	800	34. Thorp, A. T.	501
11. Wallbridge, A. F. ...	752	24. Pitchforth, C. H. ...	483
42. Hulme, H. N.....	720	12. Hollis, W. F.....	452
32. Caparn, J.	640	23. Treleaven, F.....	450
13. Jones, C. J.....	602	16. Freer, T. R.	448
8. Maile, F.....	594	17. Warner, M. R.	432
10. Wallace, T. G.	585	4. Ashton, H. J.	423
28. Powell, J. H.	559	6. Cottman, F.	416
26. Bowles, E. P.....	556	33. Baker, B. E.	411
18. Clough, M. E.....	535	5. Owen, W. H.....	358
7. Storey, J. G.	517		

The unsuccessful candidates stand as under: it will be noticed

that those who stood respectively 1, 2, and 3, on the balloting-paper still appear amongst the unsuccessful.

41. Palmer, C. F. H..... 338	21. Man, W. F..... 136
38. Gondie, W. R. 337	37. Belcher, V. H. 118
36. Williams, J. E. H.... 324	2. Bentley, E. T. 114
19. Fisher, S. Brant..... 322	40. Mould, A. 87
20. Hopkins, C..... 308	29. Downing, J. E..... 54
22. Milbourne, J..... 307	14. Walsha, H. 22
9. Atkinson, J. 303	27. Marjason, J. 21
3. Hickmott, H..... 280	25. Smith, L. 15
30. Varden, E. J..... 161	31. Nicholas, T. F. 13
1. Jackson, H. J. 156	15. Addison, J. 8
43. Hopwood, G. 139	30. Laws, G. 7

We gladly call attention to the fact that one of our most popular dignitaries, the Right Hon. Earl of Dalhousie, K.T., G.C.B., Past Deputy Grand Master of England, has most kindly consented to preside at the anniversary festival in March next. There can be no doubt, but that the noble earl will be supported by the largest Board of Stewards, and brethren of influence ever congregated, and that the result of their united exertions will be to clear away the entanglement of debt, by which this excellent institution is so seriously hampered.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark (Bro. C. A. Cathie's). The lodge was opened by Bro. F. Walters, P.M., assisted by Bros. R. Ord, as S.W.; T. J. Sabine, J.W.; E. Harris, P.M., Treas.; J. Donkin, P.M., Sec.; F. H. Elsworth, S.D.; D. Rose, J.D.; M. A. Loewenstark, I.G.; G. Free, W.S.; E. N. Levy, P.M.; R. J. Chipperfield, Stevens, and very many others. Bro. J. C. Gooday, W.M., took the chair. Bros. F. Mew and Parry were duly passed to the second degree. One gentleman was initiated into ancient Freemasonry. Bro. F. Walters, according to his previous notice of motion, proposed that £20 be taken from the lodge funds, and placed in the charity box of the lodge; also ten guineas from the same source, for the Girls' School, to purchase a life governorship in the name of the Treasurer of the lodge for the time being. Both propositions being seconded, were carried unanimously.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The first meeting of the season of the Domatic Lodge, took place on Friday evening, the 12th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. J. Simpson, W.M., occupied the chair; Bros. F. W. Smith, S.W.; Prior, J.W.; several other officers, and Bros. Smith, Treas.; Elmes, Sec.; and H. Thompson, P.M.'s. There were also several visitors present. The lodge having been opened in due form, Bro. Elmes read the minutes of the last lodge, and also of the lodge of emergency, which were unanimously confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bros. Maynard and Watkins were questioned as to their proficiency in the science and their answers being considered satisfactory, they withdrew and the lodge was opened in the third degree, and they were severally raised to the sublime degree, that ceremony being twice very ably performed by the W.M. The lodge was then lowered to the second degree, and Bros. Spailer and Arnold were passed to the degree of F.C. Several propositions for the admission of members (subject to a ballot) having been made, the lodge was closed in due form, and with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, and nearly sixty sat down to a banquet prepared in Bro. Clenow's usual style, and which also, as usual, gave general satisfaction. The cloth having been cleared, the usual formal loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured. Bro. J. Smith, Treas., P.M., and the father of the lodge, said he was entrusted for a short time by the W.M., with the use of his gavel, and the brethren knew full well the use he intended to apply it to, which was to propose "The Health of the Worshipful Master." His year of office was drawing to a close, for that was the last evening but one he would preside at the banquet as W.M., and as they knew the way in which he had discharged his duties there, and also at the lodge, he felt sure that it needed no words from him to recommend the toast he had proposed. He therefore asked them one and all to drink with all the cordiality which it deserved, the health of Bro. Simpson, their W.M. The toast was most enthusiastically responded to. The W.M., in acknow-

ledging the compliment paid to him, said he felt gratified at that expression of their feelings, and if he had discharged his duties to their satisfaction, he was amply rewarded for having done so. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was one always most pleasing, not only to the W.M., but the members of the Domatic Lodge, as it was the health of their brother visitors. The Domatic Lodge always prided itself upon its hospitality to its visitors, and the more frequent were their visits the better they esteemed them. They were that night honoured by the presence of several, and without mentioning their names, and as they were all welcome, he begged to propose "The Health of the Visitors." The toast was drunk most cordially. Bro. Stevens, W.M. of the Albion Lodge, No. 9, returned thanks, and said as that was not his first visit to the Domatic Lodge, he knew not only its excellent working, but also its hospitality. As the W.M. of the Albion Lodge, he gave them all an invitation to come and see him, provided they did not all come at once, and on behalf of himself and his brother visitors, he thanked the W.M. and brethren for the very cordial manner in which they had been received in the Domatic Lodge. The W.M. next gave "The Past Masters of the Domatic Lodge," and said that although only a small number of them were present that evening, he knew that they were at all times willing to undertake any duty that might be required of them, and the W.M. was always greatly indebted to them for the assistance they rendered to him. He begged to propose "The Healths of Bros. Smith, Elmes, and Thompson, Past Masters of the Domatic Lodge." The toast was most enthusiastically responded to. Bro. J. Smith, in responding, thanked the brethren for their acknowledgment of their services, and which they were at all times ready to render, and to do their best to promote the interests of the lodge. He took that opportunity of enlisting the sympathies of the brethren on behalf of Bro. Ashton, whose son was a candidate for the fifth time for admission to the Boys' School, the election for which would take place on the following Monday. If any of the brethren had votes at their disposal, he should be happy to receive them, and he hoped that at their next meeting he should be able to report the success of this candidate. The next toast was "The Officers of the Domatic Lodge," which was given and responded to. The Tyler's toast was then given, and the proceedings were brought to a close. Bros. Barry, Vaughan, Matthew, and others, delighted the brethren with some excellent songs during the evening, and the whole passed off in the true spirit of Freemasonry.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 554).—The regular monthly meeting of this influential lodge was held on the 4th inst., at Bro. Walter's Green Dragon, Stepney. The lodge was duly opened by the W.M., Bro. W. G. Clarke, at half-past five o'clock, assisted by Bros. Wynne, Vasey, Hamilton, Hampton, and Hudson, P.M.'s, and Josiah Green, Sec. The minutes of the former lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. J. Simpson and Thomas Power being present, answered the questions qualifying them for a second degree, and withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bro. Simpson and Power raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons, the ceremony being most impressively worked by the W.M. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when the W.M. proceeded to invest Bro. R. B. Hampton with the collar of the J.W., that office being vacant through the resignation of Bro. J. G. Stevens. The Secretary then read a letter from the widow of a deceased member, thanking the lodge for the sum of five guineas awarded her at the last meeting. Bro. Green, Sec. gave notice of motion for the revision of the by-laws. All Masonic business being concluded, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren, thirty-five in number, sat down to a most excellent banquet, which reflected the greatest credit on Bro. Walters. The cloth being removed, the W.M. proceeded to give the usual Masonic toasts, which were most enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. then gave "The Health of the Visitors." This toast was responded to by Bros. Green and Fredk. Walters, P.M. 73 and Sec. 871, who was prevented remaining, owing to the distance he had to travel, and the lateness of the hour. The toast was also responded to by Bros. Obitts, Sec. 831; J. Murch, J.D. 174; J. Stanley, 174; E. Curtis, 276; and D. Lines, 619. Several of the brethren sang some delightful songs, which greatly added to the comfort of the evening. The Tyler's toast brought one of the happiest evenings spent by the Yarrow Lodge to a close at the hour of eleven.

PANMURE LODGE (No. 720).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Loughboro' Arms Tavern, Brixton, on Monday last, when the W.M. (Bro. Hodges) initiated Mr. Wm. Antill, and passed Bros. Crofts, Bell, and Smith to the second degree. The brethren subsequently sat down to a banquet in considerable numbers, the W.M. being supported on his left by Bro. Thomas, Reid, and Stevens, Past Masters of the lodge, and on his right by Bros. Levander, P.M. 507, and Platt, P.M. 144, visitors. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the brethren of this lodge indulged their well-known musical and vocal propensities to the fullest extent. Indeed, the example set on a previous occasion by the introduction of original songs specially applicable to this lodge was well followed out by Bro. Hare, J.W., who sang an excellent song of his own composition, in which the merits of his colleagues in office and the newly-initiated brother and visitors were duly set forth. Altogether a very pleasant evening was passed.

INSTRUCTION.

BELGRAVE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 749).—This lodge held its first meeting on Friday evening, the 12th inst., at Bro. Nyes's, the Hand and Racquet, 21, Whitcombe-street, Leicester-square, having removed from Knightsbridge. There were present, Bros: W. Ough, W.M.; Potter, W.M. elect; Froud, P.M.; Runting, P.M.; Pymm, Bourne, Stripp, Rose, Pierce, Parsons, Nye, Homewood, Copp, &c. of the mother lodge; also Bros. Bond, P.M., and Crabtree, of the Vitruvian Lodge, No. 87, and several other visiting brethren. The first and second degrees were rehearsed, and several sections worked. Bro. W. Ough, W.M., was elected Treas., and Bro. P. Parsons, Sec., for the ensuing year. From the energy displayed by the brethren the Belgrave Lodge of Instruction bids fair to become very successful. The meetings are held every Friday evening from eight to ten o'clock.

DORIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 933).—On Friday evening, the 28th ult., the members of this lodge of instruction met at the Three Cranes, Mile End, and worked the 15th section, under the presidency of Bro. J. Bowron, the S.D. of the mother lodge. The 7th section of the first lecture were severally answered by the following brethren:—1st by Bro. Yetton, 2nd by Bro. Austin, 3rd by Bro. Verry, 4th by Bro. Finch, 5th by Bro. Taylor, 6th by Bro. Green, 7th by Bro. Scurr, P.M. of the mother lodge. The five sections of the 2nd lecture were worked by the following brethren: the 1st by Bro. Davis, 2nd by Bro. Barnes, J.W. of the mother lodge, 3rd by Bro. Saqui, Precceptor of lodge, 4th Gottheil, 5th by Bro. Scurr. The three sections of of the 3rd lecture by the following brethren: the 1st by Bro. Barnes, 2nd by Bro. Gottheil, 3rd by Bro. Taylor. It is a fact worthy of record that the answers to the 1st, 2nd, and 5th sections were severally given by the brethren with a distinction of enunciation which elicited from the lodge a well-merited commendation. It is very gratifying for us to record that this lodge teems with many working Masons, which is instanced when we say that Bro. Yetton is not yet six months a Mason, and Bro. Austin has not yet been twelve months a member of the Craft. The lodge was closed at ten o'clock, after recording a vote of thanks upon the minutes to Bro. Bowron for his skill and ability in fulfilling the chair.

PROVINCIAL.

CORNWALL.

REDRUTH.—*Druid's Lodge of Love and Liberty* (No. 589).—The members of this lodge met on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at Tabbs' Hotel, Bro. Dr. T. Michell in the chair. There were also present Bros. T. Davey, S.W.; W. Tregory, J.W.; J. Hocking, Jun., P. Prov. S.G.W., &c., and other brethren. The unusual ballot for twin brothers was taken and proved unanimous, whereupon they were initiated according to form. The lodge was then adjourned to Wednesday, the day following, and opened at six o'clock p.m., by the W.M., who was supported by the Wardens, several members of the lodge, and four visiting brethren from Truro. A still more extraordinary duty devolved on the Master on this evening, for two Lewises presented themselves for initiation. The ceremony was well rendered by the proper officers. The tools were presented by Bro. W. J. Hughan, (editor of the "Devon and Cornwall Masonic Calendar") the beautiful charge of the degree was impressively delivered by

Bro. J. Hocking, P.M.; and the tracing board was correctly explained at length by Bro. T. Chirgwin, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, and partook of an excellent supper provided by Bro. Tabb, the host. Twin brothers and two Lewises returned thanks for the honour conferred on them, and all the members were gratified at witnessing such extraordinary pairs of initiations. A warm welcome was given to the friends from Truro.

DEVONSHIRE.

ILFRACOMBE.—*Lodge of Concord* No. 1,135).—A preliminary meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th inst., at Lake's Clarence Hotel, to make the necessary arrangements under dispensation from the Prov. G. Master before the warrant has been received from the M.W. the Grand Master, for the full and efficient working of the lodge. Several brethren from Exeter attended the lodge, and about ten members of Lodge 251, Barnstaple, were also present. The principal officers appointed for the current year were Bros. J. Jones, W.M.; S. Jones, S.W.; Mitchell, J.W.; Gribble, as P.M.; Tatham, Sec.; Hancock, Supt. of Works; Ebsworthy, S.D.; Montgomery, J.D.; Brewster, I.G.; and G. Pyke, Tyler. The lodge having been opened in due form and according to ancient usage, at the request of the W.M. Bro. Gribble, P.M., read aloud the deed of dispensation authorising the brethren to proceed in working the lodge agreeably to the constitutions and regulations of the Grand Lodge of England. Six highly respectable residents of Ilfracombe were then proposed as candidates for the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, and after the general business of the day had been transacted, the lodge was duly closed, and the meeting adjourned to the following Thursday for the purpose of initiation and the despatch of business. At four o'clock the brethren with a small party of private friends sat down to an excellent dinner, provided for the occasion by Mr. and Mrs. Lake. The evening was spent in a truly Masonic spirit, enlivened by the genial and sparkling wines supplied from the cellars of the worthy host. The number of brethren resident in Ilfracombe at the present time is rather limited, but a great many respectable inhabitants have, we understand, expressed a desire to join the fraternal band, and, moreover, during the season, a number of gentlemen visitors belonging to the Order would gladly become joining members during the summer months. Thus a want at this flourishing watering place which has long been felt has been supplied, and we confidently look forward to the time when the Lodge of Concord will become one of the most flourishing lodges in the province. Great praise is due to Bro. Samuel Jones, of Exeter, for the efficient assistance he has rendered in procuring the dispensation for re-establishing a Masonic lodge in this town, a privilege it has unfortunately been deprived of for more than a quarter of a century. It is expected that the new lodge will be consecrated by Bro. Huyshe, Prov. G.M. for Devonshire about the second week in November.

DURHAM.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—*Wear Valley Lodge* (No. 124).—The second regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Savings Bank, Market-place, on Friday evening, the 12th instant. The lodge was opened at seven p.m. by Bro. J. Nicholson, W.M., assisted by Bros. G. Canney, M.D., S.W.; W. Brignall, jun., as J.W.; G. Stillman, Sec.; J. Proude, S.D.; G. Kilburn, J.D.; G. Moor, Stew.; T. C. Ebdy, as I.G.; W. Marshall, as Tyler. The minutes of the last general lodge and of two lodges of emergency since held were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken, with a favourable result for the following candidates for initiation, viz.: Messrs. J. Strong, R. Render, W. Edgar, W. Jackson, J. Braithwaite, J. Robson, J. Messenger, W. Johnson. The ballot was also taken for the following brethren as joining members, viz.: Bros. W. Brignall, jun., J.D., and G. Greenwell, Stew., 124, Durham, and J. Sanderson, 406, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, all of whom were approved of. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Messrs. W. Johnson, C. E. Morgan, J. Robson, W. Jackson, and J. Messenger, the ceremonies being conducted in an impressive and able manner. Several gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and, other business of importance transacted, the lodge was closed in solemn form, after which the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and the remainder of the evening spent in a most agreeable and harmonious manner.

HAMPSHIRE.

FORDINGBRIDGE.—*Vale of Avon Lodge* (No. 1112).—The subject of a Masonic lodge for Fordingbridge has been for some time on the *tapis*, and a petition duly signed having been forwarded to the Grand Lodge, the prayer of the memorialists was favourably received by the Right Worshipful the Grand Master, and a warrant of constitution granted for the Vale of Avon Lodge, No. 1112, to meet on the third Thursday in the month, at the Greyhound Hotel. The lodge room is large and commodious, and is conveniently arranged. The furniture has been carefully selected, and being truly Masonic in its character, and strictly in accordance with the requirements of the Craft, elicited marked expressions of approbation from the Provincial Grand Officers and other brethren who attended the consecration. The imposing ceremony was performed on Thursday, the 4th inst., and from the subjoined list it will be seen there was a good attendance:—Bros. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, *Bart.*, *K.C.B.*, Prov. G.M. of Hants.; C. Ewens Deacon, D. Prov. G.M.; J. R. Stebbing, P.M., and Past Senior Grand Deacon of England; J. Wallingford, W.M. 903, Prov. G.S.B. Hants.; T. J. Hill, P.M. 903; R. Barber, S.W. 342, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Wilson, 903, Prov. G. Sec.; J. J. Ingram, 130 and 132; C. W. Wyndham, P.M. 586, Prov. G.S.B. Wilts; W. L. Dore, P.M. 586; W. Fletcher, W. Ayle, F. H. Tanner, 622; H. Ward, 622, 586; F. King, P.M. 586, 441; W. R. Anderson, 350; G. R. Phillips, 130; W. Pain, 586; W. E. Rebbeck, 195, Prov. J.G.D.; F. Pern, 586, C. Sherry, P.M. 76, P. Prov. S.G.W. Hants; W. Bill, S.D. 195; P. Tuck, S.W. 195; Rev. W. M. Heath, 622, P. Prov. G. Chap. Dorset; F. Wallingford, 622; T. Lamb, J.W. 195; J. McWilliam, W.M. 195; T. Poppleton, 272; W. Miles, P.M. 359, P. Prov. G. Reg. Hants, &c. The proceedings commenced about one o'clock, and Bro. Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Prov. G.M., and his officers, on entering the lodge room, were received by the assembled brethren with the usual honours. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, Bro. J. R. Stebbing, P.M., P.S.G.D. of England, was officiating Master. The petition and warrant having been read by the Acting Prov. G. Sec., the officiating Master next proceeded to constitute the brethren into regular lodge, and consecrated it according to ancient usage. An oration of more than ordinary eloquence, founded on the nature and purposes of the institution, was afterwards delivered by Bro. Stebbing, and was listened to with marked attention. After Psalm cxxxiii had been sung, the consecration ceremony proceeded. Bro. H. Ward (of Salisbury) P.M. Lodge St. Cuthberga, 622, was duly installed W.M., and the following officers were appointed by him:—Bros. J. J. Ingram, S.W.; G. R. Phillips, J.W.; C. Wyndham, P.M., Sec.; W. R. Anderson, S.D.; F. Pern, J.D. Several propositions having been made, and votes of thanks accorded to the Prov. G.M. and his officers for their attendance and assistance, the lodge was duly closed. At four o'clock the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by Mr. R. Chilcott, the bill of fare including a plentiful assortment of good things. The chair was occupied by W.M., Bro. H. Ward, P.M., the Senior and Junior Wardens, Bros. J. Jones Ingram and G. R. Phillips discharging the duties of vice-chairmen. The cloth having been removed, "The Queen and the Craft," were duly honoured. The other toasts were "The Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire," responded to by Bro. Sir Lucius Curtis; "The Deputy Grand Master, and past and present Provincial Grand Officers," responded to by Bro. C. E. Deacon; "The Officiating Master," responded to by Bro. J. R. Stebbing; "The Worshipful Master and Success to the Vale of Avon Lodge," responded to by Bro. H. Ward, P.M.; "The Founders of the Lodge," responded to by Bros. J. J. Ingram and G. R. Phillips; "The Visitors"; "All poor and distressed Masons," proposed in an eloquent speech by Bro. the Rev. W. M. Heath, P. Prov. G. Chap. of Dorset; "The Ladies," acknowledged by Bro. Phillips, &c. A lodge of emergency was held on Monday, when several initiations took place. We understand that a considerable accession is expected to the lodge by joining members and initiates, from gentlemen resident in the neighbourhood.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Temple Lodge* (No. 1094).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, by Bro. Dr. R. H. D. Johnson, W.M., assisted by Bro. Dr. J. Mercer Johnson, M.D., S.W.; Dr. J. Smith, J.W., and was supported by Bro. J. Hamer, Prov. G. Treas., P.M.; Grimmer, P.M., P.Z. 216; Turner, W.M. 294;

Jarvis, S.W.; R. Rankin, 667, &c. A ballot was taken for Bro. B. Cras, of Lodge, No. 1, Greece. Bro. A. Solbe was passed to the degree of F.C. Bro. Boucher was raised to the sublime and final degree of M.M. The whole of the ceremonies were carried out in the most solemn form. The lodge was closed to the first degree. Bro. R. Williams presented to the lodge a very beautiful banner, for which the thanks of the lodge were voted to Bro. Williams for his kindness. Bro. Williams, in returning thanks for the manner in which his gift had been received, said: W. Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, and Brethren,—I have very great pleasure in following the example of those brethren who have made their presentations to our new Lodge, No. 1094. Through the liberality of our brethren it was a matter of some difficulty to decide upon what I could present to the lodge as one thing after another which I proposed to present, I was told had been promised by some other brother; and to satisfy ourselves how well those promises have been kept, we have only to glance over this room. However, at last a banner was decided upon, which I have had the pleasure to present this evening, and am pleased to find that it meets with your approval. In making this presentation, I desire at the same time to assure you of my sincere and hearty wishes for the prosperity of this lodge and its members individually and collectively, and, with the blessing of the Great Geometrician of the Universe, may we all live for many years to come to meet together in this lodge, and may we always be guided in our conduct to each other by the sublime principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth, so that hereafter we can look back through a number of years to our present proceedings without one painful recollection obtruding itself. May this banner always float in a lodge of peace. May there be no selfishness, no rivalry, amongst us, except that praiseworthy rivalry amongst the various officers of the lodge as to who shall best discharge the duties of their offices; and may all the associations in connection with this banner be as pleasant as the most sanguine amongst us can desire. Bro. Grimmer, P.M., P.Z. 216, said he had visited many lodges, but never saw one where the ceremonies were more effectively given. He complimented the officers and brethren generally, and acknowledged the princely hospitality of the lodge and hoped at no distant day to be again able to visit them. "The Officers of the Lodge" was given by the W.M., and Bro. Dr. Mercer Johnson, S.W. on rising said he fully appreciated the kindness of the W.M. and brethren assembled and sincerely thanked them for so hearty an expression of it. The W.M.'s Health, having been proposed by Bro. Johnson, S.W., the brethren separated after spending an agreeable and happy evening.

NORFOLK.

NORFOLK.—*Lodge Perseverance* (No. 213).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 16th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall. About forty brethren were present, including Bros. J. Dunsford, W.M.; B. W. Harcourt, S.W.; J. Short, J.W.; Britton, S.D.; H. Youngman, J.D.; J. Turner, I.G.; A. M. Morgan, Prov. G.S.; the Rev. S. Titlow, P. Prov. G.C.; J. Dawharn, P.M.; J. English, P.M.; F. Colsey, P.M.; Stevens, P.M.; Wicks, P.M.; and, amongst a number of visitors, Bro. Harris, of the Joppa Lodge, London. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, three candidates were initiated, the ceremony being ably and impressively performed by Bro. Dunsford. At the conclusion of the lodge business the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and the usual Masonic and complimentary toasts were afterwards proposed, interspersed with a variety of excellent singing. Bro. Harris, of the Joppa Lodge, in responding to the toast of the visitors, passed a high eulogium upon Bro. Dunsford and his officers, remarking that the way in which the initiation ceremony had been performed was super-excellent—such, in fact, as he had never seen excelled either in London or the provinces. Bro. Dunsford, having replied, proposed the health of the past Masters, to which Bros. Dawharn and Colsey responded. The proceedings at the festive board were spiritedly kept up until high twelve, when the brethren separated.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

MEETING OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge assembled on the 3rd inst., by special appointment, in the Lennox Lodge, Richmond, when there were present the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland,

K.T., M.W.G.M. of England and R.W.P.G.M. of this Province, on the throne, supported by Bros. John Pearson Bell, M.D., 57, D. Prov. G.M.; Robert H. Bower, 660, Prov. S.G.W.; George Smurthwaite, 123, P. Prov. J.G.W., as Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. James Davidson, M.A., 1,040, Prov. G. Chap.; Richard Welsh Hollon, 236, Prov. G. Treas.; William Lawton, 236, Prov. G. Reg.; Michael Charles Peck, 250, Prov. G. Sec.; Thomas Carter, 630, Prov. S.G.D.; John Teale, 123, Prov. J.G.D.; Thomas Cooper, 236, Prov. G. Sup. of Works; Thomas Thompson, 123, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Thomas Hewson, 57, P. Prov. G.S.B., as Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thomas Camidge, 236, Prov. G. Org.; John Booker, 236, Prov. G. Purs.; and William Johnson, 57, Prov. G. Tyler. The Provincial Grand Stewards present were Bros. Matthew Cooper, 236; W. W. Batty, 250; Wm. E. Dixon, 294; Thomas N. Marwood, 312; Wm. Weatherill, 543; Jno. C. Bulman, 561; and many Past Provincial Grand Officers, and the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens, of the various lodges in the Province. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Victor A. Williamson, P.J.G.W.; of England; F. Binckes, P.M., Sec. Royal Masonic Boys' School, &c.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, and with solemn prayer, the Prov. G. Sec. read the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Scarborough, on the 4th October, 1865, which were confirmed, as were also the by-laws of the Provincial Grand Fund of Benevolence.

A letter was read from Bro. Henry Pearson, Prov. J.G.W., expressing his regret at not being able to be present.

The Prov. G. Treas. then read his annual financial report, showing a balance of £27 9s. 1d. in favour of the Provincial Grand Lodge, which, having been audited by the Masters of the Humber and Lennox Lodges and found correct, was unanimously adopted.

The Prov. G. Sec. then read the report of the Committee of Benevolence, recommending a grant of £10 to the widow of the late Bro. Drifill, of the Humber Lodge (No. 57), which was also adopted.

The annual returns and payments were then made by the various lodges in the Province, all of which were represented.

Previous to the appointment of the Prov. Grand Officers, the Prov. Grand Master expressed his regret at the loss which the Craft had sustained by the removal from the Province of the late esteemed Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Marwood. His Lordship then appointed the following brethren as Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year, with the exception of Bro. R. W. Hollon, the Prov. Treas., who was re-elected by the Provincial Grand Lodge:—Bros. John Pearson Bell, M.D., 57, D. Prov. G.M.; Robert H. Bower, 660, Prov. S.G.W.; John Stevenson, 312, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. Jas. Davidson, M.A., 1,040, Prov. G. Chap.; Richard Welsh Hollon, 236, Prov. G. Treas.; William Lawton, 236, Prov. G. Reg.; Michael Charles Peck, 250, Prov. G. Sec.; Martin Kemp, 57, Prov. S.G.D.; Richard Coates, 602, Prov. J.G.D.; Robert C. M. Cooke, 543, Prov. G. Sup. of Works; James C. Miller, 312, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; John Galloway, 561, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Richard Bradley, 312, Prov. G. Org.; John Booker, 236, Prov. G. Purs.; and William Johnson, 57, Prov. G. Tyler.

Six Provincial Grand Stewards to be nominated by the following lodges, viz., the St. Germain's, North York, St. Cuthbert's, Royal, Canalodunum, and Londesborough.

The Prov. G.R. gave notice of his intention to move, at the next Provincial Grand Lodge, "That the subscription of two guineas hitherto paid annually to each of the three Masonic Charities, be increased to ten guineas each."

The Prov. G. Treas. also gave notice of his intention to move "That a donation of £100 be voted to the Masonic Boys' School, and £100 to the Masonic Girls' School."

Bro. Smurthwaite, P. Prov. J.G.W., gave notice of his intention to move, as an amendment, "That £50 be voted to the Boys' School, and £50 to the Girls' School."

The R.W. Prov. G.M. expressed his gratification at seeing so numerous an assemblage of the brethren. He was happy to find that all the lodges in the province were represented, and that during the past year there had been no complaints nor dissensions. There were now above a thousand subscribing members in the province. His Lordship stated that he believed much good had been effected by means of a circular which he had directed to be sent to the various lodges throughout the country, calling the attention of the Worshipful Masters to the necessity of great circumspection in the admission of

candidates. Having received an invitation from the Lion Lodge, at Whitby, his Lordship stated his intention of holding the next Provincial Grand Lodge at that place, when he trusted the brethren would assemble in as large numbers as at present.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form, and with solemn prayer.

The annual banquet, at which the R.W. Prov. G.M. presided, was held the same evening in the assembly rooms, which were most tastefully decorated for the occasion. Upwards of two hundred brethren dined, and the whole arrangements gave the greatest satisfaction.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73).—The regular convocation of this chapter was holden on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Green Man Tavern, Tooley-street, Southwark. Comps. F. Walters, M.E.Z.; J. W. Halsey, as H.; T. Wescombe, as J.; opened the chapter. The companions were then admitted. Comp. E. N. Levy, H., took his chair, and Comp. A. Avery, J., took his position in the chapter. The minutes of the previous convocation were read and unanimously confirmed. The following companions honoured the chapter by being their visitors, viz.: Comps. W. Watson, P.Z.; J. W. Halsey, H. elect; T. Wescombe, J.; J. Lightfoot, and others. One companion was proposed as a joining member. The convocation was duly closed until Thursday, January 31st, 1867. The usual good banquet then followed. The routine toasts were given and received. Comp. W. Watson, P.Z., responded for the visitors; Comps. Dr. Dixon, P.Z., and C. A. Cottebrune, for the P.Z.'s of the chapter.

MARK MASONRY.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.—*Cæsarean Lodge* (No. 74).—The quarterly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on Monday, the 8th inst., which was the day of the first annual festival since its formation in April, 1865. The chair was taken and business commenced at a quarter to seven o'clock, by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, W.M., who had, for the purpose, come from Guernsey, where he now resides. The minutes having been read and confirmed, on the proposition of the W.M., seconded by Bro. P. W. Benham, J.W., alterations were made in two of the by-laws, consequent on changes of arrangement recently made by the Grand Lodge. Six candidates for advancement, already ballotted for, were expected, since all had promised to be present, but none made their appearance. The installation ceremony was therefore proceeded with by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, the retiring W.M., assisted by Bros. Grimmond, Dr. Blood, and Hastings, P.M.'s of the Justice Mark Lodge, under Irish registry, who are also honorary members of the Cæsarean Lodge. After the customary preliminary formalities, the brethren were requested to retire, and a board of P.M.'s was formed, in whose presence Bro. Benham was duly installed in the chair of Adoniram. On the re-admission of the brethren, the usual proclamation, procession, and salutation took place. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed the following as his officers:—Bros. Dr. Hopkins, I.P.M.; J. Durell, S.W.; C. Le Sneur, J.W.; Long, M.O.; Leat, S.O.; Pixley, J.O.; Oatley, S.D.; Binet, J.D.; Pugsley, Sec.; Adams, Reg.; Le Quesne, Treas.; Schmitt, I.G. and Dir. of Cers.; Abel, Tyler. The ceremony concluded with addresses to the different officers and the brethren generally, delivered by Bro. Dr. Hopkins.

The Secretary read the balance-sheet of the Treasurer, who was unavoidably absent. From this there appeared to be a deficit of a few pounds, which would be more than met by dues still owing to the lodge, and, moreover, in future years there will not be the same drain on the funds as was required at the outset.

The W.M. then requested the attention of the brethren to the following address from Bro. Dr. Hopkins on his retirement from the first chair.

"Brethren,—Though I have now for some time ceased to be a resident here, I have come among you once more for a few

days, with great pleasure, to perform Masonic duties, probably for the last time in Jersey. On all occasions similar to the present one, it has appeared to me right that at the expiration of his term of office the Master of a lodge should give an account of his stewardship, should take a retrospective view of the events which have occurred in the course of it, and cast an eye forward on its prospects for the future. I have hitherto adopted this as a rule, and the present period is certainly not one at which it is desirable to depart from it, considering first, that the lodge is new, as is also the degree, in the form in which we are carrying it out, under the constitution of the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown; and secondly, that the government of it changes hands under some disadvantages, since your W.M., through his skill and ability in other departments of Masonry, afford a sure guarantee for the exhibition of similar powers in this, will not have the benefit of the experience and assistance of a Past Master, who is familiar with our ritual, and he will thus have his labour and responsibility increased. Brethren, could I have anticipated this state of things when, by your favour, I was appointed the first W.M. of the lodge, I should have declined to accept the office, because in consequence of my removal from Jersey, whatever zeal and energy the amount of leisure I have enjoyed, has enabled me to exert, must now cease. I should not have been justified in placing you in this position to gratify my own ambition, rather than to forward your interests, could I have foreseen what has occurred. A year and a half ago, when this lodge was formed, I had every reason to believe that I should remain in this island some years longer, at least for a period sufficient to see your lodge placed on a firm basis, and to have a succession of Past Masters able and ready to guide, instruct, and assist you. As failing health in Warwickshire brought me among you more than eight years ago, so now the same cause has rendered another change requisite, and I am sure that you, brethren, will rejoice with me on finding that so far it has been effective.

Let me now review our position as a lodge. The Cæsarean Mark Masters' Lodge (No. 74) was opened on April 10th, 1865, with thirty subscribing members, the consecration ceremony being performed by Bros. Grimmond, Dr. Blood, and Hastings, Past Masters of the Irish Mark Lodge (No. 34), who most generously came forward to consecrate and instal, and without whose aid, so disinterestedly rendered, some months must have elapsed, and considerable expense must have been incurred, before we could have commenced operations. They regarded us not as rivals, but as fellow-workers, as brethren wanting assistance, and with the fraternal spirit and kindness of genuine Masons, they cheerfully united to render it; they heard our cry of distress, and answered it, they received our mark, and granted our request. Brethren, we owe them our gratitude and our thanks, which have already been expressed. This, however, is a suitable occasion to renew them; and I hope that the matter will not be lost sight of for many years to come. At the six regular meetings of the lodge which have been held nine brethren have become members by advancement and three by joining. Three have resigned, and one has died. Thus our present number is thirty-eight. I must confess my disappointment that so few Craft Masons have taken the Mark degree in this lodge, and especially that the six who were balloted for so long ago still kept aloof, since our ceremonials and traditions are really interesting, and, having their legitimate place between the degrees of F.C. and M.M., supply an intermediate link in the chain, connecting us too with the great guilds of operative Masons in the middle ages, of which the ecclesiastical edifices of that period furnish so many interesting proofs. It will be quite in order here to inquire into the causes of this apparent apathy, and, if we can arrive at any satisfactory solution, it will, then, I conceive, be your interest and your duty to endeavour to remove them.

First—There is no doubt that the want of recognition of the Mark degree by the Craft Grand Lodge of England is a great bar to success, not only here, but throughout the country. I may, perhaps, except the province of Devonshire, which I have lately visited, where I found ten Mark lodges under the same constitution as our own. This success may be attributed to the great zeal and intelligence of a large number of brethren in the district, well worthy of imitation here, for many really study the subject, and trace out its historical, traditional, mythological, moral, and scientific bearings, leading to exact views of the relation which each branch bears to the others, and necessitating an acquaintance with them all. I visited one

Mark Lodge there, as a result of which I may say that, though not thoroughly satisfied with our working, it will bear a not unfavourable comparison with what I witnessed. At the same time I was gratified to find that, with scarcely any exception, there was a perfect similarity in the modes of carrying out the ritual, thus proving the care and fidelity which had been exhibited by those kind Masonic friends to whom I had been indebted for the requisite information, given piecemeal, at different times, from different quarters, and by lengthy correspondence.

Secondly—A large proportion of Masons are contented with the ordinary degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, which generally secure Masonic recognition and sympathy throughout the world, and they are either ignorant of the existence of the Mark degree and the Royal Arch or, not seeing any practical personal benefit therefrom, are careless with respect to them. But few have leisure or inclination to pursue the subject as a study. Were it otherwise, they would soon find the necessity of a knowledge of each branch of pure Masonry, in order to trace the connection between them all and their mutual bearing upon each other. These impressions can be removed only by the personal exertions and recommendations of those who have obtained the privileges conferred by these degrees.

Thirdly—Meetings which are held at long intervals are seldom remembered, which will account for irregular and scanty attendance, and the consequent want of practice in the ceremonial observances leads to imperfections in their administration which cannot but affect the general interest in them. The remedy for this is easy—namely, to hold the meetings at shorter intervals—it may be of one or two, instead of three months.

Fourthly—There is another obstacle to our success that must be delicately mentioned, which is, that, though our fees are as low as possible under the arrangements of the Grand Mark Lodge, they are more than double the amounts charged by the Irish Mark Lodge. With a view to diminish our burden to some extent, I have taken upon myself the responsibility of sending a petition through the Grand Secretary, praying that the Channel Islands may be put on the same footing as British colonies, which will have the effect of reducing the fee payable to the Grand Lodge on advancement from 8s. 6d. to 5s. I have pointed out that this is perfectly reasonable, because our distance from London and the difficulty in securing a passage across the Channel at certain seasons prevent us here from enjoying the honours arising from eligibility for official rank in Grand Lodge almost as much as if we were far more remote from England. A few days ago I again wrote to the Grand Secretary on the subject. In reply, I was informed that no decision can be arrived at before the next meeting of Grand Lodge in December, but that he "has not the slightest doubt as to the same being carried when brought forward." Thus, before your meeting in January you may expect such a change as will enable you to reduce your advancement fee from 15s. to 12s., or even less. It may be here remarked that an alteration has recently been effected as regards the annual fees due from each member to Grand Lodge, by making it 1s., payable half-yearly, instead of 2s. yearly.

The Treasurer's report will enable you to judge of our financial position. It cannot, under all circumstances, be considered an unfavourable one, and it must improve under ordinary care, since a large outlay, amounting to about one-third of our income, was necessary at first to purchase the requisite furniture, obtain the warrant, print by-laws, &c.

Having thus laid before you some account of our proceedings, the difficulties we have had to encounter, and our future prospects, it now only remains to make a few personal remarks.

While deeply regretting my want of all the success for which, from the early enthusiasm of the chief promoters, I thought I had good ground to hope—probably to some extent from the very limited local influence which I could command—I trust that at least I shall not be chargeable with any neglect, by omitting to employ such means as were within my power. The difficulties in obtaining and arranging the form of ritual were much greater than you can imagine; but when once it was completed and fully in my possession, I provided in every possible way to secure its permanence among you; and should you at any future time wish to make any inquiry on the subject, be assured of my desire to be at your service.

In conclusion, however unequal I have proved myself to be

to the task which was assigned to me, I shall always look back with pleasure on the trust and confidence which were implied by your selection of me as the first Master of the Caesarean Lodge of Mark Masters, it being an honour which cannot be conferred on any other, and shall rejoice in the feeling that I have at least done something to render the path of those who are to come after me more smooth. Accept my best thanks for the kindness I have received at your hands, and credit the expression of my earnest wish that my successors in the chair may at each returning annual festival be able to congratulate you on increasing prosperity and usefulness."

On the conclusion of this oration, the W.M. addressed Bro. Dr. Hopkins in complimentary terms on the zeal he had displayed and the assistance he had afforded in every department of Masonry during his eight years' residence in Jersey, on the services he had rendered to the Mark Lodge—not only as its first W.M., but as having successfully made all the arrangements for carrying out the ritual—and, finally, on the regret generally felt at the loss which the Craft in this island must suffer. As a trifling acknowledgment of these benefits, in the name of the lodge, he offered for Bro. Dr. H.'s acceptance a P.M.'s Mark jewel, which he begged him to esteem, not from its intrinsic value, as the state of the funds of the lodge would not allow a large outlay, but from the kindly feeling which it represented. The jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented by the Caesarean Lodge of Mark Masons (No. 74) to Worshipful Bro. Dr. Hopkins, the first Master, as a token of sincere regard. Jersey, 8th October, 1866."

Bro. Dr. H. briefly replied, gratefully acknowledging this recognition of his services, which, however, he had no right to expect, considering the state of the lodge funds, and, if he had previously known of the intention, he would certainly have urged at least delay until more prosperous times. As, however, the token of regard had been prepared, he would feel a pride in wearing it on all suitable occasions, though such a memento would not be needed to call to his mind the many acts of kindness he had received from Masonic friends in Jersey.

On the proposition of the W.M. votes of thanks for their services were unanimously passed to the retiring W.M., to the Past Masters who had assisted in the ceremony of Installation, and to the officers of the lodge for their services during the past year.

The W.M. gave notice of his intention to propose an alteration in the advancement fees, in consequence of the statement made by the retiring W.M., contingently on the change being assented to by the Grand Lodge.

The lodge was closed by the new officers about 8 o'clock, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet presided over by Bro. Benham, W.M., who was supported by the P.M.'s, the S.W. taking the vice-chair. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the party separated at ten.

RED CROSS KNIGHTS.

METROPOLITAN.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE OF ENGLAND.

A special assembly of this ancient and distinguished conclave was held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on the 13th inst.

The conclave was duly opened, and on the roll being called, a goodly number of knights companions answered to their names, amongst whom were the Ill. Sir Kut. J. G. Marsh, G. Architect, M.P.S.; G. Powell, V.E.; R. Jones, G.J.G., as S.G.; T. Wescombe, J.G.; Rev. J. M. Vaughan, H.P.; R. W. Little, G.R. Recorder; H. G. Buss, G. Almoner, as Prefect; A. M. Mac-Dougal, F.R.C.S., as Std. Bearer; J. S. Charlton, Herald; J. Gilbert, Sentinel; J. Terry, H.; J. W. Thompson, D. G. Berri and B. P. Todd, Viceroy; W. Dodd, C. Margerison, &c.

Ballots were then taken for eighteen candidates, and the result being favourable, the undermentioned brethren were regularly admitted, received, constituted, and installed as knights of the Order, viz.: Bros. The Right Hon. Thomas, Lord Kenlis, 18°, W.M. 1074; E. Busher, 30°, Prov. G.W. and P. Prov. G. Sec., Cumberland and Westmoreland, P.M. 129; F. Walters, P.M. 73 and 871, Z. 73; H. P. Allender, 145, Ch. 742; R. Ord, J.W. 1044, Ch. 720, E. Prince, 73; C. Groom, 73; W. P. Applebee, 905; E. J. Applebee, 905; and H. Pook, 193.

The ceremony was well rendered by the M.P.S. and his

officers, and Sir Kut. Terry kindly delivered the historical oration.

A Grand College of Viceroy's was opened at six o'clock, by Sir Kut. Little, President, assisted by Sir Knts. Buss, Marsh, Tory, Jones, Wescombe, &c., and seven brethren, namely, Lord Kenlis, E. Busher, the Rev. J. M. Vaughan, J. S. Charlton, F. Walters, H. M. Mac-Dougal, and H. P. Allender, were solemnly consecrated as Priest Masons by the presiding officer. The college was then closed, and the Knights below the Viceroy's chair having been re-admitted, it was resolved that the future assemblies of the conclave be held on the second Saturday in February, April, May, October, and December; and the annual subscription was also fixed. Sir Knight Wescombe was appointed J.G. vico Gurnoy, who resigned that office owing to ill-health; and the conclave was then duly closed, when the Sir Knights adjourned to the banquet, under the presidency of Sir Knight Marsh. After the usual loyal and other toasts peculiar to this Christian Order, the M.P.S. proposed in eulogistic terms the health of the newly installed Companions-in-Arms, coupling with the toast the name of the E. Sir Knight Busher, a Mason of untiring zeal and ability, and who holds a deservedly high position in his native province. Sir Knight E. Busher, in responding, assured the Knights Companions that he was greatly pleased with the ceremonies of the evening, and he could also answer for the noble lord who had also been that day received into the Order, and whose unavoidable absence from the social board he was sure every member present regretted.

Sir Knight Little, in acknowledging the toast of the P.M.P. Sovereign's, informed the companions "that he had traced the existence of the conclave back to 1758, and it was at that time the only body in England that administered the rite of perfection."

Several capital speeches were made in the course of the evening by Sir Knights Vaughan, Pook, Buss, Terry, and Jones, and we regret that want of space prevents us giving even an outline of their excellent remarks.

We understand that Lord Kenlis and Sir Knight Busher have consented to accept office in the Grand Council, and it is more than probable that his lordship will be elected to the highest position in the Order.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M., P.Z., &c., being in Jersey for a few days for the first time since he had ceased to reside in the island, was invited to meet some Masonic friends on Monday, the 8th inst. Bro. H. L. Manuel, W.M. No. 590, as President of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Temple, took the chair, and in complimentary terms addressed the guest on behalf of those present and others, concluding by reading a document, of which the following is a copy:—

MASONIC TEMPLE COMPANY, (Limited).

At a meeting of the Board of Management, held on Tuesday, August 14th, 1866, the Secretary read two letters from Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins, offering as a gift towards the proposed library of the temple, a collection of 105 volumes treating on subjects of general interest. The following resolution was adopted by acclamation:

"That this Board accept with great pleasure the valuable collection presented by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. It will form the nucleus of a long projected Masonic library, and it adds another to the many claims Bro. H. Hopkins has on the warm regard of the fraternity. The honour of being the originator of the library, becomes Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins's, and entitles him to the grateful and lasting thanks not only of the Board but of all the local lodges."

Resolved further,

"That this vote, which is expressive not only of our thanks for this particular act of fraternal feeling and intelligent consideration, but of the appreciation by the Board, of the general qualities of their excellent brother, be formally transmitted to Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins by the officers of the Board."

HENRY LUCE MANUEL, Chairman.

A. SCHMITT, }
E. D. Le COUVEUR, } Hon. Secs.

Bro. Manuel finally presented a very choice gold pencil case as a token of gratitude, respect, and esteem, it being considered

that an article in constant use would most frequently call to memory, pleasant associations with the Craft in Jersey. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, who had received no intimation of the object of the meeting, was greatly surprised at this display of kind feeling and regard, which he acknowledged briefly, in terms as suitable as the unexpected circumstances would allow.

REVIEWS.

Oh, Meet Me at the Stile. Ballad by Bro. RICHARD FLETCHER.
London: White and Son, 337, Oxford-street.

THIS is a very sweet composition in F. Its charm consists in the rich, pleasing simplicity of its melody, and is adapted both as regards the words, which are also by Bro. Fletcher, as a drawing-room ballad for either a treble, tenor, or contralto voice. Bro. Fletcher is the author of several other very excellent compositions, and we hope ere long to see more issue from his study.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. DEPUTY DE JERSEY.—The centre piece and plateau designed for presentation to Mr. Deputy De Jersey, has lately been finished by Mr. J. W. Benson, to whom its manufacture was entrusted by the Corporation. The design which has been selected is exceedingly effective, and the whole has been produced at a cost of one hundred guineas. On a triangular base, supported on three very elegantly traced feet, is placed a plain globe highly polished, from which springs a fluted shaft, supporting a smaller globe, highly decorated and engraved, this being in turn surmounted by a glass dish for fruit or flowers. At each angle of the base is the figure of a dragon. On one side the city arms are engraved, on a second are those of the De Jersey family, and the third bears the following inscription: "Presented by the Corporation of the City of London, to Henry De Jersey, Esq., Deputy, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to his fellow-citizens as Chairman of the Commissioners of Sewers, 1866." At the sides of the shaft are three branches corresponding to the angles of the base. These are worked with a rich scroll pattern, highly chased and decorated, and support at the extremities glass dishes similar to the one at the top. The plateau on which the centre piece rests is neatly moulded with beaded edge and fluted sides, and is supported on three dragons, harmonising with the other portions of the design.—*City Press.*

THE WEEK.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the Duches d'Aumale, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, drove to Loch Bulig, and rode on ponies by the Bal-na-Djerig-road to Invercauld on the 10th inst.—The Queen went out on the morning of the 11th inst., accompanied by Princess Christian, and drove in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Christian and Princess Louise.—The Queen went out on the 12th inst., accompanied by Princess Louise and attended by the Marchioness of Ely.—The Queen went out in the morning of the 13th inst., accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and drove in the afternoon, accompanied by Princess Christian. Princess Louise rode with Prince Arthur, attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart, and visited the Duchess of Aumale, at Abergeldie.—The Gillies Ball to the servants and tenants of the Balmoral, Abergeldie, and Berkhall estates, which was to have been given on the day of the arrival of Prince and Princess Christian, took place on the 12th inst. Dancing commenced at half-past five, at eight supper was served, after which the dancing was resumed and continued till near twelve. Her Majesty and the Royal family were present.—The Queen drove in the morning of the 13th inst., accompanied by Princess Christian, and went out in the

afternoon, accompanied by Princess Louise, and attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart.—The Queen, Princess Louise, and Prince Arthur, accompanied by the Duchess of Roxburghe and Colonel Ponsonby, attended Divine service in the parish church, Crathie, on the 14th inst. The Rev. Robert Stephen, of Renfrew, officiated.—The Queen went out on the morning of the 15th inst. with Princess Christian, and drove in the afternoon with Princess Louise, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.—The Registrar-General's return for the week ending Saturday is published. It shows 207 deaths from cholera in the seven days, and these were pretty evenly distributed over the whole of London, except the East-end, which had just twice its share. But the mortality is very heavy in the central districts, including the City, St. Luke's, and Holborn districts. If it were not for the cholera, however, the general health of London would be excellent; and even with the cholera the mortality is below the average of the twelve populous places of the kingdom. In Liverpool, Dublin, and Newcastle, the death rate is very high.—A curious application was made on the 11th inst. to the police magistrate at the Lambeth Court. A man of respectable appearance stated that he had, while a soldier, been sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment for some offence. While he was in prison he became insane, and was removed to an asylum at Camberwell. He soon got better, and was again and again promised his release by the medical man in charge. The promises were never kept, and, tired of waiting, he made his escape. For several months he worked for some person in the country, but finally was thrown out of employment. While travelling through St. Albans in search of work he was arrested by the superintendent of police as a deserter, and kept in custody until the War Office disclaimed him, stating at the same time that he had escaped from the asylum. Upon this he was sent back to the asylum, and though the doctor there had frequently told him he was well, his release was refused. He had therefore escaped again, and come to the magistratos to have some advice as to what he was to do. The magistrate asked him if he had never seen the Lunacy Commissioners when they visited the asylum? He said he had, but they appeared to take very little notice of him. The magistrate referred the man to the Lunacy Commissioners, having first elicited the fact that the parish to which the applicant belonged paid the expense of his maintenance in the asylum. Surely this is a case which ought to be closely inquired into.—The three Spaniards who are charged with forging Spanish bank-notes have been brought up at Clerkenwell Police-court. Additional evidence was brought forward against them, and they were committed for trial, bail being refused.—Barry and Hayes, the two policemen of the S division who are charged with perjury in a case in which they accused two lads, named Dye and Pearce, of burglary, were brought up again yesterday at the Marylebone Police-court for further examination. Some additional evidence was given, and the prisoners were committed for trial.—A fatal fight took place at the back of Carlton-gardens a few days since. Two amateur pugilists fought for 4L a side, and one of them was so much injured that he expired at Charing Cross Hospital.—An important meeting of the shareholders of the London & Chatham, and Dover Railway Company was held at St. James's Hall, on the 12th inst. There was a very large attendance—the shareholders occupying the body of the hall, and the debenture and bondholders being seated in the gallery. Lord Sondes presided. Mr. Hodgkinson, chairman of the Committee of Investigation, moved the adoption of the report which has been

published, and a discussion then ensued. There was much recrimination, and some strong observations on Sir S. M. Peto's conduct were made. He was present and addressed the meeting, contending that in all he had done he had been actuated by a desire to serve the best interests of the company, and he denied that any one was in the least injured by what he had done. Eventually the report of the Committee of Investigation was adopted, and a reconstruction of the board of directors determined upon.—It appears that the inhabitants of Poplar entertain a laudable desire to provide the teeming population of that great and busy district with a public park, the nearest open space being Victoria Park, which is distant three miles. An excellent site has presented itself, and the ratepayers and others have memorialised the Metropolitan Board of Works to assist them in completing the purchase of the land. The petition was very favourably considered by the board.—A railway accident took place at Hitchin on the 11th inst. A passenger train ran into a goods train, which had stopped, instead of passing through the tunnel. Several of the passengers sustained bruises, but none were fatally injured.—The charge against the churchwardens of the parish church of Stoke Newington, of brawling in the church, was further heard and decided upon on the 13th inst. It will be remembered that there had been disputes in the parish as to the manner in which the musical part of the service was conducted, and the churchwardens removed by force the organist appointed by the rector of the parish, in order to put in his place one appointed by the vestry. The magistrate dismissed the charge of brawling. He was asked to give a decision on a further charge of assault, in order that the whole matter might be taken before a superior court. He refused, however, and suggested that the matters in dispute should be referred to the Bishop of London.—A woman named Scott or Burgess, seems to have been brutally murdered in the Bethnal-green-road. She was married to a man named Burgess, and while he was still alive she married a tradesman named Scott, with whom she lived until the 11th inst, when she died. The cause of her death appears to have been injuries she had received at the hands of Scott. If one witness is to be believed, he behaved in a most brutal manner to the deceased. He is in custody on a charge of murder.—The journeymen bakers of London held a meeting on the 13th inst., to consider how best they might be relieved from the exhausting night-work which they now perform. The meeting was chiefly remarkable for the speech of a Mr. Wright, a master baker, who strongly counselled the men to strike. "Fancy London without bread for forty-eight hours," said he. Well, it is not a pleasant thing to fancy.—When Hood wrote, "Rattle his bones over the stones; he's only a pauper whom nobody owns," he could not have imagined anything so revolting as the tale which a poor woman had to tell last week to the Bethnal Green Guardians. Two of her children died in July, and, having obtained an order for their burial, she took it to a contractor for pauper funerals in the district. She and her relatives accompanied the bodies to the Great Northern Cemetery in a Shillibeer hearse. Underneath the carriage in which they sat there were seven bodies, two more were under the driver's seat, and two more came behind in a cart. The bodies were, with one exception, those of persons who had died of cholera. The exception was a fever case. Matter oozed from one of the coffins, and the stench was fearful. No wonder she was made ill; the real ground for astonishment is that she is now alive to tell the story. But the indecency of the business did not end here. At the cemetery the coffins were covered with

earth without any grave being dug, and no religious service of any kind was performed. The board of guardians have had the contractor before them, and virtually he admits the truth of the woman's statement, excusing himself on the ground that, owing to the cholera, he was very busy just then with his ghastly work. The guardians seem to have reprimanded him, and to have written to the Great Northern Railway Company for an explanation of the reason why no funeral service was performed over the bodies.—An ingenious fraud was exposed on the 15th inst. at Clerkenwell Police Court. A man, calling himself John Young, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences. He had gone to a house and stated that a telegraph message for the householder was waiting in an office in King William-street, City. A member of the family was sent to fetch the message, having been first assured that there would be nothing to pay. As soon as he had seen the messenger clear away he went back to the house, said he had made a mistake, that there was £5 to pay for the message, and that he had been sent for the money. He got it. Of course there was no message. He was committed for trial.—On the 15th inst. an inquest was held at Old Ford on the body of a French merchant named Felix, who shot himself on the 11th inst. The deceased lived with his wife and family in a house of his own, but latterly he has been greatly depressed in his mind by business losses. The jury found that he committed self-destruction while in an unsound frame of mind.—Mr. Samuel Morley has made an announcement which will be heard with much regret. It is that he does not think he shall seek again to enter Parliament. Very many earnest men will hope that Mr. Morley may reconsider the decision, especially after the speech which he delivered at Newcastle on the 16th inst., and which we report elsewhere.—On Tuesday the Queen opened the Aberdeen Waterworks. The works are admirably constructed, and are designed to supply six million gallons of water per day. The ceremony was of the simplest description.—There has been much talk about the want in certain quarters—Ministerial and otherwise—of an adequate appreciation of the services rendered by the naval officers employed in the Atlantic Telegraph expedition. It now appears that the tribute which it was supposed had been altogether withheld, was really paid to these distinguished men by Captain Anderson at the Liverpool banquet; but as, oddly enough, that gallant officer's remarks were not reported at all, it was practically of no more value than if it had never been delivered. Sir James now supplies the defect by a letter, in which he gives a generous mood of praise to his various naval colleagues; but the public will probably think that it should not have been left to the commander of the Great Eastern to render a tardy act of justice to men who have deserved so well of their country.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street Strand, London, W.C.

F. J. A. (Nassau).—Your correspondence and five shillings worth of postage stamps duly received. We will take the necessary steps to have the matter thoroughly investigated, and will inform you of the result.

SUBSCRIBERS IN ARREAR.—The following brethren and lodges having been written to repeatedly, and payment of the accounts due by them not being forthcoming, they are hereby fraternally requested to at once discharge their monetary obligations, so long overdue, as under, viz.: Bros. J. D. Nordon, Queen's Town, Cape of Good Hope; J. C. Frank, Belleville, Canada West. Lodges: St. John's Lodge, Secunderabad, India; Lodge of Strict Observance, Canada West; and Zetland Lodge, Cape of Good Hope.