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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1871.

THE AMERICAN KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
IN SCOTLAND.

On Friday evening, a party of American Knights Templar, thirty-seven in number, visited Perth, and were entertained to a banquet by the Royal Arch Lodge, No. 122. They had already been *fêted* in Belfast and Glasgow, and the members of the Royal Arch Lodge agreed to postpone their celebration of the Summer Festival of St. John, and invite their American brethren to take part in the proceedings. Having made the necessary arrangements, the invitation was forwarded to the Knights Templar, and cordially accepted. The announcement of the visit caused considerable excitement in Perth, and long before seven o'clock, the hour at which the Americans were to arrive from Inverness, crowds had gathered in the station and in the principal streets. The party was received by the office-bearers of the Royal Arch Lodge, and conducted to Pople's Hotel, for the purpose of clothing. In front of the hotel the Militia band (kindly granted for the occasion by Lord Charles Kerr), received the strangers with the Masonic Anthem, while the crowd raised a hearty cheer. After assuming the insignia of office, a procession was formed, and, headed by the band playing stirring airs, the whole party marched to the Royal George Hotel. Some disappointment was caused to the persons who had gathered in the neighbourhood of the South

Inch as the procession took the opposite direction, but the majority of them intercepted the procession at the hotel. The Americans were warmly received there, both by the crowds and by the Freemasons, who had assembled to do them honour. The Knights Templar, who all belong to Allegheny Commandery, looked exceedingly well. They were dressed in a tasteful uniform, and each one, in addition to other orders, wore a small gold Maltese cross. Their names are:—

William Hamilton, Allegheny; William H. Slack, Allegheny; Edward M. Jenkins, Allegheny; Rev. J. J. McIllyar, Allegheny; J. A. Shoales, Allegheny; Judge John Heath, Allegheny; H. D. Keymer, Allegheny; Edward Coates, Allegheny; W. S. McKee, Pittsburgh; W. H. Devore, Pittsburgh; M. Riley Philadelphia; J. C. Hutchins, Philadelphia; William A. Short Washington; Rev. W. V. Tudor, Washington; J. Dickson, Washington; J. G. Bowen, Washington; R. H. Taylor, Washington; J. N. Knapp, Port Deposit, New York; Thomas J. Clepper, Columbia, Pa.; A. M. Rambo, Columbia, Pa.; C. L. P. Boice, Columbia, Pa.; A. Godfrey, Stranton, Pa.; John J. Fisher, Oil City; W. Hasson, Oil City; C. H. Sheppard, Oil City; H. Church, Meadville, Pa.; D. A. Cook, Mendoto, Ill.; Rev. S. R. Gardner, Plainfield, Pa.; Homer Laughlin, Smith's Ferry, Pa.; Dr. J. L. Acomb, Tidioute, Pa.; W. H. Thompson, Wilmington, Ill.; J. M. Cuning, Toledo, O.; James F. Graham, New York; G. W. Parker, Meridan, Con.; John C. W. Bailey, Chicago, Ill.; F. W. Glover, Hertford, Conn.

The chair was occupied by the Right Worshipful Master of the Royal Arch Lodge, (Bro. George Hutton), and he was supported right and left by Bro. Thompson, P.M. and D.M. Bro. Stewart and the Knights Templars.

The deputation from other Lodges present were:—Acting R.W.M. Fairie, S.W.; G. Millar, J.W.; W. McOwan, St. John's Lodge, 9, Dunblane; R.W.M. Longmuir, S.W.; A. Henry, and J.W. Wilson, Operative Lodge, 47, Dundee; R.W.M. Kelt, Ancient Lodge, 49, Dundee; R.W.M. Berry, acting S.W. John Macdonald, acting J.W. W. Macdonald, St. David's Lodge, 78, Dundee; R.W.M.; W. Ferguson, S.W. Anderson, and acting J.W. Cargill, St. John's Operative Lodge, 105, Coupar-Angus; R.W.M. Rodger, S.W. Macnab, and J.W. Reid, Forfar and Kincardine Lodge, 225; Principal H.; and acting P.Z. John Stevens, Royal Arch Chapter, 134, Perth.

The company altogether numbered about 200, the hall being rather uncomfortably filled.

Brother Rev. J. J. McIllyar, D.D., Allegheny Commandery, said grace.

After the company had done ample justice to the excellent dinner, supplied by Mr. Kennedy, the Lodge was opened in the usual manner.

The R.W.M. then proposed "The memory of the Holy St. John the Baptist." He said that he did not need to refer at length to the auspices under which they were met. The celebration of the festival had been postponed for a few days to accommodate brethren who were travelling in a strange land, and he thought they were justified in making the change, seeing that they were honoured with the presence of so many brethren from the other side of the Atlantic. He called upon all present to aid the officebearers in carrying the festival to a happy termination, so that it would long be remembered with pleasure.

The toast of "The Queen" having been given and warmly responded to,

The R.W.M. proposed "General Grant, President of the United States."

This toast was enthusiastically received, the band playing "The Masons' Anthem," and "Yankee Doodle."

The R.W.M. then proposed in succession "The Prince of Wales, the Patron of the Craft in Scotland," "The other members of the Royal Family," and "The Navy, Army, and Volunteers."

Bro. Steven, Royal Perthshire Rifles, in replying to the last toast, trusted that if they were called to war it would be side by side with their American brethren. He hoped the two nations, speaking the same language, and having nearly the same sympathies, and derived in great part from the same forefathers, would never be found but side by side. On behalf of the reserve forces,—in which he was now, being kicked out of the army as an old fogey—he hoped that they would always be ready to defend their firesides.

The R.W.M. then called on the company to drink to "The Prosperity of the Grand Lodges of America." America, he said, had a much larger number of Masons than this country, and had a considerable number of Supreme or Grand Lodges, but the very honoured and worthy brother who had kindly consented to reply would give them every information.

Brother John C. W. Bailey, Editor of "The Voice of Masonry," said he had great pleasure in being called upon to make a very few remarks on this very important toast. He called it a very important one, because it was so extensive, taking in all the Grand Lodges of their country. And when he told them that they had, he believed, 36 Grand Lodges, they had of course, 36 Grand Masters, each with a very large constituency. In fact, he knew from information he was always getting, that they had nearly half a million of Masons in America. He was intimately connected with several of the Grand Masters, and frequently visited several of the Grand Lodges nearest his own residence; and he could assure the company that if they were present at some of these Grand Lodges they would be highly interested.

Just imagine in the great State of New York, containing 75,000 masons, when they were gathered in their great Lodge, what a mighty assembly there was—how noble, how great. In his own State of Illinois, which stood next in number to the State of New York, there were 38,400 Masons, with 680 Lodges. Of course he visited this Grand Lodge every year, because he was a member of it; and he had the pleasure of being received in those of the great States of Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota. He travelled about very frequently among the Lodges in the country, and it was very pleasant to see the faces of men he had never seen before, and find that they were all his brethren. Sometimes when he was dwelling in thought on the magnitude of their institution, which encircled the entire globe, he felt that so far from being ashamed of it they should honour and be proud of it. He had often reflected and said—"Let me go to the east, to the west, to the north, to the south, I find a Masonic Lodge and a warm-hearted brother. They were honouring the Grand Lodges of America by this toast, and he hoped that hereafter they would be proud that they had so done. They would often reflect on the words he was now uttering, that although they were but the children, the children were fast getting ahead of the father. But that was the way with the world generally. When young men went out to make their way in the world, they would sometimes say—"I must go and see the old woman." Well, they had come over to see the old woman, and while they found her everything that they could wish, and intended to honour her as a mother, yet they told her that she had a strong daughter on the other side of the water, who was maintaining her hands by the magnitude of her institutions. There were a great many fogies on the other side of the water, who said that they were doing very little; but they replied that, although they did not lift their institutions as high as the Church, yet next to it they were the grandest and noblest, and did an immense amount of good in the world. Therefore they ought to be proud of these institutions, and remember to whatever part of the world Providence carried them they would always find a brother. [The speech of Bro. Bailey was frequently interrupted with laughter.]

The R.W.M. then proposed "The Grand Lodge of England, and the Marquis of Ripon," and referred to the warm masonic reception that nobleman got during his recent visit to America.

The R.W.M. also proposed "The Grand Lodge of Ireland, and the Duke of Leinster," and "The Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the Earl of Rosslyn."

Bro. Steven, in giving the next toast, "The Knights Templar of America," said he hoped they were satisfied with what they had seen of Masonry in Perthshire. He wished them health and prosperity, and a safe return to their own shores.

Bro. McIllyar said it afforded him great pleasure to return thanks not only for the Knights Templar present, but for the entire brotherhood in the United States. Knight Templarism, as they understood it, was inseparable from true Masonry;

everywhere the two things were indispensably necessary in order that a man be a Knight Templar and a Christian Knight, Knight Templarism held a high position in America, and was more rapidly increasing in the present than in any former years. He was not able to give the number of commanderies in the United States, but he might say that there were 350. In some of the States they were very largely represented; in one there being from 36 to 40 Commanderies. They had come from America to visit their brethren as they journeyed on their pleasant pilgrimage. They had not come to criticise Masonry with Masonry, Christianity with Christianity, or one nation with another nation, but they had come to view the fields made red with the blood of their forefathers, and to shake the hands of their brothers. It was not their purpose to demonstrate Masonry, but they were advised that whenever they went in this character they would always feel at home.

Bro. Young, in giving the toast of "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire," said that one of his American brothers had hinted that they in England were old women; but their American friends must not forget they were strong children, yet they must obey their father and mother, that their days may be long in the land. He thought it would be a proper thing if mother were to concoct some way of paying a visit to her daughter.

Bro. Carnegie proposed "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Forfarshire, and Lord Dalhousie, P.G.M." He said that the Forfarshire Masons always took an interest in all matters connected with the Craft, and he was glad to see so many of them present on this occasion. He thought that a separate bumper should be dedicated to Lord Dalhousie. His name had been associated with Forfar for many a year, and to almost every lodge in the country he was affiliated. Every good act in connection with Masonry got his influence and support.

Bro. Robertson, Dundee, in replying to the toast said he was very happy to be present, and meet his American brethren. He did not think that they would find 40 brethren in Scotland who would take the trouble of going to America, and visit their cousin in the same frank spirit. He was glad to hear Lord Dalhousie's name mentioned in the manner in which it had been done. Unfortunately that nobleman had a Provincial Grand Master presiding over him called the gout, and which prevented him from doing what he would otherwise do.

Among the other toasts were:—"Freemasonry in Scotland," proposed by Bro. N. M. Jenkins, and replied to by Bro. Fairie, Dunblane Lodge, No. 9; "The Royal Arch Lodge, No. 122," proposed by Bro. Wm. Hamilton, and replied to by the R.W.M. of the Royal Arch Lodge; "The Deputations from Sister Lodges," proposed by the D.M., and replied to by acting R.W.M. Fairie, Dunblane, No. 9; R.W.M. Longmure, Operative Lodge, 47, Dundee; R.W.M. Kelt, Ancient Lodge, 49, Dundee; R.W.M. Berry, St. David's Lodge, 78, Dundee; R.W.M. Ferguson, St. John's Operative Lodge, 105, Coupar-Augus; R.W.M. Rodger, Forfar and Kincardine, 225; "The Magistrates and Town Council of the City of Perth," proposed by the S.W.; "The Sister Lodges of the City," proposed by Bro. Thomson; "The Memory of Bro. Murray," proposed by Bro. Carnegie; "The Proxy Master," proposed by the J.W.; "The Learned Professions," proposed by Bro. Dow; and "The Wardens and other Office Bearers," proposed by the D.M., and replied to by the Secretary.

During the evening a quadrille band (led by Bro. Angus) played a selection of music, and several songs were sung by Bros. Thomson and Sturrock. Bro. Slack gave an American Masonic song, which was greatly applauded.

THE AMERICAN KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AT "ALTON TOWERS."

The Earl of Shrewsbury, the newly-appointed Grand Master for Staffordshire, having invited our distinguished American Brethren to make a visit to the famed Alton Towers, it was arranged that they should go there on Tuesday, July 4th, being the 95th anniversary of American Independence, and also the Alton Horticultural Show. The Americans, therefore, arrived at Derby railway station from Leicester a few minutes before eight o'clock on Tuesday morning. The Midland Railway Company had placed at their disposal two saloon carriages, and at Derby two more saloon carriages were attached for the use of the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire about 30 of whom accompanied their American brethren by the 8 a.m. North Stafford train to Alton, the Earl of Shrewsbury having kindly invited a limited number of the Derbyshire brethren to a reception at a quarter to twelve o'clock. Soon after leaving Derby the brethren of the latter town sent a message to the Knights, asking them if they would partake of "an eye opener (an American term for a morning draught), and the reply being in the affirmative, some "sparkling" was forwarded to them. On reaching Alton Station the party were met by the Earl's private band, and a procession being formed, all moved forward up the avenue of trees leading to the Towers. Close to the hall a private tent had been prepared for the American brethren, and after they had "arranged" themselves they went to the chapel, accompanied by the Derbyshire brethren, where full choral service was performed. The Rev. Dr. Fraser, the Earl of Shrewsbury's domestic chaplain, intoned the service, the Anthem being taken from the 104th Psalm. The singing of the Earl's domestic choir was admirable, and at the conclusion the Hallelujah Chorus was played on the organ. It had been arranged that the reception of the American and English Freemasons should take place at a quarter to 12 o'clock, but in consequence of the non-arrival of a deputation from the Staffordshire Knot Lodge of Freemasons, it was postponed until 12.20. In the meantime the Americans, each taking the arm of a Derbyshire brother, rambled through the matchless grounds of Alton, whose beauties were greatly extolled, the frequent remark being, "We have nothing like this in America." It should be stated that the American flag was hoisted on one of the towers. At 12.30 the Derbyshire brethren were ushered into the Earl's Grand Dining-hall, where they were addressed by the Earl of Shrewsbury, who gave to them and the Staffordshire brethren a hearty welcome. His Lordship, who wore the costume of a deputy-lieutenant, was accompanied by the Countess of Shrewsbury, the

youthful Lord Ingestre (who wore the uniform of a private of the Staffordshire Yeomanry), and three of the Earl's daughters. The Rev. Dr. Fraser and the Curate of Alton were also present. The Earl of Shrewsbury met the American legation at the Grand Entrance to the Hall, and proceeded then to the grand dining-room, the English Freemasons giving them a hearty cheer.

The Earl of Shrewsbury, in addressing the company, observed that it gave Lady Shrewsbury and himself the greatest pleasure to receive them on that occasion as gentlemen, and he may add, as brethren. When he first heard of their visiting the county, he thought it meet to offer them the hospitalities of his place, for he could not express his gratification at the opportunity which it offered to reciprocate the good feeling evinced in America towards this country. The Marquis of Ripon had done him the honour to nominate him as Grand Master of Staffordshire, on the recommendation of the Earl of Carnarvon. The noble lord having read the letter which he had received from the Grand Registrar, proceeded to state that he need not say to his brethren from Stafford and Derby how greatly that honour had been enhanced by their presence and approval of the selection, and as soon as he was properly installed, he should do all he could to advance Masonry. He received them on that occasion as the Earl of Shrewsbury, and not as the Grand Master of Staffordshire, because he had not at present received his patent, and for the information of his brethren from America, he would give them some idea of who he was from his ancestors. The noble Earl then referred to the lineage of the family which deduces its descent from a period antecedent to the Conqueror, the first person of note on record being Richard de Talbot, mentioned in Domesday Book, and who married the daughter of Gerard de Gournay, Baron of Yarmouth; alluding subsequently to the protracted suit in the House of Lords, which had vested the estate of Alton in his father, and which enabled him that day to offer them a hearty welcome at the Towers. After referring to the jealousies which some time since existed in the States between the North and South, and to the part which he, as one of the hereditary legislators of this country took, the noble earl congratulated all present on the fact that whatever differences of opinion had existed on that question, they were all united in good feeling towards this country, and it was a very great pleasure to him that he could venture to offer, after the lapse of 20 years, when he was in America, the hospitalities of his house. Whether at Washington, or elsewhere, he received every courtesy and kindness from the American people, and he was pleased to receive them now, and show them the beauties of the place. He trusted that the principles of Freemasonry would still more firmly unite the two countries, for, if so, peace would be more permanent, and commerce more prospering. The noble lord concluded by remarking that Lady Shrewsbury desired to join with him in giving them a hearty welcome to Alton.

The W.M. of the Staffordshire Knot Lodge then read a resolution which had been agreed to at a special meeting of the members at Stafford on the evening previous. It was an expression of gratitude to the Marquis of Ripon for appointing the noble earl Grand Master of Staffordshire, and to the Earl of Shrewsbury for accepting the same.

Bro. Thomas Cox, P. Prov. G.S.W. of Derbyshire, in the unavoidable absence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of that Province, then addressed the Earl of Shrewsbury as follows:—

My Lord, hearing that a party of Freemasons from the United States, travelling in England, were passing through Derby to Alton Towers, at the invitation of your lordship, several members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire, remembering the hearty reception of our Grand Master in America, wished to meet them in Derby, and to welcome them to this country, but finding their engagements did not admit of staying there, we ventured to ask your lordship's permission to meet them at

Alton Towers. We are now come to express our gratitude for the very cordial and prompt response to our wishes—and also to congratulate the Lodges in the province of Staffordshire on the nomination of your lordship to the office of their Provincial Grand Master—feeling sure that the Craft will prosper under your lordship's fostering care; and we recognise in that appointment another instance of the wisdom and interest displayed by the Grand Master of England towards our ancient Order.

Bro. William Naylor, Provincial Grand Secretary of Derbyshire, then read the following address to the American Knights Templar:—

To the party of American Knights Templar now visiting this country.

We, the representatives of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the various Lodges of Derbyshire, desire to offer you our most cordial and fraternal greeting on your arrival in England.

We welcome you, not only as brethren of the Craft, but we are especially glad to welcome you as citizens of that great nation between which and this country there are so many close ties.

We much regret that circumstances have compelled us to abandon the idea we at first entertained of giving you a public reception in Derby, but we rejoice that Bro. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot has given us this opportunity of meeting you and giving you this fraternal greeting.

In conclusion, we sincerely wish you a prosperous and happy tour, and trust that you will carry back with you such sentiments as will not only tend to draw the members of the Craft on each side of the Atlantic more closely together, but cement those feelings of peace and goodwill which now so happily exist between the two countries

Signed on behalf of the Deputation.
W. NAYLOR,
P.G.S. Derbyshire,

July 4th, 1871.

The address, which was from the establishment of Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, Derby, was beautifully illuminated. It was surmounted by several Masonic emblems, and the American and English arms.

The Rev. Dr. Tudor (Wesleyan), of Baltimore, then replied on behalf of the Americans as follows:

It gives me great pleasure, my Lord Shrewsbury, to appear upon the part of my companions to respond to the very kind and cordial welcome which your Lordship and Lady Shrewsbury have been pleased to extend to us this day. But how to respond in sufficiently appropriate and grateful terms is the difficulty, and is a task for the performance of which I crave your lordship's indulgence for a few moments. We gratefully recognise the distinguished honour of being received by your lordship as the citizens and humble representatives of a nation between which and your own nation, my lord, there have long existed relations not only of friendliness, but also of warm affection—relations sustained and ratified by the recent arrangements of State to which your lordship has alluded, and the terms of which have settled points of honour, which existed, I am persuaded, more in sentiment than in reality. Let us believe it to be impossible that those strong bonds of civilisation and christianity, which hold fast together the two States, shall ever be severed so as to precipitate us into other than relations the most friendly and loving. We were touched in observing, immediately upon setting foot on your lordship's domains, the mark of the distinguished honour you would do us, in our national colours floating the highest over the towers of Alton. We recognise ourselves received also as the representative of that brotherhood of humanity concerning which the poet sings:—

"Between us all let oceans roll,
Yet still from either beach
The voice of blood shall reach,
More eloquent than speech,
We are one."

Oh, it does our hearts good, my lord, to receive the attentions which met us at our very landing upon these foreign shores, and which have culminated in your lordship's reception this day. We have felt deeply the inconvenience of exile from home, deprived as we are, for the time, of the sacred, refining influences of domestic life, the sweet society of wife, daughter, sister. We are cheered and comforted by the kind offices of friends. It is the quaint conceit of a wild modern poet, that the precious stones of our earth are the remains of a temple built by the angels in Eden to the worship of God. The foundations of the temple were bright and beaten gold, tower and roof of pinnacle without were solid diamond, the dome was eye-blue sapphire, studded with golden stars; the floor was emerald, veined with gold and silver; marble and mineral of every hue were in its walls; the altar was one ruby, heartlike; the columns were of alabaster, and where all things were magnificent, the meanest thing was gold, the plainest. Man fell, and joined the hosts of hell, black-bannered on the very day when he should have met God and his angels there, and immediately also felt that bright fane,—no death-doomed eye gazed on its glory,—earthquakes gulped it down,—the temple of the angels lay in its grave, till at the flood, it burst, like a shell, and scattered, east and west, and far and wide, its fragments, which are the diamonds and rubies and emeralds and sapphires of this world's costly merchandize. Morally, human nature is just such a wretched temple; but we recognize in the affections and virtues and amenities and hospitalities of common life scattered and fragmentary jewels of the wreck. These jewels have thickly strewn our way through the United Kingdom, but the Koh-i-noor, the crown jewel, my lord, we have found this day at Alton Towers. Furthermore, we recognize ourselves as having the honour to be received as the humble representatives of a fraternity, of which we are happy to congratulate your lordship as a chief officer, by recent nomination as Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire—a fraternity whose laws, teachings, and works are designed to assist in rebuilding the wrecked temple of humanity to which I have alluded, until the perfect structure shall again stand forth, love ever beating in the heart, truth ever speaking from the tongue, justice ever reigning in the mind, benevolence ever giving from the hand, righteousness ever the path of the feet, kindness ever beaming from the eye, gentleness curving every limb, honour crowning the head, and goodness unqualified, the description of the whole life. Begging your lordship and Lady Shrewsbury to accept the assurance that the reception extended to us this day is infinitely more beautiful in our eyes and more grateful in our hearts than are the blossoms of exquisite loveliness that lie in such rich bouquets over your lordship's estate, we remain, my lord, your humble servants. By your lordship's permission, I would also, on behalf of my companions, express our lively sense of pleasure in meeting so many of our brother Masons on this beautiful spot to-day, our great happiness in receiving their kindly greetings, and the assurance of the sincere reciprocation from our hearts, on their behalf, of all their good wishes.

The above speech was listened to with marked attention by all present. It was delivered with great earnestness, and made a strong impression upon all who had the pleasure of listening to it.

The Earl of Shrewsbury remarked that the Rev. Dr. Fraser would say a few words.

The Rev. Dr. Fraser said, that although not a member of the Craft, he could unite with the noble Earl in giving a cordial welcome to the American brethren. He (Dr. Fraser) had the pleasure of being present at a conference of Anglican clergymen, which was also attended by several distinguished American prelates, and he well remembered the cordiality and truly affectionate greeting they gave to the English clergy. The Bishop of Illinois and others also delivered eloquent addresses, which he should never forget. Dr. Fraser concluded by saying that he had Lady Shrewsbury's permission to escort them though the house, and describe some of its beauties.

The Countess of Shrewsbury then took wine with Dr. Tudor and the Americans, with the W.M. of the Stafford Lodge, and the acting D.Prov.G.M. of Derbyshire.

The company partook of champagne and other wines, with choice grapes, peaches, strawberries, confectionery, &c., after which Lady Shrewsbury took the arm of an American brother, the young ladies the arms of the Derbyshire brethren, and the whole then proceeded to take a private view of the flower show, which was in a tent near the hall. This over, the Americans had luncheon in their private tent, provided by the Earl of Shrewsbury. The Derby brethren, with their well-known liberal manner in carrying out their arrangements, appointed Bro. Plock, of the Midland Hotel, their *commisariat*. They had their own private tent, in which was laid out a splendid champagne luncheon.

Bro. Crossley proposed the health of the Earl of Shrewsbury, to which his Lordship replied.

An American Brother then gave "The Countees of Shrewsbury," which was acknowledged by Lord Ingestre.

One of the American "Legation" then sung "The Star Sprangled Banner," with an additional verse composed by Bro. Walter Montgomery, specially referring to that day's proceedings. [This will be found in another column.]

The Americans then demanded "God save the Queen," which was sung by Bro. Naylor, and heartily joined in. The Americans in giving cheers for the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury, responded to the cry of "Tiger, tiger," made by one of the brethren. The party then returned to the Hall, and witnessed the presentation of prizes by Lady Shrewsbury. The Americans took their departure at five o'clock, proceeding to Derby, for London. Whilst the party were in the hall, the Earl's private band played a choice selection of music in the vestibule. Mr. Price, photographer, Babington Lane, Derby, photographed the Americans from the steps of the grand entrance. He subsequently photographed the Derby brethren. A vote of thanks to Bro. Plock was given by the Derby brethren for the princely way in which he had catered for them. We believe eleven "specials" ran to Alton that day, but the rain stopped all out-door enjoyment.

Amongst the brethren from the province of Derbyshire present were the following:—

Bros. Thos. Cox, P. Prov. S.G.W.; H. Hillman, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Crossley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Thos. Horsley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. R. Holland, P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Saunders, P. Prov. J.G.W.; H. Carsou, P. Prov. J.G.W.; F. Britton, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. Bloor, P. Prov. G.R.; Wm. Naylor, Prov. G.S.; John Smith, P. Prov. S.G.D.; C. Brentnall, jun., Prov. J.G.D.; Theodore Drew, Prov. G.O.; J. H. Casson, Prov. P.G.O.; F. Champion, P. Prov. G.P.; W. H. Burton, Prov. G.P.; F. Iliffe, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; J. Worsnop, Prov. G. Steward; T. L. Gentles, Prov. G. Steward; G. T. Wright, P.M. Arboretum Lodge; J. C. Gribble, W.M. Arboretum Lodge; Jas. Britton, W.M. St. Oswald Lodge; G. Haslehurst, W.M. Scarsdale Lodge; J. Varley, P.M. Mundy Grove Lodge; R. Stevenson, W.M. Royal Alfred Lodge; F. Plock, Prov. G. Steward; and others.

The "reception" was transmitted by cable the same afternoon to America, the representative of a New York paper being present.

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE AMERICAN KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN LONDON.

On the arrival of the Sir Knights in London they were entertained at a Banquet on behalf of the Grand Conclave of the Order in England by the Prov. G. Conclave of Middlesex, and the Faith and Fidelity Encampment.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master having granted his dispensation for holding the meeting, the following circular was issued:

"SPECIAL NOTICE.—A Body of Knights Templar, from the Allegheny Commandery, No. 35, U.S., having officially announced their intention of visiting the United Kingdom in that capacity, and being now in this country, it is considered due to such distinguished visitors that suitable attention should be paid to them. It is therefore suggested that, on their arrival in London, they be invited to attend an Encampment, to be followed by a Banquet. The Knights, having been communicated with, Friday, the 7th of July, has been appointed for that purpose. In order to carry out the above views, an Encampment will be opened at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London, on Friday, the 7th of July, at half-past Four o'clock. All Knights intending to do honour to their Transatlantic Brethren on the above occasion, are requested to fill up the enclosed form, and return it, addressed, to the Grand Director of Ceremonies, 15, Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C., at their earliest convenience, and not later than Thursday, the 6th proximo, to ensure adequate arrangements. It is hoped that there will be a full muster on this auspicious occasion.—By Command, W. Tinkler, G.V.C."

The following circular was also issued by the Provincial Grand Conclave of Middlesex:—

"The Royal, Religious, and Military Order of Knights Templar, Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, in England and Wales, and the Dependencies of the British Crown.

"PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.—By command of the Grand Chancellor in charge of the Province of Middlesex, I am directed to summon all Eminent Commanders, Captains commanding Columns, and all duly qualified Knights Templar in the Province, to attend a Provincial Grand Conclave, to be held at Head Quarters, in the East, Grand Field of Encampment, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, on Friday, the 7th day of July, at the hour of half-past Four of the clock, prompt time, to assist in divers urgent and important business in connection with the Province. Done in the Grand Chancery of the Order, this 30th day of June, A.D., mdccclvi. The Grand Master having signified his intention to attend this Provincial Grand Conclave to do honour to the Transatlantic Visitors, it is important he should be worthily and numerously supported.—W. Tinkler, Grand Vice-Chancellor."

The Sir Knights accordingly met at Radley's Hotel on Friday, 7th inst., and at 4.30 the Faith and Fidelity Encampment was opened. The following officers being present:—

Sir Knights the Earl of Limerick, Eminent Commander; The Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, as Prelate; F. W. Ramsay, as 1st Captain; D. C. M. Gordon, as 2nd Captain; Sir P. Colquhoun, Chancellor; W. Tinkler, Registrar; R. H. Thrupp, as Capt. of Lines; J. L. Syms, 1st Standard Bearer.

The following Sir Knights were also present:

Wm. Stuart, M.E. and S.G.M.; the Rev. J. Huyshe, D.G.M.; Earl of Limerick, Grand Prior; Sir P. Colquhoun, Grand Chancellor; W. Tinkler, Grand Vice-Chancellor; J. Lavender, Grand Registrar; E. J. Leveson, Grand Provost; F. H. Wilson Iles, Second Grand Aide de Camp; H. Dubosc, First Grand Captain of Lines; D.G.M. Gordon, Grand Sword Bearer; G. Harcourt, P.G.C., Surrey; Captain N. G. Philips, P.G.C., Suffolk and Cambridge; Colonel Goddard, Past First Grand Captain; J. M. P. Montagu, Past First Grand Captain; and the Rev.

G. Ross, D.P.G.C., Cornwall; J. Boor, P.G., Standard Bearer, Surrey; D. M. Dewar, Mount Calvary Encampment; G. Hillier, Faith and Fidelity; J. Oxley Oxland, Tanager; W. Smith, P.D.P.G.C., Kent; the Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, Past Grand Almoner; Raymond H. Krupp, Faith and Fidelity; A. T. Brett, Stuart; Malcolm O. Sim, Faith and Fidelity; T. W. Venn, Ceylon Encampment; E. Turner, St. George's, London; Col. C. Katchell, Howe; J. R. Bramble, Baldwin; S. Rosenthal, Grove; W. Blenkin, Harcourt; J. Dyer, Temple Crossing; Hyde Pullen, Royal Naval; E. H. Finney, Mount Calvary; G. Kenning, Kemys Tynte; C. Horsley, Stuart; J. Lockhart Syms, Faith and Fidelity; the Rev. A. B. Frazer, Cour de Lion, Oxford; W. R. Bryan, Abbey Chapter; J. Hart, Grove; F. A. Philbrick, Mount Calvary; J. D. Laresen; Mount Calvary.

Letters of apology or excuse for non-attendance were read from—

Sir Knights C. J. Vigne, P.G.C., Dorsetshire; Lord Elliot, P.G.C. Cornwall; A. C. Crookshank, P.G.C., Ceylon; the Rev. C. R. Davy; D.P.G.C., Somerset; C. J. Bannister, Past Grand Captain; the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Aide de Camp; C. Fendelow, Past Grand Hospitalier; Earl of Canarvon, D.G.M. of the Craft; J. Hervey, G.S.; Dr. J. F. Townshend, D.G.M. Ireland; Colonel F. Bardett, and others.

The Sir Knights of the Allegheny Commandery were received with the honours due to their rank.

The following is a list of their names and their respective ranks.

OFFICERS :—W. Hamilton, Eminent Commander; W. H. Slack, Generalissimo; E. M. Jenkins, Captain General; J. J. McIllyar, Prelate; M. Riley, Treasurer; J. A. Scholes, Recorder; D. A. Cook, Senior Warden; A. Godfrey, Junior Warden; H. Laughlin, Sword Bearer; T. J. Clepper, Standard Bearer; H. Church, Warden; W. A. Short, Marshal; S. A. Gardner, and W. T. Tudor, Chaplains; A. M. Rambo, Past E. Commander.

MEMBERS :—S. T. G. Morsell, R. H. Taylor, G. G. Bowen, J. Dickson, G. W. Parker, C. H. Sheppard, W. Hasson, H. D. Keymer, W. H. Devore, W. H. Thompson, J. M. Cumming, F. W. T. Glover, J. H. Knapp, J. L. Acomb, C. L. P. Boice, E. Coates, J. J. Fisher, J. K. Ritter, J. P. Graham, J. C. Kenkins, Judge W. A. Richardson, of the Pilgrim Encampment, Lovell, Mass; C. E. Coon, of St. Omer's Commandery, Elmira, New York; M. R. Barnitzky, of the Palestine Commandery, Chelsea, Mass.

In passing, the Sir Knights advanced in military style and saluted the M. E. and S. G. M., and the Grand Officers, and were then invited to take their seats in the Encampment.

The Grand Chancellor Sir P. Mc C. de Colquhoun then addressed the distinguished visitors in the following terms :—

"The visit of a Body of Knights Templar from the Allegheny Grand Commandery of the United States, cannot but be considered a highly flattering circumstance to the Order in Great Britain, which hastens to greet them with becoming heartiness and good-will, and to tender to them the right hand of hospitality and brotherhood.

"Although separated by more than 3,000 miles of ocean, the Templars of Great Britain feel that space is annihilated by the presence of these distinguished visitors on the shores of the old country whence their progenitors emigrated, and whom they still consider as a part and parcel of the great Anglican Langue.

"The Grand Chancellor of the Order in his official capacity of Grand Commander of Middlesex has thought fit, for the first time since his accession to office, to profit by this opportunity of holding a Provincial Grand Conclave, and having consulted the Knights of the Allegheny Commandery, has fixed this Provincial Grand Conclave with due regard to the convenience of the visiting Sir Knights.

"The Provincial Grand Conclave of Middlesex feels confident that nothing will be omitted by the Knights of the Anglican Langue throughout Great Britain to render the progress of their

visitors through the kingdom agreeable to them, and to connect those bonds of friendship and unity which already exist between the east and west shores of the Atlantic.

"In conclusion the English Templars trust that their Transatlantic brethren, to whom they wish good speed, will carry back to the United States the sincere greetings of the Knights of the old country.

Sir Knight W. Hamilton, Eminent Commander, then replied on behalf of the Sir Knights of Allegheny :—

"This seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy one, is one that will be always remembered, not only by the Knights of Allegheny, but by all our Fraters throughout the United States of America, as an epoch in the history of the Order of the Temple in the United States.

We have left our homes in the Far West, and are now travelling East, not with the intent of winning renown by warlike deeds, but as Pilgrim Penitents, visiting the scenes, made famous by those valiant Knights who have won for themselves, and for the Order of the Temple, imperishable renown, and, reverently with uncovered heads and sad hearts view those hallowed spots, sacred to the memory of those noble Knights, whose names are inscribed on the Roll of the Noble Army of Martyrs.

And now when we are weary with travelling, you have met us with kindly greeting, taken us into your tents, and made us the recipients of your unbounded hospitality.

Although so far from our homes, we are not in a strange land—we feel to-day that we are at our mother's fireside, surrounded by our elder brethren.

That the Grand Chancellor, in his official capacity of Grand Commander of Middlesex, should convene the Provincial Grand Conclave with regard to our convenience, we regard as one of the greatest honours that could be conferred upon us.

And, in conclusion, permit us to say, that if any mists have darkened the political atmosphere between Great Britain and the United States, we believe that they have been happily dispelled, and we hope that Her Gracious Majesty, Victoria, Queen of England, may long continue to live and reign, and that her memory, as a devoted wife, and affectionate mother, a loving and gracious Queen, and a christian woman, may be loved and honoured until the end of recorded time.

Sir Knights W. Hamilton and E. M. Jenkins were appointed to the honorary rank of Past Grand Captains of the Grand Conclave of England and Wales received their patents, and tendered their warmest thanks for the honour conferred upon them.

The Provincial Grand Conclave of Middlesex was then opened, and the following were duly appointed as Provincial Grand Officers :—

Sir Knight	the Rev. A. B. Shepherd, ...	Prelate and Almoner,
"	" E. Turner,	1st Captain.
"	" S. Rosenthal,	2nd Captain.
"	" W. Tinkler,	Chancellor.
"	" Raymond H. Thrupp, ...	Registrar.
"	" D. M. Dewar,	Chamberlain.
"	" F. A. Philbrick,	Director of Cers.
"	" F. W. Ramsay,	Standard Bearer
"	" Clarence Harcourt ...	Captain of Lines.
"	" G. Hillyer,	Banner Bearer.

Sir Knight J. Tepper was elected Treasurer; and Frater Austin, Equerry.

The draft of the proposed bye laws for the Province of Middlesex was presented.

The Committee to prepare Bye Laws was elected, consisting of Sir Knights The Earl of Limerick, R. H. Thrupp, F. A. Philbrick, S. Rosenthal, and E. Turner.

The Sir Knights then adjourned to an adjoining room for the purpose of conferring upon the Sir Knights of Allegheny Commandery the degree of

the Mediterranean Pass, according to their desire, although they had, with one exception, in their own country received the degree of Knights of Malta.

The Provincial Grand Conclave of Middlesex was then closed.

A Priory of Malta was then opened, and the following Officers being present:—

Sir Knights the Rev. J. Huyshe, Grand Prior; Capt. N. G. Phillips, Captain General; the Earl of Limerick, Lieutenant-General; Capt. J. M. P. Montagu, 1st Lieutenant; Hyde Pullen, 2nd Lieutenant; W. Smith, C.E., Mareschal; J. Starkey, Hospitaller; J. Hart, Admiral; Colonel Goddard, Conservator; C. Horsley, Baillie; J. Oxley Oxland, Turcopilar; S. Rosenthal, Chancellor; R. H. Thrupp, Treasurer; the Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, Grand Prelate.

Sir Knights M. O. Sim, and W. Tiukler, Captains of the Outposts.

Sir Knight J. Dyer was elected as Guard to the Banner of B.; E. Turner to the Banner of L.; M. A. Bryan, to the Banner of D.; D. C. M. Gordon, to the Banner of R.; and the Rev. A. B. Frazer, to the Banner of A.

Sir Knight James Dickson, of the Allegheny Commandery, and Sir Knights J. Boor of the Harcourt Encampment, J. D. Larsen of the Mount Calvary Encampment, Thomas Luty of the Ancient York Encampment, and G. Hillyer and J. Lockhart Syms of the Faith and Fidelity Encampment then received the Mediterranean Pass, and were admitted into the Order of Knights of Malta.

The Priory of Malta was closed.

The business of the Faith and Fidelity Encampment being concluded, it was closed.

The American Sir Knights then formed a procession and retired in military order.

The Sir Knights shortly afterwards re-assembled in the Banquet Room in undress.

The chair was taken (in the absence of the M. E. and S. Grand Master, who was prevented by indisposition from remaining) by Sir Knight Huyshe, Deputy Grand Master, supported by nearly the whole of the English Sir Knights who had attended the Faith and Fidelity Encampment, and the Prov. G. Conclave of Middlesex. The vice-chairs were occupied by the two Prov. Grand Captains.

At the banquet, the American Sir Knights were seated alternately between the English Sir Knights round the table. The Sir Knights Hamilton, Slack, Jenkins, and McIllyar, of the Allegheny Commandery, being the supporters, right and left, of the Chairman.

After the cloth had been drawn, the Chairman proposed "The Queen, the daughter of a Mason, the mother and mother-in-law of Masons." He said the manner in which the American Sir Knights had received the name of Her Majesty was sufficient to ensure a cordial reception of the toast.

The National Anthem was then sung.

The Chairman gave "The President of the United States of America." Although they could not give this toast with Masonic honours, they no less cordially drank his health, and prosperity to

the United States. The Chairman made some appropriate remarks upon the recent events in which Freemasonry had taken an important part.

This toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

The National song of "The Star Spangled Banner," was sung by Sir Knight Slack, with the additional verse, by Bro. Walter Montgomery.

Sir Knight Sir P. Mc C. de Colquhoun proposed "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," as a Knight Templar, a zealous Mason, and an English Gentleman. He had visited the United States, and had since, frequently acknowledged the hearty welcome he had there received. He would also add the health of the Princess of Wales, as the daughter, the sister, and wife of a Mason, highly esteemed by all who knew her.

The next toast was "The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of England, Sir Kut. W. Stuart," was given by Sir Knight Hamilton, who mentioned the connection of Sir Knight Stuart with the American Nation, being the Great Grandson of William Penn, and a descendant of the Royal Stuarts.

The toast was enthusiastically received, and it was regretted by all that the state of his health did not permit him to be present.

The next toast was given by the Chairman, "The health of Sir Knight W. Sewall Gardner, M.E. and S.G.M. of Knights Templar in the United States," whose command extended over no less than 36 states, and about six territories.

The toast was received with Masonic honours.

Sir Knight Huyshe then proposed "The health of the Visitors, as the representatives of the Knights Templar of the United States," in a forcible speech, which, we regret, our space will not permit us to give in extenso.

He expressed his regret at the shortness of the notice which had, no doubt prevented a larger number of Sir Knights being present; but he hoped the warmth of the reception would make amends for the smallness of their number. He strongly expressed himself upon the great influence which Masonry had had exercised upon the welfare of mankind, and alluded in feeling terms to the very cordial reception which had been given to the Grand Master of Craft Masonry, during his recent visit to the United States. He agreed with the sentiments expressed by the American brother as to the influence which Masonry had exercised in the happy settlement of the differences which at one time threatened to disturb the peaceful relations of the two countries.

Sir Knight Rev. J. J. McIllyar, D.D., replied as follows,

Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master,

"I assure you that it affords me great pleasure, on behalf of all the Visiting Brethren of Allegheny Commandery, to return their heartfelt thanks for the very cordial manner in which they have been received by the Grand Encampment of England and Wales. When we remember

Eminent sir, that this is the first time in the history of the world that such an honour has been conferred, it is impossible for us to express our high appreciation of your kindness. Eminent sir, the very eloquent and able manner in which you have spoken of the American people, and the settlement of those differences which seemed to threaten difficulty between two of the greatest nations in the world, has brought us under great obligations. I can assure you, Eminent sir, that the American people no less appreciate the amicable settlement of those difficulties, and I have no doubt that the principles of Masonry which exist in Europe and America, tended no little to bring about this happy state of things. Eminent sir, I have neither time nor ability to make such a reply as your very eloquent address would demand. Again I thank you in the name and on behalf of American Masons, and on their behalf allow me to give you a pressing and cordial invitation to pay us a visit to the United States, and we will give you such a reception as American Masons can give. Only in this way can we hope to manifest our appreciation of your brotherly treatment to us. Masonry recognizes the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. May the nations of Europe and America ever continue on the same fraternal and brotherly terms. Sir, it has afforded us great pleasure to travel through your dominions and read the ancient landmarks of our beloved order. Having received the Order of Masonry from you we are glad to be permitted to come back as the representatives of Masonry in the United States, and learn amid the graves and monuments of our fathers that we have preserved the ancient rites committed to us unimpaired. I trust, sir, when we cease to labour in this mundane sphere that it may be our happy privilege to meet, from both sides the water, in that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

The usual routine toasts having been given and responded to, the remainder of the evening was spent in social conversation and interchange of civilities. The American Sir Knights then expressed their hearty thanks individually to G. V. C. Tinkler, and Assistant G. Dir. of Cer. Starkey, for their indefatigable efforts to render their reception agreeable. As the Sir Knights had to leave early on the following day for Antwerp, in order to continue their tour on the Continent, they regretted they were compelled to decline many offers of hospitality, until their return to England, in some six weeks or two months hence, when it is believed a reception on a large scale will be offered to them by the Craft Masons of England.

The banquet and wines, supplied by Bro. Hart, received the highest encomiums from all who partook thereof, especially the American brethren, who frequently expressed their great gratification, declaring it was the best entertainment which had as yet been offered to them.

The American Sir Knights, accompanied by Sir Knight P. Smith, C G., were conducted by Sir Patrick Colquhoun, Q. C., over the Temple Church, and public buildings, and expressed the greatest satisfaction at being enabled to visit the ancient head-quarters of the Old Knights of the Temple of the Anglican Language.

We understand the Grand Master of the United States of America has sent an autograph invitation to our Grand Master to be present at the Triennial Grand Encampment to be held in the City of Baltimore in September.

MASONIC JOTTINGS, No. 77.

BY A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

A CONFESSION OF FAITH.—CHARGES OF 1723.

My answers to a Correspondent's two questions are as follows: 1st.—The Masonry of the brother, who builds his Faith on our Charges of 1723 exclusively, is necessarily a Christian Freemasonry. 2nd.—The Charges of 1723 did not bring Christianity into our Freemasonry; Christianity was already in our Freemasonry. It had been in our Freemasonry from time immemorial; first as Roman Catholicism, afterwards, as Protestantism.*

A CALVINIST AND THE PASTOR OF A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Brother,—The proposition is that in the years 1717 to 1723, a Calvinist and the Pastor of a Presbyterian Church founded a celebrated institution, and that they made its Religion a pure Theism.

OUR PATRONS.

A Correspondent thinks that Desaguliers and Anderson, had they meant to establish a Universal Freemasonry, in which case, Natural Theology must have been its religion, would at once have made two Greek Philosophers its Patrons.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHRISTIANITY AND ENGLISH FREEMASONRY.

It is the just pride of Church of England Christianity that it tolerates other Christianities; and of English Freemasonry as a Particular Freemasonry, that in 1738 it made itself a Universal Freemasonry also.

SCRIPTURE QUOTATIONS.

Our American brethren use an abundance of Scriptural quotations in the opening and the conduct of the Third Degree, particularly that sublime observation of King Solomon recorded in Ecclesiastes xii., 1—7.—Dr. OLIVER.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.—PRAYER AT INITIATION.

Bro. Hughan in his Prayers of the Craft, "Freemasons' Magazine," vol. xx., page 387, says that the Grand Lodge of Ireland permits, and in fact arranges for the prayers being presented "through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, or not, according to the desire of the Worshipful Master, two forms being given for each degree—the one Christian, the other Jewish.

* See the communication "Freemasonry and Religion," "Freemasons' Magazine," vol. 24, page 226.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

EARLIEST REVIVAL FACTS.

1. Four old London Lodges, with some other old Masons constitute themselves a Grand Lodge *pro tempore*, February, 1717.

2. St. John the Evangelist Day, 1717. Mr. Anthony Sayer elected Grand Master of Masons. He commands the brethren of the four London lodges to meet him quarterly.

3. Regulations that every Lodge to be thereafter convened, except the four old lodges at that time existing, should be authorised to act by a warrant from the Grand Master for the time being.

4. In consequence of this regulations several new lodges were soon after convened in different parts of London and its environs.

5. Bye-laws of the new lodges not to be contrary to or subversive of the general regulation by which the Fraternity had been long governed, and which had been sanctioned by the four lodges, when convened as a Grand Lodge in 1717.

6. Resolutions in compliment to the brethren of the four old lodges by whom the Grand Lodge was first formed. See Preston, page 157.

7. The old Masons in the metropolis, agreeably to the resolution of the brethren at large, vested all their inherent privileges, as individuals, in the four old lodges, in trust, that they would never suffer the old charges and ancient landmarks to be infringed.

8. The four old lodges then agreed to extend their patronage to every lodge which should thereafter be constituted by the Grand Lodge, according to the new regulations of the society.

9. The four old lodges further agreed, while such lodges acted in conformity to the ancient constitutions of the Order, to admit their Masters and Wardens to share with them all the privileges of the Grand Lodge, excepting precedence of rank.

10. The Officers of the four old lodges formed a code of laws for the future government of this society.

11. The conditional clause, see Preston, page 159"

12. After stating the conditional clause, Preston observes:—By this prudent precaution of our ancient brethren, the original constitutions were established as the basis of all future Masonic jurisdiction in the South of England; and the ancient landmarks, as they are emphatically styled, or the boundaries set up as checks to innovations, were carefully secured against the attacks of future invaders.

13. The four old lodges, Preston proceeds, in consequence of the above compact, in which they considered themselves as a distinct party, continued to act by their original authority; and so far from surrendering any of their rights, had them frequently ratified and confirmed by the whole Fraternity in Grand Lodge assembled, who always acknowledged their independent and immemorial power to practice the rites of Masonry:

14. No regulations of the society which might hereafter take place, could therefore operate with respect to those lodges, if such regulations were contrary to, or subversive of the original constitu-

tions by which only they were governed; and whilst their proceedings were conformable to those constitutions, no power known in Masonry could legally deprive them of any right or privilege which they had ever enjoyed.

15. The necessity of fixing the original constitutions at the standard by which all future laws in the society are to be regulated, was so clearly understood and defined by the whole Fraternity at this time, that it was established as an unerring rule in every installation, public and private, for many years afterwards, to make the Grand Master and the Masters and Wardens of every lodge, engage to support the original constitutions, to the observance of which also every Mason was bound at his initiation.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

MASONIC COWANS.

In a note on "Cowan," which appears in a contemporary, my esteemed friend Bro. Hughan, of Truro, has adduced from my former contributions to The Freemasons' Magazine on the subject, evidence of the early use and signification of the word "Cowan" or "Couan." He might also, from the same source have given a further quotation in regard to its Masonic import. In reiterating in 1707 its ordinance against the employment of Cowans, the Lodge of Kilwinning describes a Cowan to be a Mason "without The Word"—an uninitiated person, an outsider. And in this sense the term was retained by the same Lodge on relinquishing its connection with Operative Masonry. In the ritual which has been in use in Scotch Lodges of Speculative Masons beyond the memory of any now living, we have the term "Cowans and Eavesdroppers." Cowans here means uninitiated persons, who might attempt to gain admission "without the word": Eavesdroppers signifies listeners outside the lodge. Cowan is a purely Scotch phrase, and was peculiar to Operative Masons in the olden time, as indicating irregular Craftsmen who executed certain branches of mason and wright work. Such persons were, under restrictions, admitted to membership in some Masonic *Incorporations*, but their reception in *Lodges* was strictly prohibited. Besides, as is shewn by the records of the Lodge of Haddington (1697) now before me, apprentices indentured to Lodges were taken bound "not to work with nor in company nor fellowship of any Cowan at any manner of building nor Mason work." The earliest minute of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), July, 1599, records its deliverance on a breach of the statute prohibiting the employment of Cowans. Nothing can, we fear, be said with certainty as to the etymology of Cowan. Some Masonic students assign to it a Greek origin—from *κυν*, a dog. It is worthy of notice that *Cu* is also the Gaelic word for dog. May the term, as one of contempt towards Craftsmen "without the word," not have been derived from the Celtic word *Cu*? And may it not be in this sense that we find it employed in "Rob Roy" by the Great Novelist, who in the dispute between the Bailie and Major Galbraith in the public house, in the clachan of Aberfoyle, makes the Highlander, whose broad sword had in a previous brawl the same night been opposed by the Bailie's "red-het culter," speak thus super-

ciliously of the Duke of Argyle:—"She'll speak her mind and fear naebody—she doesna value a Cawmil mair as a cowan, and ye may tell Mac Callum More that Allan Inverach said sae." Rob Roy was written in 1817,—Sir Walter Scott was made a Freemason in 1801, and to his acquaintance with Masonic technicalities his use of Cowan as an epithet of contempt may be ascribed.—D. MURRAY LYON.

THE MANNINGHAM DOCUMENT AND THE HIGH DEGREES.

A letter to the Editor, signed "R. Y.," Freemasons' Magazine, vol. xix., page 172, gives a statement of the points requiring investigation and examination in this document.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE MOST WORTHLESS COMMUNICATIONS.

The most worthless communications are those containing persistent assertions unaccompanied by evidence of any kind, but nevertheless designed to displace valued and long established theories.—A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

Dear Sir and Brother,—Under the above heading, I have received a slip, or cutting from a newspaper, and as it refers, no doubt, to the English Craft and the Grand Secretary's office, in London, I think it important to the whole Order of Craft Masons in England, that the allegations therein contained should be as widely spread abroad as possible, that the subject be thoroughly ventilated, and if the statements therein made, should prove to be true, the Grand Lodge should take the matter into its own hands, and do what the chief of the Executive ought evidently to have done before things had come to the pass they have.

If the Notice of Motion, mentioned in the print I send you, has really been given, it is to be hoped that the subject will be fully discussed, the various complainants have their say, and once for all, the verdict of Grand Lodge be given upon the course of proceedings of the individual in question, and his sentence be pronounced by the Grand Master, so as to put an end to the many attacks upon the individual that have recently appeared in the Masonic prints.

Yours,

AN ENGLISH CRAFT MASON IN SCOTLAND.
July 11th, 1871.

[We have during the last fortnight, received several copies of the same article, and a copy of the newspaper containing it, but we have hitherto, refrained from giving publicity to it.—Ed. F. M. & M. M.]

The following is the extract referred to:—

"There's high jinks in the kitchen of the Craft. An ex-militiaman, from Uxbridge, has got in among the domestics, and half turned their heads. Even the

demure, stately housekeeper of the establishment plays second fiddle to the charming youth, and he is doing his best to turn the house out of the windows.

Like all pampered menials, many of whom are often better off than their masters, this militiaman, that was, finds his good, wholesome bread too well buttered, and aspires to be parlour company. Plain food no longer suits his palate, and unthankful for the bread we give him, he is turning the knowledge gained in our service to his own private ends, by carrying off the scraps and refuse to a deluded set of followers, who hail him at once as their master-mind. For his dupes there is pity, for himself reprobation and admonition.

If it was not that this servant may be laying the foundation of future complications, we might pass over his puerilities with a smile, and after having seriously reprimanded him, permit him to resume his domestic duties. But, as he sets himself up to be greater than his employers, the matter must be brought to a definite issue, and every brother is bound to decide whether the Grand Secretary's Office is to be used as a place of organisation for the sale of degrees and rites not contemplated by Grand Lodge, as well as that the matters there transacted should be made the subject of private pecuniary advantage to the domestic in question, and a tradesman who has admitted he pays him a heavy commission for such information.

To test these matters and expose the nefarious traffic, notice of motion for Grand Lodge, and Grand Chapter, has been given, in the following terms:—

"That whilst this Grand

Lodge
Chapter

 recognises the private right of every

b ^r other
companion

 to belong to any extraneous organisation he may choose, it as firmly forbids.—now, and at any future time,—all

brethren
companions

, while engaged as salaried officials under this Grand

Lodge
Chapter

, to mix themselves up,—in any way,—with such bodies as The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite; the Rites of Misraim and Memphis; the Spurious Orders of Rome and Constantine; the schismatic body styling itself the Mark Grand Lodge of England; or any other exterior organisation whatever (even that of the Order of Knights Templar, which is, alone, recognised by the articles of Union), under pain of immediate dismissal from employment by this Grand

Lodge
Chapter

."

There is no hardship in this course. An employée cannot be serving several distinct, and,—in some cases,—antagonistic interests at one and the same time, and therefore, so long as these men eat our bread, they must be restrained from dabbling in matters above their position. If they do not like the service, all they have to do is to go about their business, the Craft can do without them, and then they will be able to indulge their plebeian aspirations for high jinks to any extent they may choose. At present they are our servants, and if they value the service must not attempt to play the masters.—*Masonic Examiner.*

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

The Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland has announced that the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at Kendal, at the latter end of September, or, the beginning of October.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET. — The next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge will be on the 18th of July at Crewkerne.

The Supreme Council 33° for England and Wales, &c., purpose visiting the following chapters on a tour of inspection, &c. On Monday next to Sheffield, to attend a Rose Croix Chapter, and to instal the M.W.S. of the Talbot Chapter. On Tuesday, July 18th, to Manchester for a Rose Croix meeting, and installation of the M.W.S. of the Palatine Chapter. On Wednesday, the 19th, to Bolton to consecrate a Rose Croix Chapter, and instal the M.W.S. thereof. On Thursday, the 20th inst., to Liverpool, to hold a meeting of the 30th degree at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, for the reception of candidates. On the following day for holding a Rose Croix Chapter, and installing the M.W.S. of the Liverpool Chapter at the Masonic Hall, and for the consideration of other matters important to the welfare of the order.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

SUMMER FESTIVAL.

The Annual Summer Festival of this Institution was held in the School Premises and Grounds, at Wood Green, on Saturday, 5th instant.

As usual, on this occasion, there was a large assemblage of Ladies and Gentlemen.

It had been announced that Captain Vivian, M.P., the W.M. of London Lodge, No. 108, would preside; but that gentleman being unavoidably prevented from attending, at a moments notice, Bro. the Rev. Dr. Cox, Past Grand Chaplain, a Vice-President of the Institution, consented to preside, which he did in a most able manner, thus, adding one more to the many evidences of the great interest he has so long taken in the Boy's School, and the comfort and welfare of its inmates.

The Programme included Athletic Sports by the Pupils, in the large field, on the west side of the Institution. Croquet, Bowls, Quoits, (Ladies), Aunt Sally, and other amusements, were supplied for the use of the Visitors, which were liberally patronised, previous to the commencement of the Distribution of Prizes, and in the intervals between the other parts of the day's proceedings.

At a little after one o'clock commenced the Distribution of Prizes, which was enlivened by Recitations by the Pupils, and a series of Musical Selections, by several Ladies and Gentlemen, who had kindly volunteered their services. Bro. Seymour Smith, (who was a "host in himself") played an Overture and March on the Organ. The same Brother also gave some selections from his Musical Entertainment. Mrs. Sidney Smith, and Miss Strangways, sang in good style some charming Ballads, and Miss Moutrie favoured the company with some

well executed Piano Solos, Bro. Seymour Smith acted also as accompanist.

The following is the list of prizes with their respective recipients, which were presented to each by the Chairman, with appropriate addresses of encouragement and advice.

Prizes Presented by the Institution.

CLASSICAL DEPARTMENT:—

Upper Form, value 21s. each.—Classics, C. J. Jones; Mathematics, W. B. Redgrave; Modern Languages, W. B. Redgrave; English, W. B. Redgrave.

First Class, value 15s. each.—Classics, E. E. Earle; Mathematics, E. E. Earle; Modern Languages, W. F. Hollis; English, E. E. Earle.

Second Class, value 10s. 6d. each.—Classics, E. M. Harrison; Mathematics, L. Smith; Modern Languages, J. Marjason; English, J. E. Dowsing.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:—

First Class, value 10s. 6d. each.—Arithmetic, Jas. Gasson; History and Geography, Frederick Tappolet; Writing, W. H. Owen; English, Frederick Tappolet.

Second Class, value 7s. 6d. each.—Arithmetic, F. Lane; History and Geography, W. H. Sutton; Writing, F. H. G. Moxon; English, W. H. Sutton.

Preparatory Class, value 5s.—General Proficiency, H. H. Newman.

Good Conduct Silver Medal, Presented at the Festival, March, 1871, G. S. Recknell; Efficiency as Monitor, value 21s., W. B. Redgrave.

Special Prizes: presented by Private Donors.

By Bro. Edward Cox, V.P., Canonbury Gold Medal, £4 4s. (Presented at Festival, March, 1871.) Percy Banks.

By Bro. William Winn, V.P., Oxford Local Examination, June, 1871, £5 5s.

By Bro. Rev. Dr. Cox, value 21s.—Proficiency in German, W. B. Redgrave.

By Bro. Rev. Dr. Goodwin.—Gospel History, A. F. Wallbridge; Gospel Essay—Cleansing of the Leper, C. J. Jones.

By Mr. H. C. Sylvester, the Drawing Master, value 21s. each.—Painting, C. J. Jones; Shading, F. Cottman; Architecture, W. H. Owen.

By Bro. Capt. Wordsworth, value 42s.—Elocution, C. J. Jones.

By the Franklin Lodge, No. 838, Boston, value £2. (A Silver Watch is given to the writer of the best Letter, selected from those leaving the Institution at Midsummer and Christmas,) G. W. Martin.

By the Secretary, value 10s. 9d. each.—Personal Cleanliness, Christmas, 1870, A. B. Fletcher; Midsummer, 1871, J. E. Stead.

Presented by the House Committee.

First Prizes, value 21s. each; Second Prizes, value 10s. 6d. each.—Writing, 1, G. S. Recknell; 2, E. C. Isborn and W. H. Owen. Dictation, 1, E. C. Isborn; 2, W. B. Redgrave. History, 1, A. F. Wallbridge; 2, C. J. Jones. Geography and Mapping, 1, E. C. Isborn; 2, E. H. Martin. General attention to studies, M. E. Clough; 2, F. Cottman. General proficiency, A. F. Wallbridge. Mental Arithmetic, 1, A. F. Wallbridge; 2, C. J. Jones. Proficiency in Drill, M. E. Clough; 2, J. Spicer.

The prize for elocution, consisting of an elegantly bound edition of Shakespear in several volumes, the gift of Capt. Wordsworth, is usually awarded on the occasions of this festival. To the Chairman fell the duty of deciding upon the merits of the recitations given by the pupils, in English, French, and German. The decision proved in favour of Master C. J. Jones, and the

manner in which the award was received proved that the audience concurred in the judgment of the Chairman. The merits of the other candidates for the elocution prize were so great that the Chairman and some other brethren supplemented this class with additional prizes.

At the close of the distribution, the chairman alluded to the success that had attended, on former occasions, the experiment of sending up pupils of the Institution to the Oxford and Cambridge local examinations. The present occasion, he was happy to say showed no falling off in the standard of excellence, as the whole of the boys came creditably out of the trial. He mentioned that at their last summer fete, a German friend of his being in attendance, he had asked his opinion upon the recitation in the German language by one of the pupils, and he had informed him that the performance was a very creditable one indeed. That gentleman was now present and would again express his opinion upon the proficiency of the pupils in the German language. He was also happy to state that since that time his friend had become a brother, mainly, he believed, through the evidence afforded by this Institution of the good work of Masonry.

The attention of the company was drawn to the excellent specimens of drawing and water colour painting which surrounded the room in which they were assembled, one in particular, executed by Master Packer, was not eligible in the competition, as the pupil had left the school.

In awarding the prizes for writing a difficulty had, as on the last occasion, arisen. Two pupils had competed so evenly for the second prize that the Committee felt bound to award an additional prize.

At the close of this portion of the proceedings the Chairman regretted the absence of Capt. Vivian, who, he considered, would have more ably fulfilled the duties of the Chair. He was pleased to see so many of the brethren and their ladies manifest, by their attendance, the interest they took in the school. On behalf of the Committee of the Institution he appealed to the brethren that they should more frequently visit the Institution. He could not charge the Craft with indifference to the interests of the institution, they were ever ready to subscribe, and he felt assured that if money was wanted, they had only to ask and it would be forthcoming. The committee exerted themselves to the utmost to maintain the efficiency of the School, but they would be encouraged in their labours if the brethren would come and see the result of their exertions. He need not refer to the improvement in the institution during the last fifteen or twenty years, but great as that improvement had been, these were not the times to stand still. They must advance, and he should not rest till an opportunity was afforded to such boys as showed a similar amount of talent as they had already witnessed, of putting that talent to account. He thought they should found Scholarships at the Universities, so as to give the lads the means of reaching the highest point of promotion in the social scale. Had the parents of these lads been alive, many of them would have been enabled to complete their studies at one or the other of our Great Universities. The Sum of £600, he said, would provide six exhibitions, three at each University. The Chairman then stated that some of the City Guilds had valuable scholarships in their gift, which actually went begging. Many of the Members of these Guilds was also Members of the Craft, and, were the case properly represented, he had no doubt that some of these scholarships could be obtained for the pupils of this

Institution. In this way, at not far distant day, he hoped to see the School made second to none in the country, and to see its pupils achieve similar distinctions, as are now acquired by the Boys from Harrow, Winchester, and Eton. The Chairman concluded, congratulating the boys upon the progress they had made, and urged them to continue their studies.

At the conclusion of his address a vote of thanks was cordially voted to the Chairman.

The thanks of the company were also accorded to Bro. Furrian, the Head Master, who suitably responded.

Miss Hall, the matron, also received a similar compliment, special mention being made of the affectionate care bestowed upon her charges, as evidenced by their happy, contented, and healthy appearance, which, as usual, elicited the praise and admiration of all present. A ramble through the building had given the company an opportunity of witnessing the perfect arrangements for securing the comfort and health of the inmates.

Bro. Binckes then solicited the indulgence of the company. A larger number of guests than were expected, he was happy to say, were present, and some little time would be required to perfect the arrangements for their comfort.

Many seized the opportunity thus offered of a stroll through the beautiful grounds of the institution. The meadow, miniature farm yard, with its newly-made hay stack, the kitchen and fruit garden, and the lawn, surrounded with choice trees and shrubs, were in turn visited. One feature of the latter excited the greatest admiration. It was a beautiful specimen of the tulip tree, one of large size, very rare in this country, at present covered with thousands of blooms, bearing a great resemblance to the flower after which the tree is named. The company then entered the gymnasium, where a collation had been provided by Bro. Gosden, of the Mason's Hall Tavern, which gave the greatest satisfaction.

The Chairman proposed the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which was loyally responded to.

In proposing the health of "The M.W.G. Master, the Marquis of Ripon," the Chairman alluded to his services in America, and the reward which Her Majesty had been pleased to confer in recognition of those services.

The Chairman gave the "Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers," coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, Junior Grand Warden. It gave him great pleasure to learn that Bro. R. W. Stewart had at last had conferred upon him the rank which his distinguished services to Masonry, and notably to the Masonic charities, so long deserved, and he hoped that he might many live many years to wear his laurels.

Bro. Raynham, Stewart, J.G.W., in reply, concurred with the wishes of the Chairman, that the brethren would more frequently visit the Institution. He was sure that what they there witnessed would increase their interest and render them more and more willing to accord their support. He thanked the brethren, on behalf of himself and his brother Grand Officers for the manner in which the toast had been given and responded to.

The "House Committee" was next proposed and loyally responded to by Bro. Bower, the Junior Member of the Committee.

The Chairman, proposed the "Health of Bro. Binckes," the worthy and esteemed Secretary of the Institution, which owed so much to his exertions. He would not go so far as to say that without him the Charity would go to ruin and decay, for he

believe there was sufficient force and energy in Masonry to keep it afloat; but a watch required a mainspring—and he would compare Bro. Binckes to the mainspring of a watch—he was certainly, as he had before remarked, the “right man in the right place.” It could not be said of him that he was either a square peg in a round hole, or a round peg in a square hole. He believed that the time was not far distant when the brethren would express in a manner not to be mistaken their appreciation of his services. The Chairman concluded by hoping that Bro. Binckes would be spared to see the institution become as great, as in his fondest anticipations he could hope for.

Bro. Binckes would not delay them many moments. He certainly could not say the kindly expressions of the Chairman and of the company present took him by surprise. He had so frequently been favoured with evidence of their appreciation, which appreciation had ever stimulated his endeavours to excel the past. Since his connection with this institution, he had been called all sorts of names. He had been described as a pilgrim, and beggar. He was now described as a mainspring and a wooden peg. As to the mainspring, that was a good simile. He could assure them it required the endurance of steel to go through some of his duties. In companying him with a wooden peg, he hoped he should not meet the same fate which had befallen many wooden pegs that were used in laying out the grounds previous to the erection of their present noble building. They had served their use, and were forgotten. But he had no objection to be the peg upon which the brethren should hang their liberality in connection with this Institution. Bro. Binckes heartily thanked the ladies and gentlemen for their attendance on the present occasion, and concluded by proposing the toast of the Ladies, which he must call the toast of the evening—loving, respecting, and adoring them as he did—the charm of all creation, and the support of all the virtues.

Dancing was indulged in with spirit, from 7 o'clock till 10.30, to the merry strains of Music, led by Bro. James Weaver, P.M. 862, Prov. G. O., Middlesex, Bro. F. Binckes, acting as M.C.

The following is the Programme of Dances:—

- 1, Quadrille, “Fleur de Thè”; 2, Polka, “Honeymoon”; 3, Lancers, “French”; 4, Schottische, “Le Mignone”; 5, Mazurka, “Traviatar”; 6, Lancers, “Burlesque”; 7, Galop, “Flick and Flock”; 8, Quadrille, “Song of Songs”; 9, Polka, “Kirness”; 10, Caledonians, “Cootes”; 11, Valse, “Beautiful Danube”; 12, Quadrille, “Songs of the Christy Minstrels”; 13, Polka, “Debardeur”; 14, Galop, “Post Horn”; 15, Lancers, “Imperial”; 16, Galop, “Spirit of the Ball.”

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

PROVINCIAL.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

GREAT BERKHAMPTED, — Berkhamsted Lodge (No. 504). — On Wednesday, the 5th inst., the occasion of the Summer Festival, the brethren of this Lodge met at the King's Arms Hotel. The brethren present were: Bros. Wm. Wilson, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., W.M.; A. E. Olney, P. Prov. G. Purst., S.W.; J. H. Adams, P. Prov. G.S.B., J.W.; W. H. Rowe, P. Prov. G. Sup. of Works, S.D.; Wm. Hendry, J.D.; John E. Lane, P. Prov. G.P., Treas.; W. B. Heath, P. Prov. G.S.W., P.M.; James Burton, P. Prov. G.S.W., P.M.; W. J. Adams, P. Prov. G.S.D., P.M.; R. A.

Wright, P. Prov. G.S.D., P.M.; N. Balderson, W. H. Hobson, Thos. Woodman, jun., Daniel C. Fisher, A. Allan, W. Abbott, B. Pert, A. Greenway, A. T. Rowe, H. Hunt, W. C. Maddever, J. J. Hutton, H. T. Lowe, Thos. Laxton, P. T. Breary, P.G. Steward; and W. Breary. The visitors present were: Bros. Ed. Baxter, Past G. Steward, P.M., No. 8; Wm. Smith, C.E., P.G.S., P.M., 33, &c.; Dr. T. Barringer, P. Prov. G.S.W., P.M., 504, &c.; John Dale, P.M. 11; C. W. Price, P.M. 96; E. Sillifant, P.M. 217; G. A. Taylor, P.M. 217; Thomas Price, P.M. 186; Dr. Tripe, P.M. 912; Thos. Moring, P.M. 9; Partridge, 198; Martin, 198; Thomas Lawrence, 22; Howland, 157; Rugg, 857; Olrick, 85; I. T. Bass, 948; Ring, 19; Knox, 860; Salmon, 173; Simmons, 902; Crowse, 372; and T. Winterhood, H. Marsh, E. Sell, W. S. Wood, and T. W. Field, 1321. The lodge was opened at 4.30. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Mr. Henry Hunt, who was elected at the last meeting. The ballot having been taken for Mr. W. C. Maddever, he was initiated. Bros. Hobson, Balderson, and Woodman were passed by the W.M. to the degree of Fellow Craft. The ordinary business in the lodge having been completed, before the lodge was closed, Bro. J. B. Heath, P.M., proposed in a brief but forcible speech, that a gold jewel should be presented to Bro. W. Wilson, the W.M., for his long and valuable services as Secretary, and the performance of various important duties in the lodge not the least highly appreciated, of which was the organisation and direction of the annual summer festival, which had for so many years been successfully carried out by Bro. Wilson. The proposition was seconded and put to the lodge by the S.W., and was carried by acclamation. The W.M. in thanking the brethren for the unlooked for but highly prized compliment they had paid him, said that whatever time he had devoted to the business of the lodge, or whatever trouble he had taken in connection with any of the duties which he had undertaken, they were labours of love, and he felt amply repaid by the many kindly expressions of satisfaction on the part of the brethren on the present as on many previous occasions, and that it was a real source of pleasure to him to contribute to the comfort and happiness of the members and their visitors, as it was to promote by every means in his power the prosperity of the Berkhamsted Lodge. Bro. Heath, P.M., said he trusted the lodge would forgive him for having exercised a power in anticipation of its delegation by the lodge, but he could not resist the opportunity, feeling assured as he had done, of the unanimous vote of the lodge on that occasion, for obtaining an act of indemnity or absolution, he thought the very graceful compliment paid by the lodge to the W.M. would be enhanced if on the same evening as the vote had been made, and immediately after the W.M. had achieved another of his triumphs in the very successful completion of their present summer “outing,” the jewel voted by the lodge could be presented to him on the same evening, so he had taken upon himself to procure a suitable jewel which, with the authority of the Lodge, he proposed to invest the W.M. After several propositions for joining members, amongst whom was Bro. Baxter, P.G.S. and P.M. No. 8, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was admirably served in the lounge room of the King's Arms Hotel, which was splendidly decorated with flowers and choice shrubs from the nurseries of Bro. Lane, P. Prov. G.P. The cloth having been removed “The Secretary's Toast” was admirably given by Bro. J. B. Heath, P.M., but the effect was somewhat marred by the want of “drill,” a majority of those present probably never having assisted at a similar performance. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts, were given by the W.M. in pithy terms, as he explained that the time being short for those brethren who had to leave for London by train, the list of toasts being somewhat long he would set an example of brevity which he, however, desired should not be misunderstood for any want of cordial hospitality and fraternal greeting to the visiting brethren on his part. In proposing the health of the M.W. the Grand Master, the W.M. in a brief but admirable manner reminded the brethren of the high Masonic qualities of the G.M., and particularly referred to the most recent great public and at the same time Masonic service rendered to the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race in his quality of High Commissioner from this country to our transatlantic cousins, for which eminent services Her Majesty had been pleased to confer upon our M.W. Grand Master the dignity of a Marquis, an act which had met with the highest approval and universal satisfaction amongst all parties and throughout the entire length and breadth of the land. In giving the healths of

the Past Grand Masters, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland' and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the W.M. alluded to the twenty-six years of service given by the noble Earl to the sound and solid advancement of English Freemasonry throughout the world, to his excellence as a ruler, and uniform urbanity and kindness as a Mason and a nobleman. Of the Prince of Wales the W.M. said we all feel additional pleasure in knowing that whilst H.R.H. holds the highest rank that could have been conferred on him as a Mason, he was not content to have mere honorary rank, but had earnestly desired to participate actively in the good work, and to take his part as a practical worker in the performance of lodge duties that he might the better be enabled to take part in the governing of the Masonic body, and by a familiarity with the practices of Masonic work and rule assist in that great Parliamentary assemblage of Masons in which he has been assigned so important a position as Past Grand Master. H.R.H. had, therefore, graduated as a member and served the office of Senior Warden of the Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16, and having on due course been elected as W.M., was on Monday last installed as the Master of that lodge, and he added that the interest our noble brother had exhibited in connection with the Craft on many occasions since he became a member of our order, was well known to all present, and it had borne its fruits. The next toast, the Provincial Grand Master, the R.W. Bro. W. Stuart, also met with a very hearty reception, for as the W.M. remarked, the R.W. Bro. had endeared himself to all who knew him, both in and out of Masonry. The toast of "The Deputy Grand Master the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the rest of the Grand Officers past and present" was received with all honour, the special mention by the W.M. of the Earl of Carnarvon's services as the representative of the G.M. in Grand Lodge on several occasions, and of his long and zealous services in connection with the Order, before his appointment by the present M.W.G.M. as his deputy, met with re-echoing applause; the mention of other Grand Officers including the name of our much esteemed Bro. Jno. Havers, P.G.S.W., a member of the Berkhamsted Lodge, whose absence on this occasion was much regretted by all present, gave the W.M. another opportunity of saying more kind and fraternal things from the chair. "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, past and present" followed, and the toast was coupled with the name of Bro. Heath, P.Prov. G.W., and ably responded to by Bro. Heath, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Officers. The health of the W.M., Bro. W. Wilson, was then proposed by Bro. Heath, P.M., in highly eulogistic terms, and it was received in a most enthusiastic manner. The results of his devoted labours, great tact, and good management of the affairs of the Lodge had brought the Berkhamsted Lodge into its present flourishing condition. In the name of the lodge he presented him with a beautiful Secretary's jewel, which had been voted in lodge, of which the following is the inscription:—"1871, Berkhamsted Lodge, No. 504. To Bro. Wm. Wilson, W.M., Prov. G.D.C., in appreciation of valuable services rendered, especially when filling the office of Hon. Sec." (The jewel, which was much admired, was manufactured by Bro. Caney, 44, Cheapside.) The W.M. in reply said:—Bro. Past Master Heath, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brethren. The very kind and handsome manner in which the proposal of my health has been received by this numerous company, whose friendship and association I highly prize, and shall ever endeavour to merit, I need scarcely say, is most flattering to my feelings. It is indeed an honour which I am proud to acknowledge, and which calls forth my warmest thanks. When I look to my right hand and then to my left hand, and see around this social board so numerous and distinguished a gathering of metropolitan and provincial brethren, I can without hesitation state that the present moment to me, as Master of this lodge, is one of high gratification. Brethren, I have also to thank you on another ground for this beautiful jewel which has with so much eloquence been presented to me in your name by Bro. Heath. I know not how to find words to thank you for this valuable present, which has taken me by surprise, and which I feel I scarcely deserve. In fulfilling the various offices to which I have had the honour from time to time to be appointed, I have merely endeavoured to do my duty, as every true Mason ought to do. With reference to our annual trip mentioned by Bro. Heath, it would be untrue were I to say it causes no trouble, yet, after one receives so many kind expressions of pleasure and satisfaction with the days enjoyment, one feels more than repaid

for any trouble taken. You, consider, however, that empty words are but as bubbles upon the water which expand upon its surface and become attractive to the eye, yet, ere a few moments have elapsed, burst and leave not a trace behind wherewith to mark the spot whence they arose. This token, however, which you have presented to me is composed of lasting materials which may be handed down to succeeding generations, and when the harmonious concord of sweet sentiments with which its presentation was accompanied in the eloquent speech of Bro. Heath shall cease to vibrate in our ears, when we of the present age shall have passed away, I trust it may remain in the possession of those who may feel proud to exhibit it as a proof that their ancestor was of some little use in his time, and act as a stimulus to them to go and do likewise. The W.M. further said, that the great honour the brethren had done him in receiving and drinking the toast of his health so very cordially,—indeed enthusiastically—placed him a condition of embarrassment, for they knew he loved work, and to be doing rather than talking. Speech making he said was not a gift for him, but he should indeed be wanting in gratitude, and a proper appreciation of their great kindness if he did not do his best to thank them, and say how much he felt the compliments paid to him on that occasion, and not only just now at the festive board, but also in lodge, when they took him by surprise, and greatly delighted him by voting the very handsome, substantial, and unlooked-for token of their esteem and regard. To show that such meetings as the present did great good and were appreciated by those who joined in them as visitors. He referred to some of the former summer meetings and quoted some statistics, and expressed the pleasure he felt at receiving such valuable additions to the numerical strength of the lodge as had been proposed on the present occasion whilst at labour, and he concluded by again thanking the brethren for the manner in which they had received the toast and mention of his services. Amongst the other toasts was that of "The Visitors," proposed by the W.M. in a kind and fraternal manner, and he called upon Bros. E. Baxter, W. Smith, C.E., and Dr. Barringer more particularly, to respond thereto. Bro. E. Baxter expressed the great pleasure he had had in visiting the lodge a second time on the occasion of its July meeting and annual "outing," he had enjoyed himself so much that he had asked his friend Bro. George Lambert, to propose him as a joining member, and he therefore hoped next year to play the part of host instead of being simply "an invited and honoured guest" as he had been on two occasions. Bro. W. Smith, C.E., said as for himself he had many opportunities afforded him of visiting lodges and of seeing good working, and many more of responding to invitations such as the present, to "assist" at high festivities, such as those in which they had all taken part to day, but amongst the many similar pleasant meetings he had attended, he did not remember one whereat everything was so well ordered and so effectively carried out, showing the admirable generalship of the W.M., and the experiences and tact he had brought to bear was to insure success. The selection of the route through which they had that day been taken, presenting much lovely scenery, and many historical incidents, had been a happy one, and the weather had been especially propitious, but the almost princely hospitality and the anticipation of all their possible wants reflected the highest credit on the W.M., more especially, and on all concerned, but whilst their thorough enjoyment at the "outing" was ensured by the provision and foresight of the W.M., and the hospitality of the lodge had been as agreeable as it was large, and well ordered, they, the visitors, had also been permitted to take part in the labours of the lodge, by assisting at the admission and passing of several brethren. Bro. Dr. Barringer in responding for himself and the other visitors, regretted that although a P.M. of the lodge, his engagements prevented his continuing his membership. He was delighted to see the increase in numbers and the general prosperity of the lodge. He quite agreed with Bro. Smith and others that such occasions as the present, added much to the well being of the lodge, as well as to the health of the members. And he thought their example would be well followed by London lodges. A good dinner was enjoyable, and so was a days' pleasure in viewing the beauties of nature, but the two combined as they had been that day, formed a treat truly enjoyable, and not to be excelled. The health of "The Initiates," was given by Bro. Adams, P.M., both initiates responded. The "Health of the Past Masters," proposed by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. Adams, I.P.M.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," proposed by Bro. Wright, P.M., was responded by Bro. Lane, P.M., Treas. The "Officers of the Lodge," by the W.M., responded to by the Senior Warden. The "Tyler's toast" brought the meeting to a close.

[The particulars of the excursion to the places of interest in the neighbourhood was given in last week's Magazine, under the head of "Masonic Festivities."]

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held at the Freemason's Hall, on Friday, the 7th inst. In the unavoidable absence, until a later hour of the evening, of the W.M., Bro. Stretton, P.Prov.G.Reg., the chair was taken and the ceremonies performed by the Prov. G.M and Senior P.M., R. W. Bro. Kelly, assisted by Bro. Toller, Prov. G. Sec. There were also present:—Bros. Weaver, P.M. and Treas.; Crow, S.W.; Widdowson, Sec.; Palmer, S.D.; Smith, J.D.; McAllister, as I.G.; Elwood Edwards, Wilkinson, Worthington, and Bembridge, Tyler. Visitors, Bros. Dr. Bake-well, Sec. 405; Trinidad; Toller, P.M.; Buzzard, P.M.; Partridge, Sec; Thorp and Thomson, of No. 523. The business was to raise Bros. Wilkinson, Edwards, Ellwood, and C. J. Worthington to the third degree, which, after due examination, was done in ancient form. A letter from his widow having been read, in reply to the vote of condolence on the decease of the late Bro. Pettifor, P.M.-P. Prov. G.S.W., the lodge was closed, after which refreshment followed labour.

THE ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND.

The annual meeting of the above Order was held at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 4th inst. After reading the minutes of previous meetings, which were confirmed, Comps. Charles Fendelow, Wolverhampton, and David Forsyth, Edinburgh, were initiated members of the Order, and the office-bearers were re-elected.

After the Installation, the Companions sat down to a sumptuous dinner, presided over by W.D. Grand Master and Governor, J. Whyte Melville, and spent a very pleasant and agreeable evening.

It may be mentioned that at the business meeting the Grand Secretary intimated that he had been in communication with several Companions in London, who were desirous for the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order there, and he had no doubt that by the next Quarterly Communication the matter will then have assumed such a shape as will entitle to be taken into consideration by the Grand Lodge.

THE MARK DEGREE IN ENGLAND.

(Continued from page 467).

Accordingly the following minute was entered into between the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Scotland:—

"The Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter having held a Conference with a view to carrying out the remit to them, unanimously agree that what is generally known under the name of the Mark Master's Degree was wrought by the operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry in connection with the Fellow Craft Degree before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. That since that date it has continued to be wrought in the Old Operative Lodges, but in what may be called the Speculative Lodges it never was worked at all—or at all events only in a very few—that this Degree being, with the exception of the Old Operative Lodges above mentioned, entirely

abandoned by the Lodges of St. John's Masonry, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter assumed the management of it, as the fourth Degree of Masonry, in order to complete the instruction of their candidates in the preliminary Degrees, before admitting them to the Royal Arch. That this Degree, whether viewed as the second part of the Fellow Craft Degree or as a separate Degree, has never been recognised or worked in England, Ireland, or the Continent, or in America, as a part of St. John's Masonry; and that it is now most desirable that an arrangement may be made which will reconcile the differences between the Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and which will admit of the three first Degrees of St. John's Masonry being worked in the Lodges in Scotland in a manner similar to that allowed by Sister Grand Lodges. Resolve to recommend the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland to enact and declare as follows:—1. That all Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland shall be allowed to work this Degree in virtue of the Charters which they already possess. 2. That to prevent confusion with Brethren belonging to Lodges out of this Kingdom, or with Sister Grand Lodges, this Degree although held by the Grand Lodge to be a second part of the Fellow Craft Degree, shall only be conferred on Master Masons, and the secrets shall only be communicated in presence of those who have taken it either from a Lodge or Chapter entitled to grant it. 3. That the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland shall adopt the same ritual in conferring the Degree, being that now adjusted by their respective Committee. 4. That any candidate applying to be admitted to the Royal Arch Degree, if he has received this Degree in a regular Lodge of St. John's Masonry, shall not be required to take it a second time from the Chapter into which he seeks admission, but in event of his not having received it he shall be obliged to take it from that Chapter. 5. That as regards the Royal Arch Degrees, this Degree shall be reckoned the fourth Degree in Masonry. 6. That nothing contained in these regulations shall interfere with the superintendence which the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter claims over Mark Masonry out of Scotland, or with the Lodges holding of it in England or abroad." The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland agreed to this, so that now we are quite at one. Matters continued in his state till the year 1864, I think, for the first time communications were opened between Bro. Binckes, as representing the body of which he is now Secretary, and the Grand Chapter of Scotland as to the position of the Mark Degree in England. A memorial was sent down from Bro. Binckes to the Supreme Chapter of Scotland, and having given it our most careful consideration we were very anxious at the time to see if any arrangement could be made by which the superintendence of the Degree would be taken up by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of England. I may say that personally we have not the least hostility to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England. Nor did we attach too much importance to its spurious origin, as that might have been got over; but the difficulty we had at that time was that it should be the last resort to recognise a Governing body, which has an existence in no country in the world, excepting England. We know what a Grand Lodge of St. John's Masonry is; and we know what a Grand Chapter means; and we know what a Grand Council of Rites means; but I believe we have not anywhere, except in England, a Grand Lodge of Mark Masters. And the point was put to us in Scotland, that we might as well have a Grand Lodge of Fellow Crafts. We thought in 1864 it would be very desirable if we could get the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Chapter of England, to take up the question. when we would most gladly have

retired from English ground altogether; and, accordingly we sent up a very full Report of all the proceedings, generally such as I have now been speaking to, to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, and this Report concludes as follows:—"In these circumstances your Committee do not recommend the Supreme Chapter to acquiesce in the call made upon it in the document now under consideration. But they would be very glad to see the Degree of Mark Master put on the same footing in England as in Ireland, Scotland, Canada, and America, and with this view they recommend the Supreme Chapter to bring the matter before the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of England; and should either of these bodies sanction the working of the Mark Master's Degree, as a part of the Fellow Craft Degree (as have been done by the Grand Lodge of Scotland), or separately as in the case in the Grand Lodges and Chapters of Ireland, Canada, and America, or should they recognise the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters as the lawful head of the Order in England—in any of these events your Committee would recommend the Supreme Chapter at once to recall the warrants already granted to Lodges in that country, and to cease from granting new ones in time coming. But until the recognised governing Masonic Bodies in England do this, your Committee do not think the Supreme Chapter could take the initiative in recognising as a lawful governing body the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England." That was in 1864. On the 11th of November, 1864, the Committee met and passed that Report. This was sent to the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, in December, 1864, along with a Memorial; and this Memorial, after relating the fact that the Report had been adopted, asked a deliverance on the following points:—"1st. Whether these Grand Bodies are prepared to sanction the working of the Mark Master's Degree in England, either as a part of the Second or Fellow Craft Degree (as has been done by the Grand Lodge of Scotland), or as a separate Degree, as in the case in the Lodges holding under the Sister Grand Lodges of Ireland, Canada, and America; or, 2nd. Whether these Grand Bodies are prepared to recognise the Body styling itself 'The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown,' as the lawful head of the Order of Mark Maonry in England," and this Memorial concludes as follows:—"In submitting these questions to the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, the Supreme Chapter of Scotland would express a hope that some arrangement may be made which will have the effect of bringing about a similarity of working in the two countries, which, from their close alliance, is much to be desired; and that in this way the proper place may be assigned to the Mark Master's Degree in the Degrees of Masonry." This was sent to Grand Lodge of England in December, 1864, and in June, 1865, there was received by Bro. Whyte Melvills, Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, from Bro. Gray Clarke, then Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of England, a letter containing the following replies to the queries submitted, viz.:—"1st. That the Grand Lodge of England in the Book of Constitutions has declared and pronounced 'That pure Ancient Masonry consists of Three Degrees and no more—viz., those of the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch,' and consequently it gives no sanction to the working of the Mark Master's Degree in England. 2nd. That the Grand Lodge of England does not acknowledge the Mark Master's Degree to be part of pure Ancient Freemasonry, and does not recognise the Body styling itself 'The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, Wales, and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown.' And the same letter, merely altering the name of the Grand Body, was sent from the Grand

Chapter of England. In consequence of that communication the Grand Chapter of Scotland declined to recognise the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England to any effect whatever, and matters went on in this state for some time longer, till negotiations were again opened by Bro. Binckes to see if some arrangement could not be made whereby something might be done which would put matters on a better footing. At that time the idea of a Conference between all bodies interested was suggested, and the matter came before the Grand Chapter Committee in the first place in September last year, when the following report was made:—"The Committee having taken into consideration communication from Bro. Frederick Binckes, London, proposing a Conference between Delegates of the Supreme Chapter and the body which he represents, and having also carefully considered the previous communings relative thereto, unanimously recommend the Supreme Chapter to agree to send Delegates to a Conference provided Grand Lodges and Chapters of England, Ireland, and Scotland, are parties to it." That is the recommendation of the Committee, and I wish to read to you also the Minute of the Grand Chapter following thereon, but before doing so I should mention that between the meeting of the Committee and Grand Chapter, Bro. Binckes sent to us a communication from Ireland, from which it appeared that the Grand Chapter of Ireland, although it has never formally recognised the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England, has recognised the certificates issuing from it. It goes so far back as 1860, and being a long time ago had been entirely overlooked by everybody until the meeting of Grand Chapter, and we only then learned the position Ireland occupied in reference to this matter. This was laid before the Grand Chapter as also a letter from the Grand Chapter of Canada, agreeing to a recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge. *This is the minute of the meeting. The date is the 21st September, 1870. "The Supreme Chapter then took into consideration communications from Comp. Frederick Binckes, of London, and Bro. the Rev. G. K. Portal on the subject of the proposed Conference with the body which these Brethren represented with the view to a recognition of that body of the Supreme Chapter, also the copy letters therein referred to from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, the Deputy Grand Master of Ireland, and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and the report of the Committee thereon. After a long discussion it was ultimately unanimously resolved to adopt the recommendation of the Committee, and to agree to appoint Delegates with a view to a Conference, provided Delegates were also appointed by the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, the Grand Lodge and Chapter of Ireland, the Grand Lodge of Scotland. In coming to this decision the Supreme Chapter did not overlook the documents laid before them by Brothers Portal and Binckes, nor underrate their important bearing upon the question now under discussion, more particularly in so far as they disclose the sentiments of individual members of the Grand Lodge of England as such, but keeping in view: (1) The decided expression of the minds of the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England as contained in the resolutions of these Grand Bodies dated respectively, the 7th June and 2nd August, 1865, not to recognise "the body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown," and (2) the serious complications which might arise were the Grand Lodge of England at any future time to adopt the same view of the Mark Degree as has been adopted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland—viz.: that it is not a separate Degree at all, but a part and portion of the Fellow Craft Degree,

* See Appendix A.

and to assume the management of it; while on the other hand were recognition awarded to a body such as the one now craving it (which exists in no other country except England), and were it insisting on abiding by the recognition so given. The Supreme Chapter did not feel disposed to undertake the responsibility of entering into any negotiations unless the Grand Lodges and Chapters of England, Ireland, and Scotland were parties to it." This was communicated to Bro. Binckes, and he having a great difficulty in the matter in so far as relates to the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, asked a Conference with the Committee of the Grand Chapter of Scotland. As we were always glad to see our friend Bro. Binckes, we agreed to meet him, and the meeting took place on the 14th October, 1870, in Edinburgh. The minute of that meeting was as follows:—"This meeting being convened principally at the request of Brother Binckes, London, the Committee heard that Brother fully on the subject of the last minute of Supreme Chapter. After a long discussion, it was ultimately agreed to recommend the Supreme Chapter so far to modify that minute to the effect that if the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England were formally invited to send Delegates to the proposed Conference being held." This came before the Grand Chapter on the 22nd of December last when the recommendation of the Committee was adopted, and it was agreed so far to modify the previous resolutions, that if the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England were formally invited to the Conference, absence of Delegates from either or both of these bodies should be no bar to its being held. It was agreed to send Delegates, and the Grand Chapter indicated an opinion who the Delegates should be. Then on the 14th of February, in consequence of some doubt being expressed as to the attendance of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, it was resolved to delay appointing Delegates until Ireland had returned an answer, and I also wrote Bro. Binckes explaining our views on that point; but having received a letter from Bro. Binckes that not only Ireland had appointed Delegates, but that the Grand Lodge of England, although not recognising the Mark Degree, would still have brethren connected with that body present at our Conference in order to report anything that might occur to the Grand Lodge. On the 1st of March of this year the Grand Chapter remitted to the Committee to appoint the Delegates to Conference in terms of the previous resolution to that effect, and this was done by the Committee upon the 6th March, 1871, appointing the Delegates "to the Conference to be held in London, on the subject of the Mark Degree in England." And I produce to the meeting an official extract from the Minutes of our appointment to represent the Grand Chapter of Scotland.* Having now briefly stated the position which the Grand Chapter holds in this matter, what has taken place from first to last with respect to the Mark Degree, I would just say in conclusion, if we can by this Conference do anything towards bringing about a uniform system of working in the three countries, we shall feel that our labours have not been in vain. It is very unfortunate that there should be any dissension between us, and if these can be settled and uniformity of working established, the advantages to Masonry in general will be very great. For myself, personally, I think that the first thing we should do is to lay before the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of England, our views upon the position which the Mark Degree ought to hold. The Grand Lodge of Scotland had a strong feeling, and a stronger feeling probably than the Grand Lodge of England has, as to the Mark Degree not being a Degree falling under their Constitu-

* See Appendix B.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland holds three Degrees only, the Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason. But they were compelled to admit, though against their own inclinations, that what is now called the Mark Master's Degree is only a part and portion of the Fellow Craft. The grounds upon which they came to that conclusion I need not enter upon, as Bro. Kero, one of the Delegates from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, will explain them fully to you, and after hearing him you will see why I think our course ought to be to lay before the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England, the reasons which induced the Grand Lodge of Scotland to admit that this Mark Degree is a part and portion of the Fellow Craft Degree, and also that we should lay a full report of the proceedings before the Grand Lodge and Chapter of Ireland. If these Grand Bodies take the same view that was taken in Scotland all difficulty is for ever removed, because if these Degrees are taken up by St. John's Masonry, when you put the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter of Scotland in a position to make a proper arrangement. I believe were the Degree acknowledged to be a part of the Fellow Craft Degree the Grand Chapter would cheerfully give up all connection with it as a Degree, which has never had anything to do with Capitular Masonry, and was only taken up because the Grand Lodge had taken no charge of the working of it, and is now only retained because many Lodges holding under Scotland do not work it. Although tolerated it is not enforced. But if an arrangement could be come to by which it would be admitted that this is not a separate Degree in Freemasonry in any country, but a portion of the Second Degree, we should establish a point that would overcome great difficulties. In this way if a Master Mason came up wishing to be exalted to the Royal Arch Degree who was not in possession of the Mark Degree we should immediately send him back to his Lodge to get it in the same way as if a Fellow Craft came up, to be made a Royal Arch Mason who had not taken the Master Mason's Degree. Therefore, I think it is of great importance that we should lay before the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland the whole history of this Mark Degree, the position it holds, and the arguments and the evidence which induced the Grand Lodge of Scotland to adopt it as a part of the Fellow Craft Degree. Although we sent the Memorial to which I have referred, we did not enter into the question of the evidence. But if, having all this evidence and all these facts before them, the Grand Lodge and Chapter of England should decide that they will never in all time coming recognise the Mark Degree or anybody presiding over Mark Masons, then I think the time is not far distant when Bro. Binckes may realise what he calls one of the dreams of his life and bring about a recognition of this Grand Mark Lodge by Scotland and Ireland. If England were out of the field we might easily come to an arrangement, but I should like in the first instance that we brought it before Grand Lodge and Chapter of England. If they recognise you our labours are ended. If they decide that they will not, then we are at liberty to arrange with Ireland, and I do not think there can be any doubt as to what we will do. That is the first point. You will now have an opportunity of hearing the facts concerning Mark Masonry from Bro. Kerr, but in order to fill up a blank in my statement, Bro. Entwistle, who was intimately acquainted with the matter at the time of the formation of the Grand Mark Lodge, and was Right Worshipful Master of one of the Mark Lodges in England, will now address you; and from these various statements we shall probably derive sufficient information to enable us to come to a sound decision as to the action which is to be taken.

Bro. Entwistle: What I have to say is merely to give a slight narrative of the facts, and I do not know that they bear on the present questions further than they will enable the members of the Conference to ascertain the exact position of the different bodies claiming to exercise jurisdiction over the Mark Degree in England. I have been acquainted with Mark Masonry now since its commencement in England, under the Bon Accord Chapter some fifteen years ago. The first petition from six members of the Bon Accord Chapter praying that Chapter for a warrant to enable them to establish a Mark Master's Lodge in London was on the 11th September, 1851. On the 27th June, 1854, the warrant had been granted, and Lord Leigh was installed (by dispensation) Master of the Bon Accord Lodge in London. In November of the same year, at a Quarterly Convocation of the English Grand Chapter, a Committee was

appointed on the suggestion of the M.W. Grand Master, to confer with six members of the Board of General Purposes and report to him (the G.M.) whether it was advisable to attach the Mark Degree to our present constitutions, and several members of that Committee took the Degree in the Albany Lodge and in the Isle of Wight, and in the Ben Accord Lodge, London. In the following month, at a meeting of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, it was agreed to grant Mark Warrants in England.

Bro. Portal: Was this before the Report was made by the Committee of Grand Chapter?

Bro. Entwistle: It was on the 19th December, 1855.

Bro. Portal: It seems then to have been rather a hasty step.

Bro. Entwistle:—The Report of the Committee of the Grand Chapter was made on the 1st February, 1856, and it stated that the Mark Degree formed no part of the Arch Degree, but was a portion of the Fellow Craft. In the Grand Lodge Communication following, on March 5th, 1856, it was declared that the Mark forms no part of the Royal Arch Degree, but a link between the second and third Degrees, and recommend it to be added to the Fellow Craft Degree. This, as we know, the minutes of that Communication were non-confirmed at the meeting in June. They did not require non-confirming in the Chapter, because Grand Chapter Committee reported that the Mark Degree was not a portion of the Royal Arch.

Bro. Mackersy:—When was the first Chapter granted by Scotland?

Bro. Entwistle:—On the 18th June; fourteen days after the Grand Lodge had non-confirmed the minutes. There was a letter in the "Freemasons Magazine" at the time to Lord Leigh from three members of the Ben Accord Lodge, protesting against the unconstitutional conduct of several members of that Lodge and the great irregularities practised in his Lordship's name. In May, 1857, Lord Leigh issued a letter calling a meeting of all parties working Mark Lodges under whatever jurisdiction, in which he says:—"It appears to me very desirable, that the whole of the brethren of the Degree in England and Wales should be invited to attend a General Meeting for the purpose of expressing their opinion as to whether it is better to unite as a whole under a constitutionally elected governing body or to continue as at present—some under the English Constitution, and some under Irish, Scotch or American warrants, each relatively to the other, in effect irregular." There were four Lodges at that time under the Scotch Constitution—the Thistle, the Mark, the Arnott, and the St. John's. The meeting was held at the Freemason's Tavern on the 31st of May, 1857, the Ben Accord Mark Masters, those acting under Scotch Warrants, and time immemorial Lodges being fairly represented. The following resolutions were unanimously carried.

Resolution—

1. That this meeting of Brethren practising the Mark Degree, regret that this portion of Freemasonry should have been, since 1813, omitted from the ceremonies recognised by the Grand Lodge of England, and is anxious to promote the working of Mark Masonry.

2. That this meeting deploras the difference of Authorities, of working and organisation, at present existing among Mark Masters, and is anxious to promote unity and uniformity on these points.

3. That a Committee be appointed to ascertain and represent the views of all parties practising the Degree, with respect to the means to be adopted to promote such unity and uniformity.

REVIEWS.

The Universal Masonic Directory, Calendar and Pocket Book for 1870-71., (issued July 1, 1871), 276 p.p. London: 19, Salisbury-street, Straud.

This work contains complete lists of the whole of the Office bearers of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapters, the Grand Mark Masters Lodge, the Grand Conclave of Knight's Templars, the Supreme Council 33°, and of other Grand, Provincial, District and subordinate Masonic bodies in England, Scotland, &c., appointed to office in the year 1871 up to the 30th June last, together with a vast amount of useful information relating to the various Masonic bodies throughout the world. The information contained is exclusively Masonic. Several improvements over the previous issues are noticeable, and the work is very convenient as a pocket book of reference for Masonic purposes.

DOCTRINES OF MASONRY AS TAUGHT IN OUR ENGLISH LODGE.

Speculative Masonry Defined.

Speculative Masonry is a complete system of instruction in the great truths of natural and revealed religion veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols. It is progressive, commencing in the first degree with natural religion, advancing in the second to the law, and in the third to the gospel; though the principles of Christianity are, to a certain extent, contained in all.

First Degree.—Natural religion includes all that man can learn without Divine revelation, and practise without Divine grace, viz., belief in God, and reliance on His providence, and the four cardinal virtues of Fortitude, Temperance, Prudence, and Justice. It is to these that the signs and symbols connected with initiation to the Entered Apprentice degree refer. But in addition to these the candidate is admonished as to the necessity of possessing the three Christian graces of Faith, Hope, and Charity, and he is referred to the Bible as the spiritual tracing board of the Great Architect of the Universe, the unerring standard of truth and justice by which his faith is to be governed.

Second Degree.—The instruction of the second degree has special reference to the Temple of Solomon, the great type of Christian Churches.

Third Degree.—An explanation of the legend of the third degree is given in the Freemasons' Magazine, vol. xviii., page 42. It is only by the light shed upon it by the gospel that its signification can be discerned, and no one who is not a Christian can realise the full depth of its meaning, and the great beauty of its imagery. So long as the ceremony of raising to the degree of Master Mason remains unaltered, the separation of Masonic teaching from Christian doctrine is impossible. From a bundle of Masonic Excerpts.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—But it is said to be inconsistent with the Gospel to hold societies thus secretly guarded. Let Him who "spake as never man spake," speak for Himself—"Unto you," He says, to His disciples, "it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but unto them without all these things are done in parables." When He stood before the High Priest, and was asked of his doctrine, He replied, "I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, and in secret have I said nothing" contrary thereto. This He said of His doctrine and teaching. But the secrets and mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven were another matter. It was only a few hours before He thus spake of His teaching—His doctrines—That He had instituted the great sacramental mystery of His religion, in secret, with His disciples alone. And this sacrament of the last supper was, for some centuries, always a secret mystery, known only to those who by baptism had been initiated; until, alas! the Church began to court the world, and then those sacred mysteries of that heartrending event were made a public spectacle of,—alas for the Church that it is so!—*Rev. E. M. P. Wells.*

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS CHARITY."

Such was the declaration of one whose eloquent sayings, whose profound knowledge of human nature, and whose acquaintance with Hebrew lore and Jewish law were never excelled. Who ever could delineate like faith like Paul? who better elucidate the hidden springs of hope than he? And yet, Charity, which as then written, means love, outranked both Faith and Hope, for faith, based upon hope, is "the evidence of things not seen," the main-spring to action, and the direct incentive to that love which embraces every object which God had created under the dominion of man, and liable to need pity, commiseration on relief. The same model writer also tells us that "without faith it is impossible to please God," and that "faith works by love." Hence no faith is acceptable but that which does work by love or charity.

Laws are necessary; there must be defined rules of action, and human dependence compels reciprocal benefits and protection. It is indeed lamentable that these laws are broken, and that men forget the obligations they owe to each other. Nor can those appointed to enforce the laws, be excused for non-fulfillment of their sworn duties. They may be gentle, numane and well-bred, but their duty must be done.

But all wrongs do not come under the eye of human enactments, nor do all sins require the notice of human law.

But all wrongs and all sins are a violation of law, and offences, immediate or remote, against society. The inducements—the provocations, the temptations and weakness which lead to crimes, sins and wrongs, are among the things unknown, or if known, not fully understood.

It is the mission of Masonry to disregard intolerance and attacks upon itself, and to foster the very highest idea of pity for the unfortunate, relief for the distressed, comfort for the mourner, protection for the weak, education and culture for the orphan, and an open hand to to him who, having sinned, is ready to repent and do better.—*Masonic Trowel.*

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER,
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM OF AMERICA.

Oh say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming;
The rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
'Tis the star-spangled banner, &c.

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half exposes?
Now it catches a gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, it shines in the stream.
'Tis the star-spangled banner, &c.

Oh! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and dread war's desolation,
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that has made and preserved us a nation;
Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust,"
And the star-spangled banner, &c.

Additional verse by Bro. Walter Montgomery; } dedicated to the
American Guests of Earl Shrewsbury.

See our Eagle so free, and old England's brave Lion,
Henceforth and for ever in amity blending,
Since the treaty is sealed 'twixt the sire and the scion,
With the blessing of heaven aye surely attending;
Then let Britain's sweet shamrock, leek, thistle and rose,
Those time-honoured emblems for ever repose
With the star-spangled banner, oh! long may it wave
O'er the home of the free, and the land of the brave.

July 4th, 1871.

[The "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by Sir Knight Slack, of the Allegheny Commandery, on the occasion of the banquets to the American Masons now visiting Europe.

The additional verse was written by Bro. Walter Montgomery, the celebrated actor, who was a fellow passenger with the American Masons on the voyage across the Atlantic.]

"Many of the antediluvian arts were lost at the deluge; and amongst the rest the use of fire, which was not regained for a long period afterwards. Goquet makes this observation, and affirms 'that it is a truth attested by the most ancient and most unanimous tradition.' The Egyptians, Persians, Phœnicians, Greeks, and several other nations, acknowledged that their ancestors were once without the use of fire. The Chinese confess the some of their progenitors. However incredible these facts may appear, yet they are confirmed by what several writers, both ancient and modern, have declared of nations who were their contemporaries, and in this state of ignorance and barbarity when they knew them. Pomponius, Mela, Pliny, Plutarch, and other ancient authors, speak of nations, who, at the time they wrote, knew not the use of fire, or had but just learned it. Facts of the same kind are attested by several modern relators. The inhabitants of the Marian islands, which were discovered in 1521, had no idea of fire. Never was astonishment greater than theirs, when they saw it on the descent of Magellan on one of their islands. At first they believed it to be a kind of animal that fixed itself to, and fed upon wood. Some of them, who approached too near, being burnt, the rest were terrified, and durst only look upon it at a distance. They were afraid, they said, of being bit, or lest that dread animal should wound them with his violent respiration; for these were the first notions they formed of heat and flame. Such, too, probably were the notions originally of the Greeks. And there is no doubt, for this reason, that there were some nations anciently who eat the flesh of animals quite raw. These facts may enable us to form a judgment of the savage and barbarous state of mankind after the confusion of tongues, and dispersion of families."—*Dr. Oliver.*

Poetry.

THY WILL BE DONE.

When those we love give up their breath,
And pass like shadows to their rest,
Then, as we close their eyes in death,
And to our lips the hand is prest ;
When the last look and kiss are given,
Oh ! let us hope that they have won,
A crown of light and life in heaven,
And cry,—Thy will be done !

The feverish lip, the burning brain,
The sinking heart, the fading bloom,
And many a throb or cry of pain,
May warn the body of its doom ;
And though in these the spirit clings
To earth ! and lingers with the sun,
Yet let it ere to heaven it wings
Sigh soft,—Thy will be done.

J. H.

A PRAYER.

By B. T. L.

Grand Master of the Lodge on High !
Hear thou my earnest prayer :
And teach me so to labour here,
That I'll be worthy there
To labour in Thy Lodge supreme,
When Death shall take me o'er
The dark and turbid stream, that flows
Between me and the shore.

Where all good Masons hope to meet ;
In unity to dwell ;
"Obey Thy will, and Thy commands,
Who doeth all things well."
Give me the heart and mind to know,
"And e'er defend the right ;"
Nor let oppression's ruthless hand,
My earnest efforts blight.

Teach me in sympathy to feel
My brother's slightest grief ;
Give me the power and will to do,
In granting him relief.
Let words and acts of kindness be
My greatest earthly care ;
Whate'er reward I may receive,
Let all my brothers share.

Give to my brothers of the Craft,
That which I most desire ;
"More light" to guide them on the road,
To which we all aspire.
And when my labours here are done,
With Level, Plumb, and Square,
Grant the reward for which I strive—
Admittance "Over There."

Pomeroy's Democrat.

LIST OF LODGE MEETINGS &c., FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 21st, 1871.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, July 17th.

Quarterly Meeting Boys' School at 12.
LODGES.—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham ; Marquis of Dalhousie, Freemasons' Hall.

Tuesday, July 18th.

Board of General Purposes at 3.
LODGES.—Salisbury, 71, Dean-street, Soho ; Camden, York and Albany, Gloucester-gate, Regent's-park ; St Mark's, Duk of Edinburgh Tavern, Brixton.—CHAPTER.—Industry, Freemasons' Hall.

Wednesday, July 19th.

General Committee Grand Chapter at 3.
Lodge of Benevolence at 6.
LODGES.—Beadon, Greyhound Tavern, Dulwich ; Blackheath, Royal Standard Tavern, Blackheath.

Thursday, July 20th.

House Committee Girls' School, at 4.
LODGE.—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park.

Friday, July, 21st.

House Committee Boys' School.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

In consequence of a number of Lodges and Chapters of Instruction in the following List which do not meet during the summer months, we shall discontinue its publication till the re-commencement of the season. We shall, however, give the announcement of those Lodges and Chapters of Instruction which continue to meet during the summer on receiving authoritative intimation thereof.

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.

Our Correspondents, and especially our Foreign Exchanges are requested to Address in full to

"The Editor of
The Freemason's Magazine and Masonic Mirror,
19, Salisbury Street, Strand,
London, W.C."

Letters and Papers, Address, "Freemasons' Magazine, London although mostly reaching us are liable to miscarriage, and are invariably delayed in delivery.

The Reports of the Installation meeting of the Saw, Square, and Compass Lodge, Whitehaven, Cornwallis Lodge, Belvidere, Kent, and several others are unavoidably held over till next week.

Letters from "Only a Past Master," "A Mason who believes in his O.B.," "A Lover of Liberty," and "A Red Cross Knight," are received and shall be attended to.