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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1870.

MASONIC RED CROSS ORDER AND THE IMPERIAL CONSTANTINIAN ORDER OF SAINT GEORGE.

By R., 33°.

It has been very much the custom, amongst historical writers, to quote intermediate authorities instead of the original, and few think of referring to the Byzantine authors themselves, since Gibbon has stood the test of a century of searching criticism. But unfortunately for the public, the Abbé Giustiniani has not been subjected to the latter ordeal, and in consequence, his errors have been copied by subsequent writers, with a confidence quite surprising.

In his work* now before me, the Abbé gives a remarkable list, of the succession of forty-two emperors and princes, who were Grand Masters of the Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George; but few of the names are known to history, and it does seem remarkable, that, when a dignity is hereditary, and not the reward of public services which latter, are generally recompensed late in life, their imputed Grand Masters should startle statisticians, with a display of longevity, † notoriously at variance, with all well-known authenticated records, of the average duration of life amongst the nobility of the feudal ages, and with-

* *Historic Cronologiche dell' origine degl' ordini Militari, &c. In Venezia 1692 in Fo. (pag. 39—42).*

† Forty-one lives in this roll are made to cover 2545 years, *i.e.*, the added lives produce that number of years.

out a parallel, in any other history, since that of the Mosaic Patriarchs.

But the truth is “Giovanni Andrea Angelo Flavio Commeno,” who figures as the forty-second and last of this succession of Grand Masters, represented a family, of which Du Cange gives the names only of six* chiefs, under the heading, “Angeli de Drivasto.”

The Giustinianian hypothesis is this, that amongst the many Byzantine families, that took refuge, on the fall of Constantinople, in those islands of the Grecian Archipelago, held by the Venetians and Genoese, was that of the Angeli—subsequently settled in Italy, where (having however, be it observed, been totally ignored, and unmentioned, during the first century after their imputed immigration) in 1545—Pope Paul III., (Alexander Farnese) settled on Joannes Andreas Angelus, a pension of 100 golden ducats a month; and this liberality, so tardy it may be thought, was imitated by Pope Julius III., who added to the pension, a country seat.

But the Angeli, we are taught to believe, finding it incumbent, on them to produce documentary evidence of their pretensions, substantially conserved the facts, that Constantine the Great was the founder of the Imperial Byzantine Order; and that Isaac Angelus, and Michael Palæologus, had attached the dignity of Grand Master, to the exclusive family of the former, from which they claimed a lineal male descent—That these pretensions were duly registered at Rome, June 30th, 1533, by Vasque de Ulloa—That Paul III. having examined these documents, and—being possibly an infallible authority in such matters—formally declared, that the Angeli de Drivasto were the veritable descendants of those Emperors, whom they asserted, to be their ancestors; and that the right to confer the Order, founded by their ancestors, was hereditary in their family—That Julius III. in a Bull dated 1568, confirmed the authority of his predecessor; and that Urban VIII. by another Bull, dated in 1626, affirmed the same judgment.

It is a matter of history that, during the first century, after the fall of the Byzantine empire, and when the detection of imposture would have been comparatively easy, the Palæologi were fully recognised, while of the Angeli nothing was

* From Michael Angelus, ob. 1465, to J. A. A. F. Commenus the sixth and last, who is reputed to have sold the Byzantine Order, (*Fam. Byz.*, p. 212—213).

heard; and yet we are expected to believe that, immediately after the great calamity in question, in 1453, the Angeli "formed the design of restoring the Constantinian Order;" while, even by the Abbé's own showing, they took no farther steps in the matter until 1533. But that they even thought of the Order, or perhaps even *then* knew of it, seems more than problematical; and the reference is at variance with Giustiniani's observations elsewhere, that the Order, extinguished in Greece, remained dormant in the Empire.

But, on inquiry, it will be found that no such documents are known to exist, by the librarian of the Vatican; and presumably by no one else.

At length the "illustrious Joannes Andreas Angelus," although twice married, finding himself without children, and having no relatives of the Angeli, decided to transfer the Grand Mastership to another family, with which it might be perpetuated, by adoption; and, accordingly, the design was carried out, by a sale of the dignity to Francis Farnese,* Duke of Parma and Placentia, and his posterity.

The act of cession was said to have been dated at Venice, 27th July, 1697, but its existence has not yet been ascertained.

On the 5th August, 1699, the Emperor of Germany, Leopold I., gave a diploma to the Duke of Parma, ratifying the renunciation and transference of the Grand Mastership, made by Joannes Andreas Angelus. This Imperial edict was followed by an Apostolic Brief of Pope Innocent XII., dated 24th October, 1699, by which he confirms and approves of the renunciation and transference, and this again by another of Pope Clement XI., dated 20th April, 1701, confirming this approval.

Thus terminated an intrigue remarkable in the history of popular deception, by which the historian already referred to,† and probably one of its promoters, was nominated a Grand Cross—not, indeed, as he would have us believe, of the true Byzantine Order, but of its imitation, concocted between the puppet Angelus, himself, and the house of Farnese.

Between the pretended new Grand Master of the ancient Order, but in truth, first Grand Master of a new Order—and the Pope, there existed a family relationship, while the Abbé Bernardus

* The Farnesian house of Parma owes its origin to Peter Aloysius Farnesius, illegitimate son of His Holiness Pope Paul III., who gave to him the three dukedoms of Parma, Placenza and Castro, and made him the first Duke of Parma and Placenza in 1545.

† Giustiniani.

Giustiniani was incapacitated by his illegitimacy* from becoming a Knight of the original Order. But under the plastic skill of these "remodellers" a power of unique conception, was attributed to the Grand Master, who, in virtue of this authority, removed the disability of the Abbe's birth.

Against these acts, the representative of the Imperial Byzantine family protested, with such success as would be likely to attend the appeal of a member of the Greek Church, against the usurpation of a Romanist, at the Papal Court.

But suppose, for the sake of argument, that we adopt the pretensions of "Joannes Andreas Angelus Flavius Comnenus," how then are we to account for the flagrant violation of the Statutes of his own order which prohibited, and excluded, any but the lawful heirs of the Empire, from being Grand Masters; for by narrowing the transmission, to the family of the founder of the Order, and by adopting the Angelo-Comnenian family, none of the monarchs of other dynasties that succeeded, would have enjoyed the dignity of Grand Master—an inference diametrically opposed to facts.

The weakness of this Flavio-Angelo-Comnenian argument is the assumption that there was a family Order in the Angelian family, and by which it becomes necessary to show, that Constantine the Great was an *Angelus*, and that the last Constantine (III.) was not Grand Master.

But it might be much more to the purpose to show, that the Italian Angeli were no other than the Anzoli of the same peninsula, who had no connection whatever with the Byzantine Empire, but who might, in the course of time, (as we see every day about us) allow a mere idle suggestion, to become a tradition, and a tradition, the foundation of a family history, to doubt which, when duly embalmed, would be considered akin to sacrilege.

The Constantinian Order of St. George, was appropriated in name by the celebrated Emperor Charles V., "L'Empereur Charles Quint," says M. Hermant.† "Voulut bien même se déclarer le chef de cet Auguste Milice, dont il donna l'Etendard à son fils naturel Don Juan d'Autriche, lorsqu'il alla pour combattre contre les infidels,

* "Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror," March 5th, 1870. B. Giustiniani, youngest natural son of the Senator Leonardo Giustiniani and of his mistress Caterina Corbelli, author of "Historie Cronologiche dell'origine degl' ordini Militari et di tutte le religioni, cavalleresche, &c."

† "Histoire des Religions ou Order Mil. del' Eglise, &c., et des Ordres de Chevalerie," a Rouen, 1726, in 8vo.

dans cette fameuse campagne qui il fit en 1571, pendant laquelle il donna la bataille de Lepaute. . . . Giustiniani ajoute que l'Electeur de Baviere Ferdinand Marie, se declara protecteur de cet Ordre l'an 1667. Que la Republique de Venise confirma l'an 1671, au Grand Maitre, Ange Marie Commene," &c.

I have quoted from this author, for convenience, on a matter of no importance, for his statements are, in general of inferior authority, my object being simply to introduce the remark, that the ex-Duke of Parma and the ex-King of Naples are the Grand Masters of the so-called "revival," of Charles. The late King Ferdinand II., of Naples, opened negociations just before his death, to amalgamate his Order with that held in the name of the Byzantine Empire, by H.I.H. Prince Joannes Rhodocanakis, (Joannes X.) a proposal which was declined.

It now remains for me to allude briefly, to the recent claim (so extensively circulated, in various European publications) of "Antonio Lascaris Comneno," to be considered "the sole descendant, in a direct line, of the Eastern Emperors; and Perpetual Grand Master of the S.C.O. of the Knights of St. George."

This is one of those sensational proceedings which attract notice, from the brilliancy of the inventive talent displayed, but which must shrink from the cold touch of genealogical analysis.

It has already been met by a protest from the true representative of the last reigning sovereign of the Byzantine Empire.

In conclusion, I cannot do better than quote the following passage from Carolus du Fresne Dom. du Cange.* "Miram ac incredibilem quod Graecanicas familias confusionem peperit attulitque Orientalis Imperii à Turcis invasio. Si qui enim ex nobilioribus, fortunæ injuriâ, nullâ pristinam recuperandi in posterum gloriam spe, in deplorandâ prolapsi sunt calamitatem, extitere alii, qui etsi nobilitate aliqua olim revera fulserint, illustria ac indebita assumpsere nomina, et Ducum vel Principum imaginarias dignitates, tanquam ampla et à parentibus accepta provinciarum ac civitatum patrimonia possiderent, aut aliquando possedissent, pudore omni posito sibi asseruere, intercedente interea nemine, qui vanos hosce titulos oppugnet. Et sanè commiseratione longè potius digni

sunt censendi, quàm ut iis quâ premuntur, obijciatur calamitas, cum nihil aequè defendum, quàm inopiâ laborans vir nobilis, nec magis ridiculum, quàm egens gloriosus vel superbus, cui nullae supperunt facultates, quibus generis decus, atque adèd ambitionem suam quodammodo fulciat ac tueatur.

"Commune hoc vitium est, hîc vivimus ambitiosâ, Paupertate omnes."*

Iis accensendi omnino nobiles quidam Italici, ex Graecanicorum Angelorum, *uti volunt*, gente, ANZOLI vulgò cognominati, ex Drivastensi in Albania oppido exorti. Nam etsi fatendum eorum stemma nobilitatis quaedam praeferre insignia, illud tamen intolerandum videtur, quod Imperatoriarum familiarum cognominibus, ac dignitatum imaginariis titulis identidem pro libitu commutatis quas vel ii, nec decessores unquam possedere, corvi instar Æsopici, alienis scilicet pennis, se se adornarint, *ructantes Semideùm propinquitates*, ut verbis utar Sidonii.† Quinetiam eò venere frontis, ut Militaris perinde S. Georgii Ordinis Magistros supremos se se inscripserint, Milites, Comites, Barones, Notarios, Tabelliones, Poëtas etiam, nobilitandi praeterea, *nothos legitimandi*, auream denique et argenteam cudendi monetam jus sibi arrogarint. Militarem porrò hunc Ordinem à Magno Constantino institutum volunt, cum debellato Maxentio cruceim in coelo conspexit; instauratum deinde à Isaacio Angelo Imperatore, qui supremam Ordinis praerogativam Angelis Graecanicis ex se nascitatis deinceps attribuerit. Quò ejusmodi naeniis posteris illudant, confluxere varia chartarum instrumenta, quae perspicuae falcitatis notam praeferrunt, &c.

Jam verò ut Angelicum Drivastense stemma hîc describerem, hæc causa potissimum impulit quod eorum interesse arbitraret, qui illustres hosce dignitatum titulos fortasse legerint, quo jure a fundamento hos sibi adscripserint, statim agnoscant, ne tam facilè his se illud nugis patiantur. Adde quod extitere in ea gente viri aliquot insignes, quorum sat perhonorifica habetur mentio apud scriptores, ut non omnino relinquatur intacta, &c. Primus igitur qui dubiae minùs fidei ex hac gente occurrat, est I. MICHAEL ANGELUS, Nobilis Drivastensis, † qui obiit an MCCCCLV., hujus filius

* Juvenal, Sat. 3.

† Sidon in Narbone, v. 254.

‡ Strange to say, the founder of the Angeli Drivastensis does not appear to have enjoyed, like his descendant of 1697, the title of "Prince of Macedonia," (or,

* Familiae Augustae Byzantine.—Parisii, 1658, in folio, pp. 211, 212.

luit. II. ANDREAS ANGELUS, &c. III. PETRUS ANGELUS, Andreae filius, &c. IV. HIERONYMUS ANGELUS, "Princeps Thessaliae." &c. VI. JOANNES ANDREAS ANGELUS FLAVIUS COMNENUS, Drivasti ac Dytrachii dux, Princeps Macedoniae et Moldaviae, &c., &c. . . Is est Flavius Angelus, qui Principum genealogias à se contextas Venetiis edi curavit an. MDCXXI. quarum plerasque ab ipso Adamo auspicatur, putidas adeò ac falsas, ut mirari liceat viri frontem ac audaciam, &c., &c.

(To be Continued).

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF ST. WULSTAN.

For the first introduction of the R.A. degree, the brethren of the Worcester Lodge were indebted to the Masonic zeal and assiduity of W. Bro. John Allen, who, in May, 1808 (during the second year of his occupancy of the chair of that lodge), opened the first Royal Arch Chapter. Conferred (as was not unfrequent at that period) in the lodge, Bro. Allen seems to have given much time and talent in prosecution of the Royal art, and to have exalted "many members." How long this chapter continued we have no information; possibly the death of its originator, occurring in May, 1813, or the promulgation of the laws of the Supreme Grand Chapter soon afterwards, may account for its extinction. The records of the Worcester Lodge extant have but one reference to it, which occurs in the minutes of a regular lodge held February 7, 1828.

Beyond the information contained in this foregoing minute, nothing was heard of the first Royal Arch Chapter or its Regalia, until a few years ago, when it was Bro. Griffith's privilege to

indeed, any other), and the first who seems to have had a Byzantine title, was Jerome Angelus (1559), who is styled "Prince of Thessaly, and Grand Master" of the Constantinian Order. The titles again vary, until in the person of the sixth and last of the family, we have both "Prince of Moldavia and Macedonia." How remarkable that neither these titles nor pretensions, should have been heard of during the first century, after the fall of Constantinople, and during a period when the Palæologi were identified and acknowledged everywhere. Ducarge must be preferred to the interested Giustiniani, but the latter, for obvious reasons, has obtained more attention, and authors have been content to take their information at second-hand in this instance, for in all the absurd literature of the eighteenth century on the Orders of Knighthood, in which we find seriously recorded, such "Orders" as "Du Chien et du coq," "De la table ronde," so Giustiniani stands as high authority.

rescue the remains from the auctioneer's hammer, and restore to the members of the present chapter that which, although sadly depreciated by the ravages of time, is still highly interesting as illustrating the working of the degree, its vestments, jewels, &c., and is worthy of preservation as specimens of the past.

Of the chapter established in 1844, a complete account is contained in its own records. From the minutes of the St. Wulstan's Chapter we learn that on the 6th of November, 1844, a charter was granted to nine petitioning companions who desired to hold a chapter for "the cultivation of this grand and universal science." A copy of this charter is here given:—

"HOWE, H. ZETLAND, Z. J. RAMSBOTTOM, J.

"In the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

"To all the enlightened our brethren of the several degrees of the Royal Craft, but more especially those citizens of the world and servants of the Omnipotent who have been or hereafter may be honoured by exaltation to our Sublime Degree, "Health, Peace, Goodwill." Be it known, that our excellent Comps., Joseph Bennett, Z., James Knight, H., Robert Rising, J., Benjamin, L. Stable, William Corles, Richard Lockett, Richard Masters, Richard Gibney, and J. Cox, having made known to our Supreme Grand Chapter their desire of holding a chapter of our Order for the cultivation of this Grand and Universal Science, in hope thereby the more to extend their aid to and promote the happiness of all our brethren, and link mankind together by indissoluble Bonds of Friendship, Peace, and Harmony, and that our Grand Chapter having taken their petition into consideration, and finding it concordant with our Grand System of Universal Benevolence, we do hereby, with the consent of our said Grand Chapter, grant unto the said companions this our Charter of Constitution to be held with and attached to the warrant of the Lodge 349, with full power for them, their companions and successors, to open and hold a chapter of our Order at Worcester, or at such other place, and at such time, as our said companions and their successors shall, with the consent of us and our successors, Grand Officers for the time being, think meet. The first chapter to be opened on Wednesday, the 18th day of December, now next ensuing, by the title of "Saint Wulstan's Chapter," with such privileges, powers, and immunities

as do of right belong to regular established chapters and companions of our said Most Excellent Order, subject, nevertheless, to the general laws and ordinances already or to be hereafter enacted by our Most Excellent Grand and Royal Chapter.

"Given at London, under our hands, and the seal of our Grand and Royal Chapter, this 6th day of November, A.L. 5844, A.D. 1844.

"W. H. WHITE, E. "A. DOBIE, N."

The first convocation was held on the 9th day of December, 1844, when six of the petitioners proceeded to business; ten brethren were proposed for exaltation, five companions as joining members, and other business. On the 18th of the same month the Chapter of St. Wulstan was duly and solemnly consecrated by M.E. Comp. John Savage, a member of the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, assisted by other eminent companions duly qualified. The first three principals, Comps. Bennett, Knight, and Rising having been regularly installed, and the other officers appointed, proceeded to ballot for those already proposed; those elected, and present, were exalted, when it is stated that "All the officers discharged their respective duties in a manner which elicited the warmest expressions of admiration and approval of the Installing Principals."

For three years the Chapter of St. Wulstan had its regular meetings, the first Installed Principal M.E. Comp. Bennett continuing to occupy the position of Z. A dispensation was then obtained for a fourth year; at the expiration of which, from the death of some, the removal of others, and generally the want of members having the legal qualification for the principal chairs, the chapter ceased to meet, the last meeting being held on the 30th January, 1850. For eight years the chapter remained dormant, at the expiration of which time a meeting was held February 24, 1858, when M.E. Comp. Bennett was again elected to fill the first chair, Comp. Jas. McMillan to occupy the second, and Comp. C. C. Whitney Griffiths the third chair, and the other officers appointed; a large number of companions of both lodges (for during this period the Semper Fidelis Lodge has been established) were balloted for, elected, and exalted. The temporary cloud removed, the chapter has since progressed, increasing in numbers and importance, nearly one hundred and twenty companions having been enrolled, and at the present time there is a list of sixty-three subscribing members.

Long may this interesting degree continue so supported, and may the blending of its colours continually remind the companions "That the harmony and unanimity of the chapter should be their constant aim. And as the glorious sun at its meridian height dispels the mists and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may their exertions tend to dispel the gloom of jealousy and discord whenever they may begin to appear."

THE SEMPER FIDELIS LODGE, No. 529.—The warrant of this lodge bears date 4th July, 1846; it was consecrated 7th September, by W. Bro. Hunt, P.M., Hope and Charity Lodge, Kidderminster; W. Bro. Joseph Bennett the first Master. This lodge was first held at the Rein Deer Inn, but now meets at the Crown Hotel; and has a large roll of members.

Of the high degrees, which are worked mainly by the brethren of the Worcester Lodge, Bro. Griffiths gives the following account:—

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX.—Warrant dated 10th January, 1860; consecrated 10th Feb.; W. Bro. William Masefield, Provincial Grand Treasurer, the first M.W.S.; held at the Bell Hotel; and has on its roll thirty members.

ENCAMPMENT OF ST. AMAND TEMPLARS.—Warrant dated 27th November, 1861; consecrated December 19th; Frater R. Woof, F.S.A., First Commander. Held at the Bell Hotel; has thirty-three subscribing members on its roll, and two honorary members.

THE LECHMERE LODGE OF MARK MASTERS, No. 59.—Warrant bears date 22nd May, 1863, on which day it was consecrated as the "Abbey Lodge," at Tewkesbury; Bro. E. S. Cossens, the first W.M.; removed to Worcester 20th November, 1866, and re-named as above; has a roll of thirty-eight subscribing and two honorary members; and holds its meetings at the Bell Hotel.

A complete list is given of the Installed Masters from 1790 till the present time. A roll of the members giving surname, christian name, profession, date of joining, initiation, passing, raising, electing, and other remarks, in a tabular form, and also a roll of Installed Principals, from 1844 to present date.

The work is vastly interesting to all Masons,

and must be especially so to those of Worcester-shire. It would be well if in every province some such zealous and diligent brother as Bro. Griffiths, would give to the brethren the result of their researches in such interesting form as is here presented.

GRAND LODGE FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The following laws relating to the Fund of Benevolence, as altered and approved by Grand Lodge, on the 2nd March, and confirmed 1st June, 1870, are to be substituted for pages 96 to 103 of the "Book of Constitutions," edition 1867.

Considering it important that the Master and officers of every lodge within the jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge, should be acquainted with the important alterations therein contained, we give them entire, as in many cases, great hardships might occur to applicants for relief through want of knowledge of the alterations.

OF THE FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

1. The fund appropriated to the object of benevolence shall be solely devoted to charity.
2. Every member of each lodge within the London district shall pay towards the fund of benevolence one shilling per quarter, or four shillings per annum, and every member of each country and military lodge, sixpence per quarter, or two shillings per annum.
3. The distribution and application of this fund shall take place on the last Wednesday but one of every month, by a lodge of benevolence, which shall consist of a President or Master, to be appointed by the Grand Master, at the Grand Lodge in December, and of all the Present and Past Grand Officers, and all actual masters of lodges, and twelve Past Masters to be nominated at the board of masters annually in November, and to be elected by the Grand Lodge in December, in the same manner as the elected members of the board of general purposes; but no Past Master shall be eligible to be re-elected who shall have neglected to attend the lodge of benevolence at six meetings. If the actual master of the year of any lodge cannot attend, the Immediate Past Master may supply his place; should that brother be unable to attend, some other Past Master of such lodge may act for him; but in every case the Past Master must be a subscribing member of the lodge. The brother presiding shall be bound strictly to enforce all the regulations of the Craft respecting the distribution of this fund, and shall be satisfied, before any petition be read, that all the required formalities have been complied with.

At the board of masters next preceding the Grand Lodge in December, brethren shall be nominated for election to the offices of Senior and Junior Vice-presidents of the Lodge of Benevolence, and the names so nominated shall be submitted to Grand Lodge in December, who shall elect a Senior Vice-president, and a Junior Vice-president out of the names respectively submitted for those offices, in the same manner as in the case of elected members of the board of general purposes. The Vice-presidents so elected shall act as Wardens of the Lodge of Benevolence during the ensuing year. In the absence of the President, the Senior Vice-president, and in the absence of both, the Junior Vice-president shall take the chair; should all three be absent, the brother present who is highest in rank and seniority shall preside; and if either of the Vice-presidents shall be absent, or be in the chair, his place shall be filled in like manner. No brother shall be re-elected as a Vice-president who shall have failed to attend the Lodge of Benevolence at six meetings during the twelve months immediately preceding.

The members shall not be subject to canvass or previous solicitation, but shall have their minds free from prejudice, to decide on the merits of each case with the impartiality and purity of Masonic feeling. If it shall appear that this rule has been wilfully transgressed, the consideration of the case of the brother on whose behalf the canvass or solicitation has been made, shall be deferred for the space of three months; and no member shall at any time vote upon the petition of any person, for whom he may have been canvassed, or to whom he is related, or who is a member of the lodge to which he himself belongs; though such member may be heard on the merits of the petition, and must then withdraw. If any Master of a lodge shall canvass or otherwise solicit on behalf of a petitioner, he shall be rendered incapable of attending as a member of the Lodge of Benevolence for twelve months.

4. No Master shall act as a member of the Lodge of Benevolence if his lodge have neglected to make its returns and pay its contributions to the funds of the Grand Lodge during the preceding twelve months.

5. No Mason registered under the constitution of the Grand Lodge of England shall receive the benefit of this fund unless he have paid the full consideration fee, have been registered in the books of the Grand Lodge, have continued a subscribing member to a contributing lodge for at least two years, and during that period, paid his quarterly dues the Fund of Benevolence. The limitation of two years, however, does not apply to the cases of shipwreck, capture at sea, loss by fire, or breaking or dislocating a limb, fully attested and proved.

Secretaries, who are by their lodges exempted from

the payment of subscription, shall not thereby be disqualified from obtaining assistance from the Fund of Benevolence, but shall be considered as subscribing members of their lodges, their services being equivalent to subscription; provided their dues to the Grand Lodge have been duly paid.

A serving brother, who, under the provisions of No. 5 of the Constitutions, under the head "proposing members," has paid, through the lodge in which he was initiated, the quarterly dues to the Fund of Benevolence for four years at least, may be considered eligible to be relieved in case of distress, in the same manner as if he had been a regular subscribing member.

6. If it shall be proved that any petitioning brother has paid to his lodge the full fees, including the register fee, and also two years' quarterage, but that the lodge has neglected to register such brother or transmit the dues to the Grand Lodge, the Lodge of Benevolence may relieve the brother, and refer the case to the board of general purposes, that the lodge may be rigorously proceeded against for withholding moneys the property of the Grand Lodge.

7. The Lodge of Benevolence may also grant relief to the indigent widow, or child, of a deceased mason who would himself have been qualified to receive assistance; or of a brother who shall have died within two years from the period of his initiation, or of his having joined an English lodge from a foreign lodge, and who shall have continued a subscribing member to the time of his decease; provided the marriage certificate and other proper certificates and testimonials be produced.

When application for relief is made on behalf of children only, such application must be made within two years of the death of the father.

8. Brethren under the constitution of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, as well as of foreign Grand Lodges, may be relieved on the production of certificates from their respective grand lodges, or other sufficient certificates and testimonials to the satisfaction of the Lodge of Benevolence, and proof of identity and distress, it being understood that in the case of foreign brethren, such relief, except in cases of sickness, is intended to assist them to return to their native land.

9. Applications for relief must be by petition, stating the name, occupation, place of abode, and present circumstances of the petitioner; the name and number of the lodge in which, and the time when he (or the husband or father, in the case of the petition of a widow, child, or children) was initiated, and the other lodges if any, which he afterwards joined. The applicant, unless disabled by disease, or accident, must sign the petition.

10. To every petition must be added a recommendation, signed in open lodge, by the master, wardens, and a majority of the members then present, to which the petitioner (or the husband or father, in the case of the petition of a widow

child, or children) does or did belong, or from some other contributing lodge, certifying (see the form at the end) that they have known him to have been in reputable, or at least tolerable, circumstances, and that he has been not less than two years an actual contributing member paying the stipulated subscription to the funds of a regular lodge, as well as quarterage to the fund of benevolence, with such other observations as they may think proper; or in the case of brethren under the constitution of the grand lodges of Scotland or Ireland, or of foreign lodges, a recommendation signed by a brother registered under the constitution of the grand lodge of England.

A visit shall be paid to every applicant by the master or some member of the lodge, or some other brother, who shall certify in writing the result of his inquiries; and in addition, in all town cases, the brother giving the certificate, or some other brother who has visited the case, shall attend the lodge of benevolence on the consideration of the petition.

11. Before the petition of the widow or children shall be taken into consideration, the grand lodge or other masonic certificate of the deceased brother shall be deposited with the grand secretary, unless it shall be satisfactorily proved that it has been lost.

12. No petition for relief shall be presented to the lodge of benevolence, unless it has been left with the Grand Secretary three days at least previously to their meeting.

13. No petition shall be read unless the petitioner attend the lodge of benevolence in person; except in the case of widows and children, and of sickness, lameness, imprisonment, or residence in the country beyond the London district.

14. A brother, who has been relieved, cannot petition a second time within one year. A widow, who has been relieved, cannot petition again.

15. The Lodge of Benevolence may order the payment of any sum not exceeding the following (that is to say),

Twenty pounds towards the relief of a distressed brother.

Ten pounds towards the relief of a widow or child; should there be a child, or children totally dependent on the widow, or more than one orphan, the grant may be extended to any sum not exceeding twenty pounds.

16. When cases of extraordinary distress occur, and the sum of twenty pounds does not appear sufficient to afford adequate relief, the Lodge of Benevolence may recommend such cases to the Grand Master, who may grant any sum not exceeding forty pounds. Whenever any vote for a sum of money not exceeding fifty pounds shall be carried in Grand Lodge, pursuant to a recom-

the survivors. And in order that these bloody gamblers may have free scope for their hideous "play," peace must be broken, commerce must be stopped, civilisation and humanity thrust aside, while fruitful fields and happy homesteads must be trodden down or given to the flames. And must nations—civilised and Christian nations—look on as idle spectators of such a display? The great problem of modern civilisation is—How can war be stopped? That is, how can armies be done away with, and the peace, honour, and safety of a country be entrusted to its police? The latter of course, backed up by the good sense, high moral character, or *real* Christian principle of the people.

MUSIC AT LODGE MEETINGS.

We have long advocated the more extensive and general use of music in the meetings of our lodges and chapters, and we gladly comply with the request that we would give insertion to the circular (issued some time since) of the Masonic Glee Union, which Bro. Read has organised for the purpose of introducing high-class concerted vocal music at lodge banquets and Masonic festivities.

MASONIC GLEE UNION.

3, Cornwall-terrace, Dalyell-road,
Stockwell, S.W.

Dear Sir and Brother,—The above-named society has been formed to meet the pressing wishes of many brethren, and to enable them, after the duties of lodge or chapter, to enjoy (in connection with the singing of individual brethren) some genuine and good glees, madrigals, &c.

As you may be aware from experience that it is almost an impossibility for any lodge at the present time (in London) to form anything of the kind by the aid of its own members only, I have, with the co-operation of some first-class professionals and amateurs, formed this society for the purpose of meeting this great want, and which, I am confident, will add much to the pleasure of Masonic meetings, more especially on occasions of installations of Masters or Principals, in addition to giving great satisfaction to the brethren.

Should you be desirous of availing yourself at any time of the services of this society, terms will be given upon written or personal application to,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

JOHN READ, P.M., P.Z., Mk.M.,
Director and Conductor.

MASONIC JOTTINGS.—No. 29.

By a PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

INGREDIENTS OF SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

There was, writes a learned brother, a commingling of these ingredients in certain English

lodges of the 17th century, but there was plainly no such commingling in the Scotch lodges of the same period.

THE FINDEL THEORY.

A former Editor of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE somewhere states the Findel Theory to be an adherence to the view first propounded by the Abbé Grandidier in 1782, according to which our Freemasonry took its origin in the *Bauhütten* of the Middle Ages.*

LECTURES AND CHARGES.

By lectures and charges, blending and illustrating the Religious, the Moral, and the Scientific, the old lodge of Operative Masonry speedily became a lodge of Operative and Speculative Masonry.

KLOSS.

He is said to have been "assisted in his inquiries by one of the best libraries and one of the best collections of MSS. that any Mason ever possessed."

FABLES.—TRUTHS.

With the remarks of a brother contained in a paper thus entitled, I cannot agree. I find a satisfactory answer in some words of Voltaire, which, if my memory can still be trusted, are to this effect:—"On mêle beaucoup de fables avec des vérités utiles, et les vérités se soutiennent par les fables."

INDIGENOUS MASONRIES.

Call the Indian, Chaldaean, Persian, Phœnician, and Egyptian Masonries indigenous.

THE ENGLISH DEISTICAL WRITERS.

According to the German theory a "most decisive agent in accomplishing the transformation of Masonry, was that intellectual movement known under the name of English Deism." A brother thinks if this is so, it may reasonably be expected that the numerous unpublished letters and papers, said to be in the possession of the families of our Deistical writers, will, if examined, throw light upon Craft proceedings of the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th centuries.†

* My correspondents in general call the German Theory the Findel Theory, it being principally—it may be said entirely—by the translation of our Bro. Findel's valuable book that the German Theory is known in England, its Colonies, and in the United States of America.

† The English deistical writers who lived in the second half of the 17th and the first half of the 18th centuries, are:—Bolingbroke, born 1678, died 1751; Collins, born 1676, died 1729; Shaftesbury, born 1671, died 1731; Tindall, born 1657, died 1733; Toland, born 1670, died 1722; Woolston, born 1669, died 1731. Our earliest deistical writer is Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, born 1581, died 1648.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

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The penalties provided by the Act are,—

"That every person being convicted of any such offence on the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses, by such Justice or Justices as aforesaid, shall be by him or them committed to the common gaol or house of correction for such county, stewardry, riding, division, city, town, or place, there to remain without bail or mainprize for the term of three calendar months, or shall be by such Justice or Justices adjudged to forfeit and pay the sum of £20, as to such Justice or Justices shall seem meet . . . and every person convicted of any such offence, upon indictment by due course of law, shall and may be transported for the term of seven years, in the manner provided by law for transportation of offenders, or imprisoned for any time not exceeding two years, as the Court before whom such offender shall be tried shall think fit."

This Act, I believe, is not repealed, and it remains a question whether the members of all Craft lodges established since the passing of the said Act, 1799, are not liable to the penalties therein contained. But it seems to me that all the newly-established Masonic Orders unrecognised by the Grand Lodge of England, are clearly liable to the heavy penalties of this Act, if any "one or credible witness or witnesses" take the trouble to move in the matter.

The 13th section imposes a penalty of £5 on any one who permits the meetings of such societies to be held in his house; and as one moiety of the fines (which may not be reduced more than one third) goes to the informer, it is likely that some day such might be the case.

The sixth section provides—

"That this exemption shall not extend to any such society unless two of the members composing the same shall certify upon oath (which oath any Justice of the Peace or other magistrate is hereby empowered to administer) that such society or lodge has before the passing of this Act been usually held under the denomination of a lodge of Freemasons, and in conformity to the rules prevailing among the societies or lodges of Freemasons in this kingdom, which certificate, duly attested by the magistrate before whom the same shall be sworn, and subscribed by the persons so certifying, shall, within the space of two calendar months after the passing of this Act, be deposited with the Clerk of the Peace for the county, stewardry, riding, division, shire, or place where such society or lodge hath been usually held: Provided also, that this exemption shall not extend to any such society or lodge, unless the name or denomination thereof, and the usual place or places, and the time or times of its

meetings, and the names and descriptions of all and every the members thereof, be registered with such Clerk of the Peace as aforesaid within two months after the passing of this Act, and also on or before the 25th day of March in every succeeding year."

I have never heard of this provision being complied with, and I much doubt if it has ever been done. If not, then it is a fact that *all our lodge meetings are unlawful combinations and confederations.*

I should like to hear the opinion of our Grand Registrar or some other learned legal brother upon the matter. Being a peaceable subject, and loyal to the laws and government of my country, I hesitate to again attend my lodge for fear of being convicted of "unlawful combination and confederacy."

Yours fraternally,

PROGRESS.

THE SUMMER FETE AT THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Permit me to correct an error which, by some means, has crept into your report of the above evidently very successful and pleasant gathering.

In two places the name of Bro. Brown appears as *D. Prov. G.M. for Leicestershire and Rutland.* As I have performed the duties of that office during the fourteen or fifteen years I had the privilege of holding it, under the late excellent P.G.Ms., Sir F. S. Fowke, *Bart.*, and Earl Howe, I have not thought it consistent with my duty, since I have had the high honour of being appointed to the chief rule of the province, to throw my labours on a deputy, but have done, and intend to do, them myself; consequently no appointment of a deputy has been made at present.

The worthy Bro. George Brown is the first W.M. of the recently formed lodge at Oakham, and at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at that town in September last, for his installation, &c., he had conferred upon him, according to local custom on such occasions, the rank of P.G. Junior Warden. However worthy and energetic Bro. Brown may be, nevertheless, he being only the W.M. of the *youngest* lodge in the province, we have, of course, many no less worthy P.Ms. and Past Provincial Grand Wardens, many years his senior, who have done long and excellent service to the Craft.

As the appointment of so young a man and so young a Mason as Bro. Brown, *if made*, would naturally be a great slight upon those brethren, by their superior claims to preferment being ignored, I think it a duty I owe both to them and to myself to request that this error of description may be rectified.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM KELLY,

Prov. G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland.

Leicester, July 19th, 1870.

[The Visitors' Book was not signed on the occasion of the Festival, which prevented a complete list of the brethren in attendance being given. Our reporter, through the courtesy of a brother connected with the School, had several brethren named as being in attendance, and thus the error arose.—*Ed. Freemasons' Magazine.*]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Having received a communication from certain brethren, passengers on board the Royal Mail steamer *Roman*, from the Cape of Good Hope, stating that on the 24th of June last (St. John's Day) at the close of a social meeting a subscription was collected in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for granting annuities to widows, and the sum of £10 subscribed, for which a draft was enclosed, I shall feel obliged by your acknowledging its safe receipt in your paper, such being the wish of the donors.

Yours fraternally,

W. FARNFIELD, Sec.

Freemasons' Hall, London, July 20, 1870.

MASONIC SAYINGS AND DOINGS ABROAD.

The Grand Master of Iowa, in his annual address, says:—"I am gratified to report a degree of uniformity in work that has, perhaps, no parallel in any jurisdiction. This is only the more wonderful when we consider the many enthusiastic Masons who are attracted hither from distant states, and who, were our own system less perfect, would continually impress upon it those variations to which, from long use, many of them are much attached. In fact, we have all the uniformity that is desirable, and it is now fully time that more attention were given to the weightier matters of the law; that, instead of attaching so much importance to the tithes of mint, anise, and cummin, that we devote ourselves to the great duties of Masonry, and learn from it to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before God. Alas! how many there be who can, parrot-like, run you off the whole catechism, and who think themselves 'bright Masons,' who have never learned that 'Masonry is a beautiful *system of morality*, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols.' Do not understand from this that I rate proficiency in work as of little value. Not so. The forms of Masonry are valuable as such, but they are not Masonry; they are but the casket which holds the jewel. The treasure is worthy of its beautiful surrounding, and the husk is necessary to the safety and growth of the kernel within. A soul, pure and true, is all the better for an accompanying body, beautiful and strong, but still it is the soul which "is the better part of man," and is alone worthy of our deepest love."

The lodges in New Mexico are talking of organising a Grand Lodge. They are at present wholly, we believe, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has recently suspended the charters of two its lodges for meeting in the same room with another secret society. If lodges of Free and Accepted Masons can't meet in their own temple, why build one or surrender the charter. Freemasonry cannot go into partnership with any other order, and keep its "work" pure. The young Mason when he first sees the "light" in the hall or room of some other order, has incorrect conceptions of what are the innovations in his advancement. The Grand Lodge of Ohio is eminently wise in its action.—*Keystone*.

Among the coins and other articles of value deposited in the corner stone of the new Temple at New York on the 8th June last was a really valuable work of art, presented by Bro. S. H. Black, of Hope Lodge (No. 244), of New York, and manufactured by a process of his own invention. It was a duplicate of his original copy "declaration of independence," in *bas relief*, in which, on a plate of copper, heavily gilt, of five inches square, was a full and accurate copy of the declaration itself, as also *fac-simile* signatures of the fathers of American independence. It was executed by electricity, and when examined is clearly readable through a microscope. There it is, however, *verbatim, literatim et figuratim*, and, unless a triplicate be made, the original will be of great value. The duplicate, though engraved by electricity, will in all probability for centuries to come be free from electrical action, and should future generations witness the unsealing of the box in which it is contained, it will not be the least attractive of the deposits found there.

We learn from a correspondent that at Copenhagen, according to arrangements last year, after the 7th degree had been conferred upon Comp. Denton, of Leeds, a chapter of emergency was called together this month to confer upon him the 8th degree. The Prov. G.M. and his deputy, with a grand array of officers, conferred the 8th degree upon him in a very able and impressive manner, in the presence of a great number of companions who had assembled at a very short notice. All coincided in the opinion that they had never heard the exaltation so ably performed.—Gothenburg, June, 1870.

The R.W. Grand Lodge of Maine has recognised the schismatics of Quebec. This is easily explained. The sun rises so near to Maine that the twilight is not bright enough to enable the Craft there to see the landmark, and the law of Masonry in the full light of the noontide, which down this way enables us to detect errors.—*Keystone*.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

** All communications to be addressed to the EDITOR, at No. 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

THE following is the order of the business at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent, to be held at Dartford, on Wednesday, the 27th inst.:—To confirm the minutes of last Provincial Grand Lodge; the election of Prov. G. Treasurer; the appointment of the Provincial Grand Officers for the year ensuing. The following notices of motion have been received:—A grant of £50 to the Royal Benevolent Institution Female Fund, and two grants, of £5 and £20 respectively, to distressed brethren; that by-law No. 14 be altered by adding after the words "make enquiry," in line 4, the following words, "in writing of the W.M. of the lodge;" and after the word "under," in line 6, the words "who is to reply in writing."

LEXDEN.—During the past few days a neat monument has been erected by the Freemasons of Colchester in Lexden Churchyard, to the memory of John Witten, whose decease we noticed in a recent number. The inscription is as follows:—"John Witten, died March 23rd, 1870, aged 76 years. Sarah, his wife, died March 17th, 1868, aged 60 years.—This tribute to his memory was placed by the Masonic brethren of the Angel and United Lodges, of Colchester, in appreciation of his long and faithful official services." The design reflects great credit on Bro. Wats.—*Essex Standard.*

WE learn that a petition has been sent in for a warrant for a new lodge (to be called St. Peter's) at Market Harborough, Leicestershire, there having been hitherto no lodge on that side of the province. The petitioners are the Earl of Shrewsbury, Sir Henry St. John Halford, *Bart.*, the Provincial Grand Master (Bro. Kelly), Albert Pell, *M.P.* for South Leicestershire, the Revs. J. F. Halford and A. A. O'Neil (P. Prov. G. Chaplain, West Lancashire), and Bros. Goolyer, Marris, Waite, P.M.'s; Rowland Heritt (Kibworth Hall), and F. Kemp. The Prov. G. Master is nominated as the first W.M.; Sir H. Halford, S.W.; and the Rev. J. F. Halford, J.W.

AT the first meeting of the Keystone Lodge of Mark Master Masons, which is to be consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Newport (Mon.), on the 28th inst., the names of thirteen additional brethren have been given as candidates for advancement, in addition to twenty-eight already announced; with seven to be affiliated, the roll of the lodge will number no less than fifty members, a very respectable beginning.

TYLERS of Lodges, Janitors of Chapters, Equerries of Encampments, &c., in England, Scotland, and Ireland, are requested to forward their names and addresses to the Publisher of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, so that a complete Register and Directory may be compiled.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The usual monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday last. W. Bro. John Savage occupied the chair of W.M.; Joseph Smith, S.W.; J. Brett, J.W. The attendance of brethren was small.

This was the first regular meeting held under the new laws governing the Fund of Benevolence, which were adopted by Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication in March, and confirmed in June. Amongst other alterations, votes or recom-

mendation of sums of money exceeding £10 require confirmation at the next meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence.

We give in another page a copy of the said new laws, considering it of the greatest importance that all the lodges should be aware of them.

After the lodge was declared open, the votes and recommendations passed at the last meeting, numbering ten, and amounting to £335, were severally confirmed.

Applications from twelve petitioners were considered, of which one was dismissed, two adjourned, and in six cases sums were voted in accordance with the rules. Two cases were recommended to the Grand Master, viz.:—

The widow of the late Bro. J. C., Lodge 51..... £30
The widow of the late Bro. G. P., formerly of Lodge 5... £20
One recommended to Grand Lodge, viz.:—
To Bro. J. B., Lodge 484..... £50

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

METROPOLITAN.

PERFECT ASHLAR LODGE (No. 1,178).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Gregorian Arms Tavern, 89, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey. Bro. J. W. Avery, W.M., occupying the chair, raised Bro. A. Collins, and passed Bro. Baker. Present:—Bros. Green, S.W.; H. Bartlett, J.W.; Dr. Dixon, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; D. Rose, P.M., S.D.; G. J. Grace, J.D.; J. W. Dudley, I.G.; &c.

STANHOPE LODGE (No. 1,269).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Thicket Hotel, Anerley, on Tuesday, the 12th inst. The chair was occupied by Bro. H. Lindus, W.M., supported by Bros. James Kench, J.W.; J. Hart, Sec.; Seymour Smith, Org.; J. C. King, I.G.; Thomas King, I.G.; W. J. Thicke, J. Garland, J. W. Lassam, A. M. Saunders, W. F. Goddard, P. Croydon. Bros. N. Gluckstein, P.M. 151, &c.; J. R. Cook, 188; and H. Massey, P.M. 619, were present as visitors. Bro. Thomas Marriott was raised to the degree of M.M., the ceremony being ably performed by the W.M. An excellent banquet followed, accompanied by a desert, both of which did the host, Bro. Lapam, credit. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and some excellent music and singing rendered the evening pleasant and harmonious.

PROVINCIAL.

CHESHIRE.

STOCKPORT.—*Peace Lodge* (No. 322).—On Wednesday, the 6th inst., the installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Warren Bulkeley Arms Hotel. The lodge was opened by Bro. H. Isherwood, P.M., when, the minutes of the previous lodge having been confirmed, Bro. William Hickton was presented for installation, he having been elected as W.M. for the ensuing year. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, and the W.M. elect was inducted into the chair of K.S., and saluted by all the brethren present in the various degrees of the Craft, according to ancient usage. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows:—Bros. T. Meadows, S.W.; W. J. Fleming, J.W.; W. T. Bunce, S.D.; James E. Harding, J.D.; J. P. Bardsley, I.G.; Charles Saxby, Tyler; C. Simpson, Org.; P. Chetham, Treas. At the conclusion of business, the brethren, to the number of forty, sat down to a splendid banquet. The newly-installed W.M. presided. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, closing with the Tyler's toast, and a glee to "Our next merry meeting."

CORNWALL.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall was held on the 19th inst., at Truro, and as the new hall was to be dedicated it was the means of bringing together one of the largest assemblages of brethren that has ever been held in the province. There were about three hundred Freemasons in the town from

all parts of the county. The brethren met at 10 o'clock in the Concert Hall of the New Public Room, and here the first part of the day's business was transacted. The room, which is a very handsome one, and has in it a noble organ, was beautifully decorated with flowers, and adorned with flags and many of the banners of different lodges. In the rear of the chair of the R.W. the Prov. G. Master there were a variety of flags, which were surmounted by one of the mottoes of the Order, "Brotherly love, relief, and truth."

Among the company present were the following:—Bros. R.W. Augustus Smith, P.M. 331, P.G.M.; R.W. the Rev. John Huyshe, P.G. Chap. of England and P.G.M. of Devon; Col. J. P. Peard, P.M. 977, G. Sub-Prior of England and P.P.S.G.W.; Reg. Rogers, P.M. 331, P.D.P.G.M.; Rev. F. B. Paul, S.W. 1,151, P.G. Chap.; F. Boase, P.M. 121, P.S.G.W.; Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., M.P. S.G.W. of England, P.M. 331, P.S.G.W.; Rev. J. B. Hawkesley, P.M. 1,151, P.G. Chap.; Wm. Tweedy, P.M. 331, P.G. Treas.; Wm. T. Sobey, P.M. 977, P.G. Reg.; W. J. Hughan, P.M. 131, P.G. Sec.; Israel Levin, P.M. 121, P.J.G.D.; S. Jacob, P.M. 967, P.G. Supt. of Works; R. John, W.M. 131, P. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; Isaac Latimer, P.P.G. Sec. of Devon; St. Roberts, P.G.P.; Thomas Taylor, P.G. Org.; St. Trebilcock, P.G. Tyler; J. G. Mason, P.P.S.G.W.; C. Pearse, P.P.J.G.D.; H. Steele, W.M. 557; N. Coward, P.M. 557; W. Foxwell, P.M. 1,071; W. Veale, P.M. 893; H. Colwill, P.M. 330, P.J.G.W.; T. Solomon, P.M. 331, P.S.G.W.; W. H. Dunstan, P.M. 75, P.G. Steward; W. Guy, W.M. 496; T. Geach, P.P.G.J.W.; Thomas Gill, S.W. 967; J. P. Smith, P.M. 450, P.S.G.D.; W. Harvey, P.M. 330; S. Holloway, P.P.G.D.; J. Dampney, W.M. 1,071; W. Coad, W.M. 1,164; A. T. Grant, J.W. 330; E. Aitken Davies, W.M. 1,099; J. G. Richards, P.M. 1071, P.P.G.S.; J. Polkinghorne, P.P.G. Treas.; W. H. Moses, W.M. 1,136; W. Chappell, S.D. 589; J. H. Reynolds, S.W. 589; J.W. 589; E. A. Courtney, S.D. 510; J. Coombe, P.M. 450, 1272; T. White, J.W. 516; J. Richards, S.W. 1272; W. Hicks, W.M. 977; J. Hicks, 330, Acting J. Org.; J. Ough, P.M. 510; R. Skin, P.M. 510; J. O'Neal, I.G.; A. W. May, J.W. 131; J. Dawe, P.M. 970, P.G. Steward; G. Roseveare, W.M. 970; R. Brokenshare, P.M. 496, 928, P. Prov. S.G.D.; M. Dunn, W.M. 1272; G. Richards, S.W. 1272; W. Dawe, P.M. 510, P. Prov. G.S.; W. Pascoe, S.W. 1,066; J. T. Short, S.D. 1,272; W. Fenwick, Sec. 970; J. Still, S.W. 970; C. Read, P.M. 121, Prov. S.G.D.; W. J. Harris, W.M. 893; J. F. Penrose, W.M. 331; W. H. Clark, J.W. 893; J. Crews, S.W. 893; J. Poole, P.M. 450; G. Michell, P.M. 1,006; J. Cardew, P.M. 1,164; M. Henwood, J.W. 1,164; J. Slade, S.W. 977; J. Maxwell, P.M. 121; G. S. Denbigh, P.M. P.J.G.D.; Rev. G. L. Church, Chap.; J. Nines, P.M. 699, P. Prov. G. Reg.; W. P. Hugo, P.M. 699; J. Holman, I.G. 699; W. H. Pascoe, S. 589; W. J. Johns, P.M. 131, P. Prov. G. Reg.; S. Mitchell, W.M. 699; M. Hall, J.D. 699; W. Mitchell, P.M. 121; E. Penman, P.M. 589, Prov. J.G.D.; E. T. Carlyon, P.M. 331, Prov. S.G.W. and Prov. G. Sec.; E. G. Dyke, S.D., P. Prov. G. Org.; Philip Giles, S.W. 496; J. Grose, I.G. 496; J. Grigg, P.M. 496; J. McLean, P. Prov. S.G.D.; T. L. Dorrington, S.W. 131; W. Bray, P.M. 699; R. Bodilly, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D.; S. G. Moyle, P.M. 699, P. Prov. S.G.D.; E. D. Anderton, P.M. 331; J. A. Trevor, J.D. 118; W. Middleton, S.D. 131; W. H. Christoe, P.M. 331; M. Little, S.D. 75; Rev. Dr. John Bannister, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chap.; G. A. Jenkins, P.M. P. Prov. G. Reg.; E. Huxtable, P.M. 135; T. Davy, jun., P.M. 589; M. Abrahams, P.M. 131; J. Bray, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Poole, P.S.W. 450; H. T. Ferguson, S.W. 331, &c.

The Provincial Grand Lodge being duly assembled, the R.W. the Grand Master proceeded to open it in due form.

Bro. Hughan read the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Helston, on the 16th July, 1869, which were duly confirmed.

Bro. William Tweedy, Prov. G. Sec., presented his report of the finances of Prov. G. Lodge from June 19, 1869, to June 20, 1870.

The Prov. G. Sec. next gave an account of the number of members in the Province. There were last year 825 members; now there were 834, being an increase of nine. They had to be thankful for the success that had attended their candidates for the benevolent institutions. In the girls' school the candidate supported was from Devon, the daughter of the late Bro. Mackay. The Prov. Grand Master and the province gave all the votes for the girl, though he was sorry to say that these amounted to only 24. They had given 90 votes to the Prov. G.M. of Leicestershire, on the understanding that they would have similar support from

him, as has been the case before. Forty-four votes were given for a brother at Liverpool, in return for which they had Widows' votes, which were given to Mrs. White, of Bodmin, but of four that they had supported they had carried three, so that they had been very successful in the use of their funds.

Bro. Chirgwin wished to state that the young Treleavin, of Truro, left the school this week, and had a good situation obtained for him.

Bro. Captain Colvill returned thanks on behalf of Mrs. White to the Prov. G. Lodges of Cornwall and Devon for the support that they had given to her, and the family were deeply grateful for it.

The Prov. G. Master said that the position in which they stood was very satisfactory; they had carried their own candidate, and had rendered service to others. He thought it would be desirable if the Prov. G. Sec. printed a synopsis of the statements contained in his report.

Bro. Chirgwin then read his statement of the accounts of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund, which showed receipts by subscriptions and donations from 11 lodges, £125 13s. 6d., against £119 8s. 6d. in the year 1869.

Bro. R. Rogers called attention to the great good that had been done to this fund, and remarked that it was not quite satisfactory that only eleven lodges had made returns for this fund out of twenty-four. He hoped that they would act better in the coming years.

The Prov. G.M. pointed out the advantages arising from this fund. They had two annuitants, and they were in a fair way of having money enough to put on a third if it should be necessary. He should propose that something should be done in the way of a scholarship for five years with a portion of their funds. This they should consider in the course of the day. While they had not received a return from half the lodges, they yet had to-day £125 to add to their stock; and if the lodges took it up, which he was sure they would by degrees, they would have much more than that sum. He then moved that the Treasurer's report be received and adopted, which was carried unanimously.

The next subject was to consider and report on the report of the committee for relief. Mr. Rogers stated that there was only one petition, and on that they had granted £2 to the widow of a deceased brother at Fowey. Some discussion arose upon this. Bro. Chirgwin called attention to the law, which stated that petitions should only be received from distressed brethren. This led to some discussion, and it was thought for a time that the poor widow was out of court through the operation of a "hard and fast line;" but that was not so. Soon after Bro. Rogers proposed that £20 should be given to the Widows' Fund; whereupon Bro. T. Solomon said that it seemed hard that while they were talking about giving £20 to the Widows' Fund of the general institution, they could not give £2 to the widow of a brother whom they all knew and respected. He should move that they vote £5 out of their funds to relieve her. Sir F. M. Williams seconded the motion. This was at once agreed to, and £20 was voted also to the Widows' Fund. On the motion of Bro. Carlyon, £20 was also voted to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity fund. Bro. R. Rogers next proposed £10 10s. for the Girls' School, which, seconded by Bro. Dr. Banister, was agreed to. Bro. Chirgwin then proposed £10 10s. for the Boys' School, which was seconded by Bro. Hughan, and carried unanimously. The V.W. brother highly eulogised Bro. Binckes for the kind manner in which he (the Secretary of the Boys' School) had treated all their boys. It was a most fatherly kindness.

Bro. R. Rogers was then elected Treasurer, Bro. Chirgwin Secretary for the Annuity Fund, Bros. Reed, Mayne, and Solomons were elected auditors.

Bro. Rogers then moved the following by-law, which was passed as amended in these terms:—"No person resident in any town or place where a lodge is established shall be balloted for into any lodge held elsewhere within this province, unless the Master of the lodge wherein he so seeks admission, shall previously make inquiry, in writing, of the Master of every lodge in the town or nearest the place where the candidate resides, touching the fitness of such candidate. The brother, of whom such inquiry is made, shall make prompt reply in writing, and it shall be incumbent on the Master to read the reply to the members of the lodge before the ballot is taken."

The R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Devon spoke in favour of this motion as so amended.

It being now 12 o'clock, the remainder of the business was postponed till after service.

The brethren then proceeded in procession to St. Mary's

Church, to hear a sermon by the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. F. B. Paul, preceded by two bands—those of the Truro and Falmouth Volunteers.

The procession returned in the same order to the new lodge-room, which the Prov. G. Master now proceeded to dedicate in ancient form.

The general business was then resumed, and the Prov. G.M. made the following appointments of officers for the year ensuing: Bros. Reginald Rogers, D. Prov. G.M.; J. O. Mayne, Prov. G.S.W.; C. Kerswill, Prov. G.J.W.; J. B. Paul, Prov. G. Chap.; H. B. Bullocke, Assist. Prov. G. Chap.; W. Tweedy, Prov. G. Treas.; P. G. Hill, Prov. G. Reg.; W. J. Hughan, Prov. G. Sec.; P. Taylor, Prov. G.S.D.; J. G. Richards, Prov. G.J.D.; F. Harvey, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; R. John, Prov. G.D.W.; W. Mitchell, Assist. Prov. G.D.W.; A. Wilyams, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Hele, Prov. G. Org.; S. Harvey, Prov. G. Purst.; H. Veale, W. C. Oke, E. D. Anterton, J. Coombe, W. H. Christoe, and W. Lake, Prov. G. Stewards; W. Rookes, P.G.I.G.; J. Langdon, Tyler,

Bros. Carlyon, Tweedy, and Jenkins were elected on committee of petitions for relief.

It was agreed that one-fifth of the collection should be given to the clergyman of St. Mary for charitable purposes, two-fifths for the infirmary, and two-fifths to the Cornwall Annuity Fund.

On the motion of Bro. Rogers, a committee was formed to consider and bring up a report on the question referred to by the Grand Master—that of forming a fund for scholarships. The Prov. G.M., G. Wardens, the Treasurer, and the officers of the Annuity Fund form the committee, Bro. Hughan being left out at his own request.

The Prov. G. Master expressed a desire that the Grand Lodge should have its own furniture, and stated that he would himself give three chairs for the lodge, and probably other brethren would also contribute.

The business closed, the brethren proceeded to the concert room, where an excellent dinner had been provided by Bro. Bray, of the Red Lion Hotel. There were about two hundred brethren present. The Prov. G. Master presided with his accustomed felicity and *bonhomie*. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, and a most pleasant day was passed.

KENT.

RAMSGATE.—*Royal Navy Lodge* (No. 420).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 6th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Bro. A. Twyman, W.M., occupied the chair. There were also present:—Bros. J. J. Darby, S.W.; W. Winch, J.W.; Rolfe, P.M., as S.D.; Hazeltine, J.D.; Caull, as I.G.; P.M.'s, Rev. W. Sicklemore, P.S.G.W.; Snowden, P. Prov. G.J.W.; Finch, P. Prov. G.D., and Curtis, Org. The lodge having been opened, Messrs. E. C. Snell and W. Trayte, were duly initiated into the Order by the W.M., who performed the ceremony in an impressive manner. Bros. A. Green, Nos. 7 and 285, R. B. Webster, J.W. 143, J. O. Eave, 1,209 and H. M. Levy, P.M., 188, were present as visitors.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

SOUTHPORT.

Consecration of Fermor Lodge (No. 1,313).

The flourishing watering-place of Southport has just given a pleasing proof of its progress by the establishment of a new lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Many highly respectable residents having, during the last eighteen months, been admitted to the Craft, it has been thought desirable to constitute a second lodge, the first—Lodge of Unity, No. 613—which has been in existence fifteen or sixteen years, having now a goodly number of members, and the approval of the Prov. G. Lodge of West Lancashire having been obtained, the solemn and impressive ceremony of consecration was performed in the presence of a large number of brethren, under the presidency of Bro. Thomas Wylie, Prov. G. Reg. &c., at the Masonic Hall, Wright-street, Southport.

The presiding officer nominated as his Wardens, Bros. Robt. Wylie, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; and Jeffries, P.M. Lodge of Unity, 613, Bro. Thomas Marsh, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., officiated as Dir. of Cers., and most ably discharged his duties. The other Worshipful brethren taking part in the ceremonial were Bro. H. G. Vernon as Prov. G. Chap.; assisted by Bros. Rev. C. R. Hyde, 105; H. S. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec.; Thomas Armstrong, P. Prov. J.G.D., Dir. of Musical Services; and J.

Skenf, Prov. G. Org., who presided at the organ, and was assisted by an efficient choir. After the lodge had been duly opened in the three degrees, prayer was offered, and the presiding officer delivered a brief address, stating the nature of the meeting. The petition to the M.W. Grand Master of England and Wales, and the warrant constituting the lodge was then read by Bro. Alpass, Prov. G. Sec., and the petitioning brethren having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the Prov. G. Chaplain delivered an oration on the principles of the Craft, showing its excellencies and its harmony with science and religion. The grand anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," was then finely rendered by the choir, and the consecration prayer was offered. Then followed the interesting and imposing ceremonial of carrying corn, wine, oil, and salt three times round the lodge, during which Bro. the Rev. Dr. Hyde very impressively read selected portions of scripture. Them anthem—"Glory be to God on high" was then sung. The Prov. G. Chaplain carried incense three times round the lodge; another anthem was sung, and the presiding officer solemnly dedicated and constituted the lodge, pointing out to the brethren the duty which devolved upon them, to cultivate brotherly love and benevolence, and to walk in the paths of virtue and science. The closing prayer was then offered, the "Hallelujah" was sung, and the sublime ceremony was concluded.

The installation of Bro. James Platt, P.M. of Lodge Unity, 613, as the first Master of the Fermor Lodge, 1313, was then conducted with due solemnity by Bro. Thomas Wylie. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Bros. D. Elias, M.D., S.W.; J. Wilkinson, J.W.; W. Dodd, Treas.; B. L. Green, Sec.; J. A. Thompson, S.D.; R. Sharrock, J.D.; and James Hartley, Tyler.

The lodge having been closed, an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. F. Herrmann, of the Albert Hotel, followed, the W.M. presiding, supported by most of the brethren who had taken part in the consecration ceremony, and several others.

When the cloth was drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were felicitously given and heartily responded to. In proposing "The Health of Sir T. G. Fermor Hesketh, M.P., Prov. G.M. West Lancashire, and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers," the W.M. specially referred to the services rendered to Freemasonry, and especially to the brethren interested in the formation of Fermor Lodge by Bro. Alpass, the Prov. G. Sec.

Bro. Alpass, in responding, expressed the pleasure which he was sure would be felt by Sir Thomas Hesketh at the formation of the new lodge. Freemasonry was now better understood and more highly approved by thinking men than was the case previously, and throughout the province a higher tone prevails. If the brethren generally are careful to admit only true and worthy men, the Craft will flourish, and the officers will be men who will do honour to the fraternity. When consulted with reference to the proposal to form a second lodge in Southport, he cordially approved of it, and hoped that the two lodges would work together in harmony, and that the principles of love and good will would ever characterise their proceedings.

In proposing "The Health of Bro. Thomas Wylie, Prov. G. Reg." the W.M. stated, that in examining the Tyler's book of Lodge Unity, No. 613, he found that Bro. Wylie was the Provincial Grand Officer then present, who had taken part in its consecration, and that to him they were indebted for having suggested the name which their new lodge bore.

Bro. Wylie, in responding, spoke of the remembrances which naturally came before him in thinking of the consecration of Lodge 613, fifteen or sixteen years ago, and he specially referred to the fact that many of the brethren had, during that time, been transferred to the Grand Lodge above. He had often thought if every Mason would only act up to the grand principles they professed, how happy would the world be, for all would then act together in hearty fellowship for the promotion of brotherly love, relief, and truth. The foundation of all our actions is to do all to the praise and glory of the Great Architect of the Universe, and to diffuse the holy and brotherly principles of that Book on which Freemasonry is founded. An experience of thirty years in the Craft had taught him much, and he was rejoiced to bear his testimony to the hearty feelings of fraternal regard, which in times of need were so promptly and generously exhibited on every hand. He had known many instances in which true Masonic conduct had been displayed for the assistance of those upon whom it had pleased the Great Architect to lay His afflictive hand. Such were the principles on which Freemasonry was founded and carried out, and let

Ecumenical Councils say what they pleased, and send out whatever bulls they chose, the pure and exalted principles of Freemasonry would continue to flourish throughout the whole world. Most heartily did he wish great success to the Fernor Lodge, and that the W.M. and his officers would have much happiness in the performance of their duties.

"The Health of Bro. James Hamer, Prov. G. Treas.," who was unavoidably absent in consequence of having to instal a W.M. of a lodge in Liverpool—was then heartily given, and was followed by "The Health of the Provincial Grand Chaplain and Bro. the Rev. Dr. Hyde," both of whom responded in suitable terms. "The Healths of the other Visiting Brethren" was then proposed, and responded to by one of them.

Bro. Jeffries, P.M. 613, then proposed "The Health of Bro. Platt, the newly-installed Master of Lodge 1,313," and referred to his long acquaintance with him, and his high esteem for him, in and out of lodge.

Bro. Platt, W.M. 1,313, briefly responded, and expressed his intention of doing his utmost for the prosperity of Fernor Lodge, and for the general interests of Freemasonry.

The remaining toasts were "The Newly-invested Officers," to which Bro. Green, Sec., replied; "The W.M. of Lodge 613," who was unavoidably absent; "The Wardens and Officers of Lodge 613," to which Bro. W. Dodd, S.W., replied; "Our Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bro. W. Howells, P. Prov. S.G.W., P.M. 347; Bro. Stecker, P.M. 613; Bro. S. Baylis, 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh; and Bro. Jeffries, P.M. 613.

The evening was most pleasantly spent, and its enjoyment considerably increased, by the able manner in which Bros. Armstrong, P. Prov. J.G.D. West Lancashire; C. Haswell, 203; W. Jones, P.M. 216; and P. J. Hughes, 216, sang several glees and songs, most of which were accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. J. Skeaif, Prov. G. Org. West Lancashire, who, we ought not to forget to mention, is the composer of the music to which the anthems, &c., were sung at the ceremony of consecration.

LANCASTER.—*Lodge of Fortitude* (No. 281).—The regular meeting of this old established and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Athenaeum, on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The chair of K.S. was occupied by the W.M., Bro. John Hatch, who was supported by the following officers and brethren:—Bros. E. Storey, I.P.M.; C. Hartley, S.W.; John Barrow, J.W.; Edmund Simpson, P.M. and Sec.; W. J. Sly as S.D.; Bell, J.D.; Taylor as I.G.; Whinpray, P.M.; Dr. Moore, P.M. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Masbeder, Beesley, Watson, and Beeley. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed and the usual business transacted, Bro. Moore read a reply that he had received from Mrs. W. Bramwell Smith to the vote of condolence and sympathy from the lodge on the occasion of the death of her husband. The W.M. stated that it was his duty to cause the by-laws of the lodge to be read at least once during his year of office, fortunately for the prosperity of the lodge, this was the first evening since his installation that they had not been fully occupied, he therefore took this, the earliest opportunity of calling upon the secretary, Bro. P. M. Simpson to read them. There being no other business before the lodge, it was closed in due form.

MIDDLESEX.

HAMPTON COURT.—*Carnarvon Lodge* (No. 768).—A considerable number of the brethren of this very select lodge met on Wednesday, the 13th inst. at the Mitre Hotel, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. When the other business was disposed of, the retiring W.M. vacated the chair, which was then occupied by Bro. H. C. Finch, P.M. and Sec.; and Bro. W. T. Jones (formerly S.D. of the lodge) the W.M. elect, having been presented was in due form inducted into the chair, according to ancient form and circumstances. The newly-appointed W.M. then invested his officers, addressing each most appropriately regarding his duties. The lodge was shortly afterwards closed and the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet provided by the worthy host, Mr. Sadler, with every delicacy in season.

HAMPTON.—*Consecration of the Lebanon Lodge* (No. 1,326).—On Saturday, the 16th inst., this lodge was consecrated at the Lion Hotel, Thomas-street, Hampton, making the twelfth lodge in the Province. Bro. Col. F. Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex, having been received with all due honours, appointed, as the consecrating officers, Bros. R. W. Little, Prov. G. Sec., of Middlesex, as W.M.; J. Hervey, G. Sec., as S.W.; S.

Rosenthal, P.M., as J.W.; H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas. of Middlesex, as Dir. of Cers.; and J. Terry, Prov. G.S.B., as Chap. The ceremony of the consecration was ably and impressively performed. Bro. F. Walters, W.M. 1309, installed Bro. John Thomas Moss, W.M. 169, as the W.M., who then invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. R. W. Little, as I.P.M.; S. Wickens, S.W.; W. Harvey, J.W.; D. D. Beck, Treas.; F. Walter, P.M., Sec.; R. Bowman, J.D.; J. F. Woodley, J.D.; G. Banks, I.G.; C. J. B. Plestow, Dir. of Cers.; J. Baven, P.M., Tyler. A vote of thanks was given unanimously to Bro. R. W. Little for his services in consecrating the lodge, and the same ordered to be entered upon the lodge minutes. He was also unanimously elected an honorary member of the lodge. Both these compliments were duly acknowledged by Bro. R. W. Little in a suitable speech. Votes of thanks, to be entered on the lodge minutes, were also given to Bro. J. Hervey, G. Sec., and all the other brethren who had kindly assisted as officers of the lodge during the ceremony of consecration. Bro. J. Hervey, G. Sec., made an excellent reply to this compliment. Bro. Walters, P.M. & Sec., proposed, and it was carried unanimously, that the following brethren be elected to serve as Stewards to represent this lodge at the forthcoming festivals of the Masonic Charities for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. John Thomas Moss, W.M., for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons; William Harvey, J.W., for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; John Frederic Woodley, J.D., for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Twelve names of gentlemen were given as candidates for initiates into Masonry; also six brethren as joining members. It was decided to hold an emergency meeting of the lodge on Saturday, the 30th inst., at 4 o'clock p.m. The business being completed, the lodge was duly closed. The only mar to the pleasures of the consecration was the announcement of the death of Bro. George England, jun., I.G. 33, and with his father one of the founders of this lodge. He was so universally respected that his death caused a gloom wherever he was known. The Secretary read a long list of letters of apology from several brethren holding distinguished positions in Grand Lodge, also in the Prov. G. Lodge of Middlesex, expressing their regret of their inability to attend the consecration. An excellent banquet was served; the wines were excellent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received. After a few hours most agreeably spent, the brethren separated. There were present besides those named:—Bros. W. Hammond, P.M.; R. J. Elsam, P.M.; G. J. Loe, and many others. The visitors were:—Bros. F. Burdett, Prov. G.M. of Middlesex; J. Hervey, Prov. G.D., G. Sec.; S. Rosenthal, P.M. 92; H. Potter, P.M. 11; H. G. Buss, Prov. G. Treas. Middlesex; G. J. Hillstead, 169; J. T. H. Moss, 169; F. Holmes, 169; W. Mann Will, 1,306; J. Terry, W.M. 1,278; G. Haines, 216; J. E. H. Ross, 230, and several others whose names we were unable to obtain.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—*Siberian Lodge* (No. 471).—On Monday, the 18th inst., a lodge of emergency was held at the Masonic Hall. The W.M., Bro. the Rev. S. Fox, Prov. G. Chap. in the chair, and there was a very large attendance owing to the fact that the W.M. of the Bute Lodge 960, Cardiff, had notified his intention to be present with his officers and members of that lodge to hear, witness, and judge for themselves, the very excellent musical arrangements introduced into the Newport lodges by Bro. Groves, Prov. G. Org. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes read, also the requisition to the W.M. to convene the meeting, Bros. Powell, Penymore and Harford, being in attendance, were examined as to the progress each had made as E.A. Freemasons, and their answers proving satisfactory, those brothers retired, and the lodge was opened in the second degree, when the three gentlemen above named were passed to the degree of F.C. Freemasons, the ceremony being most correctly rendered by the W.M. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, and Bro. Fox in his usual complimentary style, warmly thanked the Bute brethren for their attendance, and kindly invited them into the committee room to partake of a glass of wine with the brethren of 471, this offer was most cordially accepted, and on their return into the lodge room, Bro. Ware, W.M. 960, on behalf of the brethren of this lodge, heartily thanked the brothers of 471 for their kind genuine hospitality, and expressed their high gratification at witnessing the splendid working of 471, and the musical treat they had all enjoyed. He also said the bre-

thren of 960 intended in the course of the month to have a days outing at Tintern and Chepstow, and he invited one and all present to go with them, but as the train and tide would wait for no man, and the Cardiff brethren had to leave early, he hoped soon to have another social merry meeting. The lodge was closed in harmony at about 8.30 p.m.

PONTYPOOL.—*Kennard Lodge* (No. 1,258).—The usual monthly meeting took place in the lodge room, at the Clarence Hotel, on Monday, the 18th inst. The W.M., Bro. Henry Martyn Kennard, in the chair. There was also a very fair attendance of members. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, the W.M. reported that in pursuance of the resolution passed at the last meeting, he had forwarded to the widow of the late beloved P.G.M., the address of condolence then agreed to, and he now read Mrs. Roll's reply which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The ballot took place, when Bro. Joseph Brookes of Pontypool, was unanimously admitted as a subscribing member. Bros. Mitchell and Rieborde being in attendance, were exalted in open lodge as to the progress they had made as E.A. Freemasons, and their answers proving satisfactory, those brothers retired, when the lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Mitchell and Richards were passed to the degree of F.C. Freemasons, the ceremony being most correctly rendered by the W.M. P.M. Bro. Buer gave an explanation of the second tracing board, which was listened to with much attention. The lodge was then closed down. Three new candidates were proposed for the next meeting, and after some ordinary routine business had been transacted, the lodge was closed in harmony at 8 p.m.

SCOTTISH CONSTITUTION.

AYRSHIRE.

CROFTHEAD (NEAR GREENBURN).—*St. Andrew's Lodge* (No. 380).—The brethren of this lodge met in their lodge room for the selection of office bearers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz.:—Bros. Thomas Gowans, R.W.M.; W. Love, S.W.; John Weir, J.W.; Thomas Adams, D.M.; George Williamson, S.M.; Hugh Sloan, P.S.; John Dalrymple, Sec.; Alex. Weir, Treas.; J. B. Wood, Chap.; James Kerr, S.D.; Thomas Brown, J.D.; James Paratee, Inner Guard; James Purdie, M.W.R.; Thomas McCall, O.G. The brethren afterwards engaged themselves in a true Masonic style with song and sentiment until high twelve, when they parted for the night, to meet the next morning at 5 o'clock to join their friends at the Faulkhouse station of the Caledonian Railway for their annual trip, which was this year to the ancient town of Ayr and back. In a short time after the arrival of the train in Ayr the principal places were visited, such as Burn's monument, the old bridge of Doon, and the old clay biggin where our national bard first saw the light of day. After enjoying themselves on the banks of the Doon to the stirring strains of an excellent brass band and lead by Bro. W. Grame, they returned to Ayr by the racecourse, where on the green sward dancing commenced, the music supplied by Bros. Grame and Haddie. On returning again to Ayr they sat down to an excellent dinner in the Sun Inn, where the duties of the chair was efficiently performed by Bro. H. Sloan the retiring R.W.M. After a number of songs, &c., were sung, the brethren paraded the principle streets and returned to the station amid the plaudits of the people. Upwards of 500 joined in the trip, and the greatest harmony prevailed. On their return, the brethren adjourned to the lodge, which was closed in due form by the R.W.M.

IRELAND.

WATERFORD.

WATERFORD.—*Provincial Grand Lodge (South-Eastern District)*.—The quarterly meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, The Mall, Waterford, on the 16th inst. The R.W. Sir John Keane, *Bart.*, Prov. G.M., occupied the throne. There were also present Bros. Abraham Denny, D. Prov. G.M.; Gerald Fitzgerald, of Lodge 44, G.S.W.; Henry Sargent, of Lodge 5, J.G.W.; Tarrant, and a large number of the brethren of Lodge 33; also Bro. Cousin, W.M., from Kilkenny, and brethren from Carlow. After the Grand Lodge

business, including the appointment of Prov. G. Officers, was disposed of, the brethren adjourned for refreshment, the Prov. G.M., Bro. Sir John Keane, presiding, and after spending a delightful evening, the brethren separated in peace, love, and harmony.

LIMERICK.

LIMERICK.—*Triune Lodge* (No. 333).—This lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John at Bro. Fogerty's Rooms, Henry-street, on Tuesday evening. The chair was occupied by Bro. C. M. Wilson, W.M., and subsequently by the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Jas. Spaight. Bro. Spong acted as S.W., and Bro. Fogerty, J.W., who did everything in his power to have the reunion worthy of Lodge 333. The W.Ms. of the district were invited. Bro. Lando, W.M. of 13, and Bro. G. W. Bassett, W.M. of 73, attended. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, several songs were sung, and the brethren did not separate without caring for the wants of their poor and distressed brethren all over the world, when a handsome collection was taken up for that purpose. The D. Prov. G.M. gave the toast of "The Memory of the late Prov. G.M., Bro. Michael Funnell, D.L., 33," which was drunk in solemn silence. The brethren separated, highly pleased with the evening's enjoyment.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

CAVEAC CHAPTER (No. 176).—A regular meeting of this chapter was held on the 7th inst., at Radley's Hotel, Comp. J. Lacey, M.E.Z. presided. The election of officers for the ensuing year proved unanimous in favour of Comps. P. A. Nairne, Z.; P. Browne, H.; M. Scott, J.; F. Walters, P.Z., Treas. (re-elected); R. S. Foreman, S.E.; A. Williams, S.N.; T. Quillhampton, P.S. A P.Z.'s jewel of the value of five guineas was unanimously voted to J. Lacey, for his services as M.E.Z. The companions then adjourned to the banquet.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Chapter* (No. 310).—The annual convocation was held on Tuesday, the 12th inst., and was opened in due form by Comps. W. Murray, Z.; G. G. Hayward, H.; A. Woodhouse, J. The minutes of a former meeting were read and confirmed. After which, Comp. A. Woodhouse was installed H. for the Holy Temple Chapter No. 595, Longtown, by Comp. J. W. Hayward, P.Z. Visiting Comp. James Porter, J., of the Ulverston Chapter. The chapter was duly closed, and all parted in harmony.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Chapter* (No. 710).—On Wednesday, July 13th, at noon, the quarterly meeting of this chapter was held, and formed no exception to the general slackness in Freemasonry which has prevailed lately, only one ceremony in either of the three departments having been performed during the last few months. As a natural consequence, such opportunities of leisure not being taken advantage of to afford instruction by lectures or otherwise, the brethren become careless and the attendance is scanty. On this occasion two brethren resident at some distance were expected as candidates, but it was perhaps fortunate that they did not attend. In the unavoidable absence of the 1st and 3rd Principals, the chair of Z. was taken by Ex. Comp. Dr. Hopkins, I.P.Z., that of H. by Ex. Comp. Marks, that of J. by Ex. Comp. the Rev. R. Bowden, P.Z., Comp. Glanfield was in his place as Prin. Sejr., Comps. Oldrey, Assist. Sejr., and Niner, Scribe E., who was called upon to read the minutes of the previous meeting and they were confirmed. No other business offering, the chapter was closed.

MARK MASONRY.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CUMBERLAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 60).—The annual meeting postponed from May 3rd until July 12th, was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Castle-street. The lodge was opened in ample form by the W.M., Bro. W. Johnston. The minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed.

Bro. G. G. Hayward, P.M. G.I.G., at the request of the W.M., then occupied the chair in the east. The S.W. and acting Sec., Bro. A. Woodhouse, was conducted to the pedestal when he received the O.B., after which, a board of Installed Masters were formed, and Bro. Woodhouse was properly inducted into the chair. The brethren were re-admitted and saluted the W.M. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. Johnston, I.P.M.; J. Porter, S.W.; W. Court, J.W.; W. Pratchitt, M.O.; F. W. Hayward, P.M., P.G.J.D. as S.O. and Treas.; J. Nicholson, J.O.; R. James, S.D.; J. Wood, J.D.; T. Blacklock, P.M., P.G.S. as I.G.; John Barnes, Tyler. Bro. G. G. Hayward acted as Installing Master and performed his duty well. In answer to the usual questions it was proposed and carried that the sum of £2s. be forwarded to Bro. F. Binckes, G. Sec., as a donation towards the Mark Masters Benevolent Fund. Two gentlemen, Bros. G. Shannon, M.D., and Thomas McMichan, both of Wigton, Cumberland, are to be advanced in August next. The lodge was then duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment room, where the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were severally drunk, all parting in that peace and love that so characterises this lodge.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—*Pleiades Lodge* (No. 26).—The quarterly meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, at 6.30 p.m., on Wednesday, the 13th inst. The W.M. having been called away by urgent business, the chair was taken by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. & Past G.J.W. He was supported by the Wardens, Bros. Glanfield and Niner; Rev. R. Bowden, I.P.M., and Bro. Marks, Reg. The rest of the officers being absent, their places were supplied by Bro. Oldrey, as S.D., and others. The lodge was opened in the usual form, but the minutes could not be read and confirmed, as the Secretary had not brought or sent the books. Bro. Watson, of Torquay, was duly admitted to the degree of Mark Master by the acting W.M. No other business offering, the lodge was closed at about 8 p.m.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

INDIA.

MADRAS.—*Supreme Grand Conclave.*

At a meeting of the Supreme Grand Conclave held in London, December 10, 1869, Sir Knt. Arthur Macdonald Ritchie attended to do homage on his appointment as Prov. Grand Commander for Madras, and V.E. Knt. Col. A. T. Greenlaw, Prov. G. Commander of British Burmah, now at Madras, was directed to act as his Deputy during V.E. Com. Ritchie's absence consequent on this order. V.E. Sir Knt. Col. A. S. Greenlaw established the Prov. G. Conclave at Madras on May 30, 1870. The following are the officers of the Prov. G. Conclave:—

V.E. Sir Knts. Ritchie, Prov. G. Com.; Greenlaw, P. G. Com. B. Burmah, P.G.D. Com.; J. Miller, P.G. 1st Capt.; J. Mills, 2nd Capt.; Greatorex, Chancellor; Branson, Registrar; Coleman, Treasurer; Joyes, Chamberlain; M. F. Miller, Hospitalier; Gardner, Dir. of Cers.; Fraser, Supt. of Works; Smithers, Marechal; Gadsden, Provost; Lewis, Almoner; Murray, Expert; Cardogo, Nar. Regalia; Vincent, 1st Standard Bearer; Lyster, 2nd Standard Bearer; Jesudasen, Aide de Camp; H. Tate, Capt. Lines; Pearse, 1st Herald; Price, 2nd Herald; C. Tait, Org.; Wright, Banner Bearer; Axelby, Equerry; Frater Monisse, Assist. Equerry; Joyes and Nither, Stewards.

Sir Knt. Greenlaw has done much for Masonry here, and it is hoped that when R.W. Bro. Ritchie returns, which he will do next month, that Masonry will make an advance in Madras.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

SUNDERLAND.

MASONIC PIC-NIC.

Among the principal promoters of this fête, which took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst., may be mentioned the W.M. of the Williamson Lodge, Bro. Robert Hudson; the W.M. of the St. John's Lodge, Bro. Robt. Dixon; and Bro. W. H. Crookes, P.M. and P.G.S. The number of tickets sold was nearly 300, confined strictly to the members of the Craft and their respective fami-

lies. The journey was from Sunderland to Gilsland, a distance of fifty miles on the direct route for Carlisle, and the time of starting 7.30 a.m.

The assembling at the Monkwearmouth Station was a scene quite pleasant to witness—the faces of young and old beaming with anticipation in the morning light—for the sun had not yet looked out “from the chambers of the east,” but was busy there, edging the grey clouds with a golden lustre, giving a promise of gladness to the coming day. After the many friendly greetings, and the bustle usual on such occasions to secure places, the whistle of the guard and the snortings of “puffing Billy,” proclaimed the train in motion, and which was soon rattling along at the rate of twenty miles an hour. In a twinkling we were in sight of “canny Newcastle,” we see Benwell Town in the distance, where dwelt that local celebrity “Billy Oliver”—he was “sic a cliver chap.” Passing through Blaydon, we are reminded of its heroes—Joseph Cowen and Son—ever foremost in the vanguard of social and political liberty, and labouring incessantly for the moral and intellectual elevation of the industrial community. Manifold are the objects of interest that border our path as we are carried along. The ruins of Prudoc Castle look grand and graceful from the top of the top of the hill, though “the long grass o’ertops its mouldering walls;” Dilston Castle and the Derwentwater Estate command special attention from the belligerent fashion in which a countess of that name has lately pushed her claims to its honours and emoluments. But, on, on! we go, like the “gallant six hundred” through one of the most fertile and picturesque valleys in the north, hill and plain, wood and water, alternately come in view, at times going through a forest of trees, while glintings from the face of old Father Tyne, through their branches, bespangle our path as we roll on. We halt at the fine of old town of Hexham; doors are flung open—a rush is made—and “prodigious” the contents of orange stalls and fruit baskets are quickly transferred from the platform to the carriages, and are spread, that all may share; feelings of *mine* and *thine* at once lose sway—make free, they are *ours* and *yours*—with feasting and jollity, no anxiety is felt for the end of the journey, and are even surprised when the train is brought to a standstill at Rosehill Station, Gilsland.

Mr. Gelard's famous hotel (the place of our destination) is in full view before us, about two miles distant, stretching its large dimensions along the brow of a beautiful green hill. Breaks and waggonettes are in great demand, while some prefer to walk, by bridge and stile and rural footpath, and all meet simultaneously at the place appointed. It is yet two hours to luncheon time, and the party sally off in groups to visit the various objects of interest in the vicinity; some to Orchard Hall, half hidden in the green woodlands; others to the Sulphur Springs, where the green and grey rocks rise perpendicularly a hundred feet above your heads; some wend their way to the Roman Wall; others to the “Popping-stone,” where it is said that Sir Walter Scott popped the question to his blushing fair one—youngsters carry away splinters from this stone, that a speedy marriage, with the one of their choice, may be effected;—some go to see Written Craggs, on the river Gelt; others to the grave of Megg Dobbs, in Denton churchyard, and to view Mumps Hall, her residence, rendered famous by Sir Walter Scott, in “Guy Maunering.” The parties return, and a festive scene ensues; a range of tables, fifty yards long, placed in an avenue of trees, and loaded with every dainty, met the eye, and to which full justice was soon done, when the sound of the cornet proclaimed that the band had already taken its place on the green. Hither flocked the grave and gay, sportive youth and sober age, the one to join in the “light, fantastic” dance, the other to look on with smiles of approbation; some to toss the ball or throw the bowl, or join in quiet conversation. It was a sight for strangers to see how Masons could deport themselves, on such a

jubilant occasion, and gave a grand manifestation of the fraternising tendencies of the Order, but—

"The hour approaches we must ride,"
and the road back to Rosehill is lined with vehicles and pedestrians. The train is waiting, and all get properly seated, and we return homewards, while mirth and merriment resounds in every carriage. Suffice to say; hat we arrived all safe at Monkwearmouth Station, escaping all collisions save the collision of hands that now takes place, as a valedictory blessing, e'er each take their way to their respective homes.—*From a Correspondent.*

Obituary.

BRO. HENRY DOWELL,

Of the Beadon Lodge (No. 619) and New Wandsworth (No. 1,044)

We have to announce the death of our much lamented Bro. Henry Dowell, who died after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude, on the 2nd inst., at the early age of 34. Our deceased brother, though an able exponent of our noble Order, never aspired to the chair of K.S., preferring to see it occupied by those who could devote the time necessary to make them worthy representatives of the same, and for which his lodge has become so well known. To the very last Bro. Dowell continued to be a faithful and amiable Mason, practising that greatest of all theological virtues—charity.

It was a melancholy satisfaction to his family to witness the respect paid to his memory by those personally acquainted with him—his brother Masons. His surviving family, while mourning their irreparable loss, have cause to be thankful to the Great Architect of the Universe that he was spared to make ample provision for his widow and family. May his soul rest in peace. His remains were interred in the family grave at the London Cemetery, Ilford, on the 9th inst., followed by several of the brethren.

LIST OF LODGE MEETINGS, &c., FOR WEEK ENDING 30TH, JULY 1870.

(Abbreviations.—F.M.H., Freemasons' Hall; M.H., Masonic Hall; M.T., Masonic Temple; Tav., Tavern; Ho., Hotel; Ro. Rooms; L., Lodge; St., Street; Sq., Square).

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, July 25th.

LODGE.—British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tav., Bancroft-pl., Mile End.

Tuesday, July 26th.

LODGES.—Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, King-st., St. James's.

Wednesday, July 27th.

LODGES.—United Pilgrims, Horns' Tav., Kennington; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Hotel, St. John's-wood; High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tav., High-st., Deptford; Temperance in the East, Pri. Ass. Ro., 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.

Thursday, July 28th.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at F.M.H., at 4.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Monday, July 25th.

Temple, Old George, St. Mary Axe, E.C.; Justice, Royal Albert New Cross-rd., Deptford; Old Concord, Turk's Head, Motcombe-st., Belgrave-sq.; Sincerity, Railway Tav., London-st.; St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.; Industry, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-st.; Crystal Palace, City Arms Tav., West-sq., Southwark; High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham; Tower Hamlets Engineers, Duke of Clarence, Commercial-rd., East; Eastern Star Royal Ho., Burdett-rd.,

Mile-end-rd.; Camden, Adelaide Tav., Haverstock Hill; British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tav., Mile End.

Tuesday, July 26th.

Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metrop. Dist. Rail., Victoria Station Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's-wood; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane; Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-st.; New Wandsworth, Freemasons' Ho., New Wandsworth; Rose of Denmark, George Ho., Aldermanbury; Metropolitan, George Ho., Aldermanbury.—CHAPTER.—Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane.

Wednesday, July 27th.

Confidence, Railway Tav., London-street; United Strength, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lam; beth; Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham-Rye, Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st., Poplar; Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-street.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.

Thursday, July 28th.

Fidelity, Goat and Compasses, Euston-road; Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark; United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile-end-rd.; Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth; St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich; Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-square; Tranquillity, Sugar-Loaf Tav., Great St. Helen's, E.C.; Whittington, Thatched House Tav., 9, Red Lion-st.; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tavern, Deptford.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Joppa, Prospect of Whithy Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, July 29th.

St. Luke's, Pier Ho., Cheyne-walk, Chelsea; Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford; Unions (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.), F.M.H.; United Pilgrims, Horns' Tav.-Kennington; Westbourne, the Grapes, Duke-st., Manchester; square; Wellington, Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway Deptford; Florence Nightingale, Freemasons' Tav., Woolwich; Ranelagh, Windsor Castle Hotel, King-st., Hammersmith; Belgrave, Duke of Wellington, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey; Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Rose of Denmark Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, White Hart, Barnes, Surrey; Victoria, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Hervey, George Ho., Walham-green.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Domatic, Fisher's Restaurant, Victoria Station.

Saturday, July 30th.

Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane.

[This information is extracted from the "Universal Masonic Calendar," published at 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, and brethren who may detect any inaccuracies (and there are, doubtless, many), are respectfully requested to communicate the same to the Editor at the Office, No. 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

We shall be glad to receive from brethren any proceedings of Masonic meetings, which shall be duly inserted. Communications should be forwarded so as to reach us as early in the week as convenient—not later than Wednesday if possible. We have to request our correspondents to be particular in writing names distinctly.

ERRATA.—In our article last week on the "Masonic Red Cross Order and the Imperial Constantinian Order of Saint George," lines 12 and 13 from the bottom should read:—"that his master not unreasonably ignored his own claims to the Order, and that it might lawfully be," &c.