

THE

# Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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## ABUSE OF FREEMASONRY.

WE revert to the subject we dealt with under this title in our issue of the 18th ult. We then noticed an attack on Freemasonry, made in the columns of a Belfast journal, by one who was described, in a somewhat elaborate editorial, as "a valued and honourable correspondent." We did not, of course, doubt the said correspondent's value, nor did we for a moment question his being honourable. We pointed out, however, that the series of articles he was then entering upon were likely to prove a very perfect illustration of the class of writing which is commonly known as "twaddle." We even went a little out of our way, and mentioned the only people who, in our opinion, would be likely to appreciate the writer's peculiar style. Since then we have received copies of *The Weekly Examiner* and *Ulster Observer* for the 18th and 25th ult., and the letters they contain from the pen of this ready writer more than confirm the views we gave utterance to a fortnight since.

It will be argued, perhaps, and not without a certain show of reason, that if the letters are of the character we have described, we are honouring them by a second notice, beyond their deserts. We hinted, however, that nervous people are often disconcerted by a false charge again and again repeated. The views they have long held become more and more unsettled, till, at length, reason is overpowered by sheer impudence. This must be our apology for reverting to this attack—this and the evidence the writer has since furnished of his ignorance and profound stupidity.

This "valued and honourable correspondent," who, we are further told in his opening letter, is "talented and respected," announced, with becoming modesty, "that he was tolerant to a fault," yet he is abusive in the last degree. He is "charitable in the fullest and best sense of the word," yet apparently is he nothing if not vindictive. He knows "no distinction of sect or party," yet his best efforts are being directed towards exciting hatred between the Roman Catholic and Protestant inhabitants of Belfast. But the simulation of our antagonist is comparatively of little moment; it is his assertions which concern us most. In the third of the series of letters we are told, that in all probability "there is a great future before our trade." The war in Spain is over. Cuba will soon be pacified. The United States are slowly but surely recovering from the effects of the late Civil war, and the American trade of Ulster "will soon know lively times." There is, again, a magnificent opening for pushing Belfast wares in Japan. Foreign competition, however, is the great thorn in the side of Belfast. Not that foreign competitors have any means or material at their disposal. On the contrary, "foreign flax spinning is not spinning." "Foreign yarns are not yarns." Foreign flax spinners "work their machinery till it is decrepid." "They dwarf and demoralise the workers," and "buy their flax from ten to twenty per cent. dearer." And yet, in the teeth of all these disadvantages, foreign linen finds an excellent market in Belfast. We have already said we are not posted in the fluctuations of trade in Belfast or elsewhere. We are not in a position therefore to examine these statements. We simply note them. And what, think our readers, is the root of all this evil? The flax trade is in the hands of the Protestants, and the Protestants are all Freemasons. Freemasonry "does what it likes with the trade." "It is the corruption and cancer which are consuming the very vitals of the

trade." "For a dozen years or more you (*i.e.*, Freemasonry) have held the trade in your viper clasp, and now you have it as nearly strangled as it was when the incompetents, your forerunners, had it almost garroted (*sic*) in '38." Here we pause for a moment, partly in order to recover our equanimity, partly to trace the argument, which is apparently as follows:—The Belfast linen trade is in a bad way, but has a fine future before it, only foreign competition is a thorn in its side. Foreign linen is worthless, yet it finds a market in Belfast in preference to the linen of native manufacturers, because the Belfast manufacturers are Protestants, and the Protestants are Freemasons. *Ergo*, Freemasonry has ruined the trade of Belfast. We cannot say we by any means see the force of this so-called argument. We imagine there must be an "undistributed middle" somewhere, that the major and minor premises, if there be any, must have gone off at a tangent, and consequently that the conclusion is a little out of joint. This, however, is all we have been able to make out of the first two columns of the third letter. The Belfast trade is in a bad way. It might be better. But the manufacturers are all Protestants, and the Protestants all Freemasons. Verily this is logic gone mad. But there is more yet to come. The higher mill employés are Protestants, and soon become Freemasons and Orangemen. Thus "they are a happy family of mill employés, all of one caste and colour, all moulded in the one matrix—the matrix of Freemasonry; all reduced to the one dull, dead, soulless level of debased Freemason uniformity." True they were born with certain individualities, but "in the crucible of Freemasonry the heterogeneous individualities are fused into a homogeneous whole." This last sentence reads very prettily. "Freemasonry is the Rarey which tames them all down to the Lodge level." They are loyal, in the first instance, to the Lodge, and then any superfluous loyalty that may remain is exhibited towards the mill and its master. This is Masonic Trades Unionism. It excludes Catholics that "the Lodge may reign aristocratically." And the mill employé may do as he likes. He may go out on a "bender" in the evening, and the overseer—we beg pardon, the "*surveillant*"—will take no heed of his incapacity for work the next day. He need not, or he does not, study the moral economy of flax-growing countries, or the geographical distribution of flax. He has no time, in fact. He must attend his Freemason and Orange lodges. He must frequent bars, chaff barmaids, play billiards, and go in for bicycling, hundred-yards spurts, betting, and other weaknesses of human nature. Moreover, he draws his salary without study, and even without work. Thus it is the flax-trade is depressed, and foreign competitors have it all their own in the market of Belfast." So, at least, says our "talented and respected correspondent" of *The Weekly Examiner* and *Ulster Observer* in his third letter, and he is an "honourable" man.

Our amiable correspondent in his fourth letter is not more illogical, for that were impossible, but he is a wee bit more violent in the language he uses. This perhaps is due to his exaltation, in the interval between writing the two letters, to the degree of R.A.M., for he is at the pains to introduce us to the "Royal Arch Confraternity." But, as "whoso exalteth himself shall be abased," we have hardly had time to realise the new status when we rapidly descend below the level of the drunkard. "An incurable drunkard is not an efficient employé. But a hardened, confirmed, inveterate Freemason is worse." The drunkard is "said to be 'nobody's enemy but his own.'" But the Freemason "is the friend of his brother of the craft, and of none other." It will be seen that we are advancing in our

argument—slowly, it is true. Yet is it a comfort to know that we are advancing, and, accordingly, we pause for a moment to sum up the case as it now stands. Belfast trade is in a bad way. It may be better if foreign competition will cease to be a thorn in its side. Foreign linen is worthless, but it finds a market in Belfast, because the Belfast manufacturers are Protestants and Freemasons. The mill employes are Protestant Freemason Orangemen, who play billiards, chaff barmaids, get drunk, &c., &c., to the exclusion of study and often also of work. Though members of the Royal Arch Confraternity, they are worse than incurable drunkards. Thus it is that Freemasonry is ruining the Belfast linen trade. We ought to be getting a little nervous at finding ourselves below the level of incurable drunkards, but, strange to say, we feel quite lively. The damnation—(N.B. We are not swearing)—of Freemasonry by this “talented and respected” correspondent is producing quite an exhilarating effect. And thus animated, we plunge incontinently into his fifth letter. Happily, our summary of it need be but brief. The writer begins by lamenting the hard fate of Belfast Catholics, who are excluded from all employment in mills, and have only the arts, the professions, the Civil Service, to fall back upon. For this, by some wonderful hanky-panky we do not pretend to understand, Freemasonry is made responsible. “God knows the struggle for existence with many Catholic families is often sore, hard, trying; when to that is added the penalties and disabilities which Freemasonry imposes on them it becomes almost intolerable, almost unendurable.” Intolerable and unendurable have much the same meaning, but when a man is writing for effect the multiplication of adjectives often stands in good stead. Then follows a picture of the striking contrast between the flax trade as it was in the good old days and as it is under the domination of Freemasonry. Before the American civil war the Catholic flax trade flourished. When that struggle began it gave a great impetus to the linen trade, and the Protestant Freemason Orangemen started new mills, and we presume we are to infer they have continued ever since to work with such a will that now, it seems, they have the whole linen trade in their hands. Then came the riots of 1864, which “was another of the break-necks of the Catholic employes.” Since then the P.F.O. brotherhood have gone from bad to worse, and have ended by usurping the despotic regulation of the trade in general. And then the writer asks, “And what has this weakly-strong, strongly-weak despotism done for the trade? It has led it from blunder to blunder, from disaster to disaster. And what has it done for the mills it directs? The share list will tell that. It has filled every post in its gift with incompetency like itself.” Then follows a sentence which we are sorry to say we do not understand. This may be owing to a certain native dulness on our part, or to the obscurity of the writer’s language. Whatever the cause, we simply quote it; our readers must interpret for themselves. “Being incompetent, it knows not what is competent, and if what was competent came across it, it would clash with its incompetency, and to differ from the despot means decapitation—otherwise discharge. If these men had any moral sense they would go and commit ‘happy despatch.’” We frankly admit this sentence is worthy in every respect of the “talented and respected correspondent” whose fifth letter appears in *The Ulster Observer* and *Northern Star*.

It is a great pity this “talented and respected,” this “valued and honourable” correspondent of the Belfast journals should have written so much to so little purpose. The gist of his so-called argument appears to be—Before the American war the flax trade was in the hands of the Catholics, and Belfast flourished. Since then Protestantism has established a despotism over the trade of Belfast, and everything has gone or is going to the bad. Protestants are Freemasons, and thus it is that Freemasonry is the root of the whole evil. We need hardly trouble ourselves to analyze this miserable abortion of an argument. There are other places in the world besides Belfast where Freemasonry largely prevails, and trade flourishes. If it is to be permitted to this correspondent to associate the depression of trade in Belfast with the baneful influence of Freemasonry, we may fairly connect the prosperity of trade in other places with the benign influence of our Order. In the United States there are over half a million of Masons, and we have yet to learn that the United States are unprosperous. Masonry is powerful both in England and Scotland, in Germany and in France, but we never yet heard it as-

sociated with the fluctuations of trade. It is true that trade exercises a certain influence for good or for evil over Freemasonry, in this respect at least—if trade is prosperous, the large body of tradesmen who are Freemasons get their share of the prosperity; if trade is depressed, the Freemason tradesmen suffer in proportion. But the principles of Freemasonry have nothing in common with trade. Freemasonry is a kind of universal religion, and whoso believes in it and acts up to its principles will make an upright man and a good citizen. This our correspondent, if he be a Mason, must know; if he is not a Mason, this long-winded tirade of his is worthless.

As we said in our previous article, why has not this valued and honourable correspondent the manliness to come forward and say boldly—I am a Roman Catholic; the Romish priesthood tell me to hate Freemasonry, and I hate it accordingly. This would not be a logical hatred, or consistent with the true principles of Christianity, which is the religion of love, but the world would understand all about it. That this is the real motive for his attack on our Order is evident enough. He may say that he is tolerant to a fault, that he is charitable, that he knows no distinction of sect or party. But those who read between the lines will see that it is the deadly hatred of Roman Catholicism for Freemasonry which is at the bottom of this furious onslaught. If the writer is wise, as well as talented and respected, he will pull up sharp and write no more nonsense. The more he writes the more ridiculous he makes himself. For ourselves, we may fairly pray, “Oh that mine enemy would write a book!” The more we have of these letters the higher shall we rise in the estimation of the public. Therefore, if the five that have already appeared become fifty, or even five hundred, so much the better will it be for Freemasonry. Whether the readers of these two Belfast journals will rejoice in this rignarole if it be continued much longer is a matter that concerns us not.

## MASONIC PORTRAITS (No. 22).

### BAYARD.

“Good morrow to thee; welcome:  
Thou look’st like him that knows a warlike charge:  
To business that we love we rise betime,  
And go to ’t with delight.”

THE Grand Lodge of Ireland differs from our own, inasmuch as what are known as the “High Grades” there form a regular hierarchy above the Craft. The degree of Mark Master is, in the sister isle, a necessary preliminary to that of the Royal Arch, after which, in turn, follow the degrees of Knight of the Sword, Knight of the East and West, Knight Templar, and Knight of Malta. Higher still is the grade of Prince Rose Croix, and the whole Order is administered by Councils of the 30°, 31°, 32° and 33°, at the head of the last being the Grand Master. The higher the degree, the more select it is and difficult of access. Very few Irish Masons can attain the rank of Prince Rose Croix, and only on showing proofs of special qualifications. This aristocratic government, if we may so style it, has in no way prejudiced the cause of Masonry on the other side of St. George’s Channel, indeed the Order is very popular with the protestant minority, and very large numbers of the lower as well as the upper middle class are enrolled in it. In England it is rare to find a person in humble circumstances a member of the fraternity, but in Ireland, at all events in the north, many members of the working classes are brothers, and the Craft Lodges, if they lack splendour, are not wanting either in enthusiasm or Masonic lore.

The subject of our sketch, who first filled the Master’s chair under this aristocratic constitution, is, we need scarcely say, a soldier, who has seen hard and active service. He was one of that gallant band of heroes who suffered, bled and conquered in the Crimea. It was not his fate, however, to follow his regiment through all the dangers and trials of that memorable campaign. At the battle of the Alma he was struck down by a Russian bullet, and his wound was so severe that he was invalided home. During the weary period of convalescence he was attracted by Freemasonry, which has ever had a peculiar charm for men of intellectual and speculative bent. He was raised in the St. George’s Lodge, at Liverpool, in 1855, and on joining

Lodge 311, under the Irish Constitution, at Templemore, was soon elected W.M. This Lodge was in a somewhat languishing condition, but the energy imparted into it by the new member helped to raise it in a short time to a high standard of excellence. His services were gracefully acknowledged by the presentation of a valuable ring "as an inadequate testimonial of his great zeal and ability." On the same occasion the brethren presented his wife with a valuable gem, as an acknowledgment of her great courtesy and hospitality towards them. Subsequently he was advanced to the Mark and R.A. degrees, in Chapter No. 13, at Limerick, and through the intervening grades to that of Knight Templar and St. John of Jerusalem in the Encampment (No. 13), in the year 1858. Provincial offices in Ireland being of a permanent character, and not as in this country of annual tenure, it will be seen that his appointment to office in North Munster must have been the result of unusual ability and zeal. He became, moreover, first Principal of the Triune Chapter and Commander of the Triune Encampment at Limerick in 1858, dignities which were rapidly followed by his admission to the degree of Prince Mason of Ireland.

The migratory life, imposed upon a military man did not allow of much repose, nor of local permanence in Masonic effort. On joining his regiment, at Malta, he affiliated there with Lodge Zetland, No. 756. This body was then in a state of decadence, and our hero found in it a field worthy of his energies. He was soon in office as S.W., and being already a P.M., was enabled to perform the duties of the Chair in the absence of the W.M. His ability and efficiency were soon recognised, and his services were in general request with the other Lodges in the island. His spare time was almost wholly absorbed by Masonic work, and it was not unusual for him to officiate daily, and occasionally three times within four-and-twenty hours. He established a Mark Lodge at Malta, and advanced a very large number of the brethren, all of whom were acknowledged and certificated by the Grand Lodge of Ireland. In the Chapter attached to Zetland Lodge he worked the R.A. degree, which had almost fallen into disuse. He revived the Orders of the Temple and St. John, which had fallen into abeyance, and became E. Commander of the Melita Encampment. These services were gratefully acknowledged by a testimonial. Lodge 756, on his joining it, was £60 in debt, but the result of his activity became shortly manifested by a remittance of £60 in fees to Grand Lodge in the short space of one year. He had the pleasure, upon leaving it, of knowing that the Treasurer had a like sum in hand, and of receiving a testimonial, signed by some seventy members, expressing the warm gratitude of the fraternity for his valuable services. On the return of his regiment from foreign service he fixed his residence in London, and at the request of the Supreme Council of Ireland, he entered the ranks of English Masonry, and received the 30th degree in 1857, the 31st in 1859, the 32nd in 1862, and the 33rd in 1864. In the year 1862 we find him again at Limerick, holding office as M.W.S. of the Furnell Chapter (No. 4) of Prince Masons, of which, at the present moment, he remains nearly the oldest member.

He is, however, best known in England by his indefatigable exertions in sustaining the honour and prosperity of the Craft in London. In 1868, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite moved to No. 33 Golden-square, an address which is in remarkable accordance with its symbolism, and erected their commodious and elegant "Masonic Hall." Our hero here served the respective offices of Grand Treasurer, Secretary, and Lieutenant Grand Commander; and, ultimately, upon the retirement of Bro. Charles John Vigne, became Sovereign Grand Commander. This office he immediately resigned, for the good of the Order, in favour of Lord Carnarvon, and reverted to that of Lieut., in which capacity he assisted in conferring the 33° upon H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who accepted the rank of Patron. For his services as Secretary and Treasurer our hero was presented with a very handsome silver salver by his attached colleagues and friends. He was one of the founders of the Friends in Council Lodge (No. 1383), which numbers amongst its members our Deputy Grand Master, Pro Grand Master, and a large number of Grand Officers. Lord Carnarvon was its first W.M., and our Bayard succeeded him in the chair. The main object of the Lodge is to stimulate a generous support of our charitable institutions, to which in one year it sent

Stewards with nearly £700. Its Steward to the first Charitable Festival held this year, took up £222, and for the Festivals yet to come similar large sums will doubtless be forthcoming. It is a non-dining Lodge, and its funds are devoted exclusively to charity, an example which our London Lodges generally would do well to imitate. The Supreme Council (33°) has itself contributed to our charities nearly £800 during the last five years. In the Order of the Temple our Bayard is P.G.S.P. of England, Prior of Suffolk and Cambridge, and member of the G.M.'s Council, also Grand Junior Warden of Grand Mark Lodge of England, and P.S.W. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland in London. He is Grand Representative of the Supreme Council (33°) of both jurisdictions of North America, of Ireland, France, Chili, Peru, Mexico, Buenos Ayres, Central America, Switzerland and Greece. Under our Bayard's auspices the Supreme Council has collected what is perhaps the finest Masonic Library in the world. It is rich in pamphlets and MSS., relating to every branch of the Order. Lastly, to turn from Masonry to secular affairs, he was appointed, in 1858, to the honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, of which he became Sub-Officer in 1863, but resigned that position in 1874, and was appointed Gentleman Usher to Her Majesty.

Our Bayard in is person an ideal of the gentle knight of chivalry. He is tall and powerfully built, and his carriage is firm and decided. His features afford ample evidence of the energy of his mind. The face is that of a soldier who has learned to command by first learning to obey. The forehead is ample, and has that slight inclination which is common amongst men of the sword. The perceptive faculties are largely developed, and the clear blue eyes are windows of a mind which is as frank as it is manly. Enterprise, courage, and decision appear to be most justly apportioned in his nature. He is one of those men who would lead a forlorn hope as coolly as they would take their places on parade. In a warlike state of society he would have been a highly distinguished leader. His Masonic career affords evidence that he possesses great mental resources, as well as vast energy, and these qualities are indispensable to a military commander. No man was ever yet a great captain who was not fertile in expedients. Even in the days when much depended upon personal prowess, the most successful masters of the military art were the men who had the most active brains. Happily we live in a state of society which does not call for the exercise of the slumbering military talent which lies around us, and our heroes who have faced the storm of battle, are content to expend their mental forces upon the arts of peace. We trust our Bayard may long continue his active exertions in the cause of Masonry, and that he may yet, if that be possible, win further honours, and still higher renown.

### THE ELECTION FOR THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE election to ten vacancies in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is fixed for the 10th instant, and as in the case of the Girls' School, last week, we purpose giving a short analysis of the list of candidates. These are fifty-nine in number, of whom eight make application for the fifth time; five for the fourth; twelve for the third; eighteen for the second, and sixteen for the first time. Ten of the boys' fathers were Stewards for, or Subscribers to, one or more of our Charitable Institutions. Four have both parents living, and four have lost both, one is motherless, and of the remaining fifty, forty-nine are fatherless, and the other's father is in a Lunatic Asylum. The father of one candidate was a subscribing member twenty-six years, of another twenty-two years-and-a-half, of a third two, and of a fourth for only a year-and-a-half; this last being confined in a Lunatic Asylum. The highest number of votes brought forward from previous candidates is 1,661, and there are three others who have already scored over 1,600. One has 1,470 votes to the good, three over 1,300, and one over 1,200. One candidate, who is standing now for a third ballot, is credited with seven votes only, and four who have stood once have scores of ten, nine, nine, and six respectively, while a fifth is actually voteless. Two of the candidates have each a brother already in the School, and in three cases, a sister is in the

Girls' School. Three have already been removed from the list through being over the age of eleven years, and twelve, if unsuccessful this election, will be removed for the same reason. London furnishes twenty-five candidates, North Wales and Salop, South Wales, Monmouthshire, Derbyshire, Devon, Durham, East Lancashire, West Yorkshire, Gloucestershire, two each; and East Indies, Constantinople, Middlesex, Cambridge, Kent, Westmoreland, Hants and Isle of Wight, Essex, Sussex, Norfolk, Cheshire, Cornwall, Stafford, North and East Yorkshire, Warwickshire and Lincolnshire, one each.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

### MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

THE activity of the Craft in Ireland is in the highest degree satisfactory. The antagonism of the Romish priesthood is of the most virulent character; yet, if anything, it serves to animate the brethren to employ all their means in order to strengthen the edifice of Freemasonry in that country. These efforts are not as widely known as they deserve to be, for Irish Masons appear to be far more reticent about their doings than we are in England. Be this as it may, we gladly avail ourselves of every opportunity of publishing such Masonic news as reach us from the Emerald Isle. That works of charity are not overlooked by our neighbours—*ca va sans dire*. Irishmen are by nature too generous to be careless about so important a duty. But though the Craft is more limited there than here in respect of numbers, and their Masonic Charitable Institutions are, as a consequence, small by comparison with ours, the benefits they confer on the families of indigent or deceased members are in every way creditable. This, indeed, is evidenced by the announcement we feel so much pleasure in making, that the Annual Festival and Distribution of Prizes to the pupils of the two Masonic Orphan Schools will take place on the 28th instant, in the Exhibition Palace, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin, under the auspices of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and M.W.G.M., who will preside on this interesting occasion. The prizes will be distributed by His Grace's daughter, Lady Georgina Hamilton, and a strong muster of brethren is expected. The doors of the building will be thrown open at 7.30 p.m. and from then till 8.15 the music of several military bands will serve to pass away the time agreeably. A procession of Officers of Country and Dublin Lodges, of Provincial Grand, and past and present Grand Officers, will then be formed for the purpose of conducting the Grand Master from the Leinster Hall to the Grand Concert Hall. His Grace, on taking his seat on the throne, will then be saluted according to ancient usage, after which the Pupils of the Girls' School, accompanied by those of the sister Institution for Boys, will file into the hall, occupying the seats provided for them on the platform. A portion of the Hundredth Psalm having been sung, the Honorary Secretary will then read the annual report, after which sundry of the girls will play a selection of pianoforte music. The National Anthem will then be given, and the procession having re-formed, will conduct the Grand Master to the dais in the Glass Building, where Lady Georgina Hamilton will present the prizes and certificates awarded to the successful pupils at the annual examination. Admission will be by tickets, obtainable only from Governors, who will each have a free pass and seven visitors' tickets, at two shillings each, provided application is made for them at Freemasons' Hall, Molesworth-street, on the 11th, 12th, or 13th instant, between two and five p.m. Brethren not previously Governors, but who are subscribers for 1876, may obtain tickets, and will have the privilege of voting at elections of the pupils in June and December. We have no doubt whatever that the Festival will prove a great success, and help materially to advance the prosperity of the Asylum.

We have good authority for stating that one hundred Commanderies have agreed to accept the invitation of the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, and take part in the Grand Knight Templar Centennial Meeting in Philadelphia. Ten thousand Knights Templar will be present.

## NATURE AND SCIENCE.

By Walter Spencer, F.R.G.S., &c.

THE "theory of descent," as formulated by Professor Haeckel, of Jena,\* not only traces the process of organic development by hereditary transmission, adaptation and natural selection, but proclaims the unity of organic and inorganic nature. It asserts that there exist no complete differences, no insurmountable barriers between living organisms and inorganic bodies, either in form, structure, matter or force; that their chemical and physical differences do not lie in their component elements, but in the varying methods of their chemical combination, to which distinctive peculiarities (notably comparative densities of substance) are due. From this it argues, for instance, that the constructive force or formative tendency of crystals is equivalent to the heredity of organisms; and that all vital phenomena are purely physico-chemical processes dependent on the material nature of the organism, just as the physical and chemical qualities of any crystal are determined solely by its material composition.

The Professor needs no tribute to his ability in handling these propositions, nor to the admirable logical sequence observed in their demonstration. We all are willing to believe that nature works (or appears to work) by definite laws. It is only when the picture of progressively developed results would lead us to the assumption of primal *spontaneous generation* that the startled student halts to review the field.

The moral drawn by the Professor seems to be that matter is eternal; that all law is inherent in the elements of matter, inducing through it all the phenomena of existence; and that nothing but matter exists. Or thus—that in the cosmical beginning, condensed gases which afterwards combined in various ways, contained in themselves all the possibilities of vital force; that transmission by heredity and adaptation did the rest, until the earth's surface developed, as it were spontaneously, into its present state with living parasites upon it, and that eternal matter is eternal God.

Upon careful consideration of Professor Haeckel's book, we note, 1. that he deals only with matter, assuming that nothing but matter exists; 2. that his whole theory is expounded by observation and comparison of effects, and of the effects of effects, by which he discovers ultimate laws, which he assumes to be inherent in matter, the *causes* of which are not even guessed at. He cannot account for the primal motor which must have impregnated matter, and is utterly at a loss for a *great just cause*. All induction, however, leads us to put the questions thus suggested, and to fail to be satisfied with a theory which cannot answer us.

1. Does nothing outside of matter exist? The Professor deals with nothing else; but can we conceive of a vacuum or of a useless gauze of attenuated gases in the vast interstellar spaces of the universe, through which our worlds revolve like specks of dust? Are light, heat, and electricity comprised in matter, and simply properties inherent in it; or, rather, is the force which determines their objective vibrations so intelligible to us as to be thus classed? If the stars be material bodies, and if matter be deity, then we shall conceive of deity as being contained in a something greater than itself—the universe; but as the materialist will hardly deny that (Deity) the greater must contain the less, we shall find him on the horns of a dilemma—admitting, either that the universe is pervaded by a something inexplicable, not the matter with which he is familiar, which is greater than the latter and contains it, or that the interstellar æther partakes of properties which are familiar to him in matter, and that the germ of effects consequently is contained therein. In the former case the force of law (said to be inherent in matter) is more probably an emanation from the unknown universal element. In the latter case we have a refined matter, with greater inherent possibilities, which may be the impregnator of gross matter, and the founder of its laws.

From either of these propositions we regain the old divisions of matter and force, or matter and spirit.

Deity must be conceived of as omnipresent and eternal. *Omnipresent*—He must contain the entire universe; *Eternal*—He must contain the planetary revolutions which mark time for us. *This is a necessary conception, altogether beyond the properties of matter*, under whatever name it may

\* History of Creation. 2 vols. 1876.

be defined. The materialist may call it *matter*, the rationalist *force*, the moralist *God*, it includes them all. The grandest conception we can form of Infinite Deity is "Infinite Spirit," and we prefer that definition.

Materialism is the negation of God and religion, and of the means whereby God and religion have been forced upon the conviction of mankind—miracle, revelation, and hope of immortality. If belief in them be utterly illogical, as Professor Haeckel, arguing from his theory, assures us, we must abandon it, or cling to it only as an ideal.

But the propositions of materialism are not thus conclusive, whereas spiritualism affords a logical sequence, pointing to opposite conclusions; a series of higher laws which sway matter in the order of the universe. By spiritualism I mean, not the rage for séances and table-turning, but the affirmation of God and religion by miracle, revelation, and a future state.

Defining spirit as superior to and distinct from matter, and deity as infinite spirit, I submit the spiritual hypothesis as the alternative for "spontaneous generation," conceiving it to be more consonant with the recognised order of nature, and a more rational explanation of her laws. It has claims at least equal to conditional acceptance by the scientific world, until "spontaneous generation" shall be proved.

The spiritual hypothesis recognises a power above matter, to which matter is obedient and plastic, and that the laws found in matter are the effects of that power; that the force of heredity is a law of spirit, adaptation the effects of other particles of matter similarly inspired, that spirit is infinite, including the great Orreries of the Universe and pervading each minutest cell. It claims also that the vast spaces of the Universe are not empty but full, filled with active spiritual intelligences, with worlds and spheres which our senses, being adapted only to the perception of matter, cannot grasp. It recognises the intercourse of other stages of being with our own, a possibility which religion, through history, affirms; it believes matter to be subject to higher laws besides those formulated by Professor Haeckel, whereby miracle and revelation are effected, without being direct interventions of an anthropomorphic Deity; it teaches that death does not annihilate conscious individuality and that the spirit disembodied goes into the state of being to which its acquired attributes may have most fitted it.

These ideas, it will be seen, are the religious, neither more nor less; similar to those inculcated by all religions which have been found entitled to respect; there is a something definite about them, and I venture to say that they rest upon a firmer foundation than those which require the hypothesis of "spontaneous generation."

I have before me a pamphlet which serves to show how much these speculations are troubling earnest brethren far and wide. Views like those of Professors Huxley and Haeckel cannot be scattered around without stirring reflective minds to their very depths and exciting the most dormant current of Masonic thought. I quote from an address delivered last September by the Rev. Robert Kidd, LL.D., to our brethren in Auckland, N.Z. upon an interesting occasion:—

"One chief use of Freemasonry, in this generation, is to maintain cautious stability in the minds of the brethren, that none of us be lightly led away by bewildering novelties. The exercise of Reason and investigation has, in our age, attained to an immense aggregate of beneficial results; but let us not yield to the mental intoxication that would confound things which are distinct. The principles of Freemasonry itself teach us to appreciate the faculties of the human intellect, its wondrous, its god-like capabilities of discernment and discovery; but they also inculcate its limitation. Science deals only, and can deal only, with phenomena and secondary causes: but the mainspring of the energies that actuate the Universe, the primal source of the adaptations that combine to constitute the eternal Order and Harmony, the ultimate causation of the agencies, these are behind the ken of scientific experiment."

"The most fashionable theory, at the present moment, among the wanderers from a pure Theism, is little else than a revival of fancies indulged in, thousands of years ago, by one of the sects of ancient philosophy. It is to the effect that what we call Matter is in itself innately endowed with all possible potency of both action and combination, that the spontaneous motions of the molecules are competent to perform the whole. Of such imaginings a sufficient correction is afforded in the following few emphatic lines of the poet Young:—

Has matter innate motion? Then each atom,  
Asserting its indisputable right  
To dance, would form a universe of dust.  
Has matter more than motion? Has it thought,  
Judgment and genius? Is it deeply learned  
In mathematics? Has it framed such laws  
Which but to guess a Newton made immortal?

If so, how each sage atom laughs at me,  
Who think a clod inferior to a man!  
If art to form, and counsel to conduct,  
And that with greater far than human skill,  
Reside not in each block, a GODHEAD reigns;  
And if a God there is, a God how great!

"But it is said that we cannot demonstrate the Divine Existence, that it is a mere hypothesis or theory. We could not, brethren, demonstrate the building of King Solomon's Temple, nor the construction of the pyramids of Egypt. Of the Great Architect of the Universe we have the species of proof that affords a full moral certainty. And if that proof were less cogent than it is, we should still be under a supreme obligation of conscience to seek after Him, if haply we may find Him. Well and wisely has one of the greatest and best of Scotland's many illustrious sons, Dr. Chalmers, in his own peculiar style of magnificent diction, setting forth profound thought, thus said:—

"To this condition there attaches a most clear and incumbent morality. It is to go in quest of that unseen Benefactor, who, for aught I know, has ushered me into existence, and spread so glorious a panorama around me. It is to probe the secret of my being and my birth; and, if possible, to make discovery whether it was indeed the hand of a benefactor that brought me forth from the chambers of nonentity, and gave me place and entertainment in that glowing territory, which is lighted up with the hopes and the happiness of living men. It is thus that the very conception of a God throws a responsibility after it. And is there any so hardy as to deny that the curious workmanship of his frame may have had a Designer and an Architect, who hath so marvellously suited all that is around us to our senses and our powers of gratification? The graces innumerable that lie widely spread over the face of our world, the glorious concave of heaven that is placed over us, the grateful variety of seasons that, like Nature's shifting panorama, ever brings new entertainment and delight to the eye of spectators—these show that, anterior to our assured belief in His existence, there lies upon us a most imperative obligation to stir ourselves up that we may lay hold of Him. . . . And the same moral force which begins this inquiry also continues and sustains it. If there be power in the very conception of a God to create and constitute the duty of seeking after Him, this power grows and gathers with every footstep of advancement in the high investigation."

"I repeat, therefore, brethren,—and I would with all befitting respect present it specially to the attention of the worthy brother who is now exalted among the chief guides and rulers of our Fraternity,—that Freemasonry, in the existing juncture, has a special vocation and function. We are called upon to champion the all-comprehensive truth, that the one main distinction between man and man is this, the belief or the absence of belief, the perception or the failure to perceive, that SUPREME MIND controls the Universe, that we are under the moral government of the Most High."

At a meeting of the Psychological Society, on 16th March, Mr. Serjeant Cox, President, in the chair, referring to a statement in the *Scotsman* newspaper, that Mr. Bruce (the owner of the emigrant ship, the *Strathmore*, which was wrecked in November last, with great loss of life) had been informed, by an alleged clairvoyant, of the wreck, and the saving of some of the crew on an island, at or near the time of its occurrence, and some weeks before the loss was known in England, the President said that, in pursuance of their plan of investigating all alleged psychological phenomena, he had written to Mr. Bruce, the owner, to inquire if this statement of the *Scotsman* was correct. He had received an answer from that gentleman (which he read), stating that the fact was as published. The fact was communicated in writing, by post, so that there was no question as to its being made before the loss was known. A paper, by Mr. C. Bray, "On Consciousness," was read by Mr. F. K. Munton, the Hon. Sec. A discussion followed, by Mr. Coffin, Mr. Pike, Mr. Gordon, the President, and others. It was stated that the Committee of Investigation had been formed.

## THE DRAMA.

### Pom at the Royalty.

A NEW comic opera, from the pen of M. Bucalossi, was produced at the ROYALTY, on Saturday last, with complete success. The plot is of the usual unintelligible character, and comprises the adventures of a party of French opera singers cast upon a desert island in the Pacific Ocean. Some of these adventures are amusing, and the dialogue is also not devoid of humour. But it is chiefly to the light and pleasant music of M. Bucalossi that the success of the piece is to be ascribed. The characters are well sustained by Miss Patty Laverne, Miss Annie Goodall, Mr. Rouse, and Mr. Knight Aston.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—SORES, WOUNDS and Ulcers.—Every variety of sore, ulcer, eruption, boil, and carbuncle, is safely stopped in its destructive course by the timely application of this healing Ointment. It arrests unhealthy and substitutes healthy action, thus curing the inflamed, irritable, and spreading diseases affecting the skin. Holloway's Ointment has gained an imperishable fame for its facility in healing old inflammatory sores about the shins and ankles, and for bad legs and old wounds it cannot be equalled; nor is it less efficacious in gathered breasts and abscesses. When the complaint has been of long continuance, Holloway's Pills will expedite recovery if taken in those doses which act as alteratives on the stomach and tonics on the constitution.

## CONSECRATION OF TWO ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

ON Thursday, the 23rd ult., there was a considerable assemblage of Companions for the purpose of witnessing and taking part in the constituting and consecration of two Royal Arch Chapters, one being that of Dundas, 1255, the other the Devon Chapter, No. 1135, of Newton Abbot. The Rev. John Huyshe, the Grand Superintendent of the Province, was able, we were glad to see, to be present and take his part most ably in the business of the day, which he at all times conducts with great solemnity. Amongst the other Companions present were the following:—L. P. Metham P.G.H., J. Elliott P.Z. P.P.G.H., J. B. Gover P.Z. P.P.G.P.S., P. B. Clemens P.Z. P.P.G.A.S., John Du Pro P.Z. 70, P.P.G.T., John Pearse, Walter G. Rogers P.G.S.E., H. W. Thomas A.S. 70, Samuel Jow P.Z. P.P.G. Treas., T. W. Lemon Scribe N. 189, H. Miller P.Z. P.P.G. 1st S.B., W. Hambly P.S., J. W. Keyworth B.J., W. Ephinstone Stone 106 Z. P.P.G.R., W. Haymes P.Z. 100, Edwin J. Knight Z. 202, P.P.G.S.B., R. Hambly 230, J. E. Curteis P.Z. 189 P.P.G. St. B., W. Joll P.G.T. 230, R. H. Rae P.P.G.T. 189, Jas. Page Phillips Z. P.G.S. 223, Joseph Matthews P.Z. P.P.C.T., Lieutenant-Col. Fitzgerald 189, Captain Shanks P.Z. 1205 P.P.G.J., S. C. Gant, L. Webber, A. Bodley H. 112, P.G. St. B., R. Blight, W. H. Triplett, C. Godtschalk 159 P.P.G.S.B., H. J. Ham, T. C. Lewarn, H. G. Beachy 710 P.Z., Robert Bowden P.Z., C. J. Harland Z., W. T. Pilditch Z. 156, John H. Tonkin J., W. D. Thomas H. 159, R. B. Twose P.G.D.C. H. 105, W. H. Michell P.Z. 156 P.P.G.D.C., Isaac Latimer J. 189, G. H. Amory, J. M. Hiffley P.Z. P.P.G.S.B., E. T. Tarratt, E. Atkin Davies P.Z. P.P.G. Reg., R. P. Culley Z. 70, A. J. Bishop 106, T. S. Bayly P.P.G.R., J. Baxter 954, W. R. Gillman H., John Rogers P.Z., John Lynn P.Z., G. Thorne 70, and P. L. Blanchard.

The Chapter was duly formed by the following Companions taking their places:—The M.E. Rev. John Huyshe P.G., Superintendent Comp. L. P. Metham H., Comp. Captain Keyworth J., Comp. W. G. Rogers S.E., Comp. Isaac Latimer as S.N., Comp. J. P. Phillips P.S., Comp. E. J. Knight as 1st A.S., Comp. J. Brown as 2nd A.S., Comp. Wm. Joll Grand Treasurer, Comp. J. H. Hiffley Sword Bearer, Comp. C. A. Godtschalk 1st Grand Std. Bearer, Comp. G. B. Colston 2nd do., Comp. R. B. Twose G.D.C., Comp. G. H. Amory Gr. Organist, Alfred Bodley G. Banner Bearer, John Rogers and Peter Blanchard acting as Janitors.

The Chapter having been duly opened, the P.G. Scribe E. addressed the acting Z., and then read the two Warrants from the Grand Chapter, authorising the Constitution and Consecration of the Chapters Dundas and Devon. The officers of Dundas were present. The Charter for the Dundas Chapter was addressed to Comp. C. Godtschalk, J. J. Avery, H. W. Thomas, ex-Comps. T. B. Harvey P.Z. 156, W. Bell P.Z. 156, W. H. Triplett H. 156, Comps. J. P. Rogers, W. G. Ball, ex-Comp. J. B. Gover P.Z. 70, Comp. L. D. Westcott, W. B. Hambly P.Z. P.P.G.T.

The following members of the Chapter were then presented as the proposed officers:—Dundas Chapter—Ex-Comps C. Godtschalk Z., J. J. Avery H., H. W. Thomas J., T. B. Harvey S.E., Comp. H. J. Ham S.N., Ex-Comps. W. H. Triplett P.S., W. Bell Treas. That for the Devon Chapter was addressed to ex-Comp. the Rev. R. Bowden P.Z., Alexander Watkins P.Z. 28, H. G. Beachy P.Z. 710, P. D. Michelmores Z. elect 710, Comps. Bickford Prowse 710, J. S. Saunders 710, F. Pratt 303, N. H. Beazley Unity 314, Preston.

In reply to the inquiries of the acting Z., the P.G. Supt., the members of both Chapters expressed their unanimous approval of their proposed officers.

Ex-Comp. L. P. Metham, the principal H., then delivered an eloquent oration on the importance of the duties the members and officers of the new Chapter were about to assume, and the sacred reverence that should feel for the *ne plus ultra* degree of Freemasonry in which they were engaged. From their dependence on others, even for the preservation of life itself in the first period of their existence, they could but have deduced the moral that it was their duty to learn and practise an abiding lesson of mutual dependence and equality. Passing onward they reached that period when opportunity was offered them to practise those principles. The dignity and usefulness of labour were as clearly shown as its necessity. To rightly employ the hours given to them as precious talents, not only for their own benefit, but for the good of their fellow-creatures and the honour of their Creator, was, while they gloried in their manhood, and in the meridian brightness of life, the best and most grateful sacrifice and return they could offer for all the benefits conferred upon them. To the man who had cultivated his intellectual powers to the glory of God and the welfare of his fellows and who had moulded his life by the teachings of morality and religion, the evening of his life was a scene of calmness and resignation, while Masonry in that degree pointed with no flattering finger to the future beyond the grave, where they would come face to face with the Great Eternal Ruler of the Universe. If its solemn teachings were not adopted, the circle of the Masonic duties was still incomplete.

The officers of the new Chapter were then duly presented to the acting Z., and all the necessary forms for Constituting the Chapters having been concluded, the Consecrations commenced with an ode, beginning with

"Let there be light!" th' Almighty spoke:

which was followed by prayers, by pouring of corn, wine, and oil, on the Chapter, and Companions then chanted Psalm cxvii. The ceremonies were impressive, and the musical arrangements, under Comp. Gant, were admirable.

The Principals of the Dundas Chapter not having previously been installed in either of the chairs, the P.G. Supt. retired, and the duties of the acting Z. were assumed by ex-Comp. Captain Keyworth, ex-Comps. W. G. Rogers and Captain Shanks officiating as H. and J. Comp. C. Godtschalk and J. J. Avery were then passed through

installation to each of the chairs of Z. and H., and Comp. H. W. Thomas to that of J. The installations were conducted by ex-Comp. Keyworth with great ability, and his general working throughout met with the warm approval of all present.

Comp. Charles Godtschalk, to whom the Charter is addressed from Grand Chapter, with the assistance and untiring zeal, ability and fraternal love of Comp. J. B. Gover P.Z. in founding this Chapter, to whose united efforts and love of Masonry was due the business of the day.

Comp. Charles Godtschalk having expressed a fervent wish to receive the honour of being installed as the first Z. of the Dundas Chapter from the hands of the Venerable J. Huyshe, the Grand Sup. of the Province, adding if the health of the Grand Sup. would permit this labour, in addition to that of the consecration he had already so ably conducted, the honour would be gratefully received and never be effaced from his memory.

The P.G. Supt., Rev. J. Huyshe, then returned to the Chapter, and most impressively installed Comp. Charles Godtschalk as the Z. of Dundas Chapter. The following are the officers of Dundas:—C. Godtschalk Z., J. B. Gover P.Z., J. J. Avery H., H. W. Thomas J., T. B. Harvey S.E., W. Bell Treas., W. H. Triplett P.S., C. Godtschalk Z. P.G.S.B., J. B. Gover P.Z. P.P.G.P.S., J. J. Avery H., H. W. Thomas J., W. Bell Treas., H. J. Ham S.N., T. B. Harvey S.E. P.Z. P.P.G.P.S., T. Smith Janitor, Dundas Chapter 1255.

The members of the Dundas Chapter, together with a large number of the Provincial Grand Officers and members of other Chapters, dined at Comp. Watt's, Globe Hotel, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Huyshe P.G.S., by whom the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed. Speaking of the new Chapters, he was sure from his knowledge of the members and Principals, they would be properly conducted in full accordance with the principles and teaching of the exalted degree. In Companion C. Godtschalk, Z. of Dundas, they had one whose zeal, knowledge and self-sacrificing attention to his duties had been known and appreciated for a long time. Companion Rev. E. R. Bowden's long experience in various offices, and Masonic experience was a guarantee for the good working of the Devon Chapter.

Comp. Godtschalk, in reply, said he was quite unable to find words to express all he felt. It rarely fell to the lot of a brother to have so much Masonic work and pleasure crowded into so short a space as he had recently experienced. On Monday he had presided as W.M. in the Dundas Lodge, and initiated a gentleman into the Order. On Tuesday he had been installed as E. Preceptor and Prior of the Royal Veterans' Preceptory. On Wednesday he had the pleasure of installing W. Bro. J. Latimer (his successor) as Master of the Fortitude Lodge of Mark Master Masons, whilst to-day he had the distinguished honour of being installed as first Principal by the venerable and much beloved Provincial Chief of the Order, to whom he tendered his heartfelt thanks, as also to the distinguished companions who had been present and assisted in the ceremonies.

Ex-Comp. Bowden returned thanks for himself and the Devon Chapter, stating the pleasure he had felt in the day's proceedings, and pointed out the beauty and useful lessons to be learned from the R. A. degree.

## ROYAL VETERANS' PRECEPTORY AND PRIORY OF MALTA.

THE annual meeting of this ancient Preceptory and Priory was held at the Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, on Tuesday, the 21st March. The Preceptor elect, Sir Knight Charles Godtschalk, Constable of the Preceptory, and who, having held high rank in the Provincial Priory of Devon, is deservedly very popular in the Province, was most impressively installed by the eminent Sir Knight Richard Rodda P.E.C. and Past Grand Almoner of England; this beautiful ceremony being wholly conducted by him and given with great force and feeling.

The Priory of Malta was then opened, when the very High and Eminent Sir Knight Col. John Elliott, Great Prior of Devon, with unusual fulness, and with distinguished ability, installed the E.P. Sir Knight Godtschalk as Prior of the Chapter.

The above ceremonies were witnessed by an unusually large gathering, and muster roll of Knights of the Orders, and among the number the following eminent Knights as P.E. Commanders and Past and acting eminent Preceptors, all of whom have and do hold high Provincial rank, formed the Board of P.E. Preceptors and P.E. Priors, namely:—Sir Knights W. B. Hambly, J. E. Curteis, V. Bird, J. Watts, T. B. Harvey, E. A. Davies, J. Austin and J. M. Hiffley. The Rev. T. W. Lemon acted as high Prelate, and Sir Knight Arnold very efficiently performed the duties of Organist. The E.P. Sir Knight Godtschalk appointed as his officers: Fraters—J. B. Gover P.P.G.T. Constable, S. Jew P.G.T. Marshal, J. Austin Treasurer, W. B. Hambly Registrar, L. D. Westcott Prelate, W. Browning Sub-Marshal, J. H. Keats Captain of the Guard, S. Templer Almoner, G. P. N. Burden 1st P.R.P., Culler S.B., T. Smith S.

The Preceptory recorded votes of thanks to the Eminent Sir Knight R. Rodda, not only for the important, instructive and delightful services of the day, but also for the services rendered by him during the past year in installing all the Companions who had been incepted into this illustrious and Knightly Order through the Royal Veterans' Preceptory. A vote of thanks was also recorded to Sir Knight Arnold for his able and gratuitous services as Organist.

The Sir Knights afterwards dined together at the Globe Hotel, presided over, most ably, by the newly installed E. Preceptor. The cuisine and cellar of Sir Knight Watts provided the good things of this life, which were of a most recherché description and were supplied with an ungrudging hand. The banquet was the most pleasant and interesting of the year, and passed off most satisfactorily; all the Sir Knights congratulating Sir Knight Godtschalk on the termination of a happy day, and wishing him a happy and prosperous year of office.

## CONSECRATION OF THE CRANBOURNE LODGE, No. 1580, HATFIELD.

THE consecration meeting of this Lodge was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, on Wednesday, the 29th inst. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. F. H. Wilson Iles, P.G.S., who was appointed by the Provincial Grand Master to perform the ceremony. The brethren assembled in the ante-room, and marched in procession to the Lodge room, where the Consecrating Officer appointed Bro. Lowthin P.G.S.W. to be Senior Warden, and Bro. John Hervey G.S. to be J.W. The Lodge was then duly consecrated and constituted, the musical portion of the ceremony being ably rendered by Bro. Paterson P.G.O. After the consecration of the Lodge, Bro. Edgar Bowyer was regularly installed into the chair of K. S., the installation ceremony being ably performed by the Consecrating Officer, assisted by Bro. Terry P.G.D.C. for Herts. Bro. Bowyer then invested his officers as follow:—Bros. Mather S.W., Bonsor J.W., Cook Treasurer, Terry Secretary, Cox S.D., Halford J.D., Hellier I.G., Killick D.C., Verry A.D.C., Massey and Beadell Stewards, Steedman Tyler. Upon the brethren being invited, several propositions for initiation and joining were made. A letter of regret was read from R.W. Bro. Halsey Prov. G.M., at not being able to be present, a regret that was universally felt by the brethren. A vote of thanks was unanimously given to the Consecrating Officer, Bro. Iles, Bros. Lowthin P.G.S.W., Hervey G.S., and Paterson P.G.O., for their respective services. The Lodge was then closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the banquet, which was most ably served. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a very agreeable evening was spent. Bro. Hervey, in responding to the toast of the Grand Officers, made some very pertinent remarks on the present prosperous condition of the Craft, and warned the brethren to be most careful in the selection of candidates; not to study numbers, but to admit none but those who would become a credit to the Craft. Bro. Binckes, in responding to the toast of the Masonic Charities, made a very able speech, as also did Bro. Terry, in response to the toast of the Officers. From the success attending the consecration meeting, we entertain no doubt that the future of the Lodge will be a prosperous one.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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*We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our Correspondents.*

*We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.*

*All Letters must bear the name and address of the Writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.*

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### THE MARQUESS OF RIPON AND "Q"

*To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.*

DEAR SIR,—I do not know what answer the Secretaries of the R.M. Institution for Girls and Boys will make to Bro. Q's opportune query; but I do know that "once a Grand Officer always a Grand Officer" is the law of the Grand Lodge of England. It seems to me most unfair that the Officers or Past Officers of the Grand Lodge should have one law for them, and another law to be in force for the Officers (*Past and Present*) of the Provincial Grand Lodges, and individual Lodges, and yet so it is. I believe the Most Noble the Marquess of Ripon, K.G., has ceased to subscribe to any Lodge under the English jurisdiction, and yet his Lordship is still legally (it seems) styled *Past Grand Master*. Now if a Provincial Officer (*Past or Present*) ceases to subscribe to any Lodge in his Province he forfeits *de facto* his Provincial honours; if a Past Master ceases to subscribe to a Lodge under the English jurisdiction he thereby forfeits his membership of the Grand Lodge, and if a Brother ceases to subscribe to a Lodge he loses his membership, and his Masonic rights. It is evident, therefore, that Grand Officers have the peculiar privilege of retaining their honours, even when they cease to subscribe to a Lodge under the Grand Lodge of England, and have, therefore, no need to pay aught to secure them admission into the Grand Lodge, and vote at all the Quarterly Communications. I hope this anomaly will be attended to in due course, and the present rule pointed out by "Q," through his energy, will soon be abrogated. Under my Grand Lodge (Ireland) we have an annual payment in such instances as the foregoing.

MASONIC INVESTIGATOR.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*All Letters and communications must be addressed to the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, 67 Barbican, London, E.C.*

*We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.*

T. B. W.—Many thanks for your kind enclosure. You have, however, been forestalled, as you will see by our issue of to-day.

We have to direct the attention of our correspondent A. K.T. to the paragraph heading this column, and upon his compliance with the conditions, we shall have pleasure in answering his question.

## REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.  
*Old Truths in a New Light.*—By the Countess of Caithness. London: Chapman and Hall.

THE discrepancies, or apparent discrepancies, between some of the more recent discoveries of science and the truths of religion have been discussed by numerous writers, and from various standpoints. From the author of "Kraft and Stoff," who in the entire range of Nature could find no place for a Deity or a Creator, to the zealous Ultramontane, who has hardly yet become reconciled to a belief in the rotundity of the earth, a list of writers could be cited representing almost every conceivable shade of opinion and predilection with regard to this important question. The present work, aptly characterized by the authoress as "an earnest endeavour to reconcile material science with spiritual science and with Scripture," offers many features of originality. Considerable stress is placed, at the outset, upon some remarks of Professor Tyndall at the recent meeting of the British Association at Belfast. "The whole process of evolution," the Professor affirmed, "is the manifestation of a power absolutely inscrutable to the intellect of man. As little in our day as in the days of Job can man by searching find this power out. Considered fundamentally it is by the operation of an *insoluble mystery* that life is evolved, species differentiated and minds unfolded from their prepotent elements in the immeasurable past." In the course of the same address the Professor referred to the unmoveable basis of the religious sentiment in the emotional nature of man, and added, "To yield this sentiment reasonable satisfaction is the problem of problems at the present day." Now it is precisely this problem of problems of which the present work is intended to offer the solution. The authoress, in common with a large number of eminent and distinguished persons, both in this country and on the Continent, is a believer in Spiritualism, or, to adopt her ladyship's own expression, in Spiritism. The speciality of this belief may be said to be that it offers something approaching to scientific demonstration in support of the primary truths of religion. The doctrine of the immortality of the soul for example needs no longer to depend upon abstruse metaphysical arguments or the testimony of past ages if, as the Spiritualists assert, communication with the souls of the dead has already been effectively established. If Spiritualism can be shown to be no delusion, if it is able to set at rest questions of such vital importance to the well being of humanity as this, we think it cannot fail to be admitted that the purpose of this work has been accomplished, and that Professor Tyndall's "problem of problems" has been shown to be capable of solution. Apart from the main thread of the argument, moreover, the book is full of matters of interest, and will well repay perusal. A mass of curious information with respect to the ancient faiths and traditions of the world is introduced in support or illustration of the views of the writer, which perhaps has never been collected in a readable form before. In particular, we may mention the subject of Freemasonry is more than once touched upon, and in a manner which proves that the authoress is deeply impressed with a belief in its great antiquity and in the profound wisdom of its teachings. The origin of the earlier rites and symbols of the Craft must be looked for, in the opinion of the Countess of Caithness, as far back as the reign of Osiris. Some remarks on the origin of the Rose Croix order of Freemasonry, erroneously confounded by some writers with the cabalistic sect of Rosicrucians, our readers will thank us for quoting, "I was not aware," she writes, "any doubt existed as to the date or origin of this most ancient and important order, but upon referring to Mackey's 'Lexicon of Freemasonry,' I find it stated that although it is agreed by all writers on Masonry to be one of the earliest, if not the very earliest, of the higher degrees, yet the most inextricable confusion reigns as to its origin. . . . The rose, in ancient mythology, was consecrated to Hippocrates, the God of Silence. Hence this flower was considered the emblem of knowledge, silence and secrecy. When anything was intended to be kept secret it was said to be delivered *sub rosa*, or 'under the rose.' Ragon, in explaining the jewel of the Rose Croix (of which he gives a long and minute description), says that the cross was, in Egypt, an emblem of immortality, and the rose of secrecy; the rose, followed by the cross, was therefore the simplest mode of writing the secret of immortality." The work is in a high degree thoughtful and suggestive, and will probably be extensively read and discussed.

THE DATE OF EASTER 1876.—In the ecclesiastical year, according to the rule in the Prayer-book, "Easter-day (on which the other movable feasts and holy days depend) is always the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after the 21st day of March; and if the full moon happens upon a Sunday, Easter-day is the Sunday after." Now, look at the almanack on the wrapper of the "Leisure Hour" (which is specially prepared for it each month by Mr. Duakin, of the Royal Observatory, and contains some valuable astronomical notes). The full moon next after the 21st March is set down for 8th April. The first Sunday after this is 9th April, whereas the true date for Easter is 16th April. This discrepancy has sorely exercised many minds, as on previous occasions when the Church Calendar and the astronomer seemed to be at variance. The truth is that the rule in the Prayer-book is wrong in two points, and needs correction. It is wrong in referring to the visible moon in the heavens, and wrong in referring to full moon instead of the fourteenth day after the Calendar moon of March. The Calendar moon falls on 27th March, the fourteenth day after which is 9th April, the first Sunday after which is 16th April, Easter Sunday. The error of referring to the moon in the heavens is obvious, for it is full moon at different times in different places. Even within so short a distance as London and Westminster, with difference of longitude between six and seven seconds. Easter might fall on one Sunday in St. Paul's, and not on the following Sunday in Westminster Abbey! —*Leisure Hour for April.*

# INSTALLATION OF H. R. H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.,

Most Worshipful Grand Master, &c., &c., having been graciously pleased to accept the special Dedication,

A SPLENDID

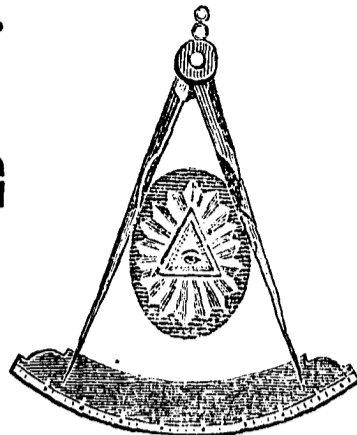
## HISTORICAL STEEL ENGRAVING

WILL SHORTLY BE PUBLISHED,

OF THE

ROYAL INSTALLATION ON THE 28<sup>TH</sup> OF APRIL LAST,  
IN THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

By BRO. EDWARD JAMES HARTY, S.W. No. 1201.



Application for Circulars and for all particulars to be made to the  
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### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, ST. JOHN'S HILL, S.W.

OFFICE: 5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C.

PATRONS.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.  
President.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A QUARTERLY General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 8th day of April 1876, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, to consider notices of motion as follows: and to elect 11 Girls into the School by ballot from a list of 43 approved candidates. The election will commence at One o'clock (or after the usual business is over) and close at Three o'clock precisely.

By H. A. Dubois, Esq.—

That the recommendation of the Special Committee appointed by the last Special Court of the 11th Dec. 1875, be brought up and submitted for adoption.

By Raynham W. Stewart, Esq.—

That in the event of the Special Committee appointed by the Quarterly Court of the 11th December 1875, presenting their report, recommending that a further sum shall be expended in enlarging the present school or building on the present site at Battersea,

He will move as an amendment to the report, that it is inexpedient that any further sum of money should be laid out in enlarging the present Schools or otherwise, and that in view of its being necessary to remove the School, an eligible site should be sought for, and purchased so as to meet the wants of the Craft.

By Robert Kenyon, Esq.—

That a Committee of five Governors, viz: Lieutenant Colonel Burdett, Dudley Rolls, Esq., Dr. Ramsay, Robert Kenyon, Esq., be, and they are hereby appointed to inspect certain Freehold Lands at Sunninghill, Claremont, Banstead and elsewhere, with a view to the selected site being purchased, and ultimately applied for the purpose of erecting fit and commodious schools, &c., thereon, so as to provide the necessary accommodation for a large additional number of children.

By H. W. Hemsworth, Esq.—

That not more than two children of same parents be admitted to this Institution at the same time.

By F. W. H. Ramsay, Esq., M.D.—

That every three years the four senior members of the House Committee retire, but shall be eligible for re-election, and the four who have been least frequent in attendance shall retire annually, and be ineligible for re-election for a space of twelve months.

By John Boyd, Esq.—

That ten additional children be elected at the forthcoming election in April next, thus increasing the number in the School to 162.

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, Prov. S.G.W. Middx.,  
SECRETARY.

The EIGHTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, 10th May 1876, on which occasion Lieut.-Col. Sir HENRY EDWARDS, Bart., D.L., R. W. Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire, will preside.

Tickets, One Guinea each, may be had of the Stewards, and of the Hon. Secretary (Bro. R. Wentworth Little), at the Office, 5 Freemasons' Hall, W.C.

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THE NEXT ELECTION OF MEMBERS will be held on 17th April, after which date it is anticipated that it will be necessary to impose an Entrance Fee, and raise the Annual Subscriptions—upwards of 500 Brethren having already joined.

FORMS FOR APPLICATION for Membership may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Offices of the LONDON MASONIC CLUB COMPANY LIMITED, 37 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

JOHN A. LATHBURY, Secretary.

### A MONUMENTAL WORK.

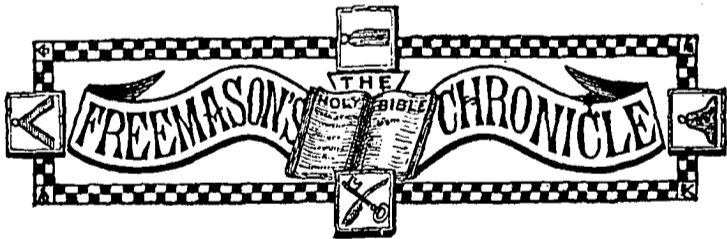
NOW IN PREPARATION.

HISTORY OF EVERY LODGE UNDER THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

Will be Edited by a distinguished Grand Officer.

In a work of this magnitude, the kind co-operation of all Brethren who are in possession of facts not generally known, will be invaluable, and thankfully acknowledged.

SPENCER AND CO., 23a GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.



67 BARBICAN, E.C.

### OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

A brace of questions were asked in the House of Lords on Friday. The first related to an alleged outrage at Whydah, and was answered by the Earl of Carnarvon. The second was put by Lord Hampton, and had reference to the Sugar Convention. To this the Earl of Derby gave the necessary reply. On Monday, the Earl of Shaftesbury gave notice of his intention, if the Royal Titles Bill received a second reading, to move an address to Her Majesty, praying her to assume some other title than that of Empress of India. The Marquis of Salisbury then described certain amendments he proposed to submit to their lordships in the Oxford University Bill, and subsequently announced the names of the commissioners to be appointed under it. A discussion then ensued on the presentation, by the Duke of Northumberland, of a petition asking for a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the working and management of Mineral and Alkali Works. His Grace concluded by moving for the appointment of a commission, and the Government, subject to a slight modification of its terms, acceded to the motion. On Tuesday, the Duke of Buccleugh emphatically contradicted a rumour to which the Times had

given currency, that it was his intention to second the motion of the Earl of Shaftesbury, in reference to the Royal Titles Bill. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon introduced a Bill on Agricultural Holdings in Scotland, which was read a first time. On Thursday, the Royal Titles Bill was read a second time, after a long debate, in which the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the Duke of Somerset, Lord Napier and Ettrick, Earl Grey, Lords Lawrence, Waveney, and Stanley, of Alderley, Earl Granville, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Kimberley, and the Lord Chancellor took part.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. Fawcett gave notice of a motion, in the event of the Royal Titles Bill passing into law, to the effect that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty praying her not to assume any other title in respect of India than that of Queen. The Marquis of Hartington announced his intention of asking, on Monday, a question relative to the report of Mr. Cave's mission to the Khedive. A motion of Mr. Gregory's, that effect should be given to the recommendations of the committee upon Acts of Parliament was, after a brief discussion, negatived without a division. Mr. Sherlock proposed to remove the grating in front of the Ladies' Gallery; after a brief conversation the subject dropped. The House then went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates and passed several votes. On Monday, Mr. Disraeli announced the course he proposed to pursue in reference to the vote for the expenses of Mr. Cave's mission. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that he should bring in his budget on Monday next. The House then went into committee on clause 3 of the Merchant Shipping Bill. An amendment, proposed by Mr. Plimsoll, that every British ship, with certain named exceptions, should be furnished with a certificate of seaworthiness, was strenuously opposed by the Government and defeated, after a long and interesting debate, by 247 to 110. On Tuesday, Mr. Anderson asked the First Minister a silly, if not an impertinent question, as to whether there was any precedent for the Queen's leaving the country when Parliament was sitting. Mr. Disraeli gravely cited a case in point, but this did not satisfy Mr. Sullivan, who was anxious to learn if members of the House would enjoy their privilege of free access to Her Majesty during her visit to Germany. Mr. Disraeli replied in the affirmative. Mr. Meldon then proposed a motion, the object of which was the extension of the borough franchise in Ireland. A considerable number of Irish members, prominent among them being Mr. Butt, and Mr. John Bright supported the motion. The Solicitor-General for Ireland and the Chief Secretary opposed, on behalf of the Government, and Mr. Meldon was defeated by the narrow majority of 13—179 against 166 for the motion. On Wednesday, Mr. Butt moved the second reading of the Land Tenure (Ireland) Bill. Mr. Clive moved an amendment that the Bill be read that day six months. Captain Nolan, Mr. McCarthy and the O'Donoghue supported, while Lord Elcho and Sir M. H. Beach on the part of the Government, opposed the second reading. Mr. Law moved the adjournment of the debate, to which Mr. Disraeli assented. On Thursday, Mr. Anderson having renewed his impertinent inquiries as to the Queen's absence in Germany during the session of Parliament, and Mr. Disraeli having answered them, the House went into Committee on the Mercantile Shipping Bill. Clause 3 was agreed to, after several amendments had been proposed and rejected, and subsequently clause 4. The House then resumed, and having passed the Mutiny Bill through Committee, adjourned at a late hour.

On Monday the Queen, with the Princess Beatrice and suite, left Windsor Castle for Portsmouth, *en route* for Germany. The visit being strictly private, no one was allowed in the Dockyard, and her Majesty at once went on board the "Victoria and Albert." The Royal yacht left Portsmouth Harbour at nine a.m. the following morning, and reached Cherbourg at three in the afternoon. The Earl of Derby accompanies the Queen as Secretary of State in attendance on her Majesty, who is now at Baden-Baden.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales reached Suez on the morning of Saturday last, and at once left for Cairo, which he reached same day, where he was received by the Khedive and the Princes, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia being also present. On Monday a grand banquet was given in the Prince's honour at the Abdin Palace, when covers were laid for ninety guests. A grand concert followed the banquet. His Royal Highness is expected to reach Malta on Wednesday next, the 5th inst., and, accordingly, great preparations are being made with a view to giving him a

hearty welcome. A thousand pounds have already been collected for the illuminations, and there will be a grand pyrotechnic display on the Corradino heights. The route from the landing-place to the Governor's palace will be decorated the whole way with Egyptian masts, and banners of every description. The Prince will remain two or three days, the principal entertainment being a grand ball at the Union Club, to be given by the army and navy. New colours, it is said, will be presented to the 98th Regiment, now on its way to Malta, and it is expected there will be some kind of a military spectacle on a very grand scale. The Prince will also lay the foundation-stone of a Conservatorio, or asylum for girls, founded by a Chevalier Bugeja, who is to spend some fifty thousand pounds on its completion.

The Princess of Wales and her children left Windsor Castle for Marlborough House on Saturday. In the afternoon she was present at the Saturday Popular Concert, at St. James's Hall, and later in the day visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at St. James's Palace. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh having terminated his visit to St. Petersburg, started on his return to England on Sunday afternoon, reaching Berlin on Tuesday. He was received by the Crown Prince and Princess. After *déjeuner* at the palace of the latter the Duke left for Darmstadt.

In the sporting world the doings of the Oxford and Cambridge crews claim our first attention. The supporters of the latter are gaining courage from the reports which appear daily of the improvement evidenced by the performances of their favourites, while Oxford has had to make a change in its *personnel*. But though such a change, when the day for the race is so close at hand, is far from encouraging, the backers of Oxford have faith in the success of the dark blue. The number of spectators has not been on some days so great as usual, as there has been more than one tide high enough to cover the towing-path; indeed, some of the more enthusiastic admirers of rowing had to make their way back to *terra firma* as best they could. On Friday the Liverpool Grand National, the great steeple-chase event of the year, was run, and resulted, towards the end, in a very fine race, Captain Machell's Regal passing the winning-post a neck in front of Mr. Gomm's Congress. Nineteen ran, of whom Zero came to grief, his rider, Mr. Rolly, being somewhat severely shaken. On Monday was held, at Lillie Bridge, the First Spring Meeting of the London Athletic Club. The weather was not particularly favourable, as a strong north-easter was blowing the whole of the afternoon, yet the attendance of spectators was, under the circumstances, considerable. F. T. Elborough walked over for the 220 yards challenge cup, and was beaten by a yard only by Montague in the 600 yards handicap. The final of the 100 yards fell to H. Macdougall, while that of the 250 yards for members only was won by R. H. Dudgeon. The open half-mile handicap was won by T. H. Todd (19 yards). H. Venn secured the three miles walking challenge cup, and A. P. Smith, L.A.C., the open four miles handicap (time, 21 mins. 27 secs.). At Glasgow, on Saturday, Wales and Scotland played a match at football, under Association rules. The North Britons were eventually winners, by four goals to none. In a return match at Sheffield, between London and Sheffield, the latter proved victorious, by six goals to none. As London won the first match, at the Oval, these two rival teams have each scored a victory. We close this list with the first of the inter-university contests as yet settled. These were the double and single billiard matches played at Cambridge, Oxford being represented in the first by Messrs. Adey (Balliol) and Horne (Worcester), while the honour of the sister university was entrusted to Messrs. Pontifex (Trinity) and Sarkeis (Caius). The latter won by 224 points. In the single match Cambridge, represented by Mr. Pontifex, won by 287 points.

The annual dinner of the Institute of Civil Engineers took place on Saturday evening, at Willis's Rooms, Mr. Robert George Stephenson being in the chair. Amongst the notabilities present were the Duke of Teck, the Earl of Carnarvon, Viscount Halifax, Captain Lord Gifford, R.N. Lord Colville of Culross, Lord Hatherley, General Lord Sandhurst, the Lord Mayor, Messrs. Lowe, Goschen, and Stansfield. The usual loyal and other toasts were received with enthusiasm, especial honour being paid to the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Institution of Civil Engineers."

A large and influential meeting was held in the Egyptian Hall at the Mansion House under the presidency of Lord Mayor Cotton, in aid of the funds of Mrs. Gladstone's

Free Convalescent Home for the poor. Mr. Gladstone, the Bishop of Ely, Lords Lawrence, Napier and Ettrick, and Eliot, Earl Cowper, Baron F. de Rothschild, Sir R. Wallace, and a number of civic dignitaries, together with the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Gladstone and other patrons and patronesses were present. Mr Gladstone advocated the cause of the charity with great earnestness, and the result was the subscription in the room of a considerable sum.

On Tuesday, the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, opened with the performance of Rossini's *Guglielmo Tell*. M. Maurel took the part of William Tell and Signor Marini and Mdle. Bianchi, as Arnoldo and Matilda, produced the same favourable impression as last season, in spite of the cold and hoarseness from which they were suffering, and for which the indulgence of the audience was claimed. The Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Teck were present.

Between Saturday and Sunday afternoon, a robbery, on a very large scale, was perpetrated on the premises of Messrs. J. R. Williams and Son, of Hatton Garden; jewellery to the amount of over £15,000 having been cleared out of two safes. There is reason to believe the thief, or thieves, must have been intimately acquainted with the arrangements of the premises. The street door had, first of all, to be opened, and this had to be done by using two different keys, and turning them at the same time. Then the door leading from the hall to the offices had to be opened, and lastly the safes, which were Chatwood's patent, and constructed on the most intricate principles, had to be unlocked. No violence was used, and singular to relate, the principal safe stood facing a window which looked full into the street, and was always unblinded both day and night. No clue, as yet, has been found to the perpetrators of this daring robbery; but, as usual, the police are said to be in possession of certain information. A reward of £600 is offered for the recovery of the property.

The usual Easter Monday Review of Volunteers, will be revived this year, and will be held at Tring. A circular has been issued from the War Office, in which it is stated that all applications on the part of corps to be present, must be made on, or before, Monday next, after which no application will be entertained. Though the scene of the review is in the eastern district, the Commander-in-Chief has entrusted the arrangements to the Staff of the Home district, as the bulk of those present will belong to the latter.

The Show of Cats, Rabbits, and Guinea Pigs, at the Alexandra Palace, on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, was on a very large scale—in point of numbers, perhaps, the largest ever held. There were over 450 entries in all; the Guinea Pigs, however, hardly mustering more than seven or eight. There were some magnificent specimens, both of Cats and Rabbits, the former including animals of every shade of colour, and we were almost going to say of every nationality. There were among them a tortoiseshell he-cat—some doubts, we believe, were expressed as to the purity of its breed—and a red tabby she-cat, said to be the only one of its kind in existence. Among the Rabbits were a large number of lop-eared and Dutch specimens, and very fine indeed some of them were. As regards other attractions, the Palace still offers a great variety, as great, indeed, as the season will permit; the theatrical performances, the Hague Minstrels, and the Saturday Concerts being the chief. As the season advances, we shall, no doubt, have much to say of the weekly programme. With anything like decent weather the second season should be as successful as the first.

To-day, at the Crystal Palace, there will be the usual Saturday Concert, and in the evening will be held a Spelling Bee, open to the public, when prizes of £10, £5, £3, £2, £1, and 10s are offered. To-day, also, is the first day of the grand exhibition of Carriages, Harness, and Bicycles, which will remain open till the 11th instant inclusive.

The most important question before the French public is that of a general amnesty. The ministers, MM. Dufaure and Ricard, attended before the Amnesty Committee of the Senate on Wednesday, and expressed themselves as strongly opposed to a general amnesty, but they announced that many individual pardons would be granted. In Germany, the Imperial project in relation to railways is exercising the public and the diets of the subordinate kingdoms and principalities. As regards the Eastern

Question, conferences have been held with a view to bring about the pacification of the Herzegovina, but the negotiations have fallen through owing to the inability of the Austrian and Turkish Commissioners to agree about one of the stipulations. Ali Pacha will only offer more promises without guarantee for their realisation, and Mouktar Pacha makes it a condition precedent of any armistice that he should be allowed to provision the fortified places in the province. These propositions do not meet the views of Baron Rodich, the Austrian commissioner, and, consequently, the conferences are at an end. Serbia is reported to have consulted the Czar on the question of peace or war, and to have been advised to avoid doing anything that might disturb the peace of Europe. If further complications should arise, nothing would be lost by having waited. The inquiries in connection with sundry scandals in the United States are progressing. General Schenck has been examined before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives relative to his connection with the Emma Silver Mine; and articles of impeachment against the late Secretary of War are said to be in course of preparation. The Ministerial crisis in Italy is at an end. The new Ministry have entered on their duties, and, as they require time for the consideration of the measures presented by the previous Ministry, an adjournment of the Chamber of Deputies till the 25th ult. has been called for and obtained. On the retirement of the late Ministry, Signor Biancheri, President of the Chamber, tendered his resignation, but the resignation was not accepted, and the President therefore remains in his office.

It is the intention of the Craft in Cape Town to welcome the return, from Griqualand West, of the R.W. the Hon. R. Southey, District G.M. for South Africa and adjacent Colonies, at a grand dinner. The arrangements are in the hands of Bros. W. T. Hawthorn D.G. Secretary, P. J. Stigant and L. Alexander, and we trust the banquet will add to the lustre of Freemasonry in those distant regions.

Brother Horsley will work the fifteen sections at the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., on Monday evening next. Lodge will be opened at seven o'clock.

Lord Ramsay was installed, on Wednesday, as Provincial Grand Master of Forfarshire, in the Reid Hall, Forfar.

The 15 sections will be worked by Bro. C. W. Kent P.M. 879, W.M. 1571, at the Leopold Lodge of Instruction, No. 1571, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-street, on Monday evening next, the 3rd April, at 7 o'clock. The following brethren will assist:—

#### FIRST LECTURE.

1st Section	-	Bro. Ross	5th Section	-	Bro. Bartlett
2nd "	-	" Embler	6th "	-	" Baker
3rd "	-	" Ashton	7th "	-	" Stephens
4th "	-	" Hudson			

#### SECOND LECTURE.

1st Section	-	Bro. Smith	4th Section	-	Bro. Magee
2nd "	-	" Noehmer	5th "	-	" Magee
3rd "	-	" Noehmer			

#### THIRD LECTURE.

1st Section	-	Bro. Seex	3rd Section	-	Bro. Stephens
2nd "	-	" Etheridge			

AUSTRIAN EMPEROR AND EMPRESS.—An account of the life of Francis Joseph I. must necessarily be co-extensive and almost identical with a history of the Austria of our own day. Thoroughly has this illustrious Monarch succeeded in assimilating and identifying himself with his people, or rather his peoples, as we ought to say, considering the multiplicity of nationalities over which he rules. Having ascended the throne a mere youth, and under gigantic difficulties, he has always proved equal to the high position he holds. By the union of the Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria he has two daughters and one son. The eldest daughter, the Archduchess Gisela, is married to the heir presumptive to the throne of Bavaria, Prince Leopold; and it may be remarked that Francis Joseph was a grandfather at the early age of forty-four, and the Empress styled herself a grandmother before she was thirty-seven. The Archduke Rudolph was born in August 1858, and all that is known of him leads us to infer that he will some day be a worthy successor of his illustrious father.—*Leisure Hour for April.*

## DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c. as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

—:0:—

## SATURDAY, 1st APRIL.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)  
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

## MONDAY, 3rd APRIL.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Square, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)  
69—Unity, London Tavern, E.C.  
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C. (Instruction.)  
37—Anchor and Hope, Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton-le-Moors.  
53—Royal Sussex, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.  
119—Sun, Square and Compasses, Freemasons' Hall, Whitehaven.  
133—Harmony, Ship Hotel, Faversham.  
156—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.  
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.  
338—Vitruvian, Royal Hotel, Ross, Herefordshire.  
441—Three Grand Principles, Red Lion Hotel, Petty Curry, Cambridge.  
694—Oakley, Masonic Hall, Church-street, Basingstoke.  
1045—Stamford, Town Hall, Altrincham.  
1051—Rowley, Athenaeum, Lancaster.  
1124—St. Oswald, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry.  
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

## TUESDAY, 4th APRIL.

55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand-court, W.C., at 7.0. (Instruction.)  
101—Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street  
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)  
1261—Golden Rule, Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street, Piccadilly.  
R. A.—Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, at 6.30.  
51—Angel, Three Cups Hotel, Colchester.  
120—Paladin, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford.  
158—Adams, Masonic Rooms, Victoria Hall, Trinity-road, Sheerness-on-Sea.  
209—Etonian, Masonic Hall, Windsor.  
493—Royal Lebanon, Spread Eagle, Gloucester.  
558—Temple, Town Hall, Folkestone.  
702—Sherborne, Subscription Rooms, Strond, Gloucester.  
734—Londesborough, Victoria Hotel, Bridlington Quay.  
847—Fortescue, Masonic Hall, High-street, Honiton, Devon.  
948—St. Barnabas, Masonic Room, Linsdale, Leighton Buzzard.  
1002—Skiddaw, Lodge Room, Market-place, Cocker-mouth.  
1034—Newall, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford.  
1138—Devon, Masonic Hall, Devon-square, Newton Abbot.  
1228—Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone, at 8.0. (Instruction.)  
1322—Waveley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.  
1336—Square and Compass, Wynnstay Arms, High-street, Wrexham.

## WEDNESDAY, 5th APRIL.

193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)  
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)  
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.  
293—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.  
326—Moir, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.  
423—Sincerity, Angel House, Northwich, Cheshire.  
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport.  
645—Humphrey Chetham, Masonic Room, Cross-street, Manchester.  
1008—Royal St. Edmund's, Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds.  
1063—Malling Abbey, Bear Inn, West Malling, Kent.  
1144—Milton, Commercial Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.  
1167—Alwrick, Masonic Hall, Market-place, Alnwick.  
1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich.  
1323—Talbot, Masonic Rooms, Wind-street, Swansea.  
1363—Tyndall, Town Hall, Chipping Sudbury, Gloucester.  
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans.

## THURSDAY, 6th APRIL.

27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)  
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8. (Instruction.)  
554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.  
1260—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)  
1439—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)  
31—United Industrious, Guildhall Concert Room, High-street, Canterbury.  
41—Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Old Orchard-street, Bath.  
123—Lennox, Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, Yorkshire.  
249—Mariners, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.  
254—Trinity, Craven Arms Hotel, Coventry.  
269—Fidelity, White Bull Hotel, Blackburn.  
295—Combermere Union, Macclesfield Arms, Macclesfield.  
309—Harmony, Red Lion, Fareham.  
360—Pomfret, George Hotel, Northampton.  
442—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.  
463—East Surrey Concord, Greyhound, Croydon.  
650—Star in the East, Pier Hotel, Harwich. (Instruction.)  
792—Pelham Pillar, Masonic Hall, Bullring-lane, Grimsby.  
1012—Prince of Wales, Derby Hotel, Bury, Lancashire.  
1074—Underley, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale.  
1282—Anchorline, Forester's Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.  
1284—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.  
1331—Aldershot Camp, Assembly Rooms, High-street, Aldershot.  
1343—St. John's, King's Arms Hotel, Grays, Essex.

## FRIDAY, 7th APRIL.

933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)  
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)  
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)  
1439—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies' Asylum, Balls-pond-road, N.  
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)  
574—Loyal Berkshire of Hope, Council Chamber, Newbury.  
601—St. John's, Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Salop.  
709—Invicta, Corn Exchange, Queen-street, Ashford.  
1333—Athelstan, Town Hall, Atherstone, Warwick.  
1387—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy.  
1561—Morecambe, Athenaeum, Lancaster.

## SATURDAY, 8th APRIL.

Quarterly General Court, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.0.  
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)  
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.  
1391—Commerce, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

## WEST YORKSHIRE.

## MONDAY.

61—Probity, Freemason's Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.  
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.  
264—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.  
408—Three Graces, Private Room, Haworth.  
1108—Wharfedale, Private Room, Boroughgate, Otley, York.  
1211—Goderich, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.  
1239—Wentworth, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.  
1302—De Warren, White Swan Hotel, Halifax.  
1514—Thornhill, Masonic Room, Dearn House, Lindley.  
1542—Legiolium, Masonic Hall, Carlton-street, Castleford.  
R.A. 380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.  
R.A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.

## TUESDAY.

265—Royal Yorkshire, Masonic Hall, Hanover-street, Keighley.  
1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.  
R.A. 296—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.  
R.A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

## WEDNESDAY.

253—Amphibious, Freemason's Hall, Heckmondwike.  
380—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.  
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.  
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract.  
R.A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.

## THURSDAY.

208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.  
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield.  
239—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.  
337—Candour, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.  
974—Pontelpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.  
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland.  
1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley.

## FRIDAY.

242—St. George's, Victoria Room, Doncaster.  
306—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds.  
401—Royal Forest, Hark-to-Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.  
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.  
837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.  
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.  
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.

## SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.  
308—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.

## DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.

## MONDAY.

431—St. George's, Masonic Hall, Norfolk-street, North Shields.

## TUESDAY.

124—Marquis of Granby, Freemasons' Hall, Old Elvet, Durham.  
393—St. David's, Freemasons' Hall, The Parade, Berwick-on-Tweed.

## WEDNESDAY.

94—Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall, Queen-street, Sunderland.  
406—Northern Counties, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.  
1274—Earl of Durham, Freemasons' Hall, Chester-le-street.

## THURSDAY.

24—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street-west, Newcastle-on-Tyne.  
509—Tees, Freemasons' Hall, Wellington-street, Stockton-on-Tees.  
531—St. Helen's, Masonic Hall, Regent's-square, Hartlepool.  
638—De Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth.  
659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth.  
1379—Marquess of Ripon, Freemasons' Hall, Archer-street, Darlington.

## FRIDAY.

1230—Barnard, Witham Institute, Barnard Castle.  
1557—Albert Edward, White Hart Hotel, Hexham.

## SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—11—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Masonic Lodge, Kirkcudbright.  
WEDNESDAY—0—Mother of Kilwinning, Masonic Hall, Kilwinning.  
21—Old St. John, Masonic Hall, Lanark.  
THURSDAY—11—St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.

## EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—429—St. Kentigern, Royal Hotel, Penicuik.  
TUESDAY—5—Canongate and Leith (L. & C.), 86 Constitution-street.  
THURSDAY—97—St. James's, St. James's Hall, Writer's-court.  
FRIDAY—291—Celtic of Edinburgh and Leith, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street.

## GLASGOW DISTRICT.

MONDAY—129—St. Mirren's, St. Mirren's Hall, Paisley.  
332—Union, 170 Buchanan-street.  
R. A.—119—Rosslyn, 25 Robertson-street.  
TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, 213 Buchanan-street.  
73—Thistle and Rose, 170 Buchanan-street.  
87—Thistle, 30 Hope-street.  
407—Govan, Portland Hall, Govan.  
WEDNESDAY—4—Kilwinning, 170 Buchanan-street.  
117—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, Partick.  
123—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.  
354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street.  
R. A.—87—Shamrock and Thistle, 12 Trongate.  
THURSDAY—27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street.  
465—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road.  
553—St. Vincent, 162 Kent-road.  
FRIDAY—275—Shamrock and Thistle, 21 Struthers-street.  
360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street.  
403—Clyde, 170 Buchanan-street.  
512—Thornhill, School-room, Thornhillbank.  
116—Royal Arch, Council Hall, Rutherglen.  
SATURDAY—28—St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.

CLUB HOUSE PLAYING CARDS.—Mogul Quality, picked 1s 3d per pack, 14s per dozen packs. Do. seconds 1s per pack, 11s per dozen packs. If by post 1d per pack extra. Cards for Piquet, Bézique, Écarté, &c., Mogul Quality 10d per pack, 9s per dozen packs.—London: W. W. Morgan, 67 Barbican, E.C.

## NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

**Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.**—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Monday, the 27th March, at Bro. Gay's, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Present—Bros. Pilbeam W.M., Percy S.W., Defriez J.W., Trewinnard S.D., Knight J.D., Killick I.G. Business—The Lodge was opened in the usual manner, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Powell being the candidate; as also was the ceremony of passing, Bro. Trewinnard being the candidate. Bro. Saul worked the 2nd section of the 2nd degree. The fifteen sections will be worked on Monday, the 3rd proximo.

**Prosperity Lodge, No. 65.**—The installation meeting of this capital working-Lodge was held on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street. Present—Bros. L. A. Leins W.M., Bowyer S.W., Daniels J.W., J. Goodwin P.M. Treasurer, G. T. Brown Secretary, and P.M.'s Bros. Davey, J. Bellerby, English, Cornwall, Arnold, and a very numerous attendance of brethren. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Cownie, Tissington and Hawkins were raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. W. J. Wright, J. J. Green, G. Beale, R. Giebertmann and S. J. Harriss were initiated into the Order in the W.M.'s careful and perfect manner. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, and Bro. Carruthers, W.M. elect, was presented to the Lodge; and in the presence of 22 W.M.'s and P.M.'s was installed into the chair by the retiring W.M., Bro. Leins, in a manner that reflected great credit to him. The customary salutations having been given, the officers were invested: Bros. A. L. Leins I.P.M., Bowyer S.W., Daniels J.W., Goodwin P.M. Treasurer, G. T. Brown Secretary, Burge S.D., Gent J.D., Braine I.G., Forbes P.M. D.C., Mathews and Sims Wine Stewards, and Speight Tyler. The concluding addresses were capitally delivered. A letter of condolence was proposed to be sent to the widow of the late Bro. Stevens P.M. It was also proposed that a collar and P.M.'s jewel should be presented to Bro. J. L. Mather P.M., for his valuable services, also as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren. The report of the Audit Committee was read, and a vote of thanks accorded to Bro. Brown, the Hon. Secretary. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 98 in number, partook of a very sumptuous and *recherché* banquet, provided by Bros. Ritter and Clifford. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the W.M., said he was one who had the interest of the Craft in general at heart, and during his connection with the Lodge had always looked after its welfare. He hoped he might continue in health to follow out the duties required of him, and which he was so capable of fulfilling. The W.M., in reply, said it was the great ambition of his life to be W.M. of this influential Lodge. To be united with the brethren was his aim, and he hoped, at the expiration of his year of office, that it would be said he had given satisfaction. The toast of the newly initiated followed. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the I.P.M., which was received with loud cheers. They had seen what Bro. Leins had done during his year of office, and they also had seen the able manner in which he had performed the ceremony of installation. As a token of the respect he was held in, the brethren had determined to present him with a testimonial worthy of his acceptance. It would be a pleasing remembrance to his children, and it would remind them of what their father had done for the Lodge, and of the esteem in which he was held by the members. He then presented a very elegantly emblazoned testimonial, which had been executed by Bro. Wall, with appropriate inscription, a very elegant P.M.'s jewel, of novel design, set with precious stones, with the words, *Amori Fratri*, and a very valuable set of brilliant studs. Bro. Leins returned thanks for the toast in a very able speech. He thanked the brethren for the valuable gifts; he would always prize them; this was his mother Lodge; they would be heir-looms to his family, and he hoped to be spared till his son was of age, to have the pleasure of initiating him in the Lodge. He hoped, while he was associated with it, every brother would enjoy prosperity. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bros. J. A. Smith W.M. 1178, Watkins 212, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188. Each paid a just compliment to the W.M. for his able presiding, and to the I.P.M. for his excellent working. Bro. Davey P.M. returned thanks for the Past Masters. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Wardens and Officers. Everything they had done in their various capacities was satisfactory, and he hoped, at a future time, their services would be fully recognised. Bros. Bowyer S.W., Daniels and Braine severally returned thanks. The Tyler's toast was then given. Bros. Hawkins, Smith and Brown contributed to the harmony. Bro. Speight acted very efficiently as Toast Master. The Visitors were Bros. A. Drew 890, J. Smith W.M. 1178, Willats, C. Gross, W. Bishop 180, Watkins P.M. 212, H. Hall late 65, Cox 1260, E. Marsh 1471, H. Harnsworth P.M. 1178, A. McIntyre, J. Thompson 185, T. Parry 890, Wallington 860, S. Browne 1426, H. Marfleet P.M. 217, M. Ayres 95, G. S. Bratton P.M. 1227, A. Verdon 188, C. S. Davis 188, Edwards 788, D. H. Jacobs P.M. 27, G. Verry P.M. 554, Webster 569, Brown 1257, Baylis 813, Dalton 1364, Baugh 511, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

**Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement.**—The regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on Tuesday last, at the Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, presided over by the following Comps. G. Newman Z., J. Constable H., J. Wyer J., J. K. Lemann acting Scribe E., J. W. Hobbs Scribe N., W. Gammon P.S., J. S. Cox 1st Assistant. After the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Convocation the M.E.Z. rehearsed the ceremony of exaltation (Comp. J. Smith acting candidate) in a manner which elicited the warmest applause. The election of officers for the ensuing fortnight followed, resulting as follow:—N. Gluckstein Z., J. Constable H., J. Wyer J., J. Gammon S.N., R. Wyatt P.S. At the request of the members, Comp. J. K. Lemann was elected to work the ceremonies of installation next Tuesday, at 6.30 p.m., previous

to the ordinary business of the evening, and we earnestly invite the attendance of Companions seeking knowledge in this branch of the ritual; all who know Comp. Lemann are sufficiently acquainted with his proficiency not to need a word from our pen in his praise. Chapters of Instruction are few and far between, and we cannot refrain expressing our surprise that this Chapter, which has earned a world-wide reputation, should have such a poor attendance, more especially knowing how difficult it is to obtain the Royal Arch ritual. There were present also Comps. P. Wagner, J. Rumsey and S. H. Green.

**Fortitude Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 66.**—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Wednesday, 22nd March, at the Hayshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth, the following brethren being present:—C. Godtschalk W.M., J. Latimer S.W., J. J. Avery J.W., S. Jew Treas., J. B. Gover Sec., W. B. Hambly, V. Bird, H. F. Hearle, R. Rodda P.P.G.S., C. Stribling P.M. P.P.G.D.C., P. B. Clemens P.M. P.P.G.M.O., J. M. Hifley P.P.G.S.O., W. Browning P.M. P.P.G.O., R. M. Andrews P.M. P.P.G.S.B., C. Cooper S.W. 50, P.G.S. Wks., E. T. Tarratt, W. W. Crimp, and Roach. The meeting was held for the purpose of installing the W. Master elect, Bro. Isaac Latimer S.W. P.P.G.J.W. The ceremony was admirably performed by the retiring Master, Bro. Godtschalk, who was congratulated upon the unusual ability, zeal and assiduity evinced by him in thus finishing his year of office with credit to himself and honour to a Lodge, where no mediocre work would be received. All the members of this very select Lodge are Grand and Prov. Grand Officers. The W. Bro. Latimer appointed the following officers:—W. Bros. C. Godtschalk P.P.G.D.C. I.P.M., J. J. Avery P.P.G.R. S.W., W. Hearder P.P.G.O. J.W., S. Jew P.M. P.P.G.T. T., J. B. Gover P.M. P.G.T. Sec., V. Bird P.M.O. Eng. P.P.G.T. Chap., G. Emery P.G.O. M.O., H. Ferry P.G.S. S.O., W. H. Crimp P.G.S. J.O., W. B. Hambly P.P.G.T. R.M., H. F. Hearle P.P.G.M.O. J.H., T. Smith P.G.A.T.T. The Lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren retired to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were ably responded to by Bros. J. B. Gover, R. Rodda, and the I.P.M., Charles Godtschalk. The Grand Master of the Province, Major Turner Davy, and Colonel John Elliott, Deputy Grand Master, both being members of this Lodge, sent letters expressing regret at their absence, caused by other important business in the province. Their names were received with enthusiasm, and spoken to by the brethren named. Bro. R. Rodda delighted all present with his incomparable rendering of "Tales and Scenes from every-day Cornish Social Life," which concluded a very enjoyable evening.

**Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.**—This Chapter held its regular meeting on Tuesday, 28th March, at 170 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Comp. G. W. Wheeler presiding, assisted by G. McDonald P.Z. as H., John Kinnaird J., J. Balfour S.E., E. Arthur S.N., J. Bannerman Treas., D. Gilchrist P.Z. as 1st S., J. Kay 2nd S., J. Hanbidge 3rd S., Wm. Jamison Janitor. Visitors Comps. D. Campbell from Nova Scotia, Rev. J. Rice of Chapter 123, Dublin, and J. B. Hardie P.G. Janitor. A Mark Lodge was opened, and Bros. A. M. Stewart, of Lodge 333, and Walter Gunn were proposed, accepted and advanced to that degree, and also to that of Excellent Master. The Chapter was then opened, and they were exalted as Royal Arch Masons. The M.E.Z. then said as Comp. the Rev. Joseph Rice, of Dublin, was now located as a minister in Glasgow, he had much pleasure in proposing him as an honorary member, which was seconded by Comp. McDonald P.Z. Comp. Balfour S.E. proceeded to confer the same honour on Comp. Hardie, which was unanimously agreed to, and the two Companions took the *mode fideliatis*.

**St. Mark's Lodge, No. 102.**—This Lodge met at their own Hall, Buchanan-street, on Monday, 27th March, Bro. Halket P.M. in the chair. There were two candidates for initiation, which degree was conferred on them in the excellent way in which Bro. Halket performs all his work.

**Glasgow Conclave, No. 114, of Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.**—The annual meeting was held on the 29th March, G. W. Wheeler M.P.S. presiding. Visitors present—H. J. Shields M.P.S. of 127, D. Baker S.G., and H. Dyer J.G. of 127. An application for admission was presented from Comp. J. Brown, which being unanimously sustained, he was received and duly installed as a Knight of Constantine. The M.P.S., after paying a feeling tribute to the memory of Sir Knight J. Johnston, his late viceroy, said he would now be glad to be relieved of office, having filled the chair from the formation of the Conclave. He wished to see their Hon. S.W., Sir Knight R. Bell, in that chair, but Sir Knight Bell having sent in a positive refusal, he trusted they would exalt some one else; but the Conclave thought different, and the following were unanimously elected:—Bros. G. W. Wheeler M.P.S., James Louttit V.E., Wm. Dabbie S.G., J. P. Park J.G., J. Tweed Hon. Viceroy T., John Brown Recorder, D. B. Fleming H.P., A. A. Smith P., J. Fraser S.B., J. Buchanan H., and J. B. Hardie Sentinel. These Officers were then installed, after which a college of viceroys was opened by Sir Knights Wheeler, Shields and Baker, and that grade was conferred upon Sir Knight Louttit. The Conclave was then closed.

**Lodge of Prudent Brethren, No. 145.**—The regular meeting of this Lodge, which lately celebrated its centenary, and whose excellent working is proverbial, met on Tuesday, the 28th March, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bro. E. H. Thielhay P.G.P. Middlesex W.M., Moulst S.W., D. Haslett J.W., J. Boyd P.G.P. Treasurer, G. S. States P.G.S. Secretary, J. Manby Ass. Secretary, J. H. Leggett J.D., W. H. Lister D.C., W. H. Wilkinson Ass. D.C.; P.M.'s Bros. G. Purkess, T. Bull, J. Last, and Bros. Ryder, Woods, Mears, Wright, H. Lewis, Williams, Boetch, Akhurst, Taylor, Rees, J. Kennard, Caffall, &c. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Mears was passed to the 2nd degree. Ballots

having previously been taken for Messrs. Aimé Hugon, G. Mathison, and C. Codlin, those gentlemen were initiated into the Order. The W.M. performed these ceremonies in his usual careful and perfect manner. The resignation of a brother was accepted with regret. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Albemarle Hotel, Albemarle-street, where a very recherché banquet and dessert was provided by Bro. Boetch. The Visitors were Bros. E. H. Beccles (late Bishop of Sierra Leone), H. Rawes 950, R. Ponsford 25, R. Brand 25, Beccles 1159, F. Gendre 405, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

**Joppa Chapter, No. 188.**—A Convocation of this Chapter was held on Monday, the 27th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Comps. M. Emanuel M.E.Z., E. P. Albert P.Z. as H., W. Littaner P.Z. J., S. V. Abrahams P.Z. Treasurer, P. Dickinson S.E., L. Lazarus S.N. P.Z.'s H. M. Levy I.P.Z., S. Pollitzer, J. Lazarus, and Comps. G. Ellis, Van Vollen, Buderus, Silver, Phillips, W. G. Jennings, Boeckbinder, Mellish and Myers. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes confirmed. Bro. N. Baum was proposed as a candidate, and unanimously elected. He was then duly exalted, the working of the M.E.Z. and Principals deserving great commendation. The Chapter was then closed until the 22nd of May, and the Companions adjourned to a very sumptuous banquet, provided by Comp. Jennings. The M.E.Z. being obliged to leave, Comp. H. M. Levy I.P.Z. presided, and in giving the toast of Her Majesty the Queen, referred to her patronage of the Masonic Charities. Not only as loyal subjects, but as Royal Arch Masons, they felt proud to associate her name with R.A. Masonry. Her recent visit to the East-end, to do good to the afflicted, would never be forgotten; it was a connecting link from West to East, and he hoped she might live long in health to reign. The acting Z. then proposed the toast of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.E.G.Z. It was a pleasure to hear of the enthusiastic reception he had met with in India from all classes. Freemasons there had shown their fealty in giving him a hearty and cordial welcome, and he hoped, on his return to his native country, every loyal subject would be ready to give him a hearty welcome; and he hoped the great Masonic body would, with the sanction of Grand Lodge, give him even a greater reception, and as true a Masonic greeting as he had received at his installation in the Albert Hall. The toast of the Grand H. and J., and the rest of the officers, was then given. The acting Z. then proposed the toast of the newly exalted Comp. Baum, who, from his personal knowledge, and from the attention paid to the ceremony, would, he was sure, be a credit to the Order. Comp. N. Baum appropriately returned thanks. The acting Z. then proposed the health of Comp. J. Wright P.Z. 174, and alluded to the honour he had received in being selected as Grand Pursuivant. From his working qualifications he was sure to be efficient, and he was pleased to know that he had been elected to that office. Comp. Wright having responded, the toast of the M.E.Z. was proposed. The Companions regretted his absence, but they had seen how admirably he had performed the ceremony, in a dual capacity. He was so thoroughly conversant with the duties that it was a pleasure to listen to his delivery of that beautiful ritual. Comp. S. V. Abrahams P.Z. proposed the toast of the acting Z., Comp. H. M. Levy, which was responded to, and Comp. Levy then proposed the toast of the P.Z.'s. He said it was indeed a pleasure to see these Companions, in the absence of the officers who were unable to attend, acting as they had done in assisting in so excellent a manner. He might indeed say they had succeeded, and he was pleased to see among them one who had been the 1st M.E.Z. The Chapter had now been in existence 33 years. He would couple with it the health of their worthy Comp. S. Lazarus. The health of the H. and J. followed, and was responded to by Companions W. Littauer and S. Pollitzer. The toast of the junior officers was given, and Comp. Dickinson S.E. returned thanks. The Janitor's toast concluded a very enjoyable evening.

**Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.**—Bro. Ockenden presided on Wednesday last, and was supported by Bros. Geo. Corner S.W., Triggs J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., J. Constable Treas., Croaker S.D., Turner J.D., Seyer I.G., Christopher Tyler. P.M. Bro. E. Gottheil Preceptor, Bros. D. Posener, Walker, Abell, Blinkhorn, Gomm, Pelton, Horsley, Burr, Hunt, Morgan, &c. Lodge was opened to the third degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Hunt being the candidate. After this Bro. Posener offered himself as a candidate for the third degree, and after answering the necessary questions, the sublime ceremony was rehearsed. Bro. G. Corner was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week.

**Star Lodge, No. 219.**—This Lodge met on Monday, the 27th March, when Bro. J. Morgan initiated two gentlemen into the Order with all the care and amplitude that so distinguishes his working.

**Commercial Lodge, No. 360, Glasgow.**—This Lodge held high festival on Thursday, 23rd March, in their own hall, on the occasion of their affiliating, as an honorary member, Henry Inglis, Esq., of Torsonce, 33°, Past G.S.M. of Scotland, and P.G.M. of Selkirk and Peebles. Bros. J. Munro R.W.M. filled the chair, J. M. Oliver S.W., Thos. Graham J.W., Jules Brodie and A. McKenzie P.M.'s were present, also D. Lamb D.M., J. Findlay S.M., G. Scott Treasurer, J. Smith Secretary, Benj. Read and Kellier Deacons, in fact, all the office-bearers of the Lodge. On the dais were the following members of P.G.L.—J. Gilles Treasurer, G. Sinclair Treasurer Benevolent Fund, J. Bun B.B., J. Balfour D. of C., J. Miller D. of C., and J. Read P.I.G. There were eight Masters of Lodges in the Province—Bros. J. Peller R.W.M. of 153, P.G.J.W., Renfrewshire East, J. Anderson, 376, Paisley, Easton R.W.M. 579, Uddinston, while the rest of the hall was filled with Wardens and other officers from most of the other Lodges in Glasgow. In the course of Bro. G. Sinclair's reply, he stated that the funds in hand last year were £570; during the year, 765 members had been initiated in the Province. From

each of these the sum of 5s had been received. This £191 5s, with the donations of the P.G.M. and others, had enabled him to relieve all the claims that had been made upon him, and left him with a balance in hand of £680. He wished to see this made up to £1,000, as then he should be satisfied, and to accomplish this he hoped some of the wealthy members of the Province would follow the example of Walter M. Neilson, and give either £10 or £5 annually, or even £1, so as to really allow the committee to exercise benevolence were it was deserved. Bro. Munro, in giving the health of their guest as P.G.M. of Peebles and Selkirk, spoke of the esteem and veneration in which Bro. Inglis was held in his own province. His business led him there, and he could speak from personal knowledge, and he trusted the day was not distant when they should see him on the throne as G.M. for Scotland. Bro. Inglis said he was afraid their R.W.M. had spoken too highly both of himself and his province. It was true there were good Masons among them, but like most of the Border men of old times, they were a little rough. The roughest, perhaps, were at Hawick. At a meeting there the other day, he said to them, as Catherine told her courtiers, that if she scratched a Russian she found a Tartar; so if he scratched a Hawick man he found a Moss trooper, but he feared that if they scratched him, he might also be found to be one. So they agreed not to scratch each other, and so got on very well. Bro. Munro had alluded to his services. Though the youngest member of the Commercial Lodge, he was the oldest Mason present, and one of the oldest in Scotland, as he joined the Order very young. He had served seven years as Substitute Grand Master, doing most of the work. He thought that was long to fill one office, and if his friends in the west wished to put him higher up he could only assure them that his best energies would be devoted to their service, and one thing he would much like to see, and that was that Grand Lodge should occasionally meet in Glasgow. The west had for some years been the mainstay of Masonry in Scotland, and it was hardly fair that they should always be put to the expense of going to the east, or that all the honours of the Craft should be reserved for the east (cheers). Bro. Neilson R.W.M. 3½ gave prosperity to 360, expressing the pleasure each Lodge in the province had in witnessing the prosperity of their neighbour. Bro. Munro gracefully acknowledged the compliment, proved to the Lodge by the attendance that night of so many Masters of other Lodges. Bro. Inglis, in a humorous speech, gave "The other Glasgow Lodges," and as he was the youngest member of the province, he would call on the youngest Lodge to reply. Bro. Gow, Substitute of 581, in the absence of the R.W.M., replied, but he said as they were only a fortnight old, he could not be expected to say much, but asked the oldest member—3½—to respond. Bro. Neilson was happy to say that, owing to the liberality of the P.G.M., he thought they would soon have a Masonic hall, a home for Masonry, where they need not be ashamed to invite even the Grand Lodge. The toast of the Past Masters, given in an excellent speech by Bro. Oliver S.W., was responded to by Bros. Brodie and McKenzie. Bro. Easton of St. Bryde's, Uddeston, replied for the visitors from other provinces. The meeting was enlivened by the rendering of some excellent glees and instrumental music by Bros. Brody, Miller, Pentland, Peterkin, and others.

**Athol Lodge, No. 413, Glasgow.**—This Lodge met on Tuesday, 28th March, Bro. Jas. Louttit R.W.M. in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and several Visitors. The work consisted of an initiation and passing, both of which ceremonies were well rendered by the Master.

**Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435.**—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting on Thursday, the 30th of March, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W. Present—Bros. J. Mander W.M., T. Cull S.W., F. Honeyman J.W., G. Davis S.D., J. Bently J.D., S. Elborn I.G., and Bros. Middlemass, Enever, F. Brown, Noehmer, Morphew, Belfrage, Harrison, J. A. Brown, Farwig, Wheeler, Selter, Watts, Saul, Blundell, Haslett, Coulton, Neighbour, Glass, Bubb, Dickinson, Lloyd, Parsons, Martin, Stonor, Tolmie and Mitchell. Business—Lodge opened, and minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed; Lodge opened in 2nd and 3rd degrees, and resumed to 1st, when the fifteen sections were worked. Bros. A. Middlemass 957, A. J. Enever 765, S. Elborn 511, J. A. Brown 17, W. Glass 26, J. Dickinson 27, C. Mitchell 1360, were unanimously elected members of this Lodge of Instruction. Votes of thanks were unanimously voted to Bro. Mander for presiding, and to the brethren who had kindly worked the sections. At the next meeting, Thursday, 6th April, members will be enrolled for the New Masonic Benevolent Association.

**Vane Chapter, No. 538.**—The Installation meeting of this Chapter was held on the 23rd ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Comp. Kench P.Z. occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of the M.E.Z., Comp. S. Pollitzer, W. H. Lindus H., C. Burmeister J., Rev. P.M. Holden S.E., Blum W.S., and several Companions. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. W. C. Strickland, St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, and R. Dudgeon, La Tolerance, No. 538, were duly exalted. Comp. Kench P.Z. then installed Comps. H. W. Lindus M.E.Z., C. Burmeister H., and Wood J. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions adjourned to Kuttner's Hotel, Church-street, and sat down to a very capital banquet. The usual toasts were given. Comps. E. P. Albert, P.Z. 188, and Morrell were present as Visitors.

**Dramatic Lodge No. 571.**—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Wednesday, 15th March, at 3 o'clock p.m., the R.W.M. Bro. William J. E. Dobson in the chair, supported by Bros. J. Winton P.M. 333, J. Balfour P.M. 332, Campbell P.M., G. W. Wheeler Chaplain 73, and Wilson Past Chaplain 27. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. H. W. Jackman S.W., his place was ably supplied by Bro. J. McInnes S.M.

of 408, Bros. Barbour Treasurer, and Weir acting Secretary, W. Sivewright J.W., R. S. Smyth S.D., L. R. Mitchell J.D., and the other office-bearers in their respective places. There was a very large number of visiting brethren, amongst whom we noticed Bros. J. M. Oliver S.W. 360, Brownlie J.W. 3 bis, and R. Fraser of 27. The brethren being assembled, the R.W.M. proceeded to open the Lodge in the E.A. degree. Minutes of previous meetings were then read and duly confirmed. Applications were then read from Mr. William Muir, and Mr. Charles Henry Gill, by the Secretary, and there being no objections, they were admitted, and received the E.A. degree at the hands of R.W.M., in a deeply impressive manner. The candidates were then tested and duly admonished. There being no further business in this degree, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

An emergency meeting of the above Lodge, Dramatic, No. 571, was held in St. Mark's Hall, on Wednesday, 22nd March, for the purpose of giving Bro. C. H. Gill his 2nd and 3rd degree. The R.W.M., William J. E. Dobson, presiding, supported on the dais by Bros. Prout R.W.M. 4, Findlay, S.M. 33, and G. W. Wheeler Chaplain 73, and all the office-bearers in their proper places. The Lodge was duly opened in the E.A. degree, and the R.W.M. thereafter addressed the brethren present as to the nature of said meeting, saying that, though emergency meetings were not to his taste as a Mason, still there were, at times, special reasons for constituting and holding the same, and as Bro. Gill was compelled to leave for Huddersfield on Sunday evening next; that he, as Master of Dramatic Lodge, was not overstepping his authority in allowing the favour to Bro. Gill; in fact, he learnt, from Grand Lodge laws, that a clause has a special reference to these emergencies, and left the discretionary power in the hands of the R.W.M., and requested the brethren to assist him in making Bro. Gill as impressed with the degrees to come as he had been at his initiation, the Wednesday previous. The Lodge was then passed to the 2nd degree, and Bro. Gill received the same in a very careful manner at the hands of Bro. G. W. Wheeler. The Lodge being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, Bro. Gill was accordingly advanced to the same in a most effective manner, by Bro. Findlay, S.M. 333. There being no further business, the Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form.

**Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.**—The regular weekly meeting of the above was held at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, 28th March. Present—Bros. Perrin W.M., Worsley S.W., Cambridge J.W., Smith S.D., Williams J.D., Barker I.G., Wallington Preceptor. There were also present Bros. Pinder, Horsley, Crane, Folliott, Johnson, Saunders, Glover, &c. Lodge opened to 2nd degree. Bro. Johnson having answered the necessary questions was raised to the 3rd degree, the ceremony being ably rendered by the W.M., who is, we hear, W.M. of his Mother Lodge. From his frequent attendance at this Lodge of Instruction, and also from the impressive manner in which he performs the ceremonies generally, we are sure he will be a credit to the brethren who have elected him as their chief. Bro. Wallington then gave the traditional history. Bro. Horsley worked the 1st, and Bro. Pinder the 3rd sections of the lecture. It was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Bro. Pinder preside, and work the fifteen sections, on Tuesday, the 22nd of April next. The Lodge then closed in due form.

**Dundas Lodge, 1255, Plymouth.**—The monthly meeting of this Lodge occurred on Monday, 20th March. The ordinary business was transacted, and one gentleman initiated, the ceremony being most impressively and correctly performed by the W.M. Bro. Charles Godtschalk. The vote of a Past Master's jewel to the immediate P.M., Bro. S. B. Harvey, was confirmed, and an instructive meeting was closed in perfect harmony with the custom of this very select Lodge. Amongst those present were—Bros. Hearle S.W., W. Bell P.M. T., T. B. Harvey P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Sec., S. B. Harvey I.P.M., W. H. Triplett P.M., J. B. Gover P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., J. Ferris P.M., H. F. Hearle P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., H. J. Ham S.D., Hammond, Crimp I.G., Willis sen., Willis jun., Barratt, Cann, Daw and Smith.

**New Cross Lodge, No. 1,559.**—An emergency meeting of this Lodge, one of the latest consecrated, was held on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the New Cross Hall, Lewisham High-road, New Cross. Bros. W. B. Woodman W.M., E. H. Thiellay A.G.P. Middlesex S.W., J. Beck as J.W., F. Walters P.P.G.P. Middlesex Treas., H. Keeble P.M. Sec., Green J.D., Hardman I.G., and Bros. S. Jewell, E. Smith, J. Moss, W. Smurthwaite. The Lodge was opened, and ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. R. J. Steers, R. Buck and H. Metham. These gentlemen, with Mr. D. Malpass (previously accepted), were duly initiated in the Order, and credit is due to the W.M., who is so young a Mason, for performing that ceremony so perfectly and impressively. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to slight refreshments. The Visitors were Bros. J. Lightfoot P.M. 117, Pakes S.W. 871, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

**Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531.**—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday, the 25th instant, at the Bull's Head, Chislehurst, Bro. John Coutts P.G.P. W.M. in the chair. Bros. G. F. Guest S.W., W. Kipps J.W., F. Walters P.G.P. Middlesex Treasurer, J. Griffin P.M. Sec., H. Gloster S.D., W. Hutchings D.C., J. Fox W.S. The minutes were read and confirmed. Three gentlemen were initiated. One brother was passed to the second degree, and two brothers were raised to the third degree. The work was admirably done by the W.M. The election of Master then took place, and Bro. G. F. Guest S.W. was unanimously elected. The election of Treasurer followed. Bro. F. Walters was requested to

stand, but he having declined, Bro. John Coutts P.M. was appointed. It was then proposed that a sum of ten guineas be voted "To present Bro. John Coutts W.M. with a testimonial, the amount to be supplemented by the members, as a recognition of his valuable services to the Lodge, as founder and first W.M." It was then resolved that if any vacant office should arise in the Lodge, it should be given to Bro. James Griffin P.M., in consideration of his services as Secretary. Several candidates were proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was then closed. A capital banquet was given, where the usual loyal, Masonic and other toasts were given, and these were interspersed with some capital songs, consequently a most agreeable evening was passed. Before the brethren left the hotel a display of fireworks took place.

## CONSECRATION OF THE ST. BLANE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 163.

**THIS** Chapter—which was opened on 7th January, by Deputation from No. 73, Glasgow, when 15 fresh Companions were exalted—was consecrated on Friday, 24th March, by a deputation from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, consisting of Comps. L. Mackersy G.S.E., A. Haig G.R., G. McLean Z. No. 1, and W. M. Bryce G.T. P.Z. 83, from Edinburgh, and a deputation from Glasgow, consisting of Comps. A. A. Smith P.T. 50, J. Duthie Z. 67 P.G.S. of W., G. W. Wheeler Z. 73 P.G. 2nd S., J. Tweed H. 73, J. Kinnaird J. 73, and J. Bannerman Treasurer 73. There being 14 candidates for exaltation, Comp. L. Mackersy opened a Mark Lodge, and afterwards a Lodge of Excellent Masters, conferring those degrees on ex-Provost J. Duncan, Conncillor J. McAlpine, Dr. Maddiver M.D., and Bros. J. Hamilton, A. Duncan R.W.M. 292, J. Kelly, R. Taylor, C. Stuart, D. McPherson, Jas. McAlpine, R. Wilson, M. Rubens, J. Ewing and H. McGeachy. The Chapter was then opened, with Comps. G. McLean as Z., J. Duthie as H. and G. W. Wheeler as J., L. Mackersy, G.S.E. acting as Principal Sojourner. Thereafter the Supreme Chapter was opened in another room, and officered as follows: Comps. Haig as G.Z., J. McLean as G.H., J. Duthie G.J., L. Mackersy, G.S.E., J. Kinnaird G.S.N., G.W. Wheeler 1st G.S., J. Holder 2nd G.S., J. Buchanan 3rd G.S., W. M. Bryce G.B.B. The Chapter was constituted in due form. The oration was delivered by the G.S.E., in the course of which he traced the history of the Order. The following were then installed as the officers of the Chapter: Provost J. Orkney as Z., D. Duncan H., L. Milloy J., Dr. Maddiver Dopte Z., J. Duncan Substitute Z., Comp. Morrison Past Z., G. Innis Treasurer, G. Haig S.E., J. Heaton S.N., E. Burke 1st S., B. B. Bell 2nd S., J. Millar 3rd S. and D. Ferguson Janitor. The members appointed were all affiliated as honorary members. A most excellent banquet was served up by Comp. J. Kelly, host of the Victoria Hotel, Provost Orkney Z. presiding, and D. Duncan H. acting as Croupier. After the usual loyal toasts, the chairman gave the Supreme Chapters of England, Ireland and Scotland, which was ably responded to by Comp. Haig. Comp. Mackersy replied for the deputation from Glasgow, which had been proposed by the Croupier. Comp. J. Duthie proposed the Magistrates and Town Council of Rothesay. The Provost, in his reply, pointed out the great improvements that had been effected in the town and neighbourhood by his predecessor, and the efforts he was making to complete them; they were determined to make Rothesay the model of fashionable watering-places. He attributed a good deal of the public spirit of the place to the recent spread of Masonry amongst them, the foremost in all good work, after the Marquis of Bute, were Masons, and by the aid of its fraternal spirit they had this week been enabled to avoid a contest for the School Board election. Comp. Holden, of Greenock, proposed prosperity to Lodge Rothesay, St. John's, 292, which was ably responded to by Comp. A. Duncan, its R.W.M. Comp. Haig gave prosperity to St. Blane's Chapter, 163, dwelling upon the unusually favourable circumstances of its institution in having at its head the Provost, Councillor, and other principal inhabitants of the town, replied to by the Z. Comp. Mackersy, in another eloquent speech, proposed the Press, Comp. Wheeler replied on behalf of the "FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE," and proposed the Scribes and Sojourners of the Chapter, responded to by Comps. Haig and Baker. Comps. McLean and Bryce, of Edinburgh, acknowledged a similar compliment paid to them. Thanks to the chairs brought the lengthened proceedings to a pleasant close. We must not omit to notice that A. A. Smith, of Glasgow, on the piano and harmonium, and Comps. Barker, McAlpine and others, contributed to the evening's amusement.

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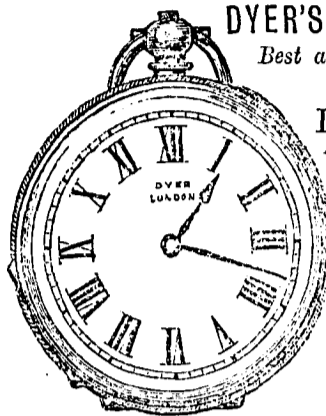
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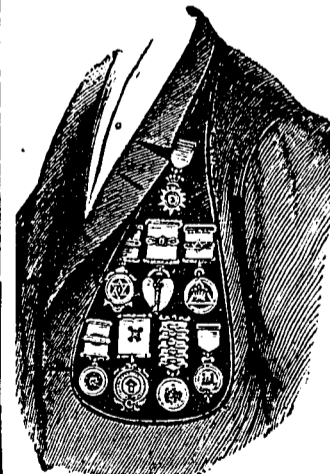
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