

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1869.

### EARS OF WHEAT FROM A CORNUCOPIA.

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(Continued from page 308.)

### FAC-SIMILE OF THE KILWINNING MINUTE RECORDING THE ERECTION OF THE LODGE CANONGATE KILWINNING.

Of the many lodges whose origin can be traced to Mother Kilwinning the Canongate Kilwinning is undoubtedly the most distinguished. Although in its charter of confirmation from the Mother Lodge, of date 1736, reference is made to its erection in

1677, the Canongate Kilwinning was, even at the time Laurie wrote his history of Freemasonry, regarded with suspicion as claiming acknowledgement for an antiquity which many held it did not possess. The Grand Secretary barely concedes to it "a sort of traditional existence from the year 1677"; while, going on a step farther, a writer quoted in the historical remarks which precede the by-laws of No. 3 bis, "doubts whether the evidence" that could be adduced by the Canongate Kilwinning in support of its alleged antiquity "would quite satisfy a jury of neutral antiquarians."

In support of the claims which have thus been so disparagingly spoken of, it has been our privilege to bring to light evidence of the most conclusive kind, and we have introduced into this paper a fac-simile of the record auncient the erection of the lodge in question, which appears on the 76th page.

The Lodge of Calvermeyt was founded on December 10, 1677, year  
 Second and third day and half of the Bruthers confederacy to be  
 ad laboris poveris et opere bruthers of the brotherhood of  
 masonry and part of our numbers being sinking to be  
 called Comontheit the day of the power of liberty to be given to  
 under receiving poveris and qualified persones to be  
 in name of bruthers of our Lodge of Calvermeyt to pay poveris  
 ad laboris number the Lodge of Calvermeyt to do  
 as finding on us our number to us each and every to do  
 we be desirous if need be the day for names and  
 myself into the book

of Falstock

William Corrane *	
Duncan Mcclane	†
Robert Mcallum	‡
James Gib	§
William Johnson	
George Hallion	*
Alexr Steele	†
John Ellion	‡
Andrew Farnie	‡
Robert Johnson	†
William Dorey	*

of the oldest of the minute books now in possession of the Lodge of Kilwinning ; and for the sake of brethren unaccustomed to decipher such MSS., we present the following verbatim copy of it :—

"At the ludge of Killwining the twentie day of decembre 1677 yeares, deacons and wardanes and the rest of the brethren, considering the love and favour showne to use be the rest of the brethren of the cannigate in edinbrough, ane part of our number, being willing to be boked & iuroled, the qch day gives power & liberty to them to enter, receave, and pase ony qualified persons that they think fitt, in name & behalf of the ludge of Killwining, & to pay ther entry and booking monyes due to the sd ludge as we do our selves, they sending on of ther number to us yearly, and we to do the lyk to them if need be. The qlk day ther names are insert into this book. . . ."

The phrase "enter, receave and pase" is that used by some of the guilds and trade incorporations of the period to indicate the admission or reception of new members, and does not in any way point to the existence of Masonic degrees which, so far as Scotland is concerned, were only introduced on or about the year 1735.

This record is undoubtedly founded upon a previously received communication from the brethren to whom it bears special reference ; for in an early minute of the Canongate Lodge (as has been shewn by our old colleague, Bro. Oneal Haye), reference is made to " petition or application " which in 1677 had been presented to the Mason Court of Kilwinning by the Masons in the Canongate of Edinburgh. That petition is not now extant ; neither has a verbatim copy of it been preserved. The Canongate Lodge seems to have applied for a copy of this document ; but as at a subsequent date the brethren of Dunse, in reply to an inquiry regarding the antiquity of their lodge, were apprised of the inability of any one in Kilwinning to read its old Masonic records, most probably from the same cause the Canongate Kilwinning had in 1736 to rest contented with, as near as could be given by the officials of Mother Kilwinning, the substance of the petition in question and the deliverance thereon. The tenor of the application as furnished by the then secretary of the Mother Lodge, is as follows :—

"To the Right Worshipfull the Master of the Ancient Lodge of and at Kilwinning, the humble Petition of the Free Masons in the Cannongate of Edinburgh, written the 6th day of December 1677,

and signed by them. Right Worshipfull, and the worthy brethren of the said Lodge, we had your answer by our truly and worthy Brother William Cochran, and have considered the proposals contained therein, and find them very consonant with reason, so wee send you our worthy Brother Thomas Gib, with power to him to present this, our said Petition, humbly craving that as we are part of the company belonging to Kilwinning Lodge, your Worship and the other members of the said lodge, would authorise to meet together as a lawful lode, and to enter and pass any qualified persons as Free and Accepted Masons, in the name and the behalf, and as a part of the Lodge of Kilwinning, and to receive the entry moneys due to the said lode, from such qualified persons as are passed by us ; and We bind and oblige ourselves (collectively and severally) and our successors, to maintain and defend the rights and privileges of Kilwinning Lodge, and never to do anything prejudicial thereto, for witness whereof, we have subscribed these presents, and affixed our marks thereto. Sic Subscribitur. . . ."

That this is a rather *free* rendering of the Petition is apparent ; for the terms "Right Worshipful the Master," and "Free and Accepted Masons," as applied to designate the head and members of the Kilwinning Fraternity, had not at the date of the petition been adopted. And the same remark applies also to what in 1736 was given as "the tenor" of the minute which forms the subject of our illustration :—

"Kilwinning, the 20th December 1677 years. The Right Worshipfull the Master and other Members being convened in the Mason Court of the Antient Lodge in Kilwinning, and having the above Petition presented from their Brethren in the Cannongate of Edinburgh, by Thomas Gib, took the same into our consideration, and unanimously granted the desire thereof, in all points, authorising the said Brethren Petitioners to meet in a regular Lodge, enter Freemasons, and receive dues for the same as wee do ourselves. They sending one of their number to us yearly, and wee to do the like to them if need be. . . ."

Had not the original record of this "deliverance" been preserved, the foregoing version of it might have been held as proving what has not hitherto been done, viz., that in the seventeenth century members of the Mason Craft were in Scotland known by the distinctive appellation of "Freemasons." The production of such documents as

the one given above, as bearing upon certain points of Masonic historical data, is of more than ordinary importance, and suggests the exercise of caution in founding conclusions upon documents purporting to give the substance of ancient manuscripts.

It is the opinion of some well-informed Masons that the minute relative to the erection of the Canongate Kilwinning makes the members of that lodge members of Mother Kilwinning, *et vice versa*. This does not seem, however, to have been the case; for in the list of affiliated brethren extending from 1750 onwards, members of the Canongate Kilwinning are represented as paying matriculation fees similar to what were exacted by Mother Kilwinning from brethren hailing from other lodges.

#### MYSTICS AND MYSTICISM.

##### No. 1.

Ancient and Modern Mysticism are opposed. In the former it was a fact, in the latter it is a fancy. In the former it was truth, in the latter it is a lie. In the former, great thoughts, and greater discoveries were kept concealed from the vulgar herd, in the latter, vague, meaningless, if not actual absurd fancies, are hid in vaguer, meaningless and absurd language. The great beauty of the former lay in the mysticism being read like a printed book by the proficient, while it remained a dead letter to the profane. The latter has no beauty, and is a puzzle to mankind in general, and the writers themselves in particular. While the former benefitted mankind, and advanced religion, science and art, the latter, which pretends principally to deal with religion, sets up a school of fanatics and fools, which travesties the Bible, burlesques history, and jumbling the judgment, ends by confounding sense.

While Freemasonry in its simpler form professes to be the offspring of the Ancient Philosophies of the higher school, there has nevertheless arisen a school of Philosophers, who being Masons, to whom the doctrines of the Order are a sealed book, yet desirous of signalizing themselves in the body, start side degrees, and attempt to overlap the wholesome condition of the Order with stupid fungus. Such are the followers of Andrea, of Boehman and of Fludd, who, mystifying their brains with the shadows of facts, rush wildly about proclaiming new doctrines, startling the world with their mad rhapsodies and impudence.

Now Freemasons do not require any of such spurious nonsense, for such nonsense cannot even rise to the rank of original or good. It puts one in mind of a gauder walking in jack boots, in humbly imitation of the celebrated Puss in Boots, and brethren who fancy they can palm as genuine their absurd degrees upon the thinking members, must be, anything but wise men, and as such treated with that contemptuous indifference which they deserve.

At the same time these degrees should be carefully watched over by Supreme Bodies, especially such as encroach upon the Council of the Thirty-Third. Of course to show any persecuting spirit would prove the very opposite to a wise plan, but what cannot be seriously reasoned out of a believer in absurdities, should be laughed out, and ridicule owns sometimes more power over the mind, than calm reason. A fool may be struck at through his vanity, although he has no mind to be stormed. Punch has demolished more fancies than all the newspapers alive, and a little judicious ridicule would do no harm to our Masonic Mystics.

Had Bederride not been refused certain honours in the Supreme Council, we would never have had the monstrosity of the Rite of Misraim, a rite which may be styled one mass of nonsense, clothed in wild perversions of historical fact, gemmed by the creation of personages who did not live a hundred, not to say a thousand years ago, and faithfully crowned by language as bombastic as ungrammatical. The founders of such degrees think a destruction of grammar to be the correct thing, and strings of adjectives, pearls beyond price.

Now, cannot the Ancient and Accepted Rite satisfy any reasonable man, more especially since we have the Templars and Hospitallers. For what purpose are we piling Ossa upon Olympus, with immense agony? Surely if a brother works his way decently up the acknowledged degrees, what more can he want? unless he wishes to be a Modern Freemason Mystic. And after all what sense or object can there be in this Mysticism? Ask us the question and like a difficult conundrum, we give it up, to receive a speedy answer, if one can be got.

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THE FEMALE MASONIC ORPHAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS shows by its report for the past year that this valuable and noble institution is in a more flourishing condition than any preceding year.

## GRAND LODGE OF IOWA.—III.

The by-laws and general laws of the Grand Lodge of Iowa are similar to those of other grand bodies. The Compend of Masonic Law of Trials and Punishment, compiled by T. S. Parvin, is, however, interesting, although not varying from the criminal jurisprudence of other Grand Lodges.

Masonic crimes are defined as—

1. A violation of any of the duties enjoined by the ancient charges.
2. The doing of any act contrary to, or subversive of the three great duties which a Mason owes to God, his neighbour, and himself.
3. Conduct which tends to impair the unsullied purity of the Order, or which is, in any wise, contrary to the obligations and the written teachings of the Order.

Some doubt exists as to how the Master of a lodge, guilty of an offence, is to be put upon his trial. We think that such trial should take place before Grand Lodge alone, and that this should also be the forum for Past Masters, who, properly speaking should be tried by their peers. A Warden or Deacon may be tried in an ordinary lodge of Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, and Masters; but we rather think, considering the importance of the office, Past Masters should have the same privilege in this matter as Masters.

Minute directions are given regarding the manner in which trials are to be proceeded with, and justice is fenced round with all the formalities of a court in the outer world. All charges are to be made in writing—a most important act—as alike confining the accused and accuser to definite laws of accusation and defence. In some lodges it is the custom to permit of oral charges, but these are altogether improper, nor do we think that notices of motion should be permitted. A regular petition and complaint should be preferred, distinctly narrating the nature of the offence or offences, as the case may be, so that distinct answers may be given in, and the matter then comes before lodge or Grand Lodge in a state ready to be debated upon.

The notice of citation, of course, varies under different Grand Lodges, some having a longer period than others; and it does not require the accuser to be a Mason to prefer a charge. An accusation of immoral conduct may be preferred by a profane. In the absence of other accusers, it is the special duty of the Junior Warden to prefer all

charges for offences committed when the lodge is not at labour. In open lodge, and when a brother commits an offence, he can be called upon then and there to show cause why he should not be judged and instantly punished.

Testimony is to be given in open lodge at the time of the trial, or before a committee specially appointed for the purpose, and, in either case, the accused and the accuser, if he be a Mason, shall be entitled to be present, and propose such relevant questions as it may desire, the testimony to be reduced to writing and submitted, when taken by a Committee, to open lodge. A Mason is to be examined upon his word of honour, a profane upon his oath; and, when the latter is examined before the lodge, the lodge shall be called from labour during his being present. Lodges for examination of witnesses must be specially called, “at which no visitor shall be admitted except as counsel or witness.” The accused may select any brother for his counsel. Minute directions are given as to the degree of lodge to be held upon examination, hearing and decision. The decision of “guilty” or “not guilty,” degree of punishment, &c., is to be taken by ballot.

The punishments are threefold:—

1. Reprimand, which is at once administered by the Master.
2. Suspension, which, by the Constitutions of Grand Lodge of Iowa, is always *indefinite*, and remains until regularly abrogated.
3. Expulsion. When this sentence is pronounced it does not become effectual until submitted to Grand Lodge and ratified by it, after which the offender is gazetted as expelled.

## THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 27).

## BOOK IV.—CHAPTER XII.—Contd.

William de Placian had been an early and intimate friend of the Grand Master, and De Molai placed the utmost confidence in him. But De Placian was also an officer of the King, and one of Philip's most servile tools. He had rendered himself a favourite with Philip by denouncing Pope Boniface in the Estates-General; and, after the death of that Pontiff, had been sent to Rome to settle matters with Benedict XI. He was also

sent to Poictiers, on behalf of the King, to treat of the affairs of the Templars with Clement, and by his advice, the Pope had consented to pursue them as heretics. Thus, when the appearance of the Grand Master before the Commission could no longer be delayed, the King sent him to attend the meeting, and gave him instructions, by all means, to work upon the feelings of De Molai, so as to nullify his endeavours to prove the innocence of the Order. It may readily be judged, that his advice would have some weight with the Grand Master, who still viewed him in the light of a friend, and was ignorant and unsuspicuous of his share in the persecution of the Templars. It is also worthy of remark, that the Commissioners recorded "that they had not requested his presence."

The Grand Master informed De Placian of his determination to defend the Order; but De Placian advised him against the step, pointing out the almost insurmountable difficulties which would attend it, and to take the utmost care not to lose himself, and destroy the chances of successfully vindicating the Order, by acting now imprudently. He implored him to do nothing rashly, for, if the defence proved unsuccessful, it would only add to the dangerous position of the Templars and bring discredit on himself. The Grand Master said that he saw clearly that he would require to proceed with the utmost caution. Thereupon he returned to the Commissioners, and demanded time to deliberate upon the defence. They allowed him till Friday, the 28th for that purpose.

Let us consider for a little the first appearance of the Grand Master before what may be considered impartial judges. He cried out at once against the avowals which had been inserted in the apostolic letters, and solemnly denied them; and, in regard to these apostolic letters, one circumstance requires some little consideration. The confessions which were imputed to De Molai, and which he stated were fabrications, were inserted in the Bull *Faciens Misericordiam*, addressed to all the Courts in Christendom. This Bull is dated the 12th August, although the Festival of the Assumption—that is, the 16th August—is given as the day on which the Grand Master is declared to have made them; in fact, four days after the Bull was issued. This very important circumstance was first noticed by Fleurie (*Hist. Eccles.*, lib. xcii). It was therein declared that the heads of the Order had confessed, and been absolved;

yet, before the Commissioners, we find De Molai still treated as a heretic, and unreconciled to the Church, and as such sent back to his prison at Paris, and denied both pecuniary and spiritual aid, being a heretical and unreconciled Templar.\*

### CHAPTER XIII.

*Ponsard de Gisi appears before the Commissioners, and undertakes the defence of the Order.—Second appearance of De Molai before the Commission.—He declines to defend the Order before it, and claims to be taken before the Pope.—De Nogaret present, and accuses the Order.—The Grand Master rebuts the charge.—The Commissioners order new proclamations.—The Templars begin to arrive in Paris—Their statements when brought before the Commissioners—The Grand Master a third time before them—They assemble the Templars desirous of undertaking the defence—Deputies chosen, with De Boulogne at their head, for that purpose—A.D. 1309—1310.*

On the 27th, the Commissioners issued a fresh proclamation, inviting such Templars as were willing, to appear before them and defend the Order. Only one appeared, Ponsard de Gisi, Preceptor of Payens. The Commissioner asked him if he was willing to defend the Order? He replied, "Yes. The imputations cast upon us of denying Jesus Christ, of spitting upon the Cross, of authorising the propagation of infamous morals, and all similar accusations, are false. If I, myself, or any other Templar, have made such avowals before the Bishop of Paris or others, we have betrayed the truth, we have succumbed to fear, to peril, and to violence. We were tortured by Squin de Flexian,† the deposed Preceptor of Montfaucon, and by the friar William Robert (Imbert), our enemies. Several of the prisoners made such avowals, as they confessed afterwards to evade death, and because during the application of the torture at Paris thirty-six Knights died under it, besides a large number in other places. As for me, I am ready to defend the Order in my own name, and in the name of those who will make common cause with me, if, out of the riches of the Order, I am allowed sufficient funds to defray the necessary expenses. Furthermore, I demand the assistance of Raynaud d'Orleans and Peter de Boulogne, Priests of the Order. In this schedule which I present to you, I have written down with

\* Dupui, and generally the whole of the previous authorities.

† This scoundrel, who, to save his infamous life for a time, accused the Order, is here used as a torturer. Fit service; who can doubt the innocence of the Templars?

my own hand, the names of those whom I regard as our enemies."

The Commissioners.—"Have you been tortured?" Ponsard De Gisi.—"Yes, three months before the avowal which I made to the Bishop. My hands were tied behind my back so tightly that the blood flowed from the tips of my fingers. I was then left for an hour in this condition at the bottom of a ditch."

This gallant Knight was the first who had the courage to appear as a defender of the Order, although not ignorant of what such conduct would entail, for he knew that the King would bitterly resent his appearance. Ponsard de Gisi appears thus next in honour to the Grand Master, and his sublime devotion secures for him our admiration, as it procured him the glories of a martyrdom. His declaration has one peculiarity. We find that the King not only acted upon the infamous accusation made by Squin de Flexian against the Order, from which he had been expelled for his villainies, but that he employed this miscreant in the task of torturer as well. No wonder so many of the Templars gave way. His fiendish hate would even surpass Imbert's.

On Friday, the Grand Master was again brought before the Commissioners. They asked him, "Will you defend the Order?" De Molai replied, "You have read me certain letters from which I learn that the Pope reserves to himself my case and those of the Grand Officers. I decline, therefore, to defend the Order before you. I demand immediately to be led before his Holiness, when I will say all that is necessary to justify the Order from the foul and malignant charges of our enemies, and to give to Jesus Christ the honour due to him. Feeble and mortal, I have, perhaps, only this moment, time to claim this sacred right. The Pope should call me; yes, he should call me at once, and I will speak in his presence, according to my ability, to the glory of God and of His church!" The Commissioners then said, "We have not to occupy ourselves with particular individuals. We are sent by the Pope to make enquiries concerning the entire Order." De Molai again declined to undertake the defence before them. The Commissioners were surprised at this resolution, and demanded of him, if he had nothing to say regarding the charges which had been admitted by several of the Templars?

The Grand Master replied that he required them to act legally and faithfully, and while he

declined saying anything regarding these charges, he could not help passing a eulogium upon the Order. "To acquit my conscience of wrong, I have to submit for you consideration, three observations in favour of our Order. 1. Is there any Order, whose churches are better provided with rich and appropriate ornaments, and with all that is requisite for the public and private service of God, or in which that service is rendered with more dignity and fervour by the priests and deacons, or conducted with greater majesty? I only except the cathedrals. 2. Is there any Order that gives more alms? Is not the Order of the Temple renowned throughout the world for its charity, which it exercises in a degree that no other religious body can pretend to rival? In all our houses, it is the rule to accord alms three times a-week to all the poor who present themselves; and 3, Has any Order rendered greater service to the cause of the Cross in Palestine than have the Templars? The soldiery of the Temple have ever exposed themselves generously and devotedly to the protection of pilgrims, and have sacrificed millions in defence of the Cross. In the wars with the infidels, their knowledge of the military art, their valour and their devotion, have wrested victory from the hands of the unbelievers and saved the Christians." He stated that it would have been more conducive to the interests of the Holy Land, had the Templars' advice been taken in the conduct of its affairs, and that generally when plans were formed against their advice, defeat ensued.\* He recalled the famous journey of Mansourah, when the Count d'Artois, the brother of St. Louis, perished, because he would not follow the counsels of the Grand Master, who had the command of the advanced guard, and who was killed while performing prodigies of valour, and conducting himself so as to be worthy of immortality. "In fact, there is no Order that has spent so much blood for the Church and made themselves so redoubtable to the enemies of the Catholic faith."

The Commissioners replied that all these actions were praiseworthy, but that for the salvation of the soul they were perfectly worthless, without faith, which was the foundation of the Catholic religion, and which alone could make these pains, works, and valours, meritorious. The Grand

\* This is amply proved in the war history of the Order. Books First and Third of the present work.

Master replied, "I acknowledge the truth of what you state, but in faith the Order has never been wanting. I attest that I believe in God, in the persons of the Trinity, and in all the other articles of the Catholic faith. I believe there is but one God, one faith, one baptism, one church, and that in death, when the soul is separated from the body, there is but one judge of the good and evil. This is my belief. This is the belief of the Order of the Temple."

(*To be continued.*)

#### PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND. IMPORTANT DISCOVERY NORTH OF THE MOSQUE OF OMAR PLATFORM.

December 8th, 1868.

Bro. Lieut. Warren says:—On Saturday I went over the Haram Area to see if I could trace any resemblance between the plan of Dr. Lightfoot and the present form of the ground. On passing by the northern edge of the Mosque of Omar Platform, I saw that the earth had been lately disturbed at the foot of the eastern steps, and on asking the Sheikh of the Mosque about it, he said that after the heavy rains, three days before, the ground had given way, and that they had found an entrance to subtractions as large as those at the South East angle. I suggested to him that the hole had been badly filled in, and that it would probably give way again. This morning we went early to the Haram Area, and happened to come upon this place just a few minutes after the hole had opened a second time. We went down into it and made an examination.

It is a souterrain running east and west in the line of the northern edge of the Mosque Platform. It consists of an arched passage of 18ft. span, with bays to the south of 12ft. by 17ft., arched over; the piers between being 3ft. 6in. thick. The southern side of these bays is scarped rock, and on it the wall supporting the northern edge of the Mosque Platform is built. Portions of the piers are also scarped from the rock, which appears to shelf down rapidly to the north; so that, if the earth and these vaults were removed, the northern end of the Mosque Platform would present the appearance of a perpendicularly scarped rock, with excrescences on its face, 3ft. 6in. thick, 12ft. apart, and projecting about 6ft.

The vault was examined for about 70ft. east and west, and four bays were surveyed. The crown of the arch of the vault and also of the bays is about 2ft. below the surface of the ground, which is there about 8ft. below the level of the Mosque Platform; the distance from crown to springing of the arches is 9ft. 6in., those (arches) of the bays being perpendicular to, and forming groins with, that of the vault. The arch over the vault has a span of 18ft.,

but it is not semicircular, it appears to have a parabolic curve; while the arches over the bays are decidedly pointed (spans from 12ft. to 13ft.).

The voussoirs of the arches are small, presenting about 15in. by 4in. on the soffit.

On the northern side of the vault I could see no appearance of rock, except in one place for about 5ft., where there is either rock or a large stone, the top of which is about 10ft. below the springing; the northern portions of the piers are also of Masonry, but from their centres to their southern ends they are cleavely scarped from the rock, just as is the southern end of the bays.

The Masonry in the walls is of very miscellaneous character, in some cases large and small squared stones, and in some places coarse rubble. On the northern side of the vault are two passages, about 2ft. wide and 6ft. high, which are blocked up after about 8ft.; they have the appearance of being in connection with other vaults to the north; they are roofed over with stone slabs.

To east and west the souterrain is blocked up with rubbish, fallen in from above; but it appears to extend in both directions, though towards the west there is an indication of a portion of the arch having given way. To the south the rock rises to about the springing of the arches, that is to say, to about 12ft. from the surface of the ground, or to about 18ft. below the Mosque Platform. Above the rock, the ends of the bays are filled in with coarse rubble, and it is doubtful whether they extend beneath the Mosque Platform. In the eastern bay there is an arched doorway, or communication, which is filled up with coarse rubble.

The souterrain has no appearance of having been constructed for a tank, there is not a sign of plaster about, and the rock appears to have been scarped for view; it differs in most respects from the tanks in the Haram Area, and was apparently built for the purpose of raising up the Haram Area to a general level. The arches appear to be Saracenic. For several months I have been seeking an opportunity to examine the ground on the northern side of the Mosque Platform, near the western steps, as I am convinced there are vaults there (from the hollow sound of the ground), and my impression now, is that the souterrain just discovered extends all along the northern edge of the Platform.

I do not see that the souterrain supports the position of the Temple, obtained by the application of Dr. Lightfoot's plan to the existing plan as sent home by the mail. It may with reason be claimed by one party as the ditch on the northern wall of the Temple, and by the other as the northern ditch of Antonia. It, however, limits the space on which the Temple could have stood, and as other knowledge is gained it may become a strong point in settling the matter.

N.B.—The scarped rock was only visible to a depth of 12ft., but there was no indication of any termination.

#### SOUTERRAIN N. 2, CONVENT OF SISTERS OF SION.

An important discovery has been made lately at the Convent of the Sisters of Sion.

In extending the buildings to the east a second souterrain was found. Through the kindness of M. Ganneau, the French Vice-Consul, and with the permission and aid of M. l'Abbé, I have made a plan of it. It is to the north-east, and parallel to that which has already been described in Captain Wilson's notes.

We entered from an opening in the crown of the arch, and descending 12ft. found ourselves on the top of a mound of rubbish which had fallen in from above.

At the end, to the north-west, the vault is 20ft. wide, and is filled up with rubbish nearly to the springing; the end is blocked up with a masonry wall of a later date than the arch itself. The arch appears to be semicircular, and has about thirty-one voussoirs; at 11ft. down on western side is a communication with Souterrain N. 1, 7ft. wide, and the pier or wall between the two is 5ft. 9in. thick. On the eastern side of Souterrain N. 2, at this end, the arch appears to spring from the rock.

This arch in Souterrain N. 2 contains 45ft. to south-east, and the vault then widens, and the succeeding arch is 24ft. span, and the line of springing has a slope to south-east of about one in six; the crown of the arch apparently remaining horizontal as the arch increases in span throughout its length of 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ ft. The vault is now continued by another arch whose crown is about 4ft. 6in. lower, and whose length is 46ft. These two latter arches appear to be very slightly pointed; they are very nearly semicircular. The Souterrain N. 2 is thus 127ft. long, and from 20ft. to 26ft. across. The south-eastern end is cut off by the same line of scarped rock as closes N. 1. Also, I believe that the springing of the arch to east throughout its length is on the rock. For about 75ft. the souterrain is a pool of water about 6ft. deep with a bottom of soft mud, the water coming up to about 2ft. below the springing. We had to construct a raft, floated with goatskins inflated, to enable us to examine this portion of the vault; and I do not feel confidence in some cross measurements taken at the farther end which I have not given on plan. I purpose going down again and examining the place more minutely. M. l'Abbé has offered every facility for our thoroughly exploring the place.

It is desirable to examine the arch to north-west to see if it is continued.

I also visited, with M. Ganneau, the Souterrain N. 1, and found that the passage explored last year, 28th October, was comparatively dry, and we could get to the end on planks, but there was

nothing new there to be seen. The staircase close to this passage has been blocked up; it was in some way connected with the latrines of the Serai, and consequently the amount of sewage now oozing into the place is very inconsiderable.

A great portion of the side of the Souterrain N. 1 to west is rock, and I hope to be able to ascertain what it is throughout the length. At present it appears that the place is a deep fosse cut in the rock about 50ft. wide and 165ft. long.

#### MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

##### MAXIMILIAN AND MEXICO.

It was stated at a late lodge meeting by a Mexican brother that the late Emperor Maximilian was a Mason, and that the few native Mexican Masons made great efforts to save his life.—C.A.

##### GNOSTICS.

It is the opinion of many Masons, and some are now engaged in the investigation, that many emblems of Masonry are derived from Gnostic symbols.—E.D.

##### THE PRINCE OF WALES A FREEMASON.

However much we do respect and love Her Majesty and the Royal Family, it is not likely that the Freemasonry of the first country in the world is to be put aside for the Freemasonry of a third-rate power, because the King of Sweden has given the badges to our Prince of Wales of a Swedish Rite.—A BRITISH MASON.

##### THE ORDERS OF THE RED CROSS OF ROME AND THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

Appreciating thoroughly the courteous tone of "Lupus's" article on the above Orders in last week's Magazine, and believing that the fair discussion of the subject within proper limits will interest many of your readers, I am inclined to offer a few remarks in reply to his comments. With reference to the "assignment," or "sale," of the Grand Mastership of the Order to the Duke of Parma in 1699, the fact is not disputed in "A Sketch, &c." (page 27), but the right of the last of the Comneni in his attempt to deprive the Grand Crosses of their authority to perpetuate the Order by the creation of knights is questioned by implication. The Abbé Giustiniani alluded to in the "Sketch," was one of the Knights Grand Cross when the government of the Order was thus, as we contend, illegally transferred to the ducal house of Farnese; and a reference to the Abbé's "Memoirs" will prove how energetically he, and other distinguished Italian members, protested against a transaction which tended to denude them of privileges inherited from time immemorial. The regulation of the Order was entrusted to 50 senators, who were Grand Crosses, and it was customary for these dignitaries to confer the cross of a "Noviciate," or "Knight-in-waiting," upon men of honour and distinction.

A "Noviciate" was not admitted to the second grade, called "Professed Knights and Barristers," until he had performed his bounden duty as a

Novitiate Knight by actual attendance at certain meetings.

This rule was followed by the High Council of England, under Waller Rodwell Wright (vide p. 35 of the "Sketch.") The ceremonial of "professing" Knights, and the reception of Grand Crosses were both conducted in secret, and the traditional account of the origin of the Order was delivered to the members upon these occasions. The constitution of the Order of Constantine will thus be found to differ essentially from that of any similar Order of Knighthood; inasmuch as the right to confer the "Red Cross" was not restricted to the Grand Master, but was also a prerogative of the Grand Crosses. I am quite aware that the Order was not originally confined to Freemasons; and I believe that a reference to the context in page 27 of the "Sketch" will show that the observations therein apply only to the *English Branch*, whose existence I have now traced back for nearly 110 years, approximating the period of the Abbé Giustiniani's decease in 1785. I am also perfectly willing to admit that, as a Masonic institution, it is in much the same category as the Order of the Temple, the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, or the Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

I will now allude only to one more point in "Lupus's" communication:—"Did the Committee, of which H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex was President, in 1813, decide upon using the regalia of the public foreign Orders, or has the appropriation been recent?" To this I beg to reply that I have in my possession a cross which was worn during the Duke's Grand Mastership, and with the exception of the position of certain letters, it is identical with the cross now worn in the Priestly Order of Eusebius. Bro. C. Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. for Surrey, also remembers his father wearing a Red Cross jewel of similar design.

The "regalia" is therefore not new, nor is the Order itself, as now practised in England, quite the modern invention some persons would fain believe. It will probably surprise many to hear that, since 1862, the propriety of re-establishing the Masonic Order has occupied the minds of influential Masons, and that inquiries were made in the *Freemasons' Magazine* in the year named, as to the "degree called the Red Cross of Constantine." See No. 179, page 446, and the editorial reply then given was, I am sorry to say, erroneous, viz.:—"It is the same known in America as Knights of the Red Cross. . . . Several brethren in England say they can give it, but it is questionable. . . . We know of no competent jurisdiction for whom you might receive it." This answer was incorrect in the first place, as the Red Cross Order conferred in America as a preliminary to Templar Knighthood is not a Christian degree, but is commemorative of certain events in the history of Darius, King of Persia. Secondly, at the date of the reply (December 6, 1862) several members of the English Order were living, from one of whom I received the ritual of our first grade; and, thirdly, in accordance with the Constitutions of the Order, as now embodied in the Statutes (see page 14), so long as a single member of the Order remained in existence, a "competent jurisdiction" also existed for perpetuating the institution, provided he should deem it advisable.

The *Freemasons' Magazine* is replete with passages which prove that the Order has hardly ever been in abeyance in England—see a "Templar's Certificate, 1830," page 302, No. 224, in which it is stated that a Templar, the owner of the certificate, was "subsequently admitted a Knight of the Red Cross and of the Order of Malta," and upon this certificate were placed the letters of the *Christian Order* (not the Persian degree), which, with the Cross therein mentioned, appertain to the Order of Constantine and to no other.\* I annex the Cross described. I have



also a Templar certificate of more recent date (at present lent to a friend), in which the Red Cross degree is recorded as having been conferred upon the brother named therein.

The "Priestly Order" was also given in the same Encampment, at Manchester, and doubtless by brethren, who, rather than allow the Red Cross degrees to become extinct, preferred working them under Templar warrants—the certificates to which I allude being diplomas from *private* encampments. Indeed, a writer in the Magazine, A, who, I sincerely trust, is alive and able to answer for himself, wrote thus in No. 184, 10th January, 1863:—"Apparently the following legend (viz., that of the Order of the Thistle) is only another version of the vision of Constantine, and as the Templars were a military Order of Speculative Masons, and connected with the Order of Constantine, the coincidence cannot be accidental, &c." See also a communication from a distinguished Mason, Bro. D. Murray Lyon, on Scottish Templary, No. 195, 28th March, 1863, in which he states that:—"Under the charters granted by the Grand Priory of Scotland, subordinate priories are permitted to form themselves into Masonic encampments or chapters of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, &c."

Time will not permit me to add much more at present, but I hope enough has been said to demonstrate that the re-organized Grand Council of England, now held under Lord Kenlis, was not the first to introduce the Masonic element into the ceremonies of the Red Cross Order. We have simply accepted them as a united series, and revised only those portions which might possibly conflict with other chivalric rituals.

In promoting the re-establishment of the Order, we have been actuated solely by the desire to place before those brethren whose tastes are in consonance with our own, a ceremonial of Masonic knighthood, which is at least as ancient as any on record, whose vows are simple, and whose teachings are sound. The result of the attempt is that the Order is now based upon a firm foundation, and we may safely confide its destinies to the impartial and intelligent verdict of our brethren in Freemasonry.—R.W.L.

\* The Templars, I am aware, use the I.H.S.V., but only as a motto.

## ORDER OF CHARLES XIII. OF SWEDEN.

Paragraphs have recently appeared in numerous papers to the effect that "the Prince of Wales has been made a Knight of the Freemasons of Charles XIII.," and many doubts have been expressed as to what description of Masonry is comprised in this title; but in no instance have I seen any explanation offered, although the solution of the question is ready to the hands, certainly of many of the writers of the paragraphs in question. It is well known that in Sweden the Masonic Order is, and long has been, in high esteem.

Findel, writing of the revival, in 1780, of the Grand Lodge of Sweden, says:—"More than 400 brethren, with the King at their head, assembled in the Hall of the Exchange, at Stockholm. The King assured the Grand Lodge, and all lodges acknowledging its jurisdiction, of his protection, confirmed to them by a diploma legally prepared, and in full conclave invested the Grand Master with an ermine mantle. From this time forward Freemasonry in Sweden has met with marked consideration."

Then we learn, from the excellent "Universal Masonic Calendar," that King Charles XV. is the present "Master of the Order" of Freemasons, and that the Prince Oscar fills the post of "Grand Master."

Mackey tells us that the Order of Charles XIII., is an Order of Knighthood instituted in 1811 by Charles XIII., King of Sweden, and which was to be conferred only on the principal dignitaries of the Masonic institution in his dominions. In the manifesto establishing the Order the King says:—"To give to this society (the Masonic) a proof of our gracious sentiments toward it, we will and ordain that its first dignitaries, to the number which we may determine, shall in future be decorated with the most intimate proof of our confidence, and which shall be for them a distinctive mark of the highest dignity." The number of Knights are 27, all Masons, and the King of Sweden is the perpetual Grand Master."

It would thus appear that the Order of Charles XIII. is not an Order, or degree, in Masonry, but a public Order of Knighthood of the Kingdom of Sweden, instituted in honour of the Masonic fraternity, and conferred in recognition of high Masonic worth. The Order appears amongst the public decorations of honour in Sir Bernard Burke's "Book of Orders of Knighthood," and is there stated to have been founded by the King, whose name it bears, on the 17th May, 1811, as a badge of honour for the Swedish Freemasons of the higher degrees. It has only one class. The King, the presumptive heir to the throne, and the Princes of the Royal Family can never divest themselves of the insignia."

The decoration, which is worn round the neck from a crimson ribbon, consists of a gold cross of the *pattée* form, enamelled red, and having a small circular centre bearing on the obverse the number XIII. between two C's in monogram, and on the reverse a G within a triangle; the cross is surmounted by a gold imperial crown. A cross *pattée* of red cloth, or enamel, is also worn upon the breast.

The *Daily News* says:—"That the Prince of Wales should have been made a Freemason at Stockholm is possible, but, if he has, we can promise His Royal Highness that no decoration pertaining to his

possible knighthood will be allowed to be worn in the lodges of his native land." This paragraph raises, in a happy manner, a doubt, I may say a difficulty, I have often felt as to the construction of the Constitutions, and of the Regulations of the Royal Arch, upon this subject. Does the prohibition of any jewels other than those appertaining to pure and ancient Masonry mean "Masonic" jewels? Or can it mean that the wearing of a war medal, the Victoria Cross, the Bath, the Legion of Honour, Charles XIII., or any other public decoration, or the medal of any qualified society, is forbidden? This is a question which very well-informed brethren appear unable to answer, but which it would be desirable to have officially interpreted.—*LUPUS.*

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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

## THE PRINCE OF WALES A FREEMASON.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In reference to the *Magazine* of last week, referring to the Prince of Wales becoming a Mason, perhaps you will allow me to append Dr. Mackey's note on the degree referred to for the information of the brethren who are unacquainted with the higher degrees in Masonry:—

"Order of Charles XII. (not XIII.)—An Order of Knighthood instituted in 1811 by Charles XII., King of Sweden, and which was to be conferred only on the principal dignitaries of the Masonic Institution in his dominions. In the manifesto establishing the Order, the King says:—

"*To give to this Society (the Masonic) a proof of our gracious sentiments toward it, we will and ordain that its first dignitaries, to the number which we may determine, shall in future be decorated with the most intimate proof of our confidence, and which shall be for them a distinctive mark of the highest dignity.*"

"The number of knights are twenty-seven, all Masons, and the King of Sweden is the perpetual Grand Master."

"J.A.H." in one of his recent articles in the *Freemasons' Magazine*, likened this Order of Chivalry to the Order of Constantine, but your readers will probably fail to see the points of resemblance. The only Masonic Royal Order in existence besides that under notice, is, I believe, the Royal Order of Scotland, founded by Robert the Bruce in 1314, after the Battle of Bannockburn, of which the King of Scotland, if a Mason, is hereditary Grand Master. Prince Charles Edward, the Young Pretender, believing himself to be the hereditary head of the Order, as the rightful heir to the Throne of Scotland, granted several Charters to brethren in France and Spain, and the lodges of H.R.M. of Kilwinning and R.S.Y.C.S., then founded, are now, I believe, in active existence. There are now, as I gather from the Universal Masonic Calendar, Provincial Grand Lodges established in France, Spain, the Netherlands, India, Sweden and Norway (of which King Charles is Prov. Grand Master), New Brunswick, and China; and now that the Prince of Wales has become a

Mason, and by that step assumed the sceptre of this Antient Order of Masonic Chivalry, the Knights of the R.S.Y.C.S. will no doubt hasten to do homage to the Sovereign of the Order.

Yours fraternally,

 A 31°.

[Our correspondent, like Bro. Mackey, is in error in supposing that the Swedish Masonic Knighthood was founded by Charles XII. That Monarch died many years previous to 1811. (See Voltaire's celebrated "Life of Charles XII.") Charles XIII. founded the Order. We fear the Statutes of the Royal Order of Scotland bar the "Prince Steward" of that realm becoming Grand Master, while Her Majesty sits on the throne. The King of Scotland alone can be Grand Master, and he must not only be a Master Mason, but have been received into the Royal Order, before assuming the dignity.—ED. F.M.]

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—The Prince of Wales entered Freemasonry in Stockholm, his introducer being King Charles XV. of Sweden. The Prince arrived in Copenhagen before our annual festival. He was invited to assist at it, and was introduced in our lodge by the wisest Vicar of Salomo, Bro. Brastrup (who succeeded the defunct King of Denmark, Frederick VII.) After the festival the Prince of Wales honoured us with his presence at dinner in the lodge. His health was proposed, and in replying he expressed his satisfaction and enjoyment at finding himself among Danish brethren, and we were exceedingly surprised to find from his speech that he is not quite unacquainted with the Danish language. We have all been very glad to have had him present in our midst.

It is said (but it is impossible for me to know it for certain, and you must take it as a supposition) that the Prince intends to introduce the Swedish system into England. This system has a special character, which can only be explained verbally.

Yours fraternally,

Copenhagen, January 5, 1869.

G. H.

#### THE PRINCE OF WALES AND FREE-MASONRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In common with many readers of last week's Magazine, I have perused the interesting article by J.A.H. and the comments of the *Daily News* on the initiation of the Prince, with becoming attention, but I conceive that there are some points in the latter which ought not to be passed over in silence or without explanation. It should be clearly understood that the "Prince of Wales," as a Swedish Mason, is as "orthodox" as any English brother of the "blue." The three first degrees are the same as ours—minor details of rituals excepted—and the promotion of His Royal Highness to higher grades does not alter the fact that he is now a member of the Craft Universal. The 3 "blue" degrees form the 1st class of the Swedish rite; and the 2nd class is composed of three more; viz., 4th. Apprentice and F.C. of St. Andrew. 5th. Master of St.

Andrew. 6th. Brother Stuart. It is singular that a member of the Royal Brunswick line should thus be identified with degrees commemorative of the fallen house of Stuart, the former possessors of the British Crown.

These degrees are termed "St. Andrew's Masonry," and members of the Red Cross Order of Constantine will readily trace the source of the tradition related in that portion of the Swedish rite, as follows:—Achius, King of Scots, and Hungas, King of the Picts, being at war with Athelstane, King of England, were on their knees at prayer the night before the battle, when a fiery cross appeared in heaven in the form of that upon which St. Andrew had suffered martyrdom X with the letters I.H.S.V., and the Saint himself also appeared and promised victory to the two king. Accordingly, on the next day, the English were defeated with great slaughter, when the Scottish and Pictish princes, in order to show their gratitude, vowed that a St. Andrew's cross should ever afterwards be borne upon their shields and banners.

The 7th grade (which the Prince is stated to have received) is the "Favourite Brother of Solomon;" the 8th, Favourite of St. John; and the 9th, Favourite of St. Andrew. The 4th class comprises three degrees of "Red Cross Knights," or "Chevaliers de la Rouge Croix." These brethren compose the "Illuminated Chapter," over which the "Reigning Sovereign of Sweden" presides, and their ceremonials are of a very august and solemn character.

There is another point connected with the initiation of the Prince of Wales that deserves consideration. H.R.H. has been created a "Knight of the Order of Charles XIII.," and the writer in the *Daily News*, evidently in utter ignorance of the constitution of the Order, proclaims aloud that—"We can promise H.R.H. that no decoration pertaining to his possible Knighthood will be allowed to be worn in the lodges of his native land." This is equivalent to saying that the Earl of Zetland cannot wear the Order of the Thistle, or Monsieur A.B. the Cross of the Legion of Honour, or any civil or military decoration in Masonic assemblies. The Order of Charles XIII. is an institution of Knighthood which confers nobility upon its members, *if not previously noble*. It was established by the Swedish king of that name on the 27th May, 1811, as a proof of his regard for the Craft. The number of Chevaliers is limited to 30, of whom three are ecclesiastics. The hereditary prince and princes of the blood Royal are not, however, comprised in this number; and the restriction as to the age of each Knight—viz., 36—is likewise inapplicable in their case. The meetings are held in the Royal palace, and the 28th January being the "fête" day of the Order, is the day fixed for the promotion of Chevaliers.

The Knights are sworn to respect all their previous obligations; to defend with "life and fortune" the pure evangelical religion; to be faithful to the King, and contribute to the welfare of the State; to oppose injustice; maintain peace and equity; encourage union and obedience to the laws; and to conform, to the utmost of their power, to all the Statutes of the Order. The emblem of the Order is a ruby-coloured cross, surmounted with a golden crown, and suspended from a ribbon of the colour of fire.

In the event of any Knight dying in indigent circumstances, the King becomes the guardian of his children, and gives directions as to their maintenance and education.

And this is the Order, the badge of which we are informed by the learned pundit of the *Daily News*, must not be worn by the Prince of Wales! An Order conferring civil rank—a national and kingly Order, which is alike as honourable to the Swedish Monarchy as it is complimentary to the Craft at large.

One word more for English brethren. We are aware that a wide-spread feeling of disappointment exists because the Heir Apparent to the throne of these mighty realms has not selected a lodge in his native land for his birthplace in Freemasonry; but it should not be forgotten that the best Mason, the most zealous, and the most consistent Craftsmen amongst the Prince's Royal ancestors, namely, H.R.H. the late Duke of Sussex, Grand Master of England, first saw the light in a foreign country under the auspices of the Royal York Lodge of Friendship at Berlin.

This was truly an illustrious precedent, and let us hope that the "Albert Edward" of our day will emulate the noble example of the "Augustus Frederick" of the past, that in the cultivation of every Masonic virtue he may pass through life beloved and respected by a loyal people, and leave behind him the imperishable record of an unsullied name.

Yours fraternally, I.H.S.V.

#### ZETLAND COMMEMORATION FUND.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—The following circular letter ought to have been sent to you for publication last week:—

"Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

"14th January, 1869.

"The sub-committee learn that a misapprehension exists in the minds of many brethren as to the application of the fund. Some think that a pre-conceived intention exists to apply it in founding scholarships for the Boys' School; others, that presentations to all the Charities are to be bought in the name of the Grand Master; and some that a new Charity is to be founded.

"We are directed to inform you that *no decision of any kind*, as to the above, or any other mode of application, has been come to; and that the committee are not even charged to consider the subject; nor can they do so until the amount of the fund is approximately known, and authority has been given them to consider and report upon its proposed application. The ultimate decision must be guided by the wishes of the Grand Master himself; and his only known view, as expressed by him at the Provincial Grand Lodge of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, is that he could not, under any consideration, permit the commemoration to partake of a personal benefit to himself, but that it should be made to benefit the whole of the Craft.

"We are to express a hope that you will kindly communicate this to your lodge (or chapter) and invite the co-operation of its members.

"The committee are anxious that the fund should be worthy of its object; and they resolved, in the first instance, that the contributions of individual brethren should not exceed a guinea, hoping that every Mason would give something, and being of opinion that the value of the testimonial would depend more on the number of the subscribers, than on the amount subscribed.

"The committee suggest that each lodge and chapter

should be asked to appoint a Steward to the fund, to be called the Commemoration Steward, whose special duty it should be to collect subscriptions from the lodge (or chapter) itself, and from its members; and that the Secretary (or Scribe) of each lodge (or chapter), do enclose with each summons, a form, to be filled up by each member.

"Earnestly commanding the subject to yourself and the officers and members of your lodge (or chapter), and begging an early response.

"We remain,  
"Yours very fraternally,  
"N. J. SIMPSON, } Hon.  
"JOHN M. CLABON, } Secs."

I am glad of this opportunity of calling attention to the subject of the Zetland Commemoration Fund, which is believed by a large section of the Order to have recently collapsed, from sheer mismanagement, and so to have died a natural death; as, during the last three weeks nothing has been heard of it, and no names of subscribers have been published in the MAGAZINE. For some months past numerous complaints of the inefficient way in which the affair was being handled by the members on the management, have been current, but out of consideration to the sub-committee, I suppose you refrained from publishing them, and particularly as we all had hopes of their making some change in the course of proceedings—their sins not being of commission, but rather of omission.

Allow me to suggest that there is something more required as a qualification for membership of such an important sub-committee as that of the Zetland Fund to insure its success, than being either in holy orders or a man of business—and clergymen are rarely the latter—so that many things have been left undone that ought to have been done, and so the time passeth away; and I hear, as a consequence, the fund in hand is *very much smaller* than it should be, or would have been, if the conduct or management of the Fund had been in the hands of a sub-committee differently constituted.

It is high time that these gentlemen of the sub-committee awaken, and if they do not fully understand the business they have undertaken (and I think it is clear they do not), they should not be ashamed to invite the counsels and assistance therefore, of those who, though not either present or past Grand Officers, know a good deal more about the inner workings of Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, and how to speak to, and appeal to, the *amour propre* of the members, than most of those who figure on the present list. Why ignore such brethren as Frederick Walters, F. Binckes, and others, who *do* know "something considerable" as to what is going on in Freemasonry?

The Committee have an excellent Acting-Secretary, but they might as well have a dummy, if they do not utilize him. Bro. Clabon, one of the Honorary Secretaries, has, no doubt, an excellent combination of talents, which fit him for such a position. He, however, is but *one*; and I never knew such an undertaking as this to thoroughly succeed, or become a great success, when managed by clerical and legal elements so combined; I say it in all good feeling, and I appeal to thousands of your readers to confirm my statement. Yours fraternally,

NOT A GRAND OFFICER.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

### MASONIC MEMS.

THE UNIVERSAL MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1869.—This useful and comprehensive publication is now issued. It can be obtained at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, or in Glasgow, in addition to the regular agents.

WARWICKSHIRE.—A warrant having been granted for the formation of a new lodge at Aston, near Birmingham, to be named the Holte, No. 1,246, the consecration of the lodge and installation of Bro. Dr. Thomas Partridge, P.G.O., will take place at the Holte Hotel, Aston, on Friday, the 29th inst., at three p.m.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS.—The anniversary of this Institution will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 26th inst. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire, will preside.

BRETHREN are reminded that the Lodge Music published a few weeks ago, in several issues of the MAGAZINE, has been re-published in a convenient form for Lodge use, price 2s. 6d.

DOMATIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The fifteen sections will be worked on the first Tuesday in February. The lodge meets at the Palmerston Arms, Palmerston-street, Walworth.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.—The installation of the Principal of the Kendal Castle Chapter, No. 128, and W.M. of the Union Lodge, Kendal, is fixed to take place on Thursday next, January 28th.

THE installation of the W.M. of the Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, is fixed for Friday, January 29th.

MASONIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—It will be seen from our advertising columns that the institute holds its inaugural meeting on Friday next, when Bro. Hyde Clarke, D.D.G.M. for Turkey, will deliver an address. Brethren who may have Masonic curiosities in their possession will see that their co-operation is invited, by exhibiting the same at the meeting.

We are requested by the Prov. G. Sec. of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire to state that, in consequence of direct disobedience to, and non-compliance with, the laws of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire, St. John Operative Lodge, No. 203, Airdrie, have forfeited their charter.

THE ceremonies of consecration and installation will be rehearsed on Thursday evening next, at eight o'clock, by Bro. James Terry, P.M. 228, at the Finsbury Club of Instruction, held at Bro. Bond's, Jolly Anglers, Bath-street, City-road. The musical arrangements will be under the superintendence of a distinguished brother in the musical profession.

BRO. I. BARNES, P.M. of the Doric Lodge, will work the ceremony of installation, on Monday next, at the Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 85, held at the Royal Hotel, corner of Burdett-road, Mile-end.

MASONIC LIFE BOAT FUND.—We are requested to mention that a committee is about to be formed for carrying out the purposes of the fund, and the Secretary (Bro. Anthony Oneal Haye) will be glad to receive the names of brethren willing to serve upon it. When the committee is formed, a list of subscriptions received will be published.

### METROPOLITAN.

EGYPTIAN LODGE (No. 27).—This excellent working lodge held a Lodge of Emergency on Tuesday, the 19th inst. The W.M., Bro. John Coutts, in the chair. Bros. Jones and Knight were passed to the degree of F.C., and Bros. Little, Rayner, and Atkins were raised to the sublime degree of M.M.'s by the W.M. in his usual solemn and impressive manner. The working was perfect, every officer knowing his duties thoroughly. The visitors were Bros. W. H. Lambell, 360, and H. M. Levy, P.M. 188.

ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE (No. 72).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday evening, January 4th, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, Bro. Samuel Hodson, W.M. There was a full attendance of members and numerous visitors, amongst whom were, Bros. Marshall, W.M. 22; White, S.D., 22; Platt, P.M., 144; Thompson, P.M., 177 and 1,158, &c. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer, after which the minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was afterwards opened in the second degree, and Bro. Brighten was passed to the degree of a F.C. The lodge was afterwards opened in the third degree, and Bro. Chandler was impressively raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. This having been disposed of, the lodge was resummed to the second degree, and Bro. Nunn, P.M. and Sec., took the chair. Bro. Oxford P.M. and W.M. elect, was then formerly presented by Bro. Webb, P.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation. Having gone through the usual preliminaries, the brethren below the chair retired, and a Board of Installed Masters being formed, Bro. Oxford was installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom as W.M. of the Royal Jubilee Lodge for the ensuing year. The brethren below the chair were then admitted, and the new W.M. having received the customary salutes, the addresses were delivered to the W.M., officers and brethren. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Dodson, S.W.; Child, J.W.; H. Webb, P.M. Treas.; J. Nunn, P.M. Sec.; J. Berger, S.D.; Wright, J.D.; Johnson, I.G.; Frank Poole, Steward; John Hart, D.C.; Ryley, Tyler. Mr. James Edbrooke, of Upper Norwood, was introduced and initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The lodge was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the large hall for refreshment. The banquet was furnished in Bro. Comow's best style, and was of the most bountiful description. It was done justice to and warmly commended. When the cloth was withdrawn and grace said, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was properly responded to, after which he gave the health of the "Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M. of Masons and in doing so said the present year would complete a quarter of a century he had served the craft as G.M. It was intended to do him honour on this occasion, and he trusted that the Royal Jubilee Lodge would not be the least in its contributions towards the Zetland Commemoration Fund, which the G.M. intended to devote to the Masonic Charities. The commemoration festival was intended to take place in April next, and he hoped it would be well supported by the Royal Jubilee Lodge. He asked them to join with him in drinking the health of the "M.W.G.M." The toast was drunk with great cordiality. The W.M. next gave "The health of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M." and said that when the G.M. was unable to be present, the D.G.M. was always there to perform the rules. This toast was also well received. Bro. Hedson, I.P.M. proposed the health of the "W.M." and spoke of the high qualities of Bro. Oxford. The toast was cordially responded to. The W.M. thanked the brethren for responding to the toast which the I.P.M. had proposed, and he trusted that he should always entertain the same feeling towards the brethren of the Jubilee Lodge as he had hitherto done, and in being called upon to preside as W.M. for the second time he would endeavour to carry out the true principles of Freemasonry. The W.M. next proposed the health of "Bro. Edbrooke," their newly initiated brother, for which he returned thanks. The W.M. proposed the health of the "Visitors," coupling with the toast the names of Bro. Marshall, W.M. of the Neptune Lodge, and Bro. Thompson, P.M. of 177 and 1,158; for which the brethren severally returned thanks. Bro. Dodson sang "Tom Bowling" in a splendid style and for which he received loud applause. The W.M. said that the next toast he had also great pleasure in proposing was the health of the P.M.'s of the Royal Jubilee Lodge, and although their I.P.M. had described himself as a very young member, he on the contrary numbered 25 years as a

member of it, and had had the privilege of occupying the chair for three times. He thanked them for the kind manner in which they had responded to the toast, and he felt extremely gratified in being associated with Bro. Webb, their treasurer, and in electing him to be his (Bro. Nunn's) colleague he trusted that they should work together with the same unanimity as had always existed between them in the lodge, he concluded by wishing the brethren a happy new year. Bro. Webb, P.M. and Treas. in reply said he should not fail in doing the utmost in his power to promote the interests of the Royal Jubilee Lodge, and to see that no money was spent that was unnecessary, and he could assure them that the name of "Harry Webb" should never disgrace the lodge to which he belonged. At their next meeting he should ask them to send some brother to stand as steward for the Boys' School. He asked those who had never been, to go to their schools and see what had been done for the children of their distressed brethren, what was done for them by Freemasonry, and he felt sure that they would come away with very different feelings to what they had when they went there. After a few other observations, he concluded by wishing them all happiness and a prosperous new year. Bro. Webb proposed the health of Bro. Frank Clemow, their worthy host and decorated on his merits. He knew his brother and his uncle, and he trusted he might long be amongst the Craft; for he was sure that he had the heartfelt wishes of the brethren and his welfare. Bro. Clemow returned thanks, and "The Tyler's" toast brought the meeting to a close. There was some good singing during the evening, accompanied by Bro. Seddon, of the Lodge of Sincerity, on the piano-orte, and the whole proceedings were marked with a unanimity and harmony, which will be long remembered by all who had the pleasure of being present on this occasion.

**LODGE OF JUSTICE** (No. 147).—*Installation Meeting.*—On Wednesday, Jan. 13, at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford, this old lodge met. Bro. J. Patte, W.M. passed one, Bro. G. Chapman, P.M. raised one, Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. installed Bro. R. G. Batt, W.M. Officers appointed were: Bros. Percival, S.W.; J. Whiffen, J.W.; J. Lightfoot, P.M. Treas.; F. Walters, P.M. Sec. *pro tem.*; H. Sadler, S.D.; W. Roberts, J.D.; H. Bartlett, I.G.; C. G. Dilley, Dir. of Cers.; J. L. Winn, P.M. Tyler. Bro. R. G. Batt initiated one member. All the work was well and ably done. Bro. J. Patte, P.M. was presented with a P.M.'s five guinea jewel, manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, 3 and 4, Little Britain, the elegance of execution and chasteness of design calling forth the unanimous admiration of the brethren. Bro. G. Bolton, P.M. received a vote of thanks well deserved for the able and efficient manner in which he had rendered the ceremony of installation. The lodge was closed. Visitors, D. Rose, W.M. elect, 73, Herbert, 73, J. T. Tibbals, P.M. 169, Gale, P.M. 548, West, W.M. 548, F. Lancaster, 1194, &c. The usual good banquet followed.

**DOMATIC LODGE** (No. 177).—The anniversary meeting of this lodge was held on Friday evening, Jan. 8, at Anderst's Hotel, El-est-sreet, Bro. Pryor presided and opened the lodge, after which Bros. Joseph Smith, P.M. and Treas. took the chair. The lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and Bros. R. Smith and Wild were raised to the sublime degree. The lodge was then lowered to the second degree, and Bro. Evans was then passed to the degree of F.C. This being the deferred installation night, in consequence of the illness of Bro. Tanner, the W.M. elected at the customary night set apart for that purpose, Bro. Brett, P.M. took the chair. Bro. Tanner was then presented as the W.M. elect, and the customary proceedings were gone through. All below the chair were then requested to retire, which having been done, a board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Tanner was duly installed according to ancient custom into the chair of K.S. as W.M. of the Domatic Lodge for the ensuing year. The board of Installed Masters was a very numerous one, including Bros. Smith, Carpenter, Elmes, Russen, Thompson (all P.M.'s of the Domatic Lodge), Buss (Rose of Denmark, Egyptian, &c.), and several others whose names we were unable to ascertain. The brethren below the chair were then admitted, and the new W.M. was saluted in the three degrees. The W.M. now appointed his officers as follow:—Fouger, S.W.; Walford, J.W.; Ferguson, S.D.; Tims, J.D.; and Kent, I.G.; T. Elmes, Sec.; and Joseph Smith, Treas.; Bros. Bradley and Daly, Tylers. Bro. Brett then delivered the addresses to the W.M., officers, and brethren. The new W.M. at once entered upon his duties, and initiated Messrs. Tomkins, Blunt, and Warren into the

mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was served up in a very superior style, and gave general satisfaction. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and formal toasts, Bro. Smith, P. G. Purss and Treas. responding for the grand officers. Bro. Smith, P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., which was drunk with great cordiality. The W.M. returned thanks, and expressed his determination to do all in his power to promote the interests of the lodge, and to support the Masonic charities. The W.M. gave "The health of their newly-initiated brethren, for which Bro. Tomkins returned thanks. The W.M. gave "The P.M.'s of the Lodge," and coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Thompson, alluding to the fact that he introduced him into Freemasonry. Bro. Thompson, P.M. responded to the toast, and said that it gave him great pleasure to see Bro. Tanner occupy the chair of W.M. in the lodge, he having had the privilege of initiating him, for it was during his year of office that Bro. Tanner first saw the light of Freemasonry. He had passed him through all his degrees, and he should have felt it a pleasure, in the absence of other arrangements, of installing him into the chair. When he was initiated he expressed his desire to become a good Mason, and he remembered him saying that he should never rest satisfied until he occupied the same position that he (Bro. Thompson) then did, which was W.M. of the lodge. At that time he felt from what he knew of Bro. Tanner that it was no idle dream, and he congratulated him in having arrived at the summit of his wishes, and he felt sure that under his auspices the lodge would prosper, and that he would do his utmost to promote the success of their charitable institutions. He wished with all sincerity a prosperous year of office. Some other toasts were given, and the evening was spent in complete harmony.

**LODGE OF TRANQUILLITY** (No. 185).—The above lodge met at Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on Monday, the 18th inst. The W.M., Bro. N. Harris, in the chair. There being no business before the lodge, the brethren proceeded to the election of the W.M.; when, by the ballot being unanimous in favour of Bro. Hollbrook, S.W., he was duly elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. A sum of £25 was then voted from the Benevolent Fund connected with the lodge to the widow of a late member, and Bro. M. Harris's, P.M., proposal that a sum of 10 guineas should be given for the purpose of presenting the retiring W.M. for his valuable services, was carried unanimously. Bro. Peartree was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Vesper Tyler. The brethren then adjourned to a very excellent banquet, provided by Bro. Hart. The usual toasts followed. Bro. H. M. Levy returned thanks for the visitors, among whom were Bros. the Rev. J. Cohen, 869, Glasgow; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188; and Woolif, of a Calcutta lodge. Alexander Levy, P.M., sang a very excellent song, and also Bro. Klein, which concluded a very excellent evening's entertainment.

**LODGE OF FRIENDSHIP** (No. 206).—The above lodge met on the 14th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, Bro. F. G. Harrison, W.M. in the chair. The minutes of the last lodge being read and confirmed, Bro. J. E. Hewick was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. Bro. H. M. Colier having been unanimously elected on a former meeting, was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the following brethren were then invested as officers, Bros. S. Barnard, S.W.; J. Collier, J.W.; A. Harris, S.D.; Earls, J.D.; Steele, I.G.; Ramsey and Turner, Stewards. The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, served in Bro. G. Painter's usual style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and Bro. T. Robinson, P.M. No. 917, replied for the visitors, who were: Bros. G. W. Verry, 534; E. Gammon, 610. Some very excellent singing by Bros. Vernon, Turner and Ramsey, brought the evening's amusement to a very delightful close.

**WELLINGTON LODGE** (No. 548).—*Installation Meeting.*—On Tuesday, Jan. 12, at the White Swan, High-street, Deptford, this lodge met. Bro. W. Jones, W.M. initiated two members. Bro. Bumstead, P.M. installed Bro. West, W.M. The officers appointed were Bro. Seager, S.W.; Phillips, J.W.; Welsford, P.M. Treas.; Bumstead, P.M. Sec.; Comb, S.D.; Henderson, J.D.; Daing, P.M. Tyler. The initiation fee was raised to six guineas. The lodge was closed. The banquet was served.

**CITY OF LONDON LODGE** (No. 901).—This excellent and numerous lodge met on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern. The W.M. initiated Mr. G. H. Outridge; passed Bro.

J. O. Pearson, and raised Bro. Rennant. This being the night for installation, Bro. John James Gibson was duly installed by Bro. E. Sisson, P.M., in a very excellent and impressive manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Manby, S.W.; Haycock, J.W.; Child, S.D.; Devlin, J.D.; W. Griffiths, I.G.; S. Osmond, P.M., Treas.; and E. Sisson, Sec. The brethren, 32 in number, sat down to a sumptuous banquet provided in Bro. Crawford's best style, the usual toasts given and responded to. The visitors were:—Bros. H. Gabb, 72; R. Grey, W.M. 957; G. Townsend, 820; J. T. Brown, 753; H. Windle, 753; W. Nicholis, 890; and Woolf, 87. In the course of the evening several very excellent songs and recitations were sung and recited by Bros. Haycock, Grossmith, Lawrence, Townsend, Grey, and others.

MONTEFIORE LODGE (No. 1,017).—A meeting of this lodge took place on the 13th inst., Bro. the Rev. M. B. Levy, W.M., in the chair. The lodge having been duly opened, the W.M. proceeded with the only business of the evening, viz., the raising of Bro. Paul Gronchstaedten, which was done in a very able and impressive manner. There being nothing further before the lodge, it was closed in the usual form, and the brethren separated at a very early hour.

### PROVINCIAL.

#### HAMPSHIRE.

FAREHAM.—*Lodge of Harmony* (No. 209).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Red Lion Inn, on the 7th inst. There was a large attendance of brethren, among whom we observed Bros. Foord, Prov. J.G.W.; M. E. Frost, P.P.G., S.W. Essex; R. Holbrook, P.G. Dir. of Cers.; Edmonds, P.G. Reg.; Emery, P.P.G.S.W.; Bradbeer, P.G.O.M. The usual preliminaries of opening the lodge being disposed of, Bro. E. G. Holbrook, W.M. Elect, was installed in the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. Bro. Forbes was the I.M., and went through the arduous work in good style, receiving well merited applause at the conclusion of the charges. The W.M., after the usual salutations, appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. G. Augustus Green, S.W.; H. J. Guy, J.W.; W. Edmonds, P.M. Treas.; C. T. Wallons, I.P.M.; W. A. Woolf, P.M. Sec.; A. Riddell, S.D.; F. May, J.D.; J. Johnstone, I.G.; Reddle, Tyler. After lodge business the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. It was given out that the Masonic ball in connection with this lodge would take place on Feb. 8, the profits of which would be devoted to the Royal Masonic School for Girls.

#### KENT.

MARGATE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 127).—The 106th installation of a W.M. took place in this ancient lodge on Friday, the 8th inst., when amongst the lodge brethren and visitors present we noticed Bros. E. H. Patten, Sec. Freemasons' Girls' School and G.S.B. England; John Harvey, Boys', P. D.p. Prov. G.M., Kent; the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, Vicar of St. Lawrence, J.P. and G. Chap. of the province; Phipps, P.G. Org., Kent; B. Sicklemore, J.P.; Louis Wright, the well-known pianist; Henry Lee, F.S.A., one of the talented editors of "Land and Water"; the W.M., and officers of the Royal Navy Lodge and the Lewis's Lodge, Ramsgate, and others. After certain lodge business had been transacted, the W.M. elect, Bro. Harvey was duly installed as W.M. by Bro. E. C. Hayward, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D., assisted by a numerous board of P.M.'s, the ceremony being most ably performed. The following lodge officers were then invested:—Bros. Hawkes, S.W.; Hunter, J.W.; Wyncoll, Chap.; Hayward, Treas.; Townsend, I.P.M., Sec.; Treves, S.D.; Woodruff, J.D.; Wootten, Dir. of Cers.; Buck, S. Steward; Compton, J. Steward; Marchant, Tyler. The brethren then sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Osborne, of the King's Head, in his well-known liberal style, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. The I.P.M., in proposing the health of the newly-installed Master, congratulated the brethren on their choice of a brother whose father (then present) had held the important office of P. Dep. Prov. G.M. of Kent, the newly-installed W.M. himself being admirably qualified to well rule and govern the

lodge; and concluded with a hope that the Great Architect of the Universe might bless the W.M. with health to fulfil the delicate and responsible duties of the chair, with pleasure to himself and advantage to the lodge and the Craft in general. The W.M., in responding, briefly observed that, though he did not possess all the attributes and virtues the last speaker had applied to him, he felt the onerous nature of the position in which he had been that day placed by the kindness of the lodge brethren, and that he would, to the utmost of his ability, endeavour to discharge the duties of the Mastership, Masonically and courteously. He then spoke of the benefits attached to the study of Masonry, and concluded by hoping that when it pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to call him hence, not the least pleasing and soothing of his last reflections might be those derived from the recollection of the ceremony he had gone through that day as illustrating the true piety and good doctrines of Masonry. The toast of "The Masonic Charities," given by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. Patten in an eloquent and interesting speech; and in the course of the evening all the customary toasts of P.G. Officers, P.M.'s, &c., were duly given and cordially received, agreeably interspersed by some excellent singing to the music of Bro. Wright. Not the least attractive feature of the evening was a song composed by the W.M., which had been printed and set to music expressly for the occasion, the words of which were given by Bro. Hawkes, S.W., accompanied by Bro. Wright on the piano; and, as we have not a large choice of modern Masonic songs (the Level and the Square being perhaps the best), we think that this one has merit to preserve it from oblivion, and therefore append the words:—

#### OUR FESTIVE GATHERING.

Come, now our lodge is over,  
Let's pass the bowl around,  
And show how work and pleasure  
Are in their places found;  
For, meeting on the Level,  
And acting on the Square,  
Exhibit how inviolate  
Masonic precepts aro.  
Then, at our festive gathering,  
Say, who would not be gay  
When feelings all fraternal  
Among us hold their sway.

The outer world may wonder  
At all our Mystic arts,  
But let them also ponder  
On what our Craft imparts.  
Equality our Standard,  
While merit finds its place,  
And Love, Relief, and sacred Truth,  
Our lodge proceedings grace.  
Then, at our festive gathering, &c.

We find the humble classes  
Associate with the Peer,  
For, as our precepts tell us,  
We all are equal here;  
Yet, with us, full Obedience  
To all our laws is found,  
Fidelity and Sociery  
In all our Craft abroad.  
Then, at our festive gathering, &c.

The Master and his Wardens,  
They rule the lodge by love,  
And dictate from the sacred Law  
Of Him who reigns above;  
While 'mongst our poorer brethren  
Our worldly gifts we share,  
And may Masonic Charities  
Be long our constant care.  
Then, at our festive gathering, &c.

Then pass the brimming goblet,  
And let us drink a toast  
With hearts and minds in union,  
As all our lodge can boast;  
Hero's a health to all good Masons,  
May they ever "good" remain,  
Then when next we meet together  
We'll drink their health again.  
Then, at our festive gathering, c.

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).

In consequence of St. John's Day falling on a Sunday, the annual festival of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall on the first regular lodge night in the new year, Wednesday, the 6th inst., and which was numerously attended, the chair being taken for the second year in succession by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Kelly.

Among the brethren present were:—Bros. L. A. Clarke, I.P.M., P. Prov. G.D.; W. Pettifor, P.M., P. Prov. Supt. of Works; W. Weare, P.M., Treas., P. Prov. G.D.; C. Morris, P.M., Prov. G. Sec.; J. Hamas, P.M., P. Prov. G. Treas.; W. E. S. Stauley, J.W.; C. Stretton, Sec.; Thorpe, S.D.; Checkland, I.G., and several others. Visitors:—Bros. Brewin, P.M. 523, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Rev. W. Langley, S.W. 1,130, P. Prov. G. Chap.; J. F. Klein, Grand Stewards' Lodge; L. S. Atwood, Garden City Lodge, Chicago, U.S.; E. S. Ekin, P.M., P. Prov. G.D., Cambridge, and W. Johnson, P.M.; J. E. Hodges, P. Prov. G.D.; Toller, S.W.; Buzzard, J.W.; Scuthorpe, Sec.; J. Harris, C. A. Spencer, J. Elgood, and other brethren of the John of Gaunt Lodge, 523. Letters were also received from the W.M. of that lodge, and other brethren, apologizing for absence owing to illness or other causes.

The lodge having been opened in the first degree, and the minutes of the last meeting, including the unanimous re-election of Bro. Kelly as W.M. for the ensuing year, read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bros. Downing and Warner, formerly of this lodge, and recently of Australia, and John Hart, of the Commercial Lodge, Nottingham, as joining members; and for Messrs. John Wright Smith, William Henry Pegg, Alfred Palmer, and Jacobs, as candidates for Masonry, and which was unanimous in their favour. Messrs. Smith, Palmer, and Jacobs, being in attendance, were duly initiated into the Order (the last-mentioned gentleman, being a Hebrew, in accordance with his faith). The full musical ceremony, as arranged by Bros. Johnson and Dr. Hopkins, was performed, Bro. Crowe presiding at the instrument. On the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Brewin delivered the lecture on the tracing-board, and the W.M. gave the charge. The Treasurer's accounts were then passed; a vote of thanks accorded to Bro. Weare, P.M., for his services as Treasurer during the past year, and, on a ballot being taken, he was unanimously re-elected to office.

In consequence of the amount of business, the formal ceremony of installing the W.M. was dispensed with, and he proceeded to appoint and invest the following brethren as the officers for the ensuing year, with a suitable address to each on the duties of his office: L. A. Clarke, I.P.M.; Stanley, S.W.; Stretton, J.W.; Rev. J. G. Packer, Chap.; Crowe, Sec. and Org.; Weare, P.M. Treas.; Thorpe, S.D.; Burton, J.D.; Hart, I.G.; Bembridge, Tyler. Two gentlemen were then proposed for initiation at the next meeting, together with Mr. W. H. Pegg, who was prevented by illness from being present on this occasion. Bros. Weare and Clarke, P.M.'s were re-appointed Purveyors and Stewards of the lodge for the ensuing year, and a vote of thanks accorded to them for their past services.

Bro. Clarke, I.P.M., in highly complimentary terms, moved the thanks of the lodge to Bro. Kelly, D.P.G.M. for his kindness, at the earnest request of the brethren, in accepting the chair of the lodge for another year, which was seconded by the S.W., and carried unanimously.

The D.P.G.M., in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that when, last year, after an interval of a quarter of a century, he had been induced to take the chair of the mother lodge once more, he quite anticipated that the difficulty which then existed would be obviated in the course of the year, but as, unfortunately, the delicate state of the S.W.'s health had prevented his regular attendance for some months past, and obliged him to decline being put in nomination for the Mastership, and which also the J.W., from a feeling of modesty as to his qualifications, also declined for the present, he, the D.P.G.M., felt that he could not, consistently with his duty and the warm interest he felt in his mother lodge, refuse to remain in office, as the members had so kindly requested him to do. He trusted that in so doing he should have the support of the P.M.'s, and brethren generally, and that the officers would be punctual and regular in their attendance.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business, the W.M. stated that he had a proposition to make, in which he was sure the whole of the assembled brethren would most heartily concur, as it related to an auspicious event, in which the senior P.M. of

the lodge, their beloved Prov. G.M., Earl Howe, was deeply interested, and which would take place on the following day. This was the marriage of Lord and Lady Howe's youngest daughter, the Lady Mary Curzon, with the Marquis of Hamilton. He, the D.P.G.M., therefore thought it would be a graceful act on their part, and one which would be acceptable to their senior P.M. and Prov. G.M. if the brethren were to avail themselves of the opportunity of this meeting to present an address of congratulation to his lordship on the occasion. He concluded by moving the following resolution: "That the brethren now assembled desire to offer to the Senior P.M. of the lodge, and R.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl Howe, G.E.H., and to the Countess Howe, respectful, but sincere and hearty congratulations on the marriage of their amiable daughter the Lady Mary Curzon with the Most Noble the Marquis of Hamilton, M.P., and to wish long life, health, and every earthly happiness to the noble bride and bridegroom. At the same time, they earnestly pray that the valuable life of their beloved chief may be preserved for many years to his family and to the fraternity in the province." The proposition was seconded by the I.P.M., Bro. Clarke, carried by acclamation, and a copy of the address, signed by the principal officers, was transmitted at once to London to be in Lord Howe's hands on the day of the marriage.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet in an adjoining room, on the conclusion of which they returned to the hall, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

In the course of the evening the W.M. gave the "Masonic Charities," and for the information of the newly initiated brethren gave a brief account of each of them, and of the amount annually contributed amongst the Craft for their support, and in conclusion, after referring to the liberal support which he received from the province three years ago, when he served the office of Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, he called upon the Rev. Bro. Langley to respond, that brother having undertaken to represent the province at the coming festival of that institution, and who he trusted would be heartily supported by the brethren. Bro. Langley made an earnest appeal for aid on behalf of the charity, giving an account of its origin, its progress, and its present position, and of the liberal aid which was promised from his former province of East Lancashire, and from West Yorkshire towards the liquidation of the debt of £10,000 on the building, and added that whilst he could not hope to receive the same amount of support as was accorded to their excellent D. Prov. G.M., which had enabled him to send in the largest list of any individual steward, he trusted that he should yet receive such an amount of support as would place the province in a creditable position.

In response to this appeal, several of the brethren present, who were already life governors of the institution, gave additional contributions, and several new contributors, including the newly-initiated brethren, were added to the list.

Bro. Brewin, at a late period, brought, incidentally, before the brethren the claims for support of the National Lifeboat Institution, and stated that the institution was far more in need of aid by annual subscriptions for keeping up the boats now placed at various ports than of new boats, unless the annual expense of them, some £50 or £60 a year, was also provided, and hoped that, did the funds of St. John's Lodge permit, an annual subscription would be voted next year to that institution, as was done by the John of Gaunt Lodge.

Bro. J. E. Hodges, in supporting the remarks of Bro. Brewin, said that when two or three years ago, the inhabitants of Leicester, placed as they were almost in the centre of the land, had raised subscriptions for the purchase of a lifeboat, and in which movement, as was well known, he had taken rather an active part, they had done themselves great honour, as not only had they provided the whole of the money required for the purchase of the "Leicester Lifeboat," stationed at Gorleston, but they had also defrayed the expense of boathouse, and of every requisite appliance, together with a balance, funded towards the annual expense of keeping up the boat. In this movement a considerable number of members of the Craft had taken part, and the John of Gaunt Lodge annually contributed £1 10s. towards the expense of their boat. A few of the brethren present made up a similar amount on behalf of St. John's Lodge, with a view to its annual continuance in future.

During the evening a number of songs were sung by various brethren.

Bro. Crowe presided at the piano, and delighted the brethren with his admirable performances, and at "high time" the brethren separated after a most successful and agreeable celebration of their annual festival.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE.

TREDEGAR.—*St. George's Lodge*, (No. 1,093).—On Thursday, the 14th inst., Bro. Benjamin Samuel Fisher, P.G.S., was installed as W.M. of this lodge, in the presence of a large assemblage of the Craft, the lodge being held at the Temperance Hall. The brethren afterwards dined at the Castle Hotel, where presentation of P.M.'s jewels were made to Bros. R. Bond and S. G. Homfay (immediate P.M.). A most pleasant evening was spent. Bro. Groves presided at the pianoforte. A special train conveyed the visiting brethren from Newport and back.

## SOMERSETSHIRE.

BATH.—The installation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon as Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, took place on Tuesday, the 12th inst., at the Masonic Hall. The ceremony drew together a large number of brethren from neighbouring as well as distant provinces, the event being regarded with considerable interest by members of the Order. We were unable to obtain anything like a complete list of those present, but among the more prominent members were Bros. Colonel Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxon; Spiers, D. Prov. G.M. Oxon; Captain H. A. Adair, P. Prov. G.M. Somerset; W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M. Hants; Huyshe, Prov. G.M. Devon; C. R. Davy, P.G. Chap. England; Powell, D. Prov. G.M. Bristol; Captain H. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. Somerset. Bro. Beach was the Installing Master, and at the conclusion of the ceremony the R.W. the Prov. G.M. appointed the following officers:—Bros. Captain H. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M.; J. L. Stothert, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Rubie, Prov. J.G.W.; Revs. — Hunt and Pigott, Prov. G. Chaps.; B. T. Payne, Prov. G. Tress.; Bailey, Prov. G. Reg.; R. C. Else, Prov. G. Sec.; C. S. Barter, Prov. S.G.D.; W. Smith, Prov. J.G.D.; C. Davis, Prov. S.G.W.; F. Prideaux, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Style, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; W. Mason, Prov. G.S.B.; Watts, Prov. G. Org.; J. Maggs, Prov. G. Purst.; Galpin, A.G.P.; T. Clark, B. Cox, Cary, Flane, Barnett, Nixon, Prov. G. Stewards; J. R. Hellier, Prov. G. Tyler; T. Sumpter, A.T. After the closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the Assembly Rooms, where a banquet had been prepared by Bro. W. Gibbs. The R.W. the Prov. G.M. presided, and the company numbered about 200. After dinner the Prov. G.M. gave in succession, "The Queen and the Craft," "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "The Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, M.W.G.M.," "The R.W. the Earl de Gray and Ripon, D.G.M., and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. Col. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. Oxon, proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Somerset," and the Prov. G.M. having responded, he then gave "The Worshipful the Installing Master," which Bro. Beach acknowledged. Bro. Captain Adair P. Prov. G.M., submitted the next toast, "Bro. Capt. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers of Somerset past and present," and this was followed by "The Provincial Grand Lodges represented," proposed by the R.W. Prov. G.M., "The Masters, Officers, and Brethren of the Province of Somerset," "Our Visiting Brethren," &c. The proceedings were agreeably diversified by several glee and songs, and did not terminate until a late hour.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—*St. Kew Lodge* (No. 1,222).—The regular monthly meeting of this excellent working lodge met at the Masonic Rooms on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at 6 p.m. The R.W. Bro. Capt. F. G. Irwin in the chair of K.S., ably supported by Bros. Gen. Munbee, S.W.; F. Clarke, J.W.; Rev. J. C. Pigot, Chap. and Dir. of Cers.; E. H. George, Treas.; B. Cox, Sec.; J. Townsend, acting S.D. (*pro tem.*); Edward Gregory, Org.; J. Kirkbride, I.G. and J. H. Parsons, Tyler. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bros. S. E. Baker, E. H. Swete, and T. H. Matthias were requested to stand in front of the pedestal, and the W.M. questioned them as to their proficiency to be passed to the second degree; their answers proving satisfactory to the brothers present, they were requested to retire and be prepared. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bros. Baker, Swete, and Matthias were admitted and passed to Fellow Croftsmen. A long discussion then took place on the renting of more suitable Masonic rooms for future meetings, when the

subject was referred to the Building Committee to report to an Emergency Meeting, to be held on the 16th inst. The lodge was then closed in due form by the W.M.

## SUFFOLK.

FRAMLINGHAM.—*Lodge Fidelity* (No. 555).—A special meeting of the members of this flourishing lodge was held on Friday evening, the 8th inst., in the chamber of the ancient castle. Formerly this lodge was stationed at Southwold, where it was allowed to fall almost to decay, and at the time of the removal the number of members was reduced to four. The prosperity which has, since that time—now, about two years ago—attended Lodge Fidelity, is solely to be attributed to the energies displayed by the present W.M., Bro. F. Jennings, who was formerly D. Prov. G.M. of the province of Bengal. That worthy brother has spared neither time nor expense in making his lodge take such a position in the province, that is now regarded in rank as second to none. We do not mean in point of numbers—now about fifty—but in the character and position of its members. The gathering on Friday evening was regarded with more than usual interest by the brethren, in consequence of the proposed initiation of the Hon. J. M. Henniker-Major, *M.P.*, of the Woodlands, Ipswich, eldest son of the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, of Thorham Park, Suffolk; and one of the members for the eastern division of this county. The Hon. gentleman's colleague, F. S. Corrance, Esq., *M.P.*, is already a member of the lodge, and if anything was required to add to the high esteem in which this young nobleman is held by all classes in the country, it is accomplished in having been admitted within the pale of our ancient and honourable fraternity. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, Bro. F. Jennings, W.M., occupying the chair of K.S. The room was handsomely decorated with ancient emblems of the Order, for which this lodge is justly celebrated. The W.M. was surrounded by his officers, who were all in their places, and to their credit be it said, all well up to their work. To say this of the W.M., who is a distinguished Mason, would only be "damning with faint praise." But this we must say, that the manner in which the ceremony of initiation was performed by him, could not fail to make a lasting impression on the mind of the young nobleman who, for the first time, crossed the threshold of a Masonic lodge. From first to last the ceremony was faultless. The following officers and members of the lodge were present:—Bros. J. Calver, P.M.; H. K. Mosley, S.W.; R. Capon, J.W.; the Rev. T. J. Brereton, Chaplain; R. W. Tayler, Treas.; F. Fisher, Sec.; J. C. Shafto, S.D.; W. H. Borrett, J.D.; G. E. Jeafferson, D. Chap.; J. A. Swornbourne, Org.; John Martin, I.G.; C. Goodwin, Steward; J. Marjoram, Tyler; G. Bond, Prov. G. Steward; W. E. Revett, F. S. Corrance, R. W. Flick, G. W. Pretty, S. Lane, J. Riordan, E. N. Chandler, E. Thomas Fitzgerald, and E. Cotttingham, R. Manning, J. W. King, R. C. Woodward, G. Fish, and R. Walker. Also the following visitors from various parts of the province who were invited by the W.M. to join the brethren on this interesting occasion:—Bros. Newson Garrett, P.M. Lodge Fidelity (No. 3), London; the Rev. R. H. Groom; the Rev. A. Tighe-Gregory, Prov. G. Chap. Suffolk; F. B. Marriott, Prov. G. Sec.; A. J. Barber, Prov. G. Org.; E. C. Tidd, Prov. G. Assist. Sec.; E. B. Adams, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer, and P.M. 929; T. Holland, Stour Valley; W.M.; E. Fitzgerald, sen., W.M. Doric, S1; E. Pipe, Lodge of Marches, 611, Ludlow; S. H. Wright, 516, P. Prov. S.G.D.; N. Tracy, P.M. 376; T. Lucas, Scientific Lodge, 88, Cambridge; &c. At the close of the ceremony, and after the lodge had been closed in due and solemn form, the brethren adjourned to the Crown and Anchor Hotel, where an excellent and liberal repast was placed upon the table by Bro. J. W. King and his worth<sup>th</sup> partner, Mrs. King. The chair was occupied by the W.M., having on his right Bro. the Hon. J. M. Henniker-Major, and on his left, Bro. F. S. Corrance. Dinner concluded, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk with all honours by the brethren, and none more enthusiastically than that of their newly-initiated brother, who, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed the pleasure it gave him to be admitted a member of their honourable Order, and that, too, in his own county. Song and sentiment prevailed, without intermission, until nearly high twelve, when the party broke up highly gratified with the proceedings of the evening. It was, without exception, one of the most enjoyable occasions we have experienced for some years; and we can only say, in conclusion, we wish Lodge Fidelity every success, and the highly and deservedly esteemed brother, who so ably presides over it, wealth, happiness, and long life.

## SCOTLAND.

## GLASGOW.

**GLASGOW.**—*Lodge of Glasgow St. John (No. 3 bis).*—**81st Anniversary.**—The 81st anniversary of this lodge was celebrated in the Tontine Hotel. About ninety brethren were present. The lodge having been opened in the usual manner, Bro. Donald Campbell installed very efficiently the following office-bearers:—Bros. John Baird, R.W.M.; Robert Neilson, D.M.; William Waggett, S.M.; James McMillan, S.W.; Robert McAulay, J.D.; R. D. Samuels, Treas.; E. F. Bamber, Sec.; the Rev. Mr. Niven, of Tron Church, Chaplain; John Dick, S.D.; George Phillips, J.D.; James Adams, Architect; George Thoson, S.S.; T. Ewing, William Kyle, jun.; and J. W. Robertson, J. Stewards; David Walker, Director of Music; Robert Drummond, Jeweller; I.G. vacant; Jame Pollock, O.G.; William Morrison, Rep. Steward; W. Cameron, G. Park, and R. Grange, Auditors; David Bryce, Proxy Master, Edinburgh. The brethren afterwards dined in the same building. The chair was occupied by Bro. John Baird, R.W.M., supported by the Rev. Bro. Niven, Chaplain; Bros. Thomas Ramsay, P.M.; James Cruickshanks, P.M.; Donald Campbell; Robert Craig; Robert Neilson, D.M.; James Watson; John Slack; and Peter Shanahan. Bro. McMillan, S.W., supported by Bros. Park, P.M., and Waggett, S.M.; Bro. McAulay, J.W., supported by Bros. W. P. Buchan, P.S.W., and Mitchell. Amongst those present were Bros. James Manwell, J. Z. Kay, John Young, D. Wilson, J. Hamilton, &c. After dinner the lodge was opened, and immediately thereafter the brethren were called from labour to refreshment. The J.W. hereupon retired, and, taking suddenly unwell, was unable to return; whereupon Bro. Buchan had to act as J.W. during the evening. The R.W.M. then gave the first toast of—"The Queen and the Craft," which was duly responded to. Then followed—"The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled with Lieut. Hamilton, who replied for the Volunteers, one brother replying for the Army; and—"The Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland." Bro. Ramsay proposed "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow." The toast was coupled with the name of "Bro. Cruickshanks," who said that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow deserved this honour at the hands of the brethren, for the Prov. G. Lodge had wrought harmoniously and to great effect. He had been connected with the Prov. G. Lodge for 15 years, and had seen the lodges in the provinces from 16 or 18 to 25 years. He was glad to state that the Prov. G. Lodge had made up their minds to build a hall of their own. Such a place of accommodation was necessary independently of Masonry, more especially as the hall of the Merchants' House was about to be taken over by the Court House Commissioners, and they did not intend to build another. If the Masons could erect a little farther west a hall capable of accommodating 2,000 persons it would, he had no doubt, be a successful investment. Bro. John Baird, R.W.M., proposed the new Chaplain—the Rev. Bro. Niven—who replied. Bro. Ramsay, in the name of the Lodge, presented Bro. Samuels with an elegant timepiece as a mark of esteem, and as a recognition of his services in connection with the Refreshment Committee; and also intimated that there being a surplus of five guineas, it was to be given in charity, two guineas to the Royal Infirmary, one guinea to the Eye Infirmary, one guinea to the Night Asylum, and one guinea to the Industrial Schools, Mossbank. Bro. Samuels acknowledged the gift. The Rev. Bro. Niven, in proposing "The Lodge St. John, 3 bis," alluded to her ancient history, and said that one reason why they should drink the toast was, that her children in far back times had manifested virtues and merits which entitled their memory to all honour. For the sake of what the St. John Lodge had been, for the sake of what she was, and for the sake of what, in generations to come, he had no doubt she would be, he asked them to drink the toast. The other toasts were—"The Past Office-bearers and Bro. Ramsay," "Our Right Worshipful Master." The R.W.M., in returning thanks, observed that he had been greatly troubled since his election with the thought as to how he was to perform the duties of the chair, and had come to the conclusion that the ritual was too long and ought to be curtailed, as it was very difficult for men in business to get posted up in it; he also thought it should be printed. However, he went on to say, he had no intention to interfere with the ancient landmarks of the Order. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren" was then given, after which "Happy to meet and sorry to part." The band discoursed some excellent

music during the proceedings, which closed early, partly perhaps owing to the evening being Christmas.

**GLASGOW.**—*Lodge St. Mark (No. 102).*—The annual meeting for the election and installation of office-bearers for the ensuing year was held in the hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on Monday, the 28th ult. Two brethren stood for the chair; viz., the present R.W.M., Bro. Major Barber, and the S.W., Bro. Thomas Halket. Upon the vote being taken the majority was found to be in favour of Bro. Barber, who is therefore R.W.M. still. The election of other office-bearers was then gone on with; with the exception of the Deputy Master, who is appointed by the R.W.M. Bro. Barber, therefore, addressed Bro. Halket, and said it would give him great pleasure if would accept of that office. Bro. Halket said it would give him great pleasure so to do. This appointment gave great satisfaction to the brethren. Many men of small mind, under the circumstances, would have felt a grudge against the individual who had opposed them for an office; but Bro. Barber, in the most Masonic and gentlemanly manner, appoints his less fortunate opponent to be his Deputy. The following is the list of the new office-bearers who were duly installed by Bro. Donald Campbell, P.M.:—Major R. D. Barber, R.W.M.; Thomas Halket, D.M.; Robert Rennie, S.M.; Alex. Veitch, S.W.; William Haddow, J.W.; D. B. Miller, Treas.; James F. Mitchell, Sec.; William Muir, S.D.; W. B. Spencer, J.D.; James Whyte, Jeweller; J. F. Craig; D.D.; R. McCall, S.S.; B. H. Schiff, J.G.; James Pollock, Tyler; The brethren were then called from labour to refreshment, and afterwards the lodge was duly closed.

## CHANNEL ISLANDS.

## JERSEY.

## LODGE LE CAESNEE, No. 590.

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on Thursday, Dec. 31. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Oatley, W.M., assisted by Bros. G. J. Renouf, P.M. 1803, S.W.; J. Le Staur, J.W.; A. Schmitt, P.M. Sec.; P. Binet, P.M.; H. L. Manuel, P.M.; E. D. Le Couteur, P.M.; J. T. Du Jardin, P.M.; John Amy; G. F. Perrot, &c.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary also read an extract from the circular of summons, containing a copy of a proposed motion, which had in regular course been notified to all the members of the lodge, as follows:—

"It is expedient that a memorial should be addressed to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, entreating him to appoint a worthy and trusty brother recommended by us to occupy the position of Prov. G.M."

The W.M., in placing this declaratory proposition before the lodge in appropriate terms, drew the attention of the brethren to this most interesting and vital subject, urging upon them the desirability of a free and frank expression of their opinions in regard to it. In pursuance of this earnest recommendation, several brethren, namely, P. Binet, E. D. Le Couteur, A. Schmitt, H. L. Manuel, and J. T. Du Jardin delivered their sentiments, all of them agreeing in and advocating the expediency of acting upon the proposition under consideration, at the same time submitting substantial reasons for such a course, and pointing out numerous advantages, material and moral, to be derived from the appointment to the rank of Prov. G.M. of a brother eminently qualified, and possessing the confidence and respect of the members of the Craft in the province. A lengthy debate ensued on this locally important subject, which resulted in the following resolution being unanimously carried by acclamation.

"That, upon a careful consideration of a resolution adopted by the W.M.'s and P.M.'s assembled in a general meeting, after a serious and solemn deliberation, and a scrupulous analysis and discussion of this most important and vital question under every point of view, whether it be in regard to the dignity and prosperity of the lodges in the province, or to the promotion of that good fellowship and brotherly love which should always exist among members of our order. The Lodge La Césarée is of opinion that it is desirable fully and cordially to ratify and confirm the said resolution, and furthermore authorises the Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens to address a memorial in conformity with the spirit of the resolution, in and on behalf of this lodge, to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England for the purpose of entreating him to be

pleased to appoint to the rank of Prov. G.M. the Worshipful Brother Colonel Edward C. Malet de Carteret, P.M. 958, P.P. G.W., &c., whom the lodge begs to recommend to the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland as a brother enjoying its entire confidence, and as being worthy, by his character, his high social position, and his zeal for Freemasonry, to occupy the vacant position of Prov. G.M. of Jersey."

The W.M. brought before the members the question relative to the rules at which the lodges had been charged for accommodation in the Temple, at the same time mentioning the generous disposition of the other lodges on this subject. In order to make this matter understood and appreciated, the W.M. informed the brethren that the committee for the management of the Masonic Temple had recently held a meeting, to which all the lodges in the province had been invited to send representatives, and that in fact a very large number of members had attended. On that occasion information was given as to the state of affairs with regard to the Temple, including a detailed statement of the receipts for its use and the accommodation afforded to the Craft, and the expenses connected with its maintenance. A suggestion had been made at the meeting referred to, to the effect that lodges should voluntarily consent to pay each £12 per annum, with the exception of La Césarée for which, as being the most numerous in point of members, the amount should be £20. This proposition having been cordially received and unanimously adopted, the representatives present, were commissioned to communicate to their respective lodges the result which had been arrived at, with a view to a decision upon it by each, and a full co-operation in the scheme propounded. The W.M. concluded by remarking that some lodges had already approved and sanctioned this scale of payment, and that he had no doubt that La Césarée would likewise desire to give in its adhesion to it.

After Bro. A. Schmitt, Hon. Sec. to the Board of Management of the Temple, had made some further statements showing by reference to a Dr. and Cr. account, that in addition to current expenses it would be necessary to provide funds for the repair and preservation of the building, it was unanimously resolved, "That the sum of £20 be agreed to as the annual rent of the Temple to be paid by the Lodge La Césarée."

The duties of the evening having been ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony at half-past 9 o'clock.

### ROYAL ARCH.

#### METROPOLITAN.

**CHAPTER OF HOPE** (No. 206).—At the Globe Tavern, Royalhill, Greenwich, on Thursday, Jan. 14, this old chapter met. Comp. F. Walters, P.Z. installed Comps. H. A. Collington, M.E.Z.; W. Noah, J. The officers appointed were Comps. J. Doughney, S.E.; A. H. Tattershall, S.N.; S. Noble, P.Z. Treas.; T. Perridge, P.S.; W. R. Orchard, 1st Ass't.; F. Nash, 2nd Ass't.; Johnson, P.Z.J. Bro. R. Boncley, W.M. elect was exalted. All the work was well and ably done. Great praise was given to Comp. F. Walters, P.Z., for the admirable manner in which he did the installations. Comps. G. Edington, P.Z. was presented with a P.Z. jewel, voted to him from the chapter funds. The chapter was closed. There were also present Comps. Hogg, P.Z.; Peckham, P.Z.; West; Smith; Griffin; &c. Visitors, F. Walters, P.Z. 73; H. Massey, S.N. 619, &c. A good banquet followed.

#### DEVONSHIRE.

**TOTNES.—Pleiades Chapter** (No. 710).—The Quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, on Wednesday, 6th inst., and though in the summonses noon was appointed as the hour for assembling, it was nearly one before proceedings commenced. The three principals occupied their respective chairs, namely, Comps. Rev. R. Bowden, Z.; Dr. Hopkins (P.Z.), H.; John Heath, J., by whom the chapter was opened, the only other principal present being Comp. Glanfield, J., in the Sun Chapter, No. 106. After the admission of the companions, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Bros. Stephens and Taylor as candidates for exaltation, which proved unanimous in their favour. They were not present, the one on account of the death of a near relative, and the other owing to important business engagements, which were explained, and a promise given on their behalf to attend either at the next regular or at an emergency meeting, as might be most convenient to the chapter. The next busi-

ness was the appointment of officers for the ensuing year. The M.E.Z. proposed Comp. Dr. Hopkins, P.Z. 587, and H., to fill the first chair, and was supported by other companions. Before the votes were put, Comp. Dr. Hopkins expressed his desire not again to take office, as he had done so during the last year only to fill a chair for which no one else was legally competent, on the resuscitation of the chapter after it had been several years in abeyance; he felt that a prolonged residence at Totnes was so uncertain, that he could not conscientiously undertake duties which he might not be able to perform; he would prefer that Comp. Bowden should be re-elected, with a promise that he would at any time assist by taking any duties that might be required and by giving instruction to new officers; his wish was, however, overruled, and he finally consented, with the stipulation that in case of change of residence, his place would be taken by the present M.E.Z. The votes were then taken, which were unanimous in his favour, as they were also subsequently for the other appointments, namely, Comps. J. Heath, H.; J. Marks, J.; Pridham, E.; Glanfield (J. 186), N.; G. Heath, Treas.; Niner, P. Sq.; Crocker, Janitor. Bro. Downing was proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, and the chapter was closed at about two o'clock.

### MARK MASONRY.

#### SOMERSETSHIRE.

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—The United Artillery Engineer, and Rifle Volunteer Lodge of Mark Masons** (No. 102)—The second meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Assembly Rooms, at 3.30 p.m., on Wednesday, the 6th inst. The V.W.M., Bro. F. C. Irwin, P.M.O., W.M. Officers present: Brs. G. B. Munbee, S.W.; T. Clarke, J.W.; J. C. Pigot, M.O. and Chap.; E. B. George, Treas. and J.D.; R. Fisher, S.O., pro tem.; B. Cox, Sec. and Reg. and M.C., pro tem.; E. Gregory, Org. and I.G. pro tem.; J. H. Parsons, Tyler. The W.M. opened the lodge, and put the minutes of the previous meeting for confirmation, which was received and adopted. A ballot having been taken, Bros. Townsend, No. 1222, Commander in the Royal Navy, and Bro. Frederick Vizard, P.M. were declared elected unanimously. Bro. Townsend was requested to retire to be proposed, and on his admittance the W.M. performed the ceremony of initiation in so perfect a manner as to elicit a high commendation from the brethren, after which the W.M. closed the lodge to enable to be used for a conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, No. 10.

### Obituary.

#### DEATH OF BRO. SIR LUCIUS CURTIS, KNT., K.C.B.

Bro. Sir Lucius Curtis, Knt., K.C.B., Admiral of the Fleet, Provincial G. Master for Hampshire, died at his residence at East Cowham, on the 14th inst., full of honours and years. The deceased brother had reached the great age of 82. He had not recently taken a very active part in Masonry, but his loss will, nevertheless, be much felt, as he was deservedly esteemed not only by the brethren in his own province, but by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

**BRO. JOHN SYMONDS**, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. having been Chairman last year of the "City Lands Committee" of the Corporation of London, (an office conferring upon the holder the title of "Chief Commoner") the *City Press* publishes the following vote of thanks passed to him upon his retirement. Resolved unanimously,—"That the sincere thanks of this Committee are eminently due, and are hereby presented to their Chairman, John Symonds, Esq., for the very able, judicious, and efficient manner in which he has performed the arduous and important duties of the distinguished position in which he was placed by the unanimous vote of his colleagues; for his constant and unremitting attention to the business of the Committee, his punctuality in attending their numerous meetings, his firmness and impartiality in presiding over their deliberations, and the kindness and courtesy invariably displayed by him towards the several members, not only during the hours of business, but upon all other occasions, whereby he has secured their lasting respect and esteem, and justly entitled himself to the warmest thanks of the Committee."

### CHESTER EDUCATIONAL MASONIC INSTITUTION.

This institution was founded in 1863, and originated mainly through the suggestion and by the exertions of Bro. J. P. Platt, a member of the Masonic body in Cheshire. It has since then gone on each year increasing in prosperity. Its object was the "education and advancement in life of children of distressed and deceased Freemasons." It is founded on the most liberal principles, inasmuch as it is guided by similar rules to that of the institution existing in connexion with the Grand Lodge of England, namely, that all children are educated in the same religious principles as their parents had professed, and of the large number who have participated in the benefits of the larger institution, we have the highest and most reliable authority for stating that all have become creditable members of society, and some distinguished ornaments. The report issued for 1867 states that "the same gratifying features have characterized its proceedings since its commencement, and your committee have the pleasure of stating that the funds have steadily increased, and, notwithstanding that 12 children have participated in its benefits, the amount at the credit of the institution at the close of the financial year is £859 1s. 8d., showing a nett increase of £193 14s. 4d., of which sum £720 has been satisfactorily invested. From the lodges in the province the contributions out of the initiation and joining fees are £44 13s. 9d., the donations £50 4s., and subscriptions £73 2s. 3d., against £38 7s. 3d., £62 7s., and £56 11s. 6d. in 1866. The expenditure for education is £70 10s. 9d. against £44 18s. 3d. in 1866; income from interest on capital invested, £31 17s. against £24 17s. 11d. in 1866." In order to assist the funds of so praiseworthy an institution, it has been customary for the different lodges in Birkenhead and the neighbourhood, by means of amateur dramatic performances, concerts, &c., to assist its income. Last year's dramatic performance in the Birkenhead Theatre realised upwards of £55, and by means of a concert in the lodge room of the "Combermere," at Seacombe, twenty guineas were added to the funds.

The fourth annual dramatic performance, in aid of the funds of the institution, took place on Monday evening, the 21st ult. The attendance was large and highly respectable. Amongst those present we noticed the family of Mr. Laird, M.P., Mr. R. Galloway, Mr. H. Lovat, Major W. Laird, Mr. J. Laird, jun., Capt. H. H. Laird, Lieut. Bell, Major Gaskell, Mr. T. Williams, Mr. H. Nuttall, Mr. J. H. Barnett, Mr. James Beazley, Mr. Sanderson, Mr. J. B. Williams, Mr. Nuttall, &c., and the following brethren: Bros. E. G. Willoughby, P. Prov. J.G.W. for Cheshire; R. Gracie, W.M. elect of the Mersey Lodge 477; F. K. Stevenson, P.M. Zetland Lodge 537; R. Ackerley, Treas., 477; T. E. Hignett, S. Deacon, 537; James T. Lea, W.M. 605; John Horbury, P.M. 605; C. P. Nosworthy, Sec. 537; R. B. Parkinson, 537; J. B. Hignett, P. Prov. J.G.D., Cheshire; J. P. Platt, Prov. J.G.W. & Treas., Cheshire; Henry Bulley, P. Prov. J.G. Deacon, Cheshire; William Bulley, P. Prov. J.G.D., Cheshire; John Harold, Prov. G. Purst, Cheshire; Joseph Bratton, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Cheshire; T. Platt, P. Prov. J.G.D., Cheshire, and Edward Harbord, Sec. 477, Hon. Secs.; J. H. Johnstone; G. Valpy Rowe; H. O. Jones; John Griffiths; C. Sayer, Org.; Henry Shaw; Capt. John Jones and Robert Davies, 477; Henry Barclay, Org., and M. Tueski, 537, &c.

By the kind permission of Bro. Capt. Holmes, the 2nd Cheshire Rifle Volunteer band, aided by the orchestra (string band) of the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool, occupied the orchestra.

The programme was as follows:—The first piece was the popular drama by Shirley Brooks, entitled "Love's Fetters," which was followed by the favourite farce of "The Irish Tutor."

Among the *dramatis personæ* were several amateurs

who had previously given their services on a similar occasion, and they were well supported by Miss Emily Weston, Miss Blanche Stammers, and Miss Maggie Grainger, who form part of the company of the Royal Alexandra Theatre and kindly volunteered their services, by the kind permission of Bro. Edward Saker, the lessee, and we need hardly say that they sustained their parts well and added zest to the proceedings. Bros. Tom Taylor and R. T. Parkinson well sustained their parts, the latter making a capital Jew. In the second piece Bro. Parkinson made a capital Fillwell, and Bro. T. E. Hignett produced a fund of amusement by his excellent acting in the Irish schoolmaster. The costumes, which were of the richest character, were supplied by Bro. S. May, of London and Liverpool, and the stage direction was most efficiently undertaken by Bro. John Chester, of the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

The whole passed off with the greatest *éclat*, and we have little doubt the entertainment will occasion a considerable augmentation of the funds of this excellent charity.

### METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 30TH, 1869.

**MONDAY**, January 25th.—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, 4, Freemasons' Hall. Castle Lodge of Harmony, 26, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Old King's Arms, 28, Freemasons' Hall. Pythagorian, 79, Lecture Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich. Unity, 183, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. British Oak, 831, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft-place, Mile end. Tower Hamlets' Engineers, 902, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Chapter: Robert Burns, 902, Freemasons' Hall.

**TUESDAY**, January 26th.—Tuscan, 14, Freemasons' Hall. Moira, 92, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Faith, 141, Andertons' Hotel, Fleet-street. Prudent Brethren, 145, Freemasons' Hall. Industry, 186, Freemasons' Hall. Israel, 205, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street. Blackfriars. Prince of Wales, 259, Willis's Rooms, St. James's. Southern Star, 1,158, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth.

**WEDNESDAY**, January 27th.—Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons. Antiquity, 2, Freemasons' Hall. Mount Moriah, 34, Freemason's Hall. United Pilgrims, 507, Horns' Tavern, Kennington. High Cross, 754, White Hotel, Tottenham Station. Royal Oak, 871, Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Temperance in the East, 898, Private Assembly Rooms, 6, Newby-place, Poplar.

**THURSDAY**, January 28th.—Gen. Com. Female School at Freemasons' Hall, at 4. Neptune, 22, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Peace and Harmony, 60, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Prosperity, 55, Guildhall Coffee House, Gresham-street. Grenadiers, 66, Freemasons' Hall. Shakespeare, 99, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Victoria, 1,056, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Chapters: Domatic, 177, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Polish National, 54, Freemasons' Hall.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communication received from R. P. J., Vancouver Island; H. J. G., Norwich; J. T. Kirkdale; B. C., Weston-super-Mare; A. W. Carlisle; Carrick a Mulchin, Omagh; W. P. B., Glasgow; D. M. Lyon, Ayr; N. G. L., Newcastle; F. W. Tredegar; J. S. G., Guernsey; Dualxo; J. G., Glasgow; J. A., Glasgow; Bro. Rob. Morris, Kentucky; "Verdant-Potato"; C. D. G., Queenstown, Cape of Good Hope; E. S. T. Ipswich; Scientific Lodge, Wolverton; Prov. G.L. of Middle Ward of Lanarkshire.

C. W. L.—We shall be glad to hear from you again relative to your communication of 6th inst.