

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

VOL. IV.—No. 92.

SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER 1876.

PRICE THREEPENCE.
[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

INDISCRIMINATE ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES.

LAST week we drew the attention of our readers to the evil effects of indiscriminate charity, and the likelihood, we may almost say the certainty, that Freemasonry will lose caste if relief is administered without careful inquiry into the antecedents, as well as the present necessities, of those who seek it. Of equal importance is it that those who present themselves as candidates for admission into our Society should not be admitted indiscriminately. Indeed, these two questions of ill-regulated almsgiving and the lax admission of new members are so closely connected, that it is hardly possible to discuss one of them fairly, in all its bearings, without touching upon the more salient points of the other. The more careless we are in the bestowal of our alms, the likelier are we to have our ranks well filled with needy and unscrupulous adventurers. And, similarly, the more indifferent we are whom we introduce into our Lodges, the greater will be the number of those who will abuse our charity. All right-minded Masons are far less anxious for the numerical increase of the Craft than they are for its increased moral strength. Hence it is we have viewed with so much satisfaction that at nearly every consecration of a new Lodge which has latterly been held, the consecrating officer has made a point of enjoining on the members, how necessary it is they should be cautious whom they elect into their Lodge, not only for the peace and harmony of the Lodge itself, but likewise in the interests of Freemasonry generally. Rightly enough was it said by Bro. Metham, in his recent able address before the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, that "a little leaven leaveneth the whole mass." A single objectionable brother in a Lodge is enough to set all the members by the ears. Nor does the evil end even here. The obnoxious brother finds admission into other Lodges, where his propensity for stirring up unamiable feelings is not known, and, more often than not, he exhibits the same faults there as well as in his own Lodge. Or he may possess still graver shortcomings than a mere tendency to squabble on all occasions; in which case a part of the odium that attaches to him is necessarily reflected on those with whom he is associated. It must be apparent, indeed, to all who concern themselves about the well-being of Freemasonry that it is impossible to exercise too much caution in the admission of new members. The old saying, *noscitur a sociis*, is undeniably true. A man is known by the character of his fellows, and a society by that of its members. If the majority of Freemasons are found to be good sterling men, who practise always the morality they profess, then, as that system of morality is known of all men to be marvellously free from all blemish, the world will esteem us highly as a society which never wearies of doing good. On the other hand, if Masons are found to be mere professors of a peculiar system of morality; if the charity they practise is practised ostentatiously and with an eye to future profit; if, under the guise of brotherly love, they permit themselves to lose no opportunity of wilfully misjudging the motives of their fellows, of promoting jealousy, of suggesting in secret what they dare not avow openly; if their boasted conviviality resolves itself simply into an excessive indulgence in the pleasures of the table, then, we say, the world will rightly set us down as a society of rank impostors, banded together for objects which are either blameworthy or beneath contempt. Happily, as we have said, the world knows well enough that our system of

morality is pure. It knows likewise that the principles of that morality are not only professed, but practised by the bulk of our society. We say bulk, because a society of men is no more likely, perhaps even less likely, to be perfect than a single individual. But if we cannot attain perfection, we may approach it, and the best way of doing this is to be cautious in our election of candidates.

We are led to indulge in these remarks which, after all, are a mere collection of truisms, by reason partly of certain statements in Bro. Metham's address, already alluded to, and partly by the description of a scene enacted in one of our Lodges, of a most disgraceful character, a description for which we are indebted to our contemporary, the *Ballarat Star*. The scene is said to have occurred in the "Buninyong Masonic Lodge," a name, however, we do not find in Grand Lodge Calendar for 1876. It appears that some months since a person was proposed for initiation, but rejected by numerous black balls. A Dr. Hallett, member of the Lodge and an old Mason, was not present however. On the evening when the scene took place he was in attendance, but a long delay occurred in opening the Lodge. Dr. Hallett, on some idle pretext, was called out by the late W.M., and no sooner had he left the room than the Lodge was opened. Attempting to re-enter in a very few minutes, he was told the W.M. had ordered he should be refused admittance, though he had already signed the attendance register. While protesting against such tyranny, Dr. Hallett was seized by a member "much taller and stronger than himself, and dragged forcibly from the door of the Lodge, to the serious damage of his right hand." The cause of this outrage is said to have been the fear of the W.M. that Dr. Hallett might black ball the candidate, who was the intimate friend of the Master. Taking the facts as narrated by our contemporary, we have no hesitation in describing the scene as a gross violation, not only of Masonic rights and privileges, but of all decency and propriety. It is almost needless to point out that the several acts which made up the above scene are each and every of them in distinct violation of Masonic law. The denial to Dr. Hallett of Masonic communication with the members of his own Lodge, his seizure and forcible removal from the door of the Lodge, the alleged excuse for this exclusion and violence, that Dr. Hallett might exercise his right of voting, and the barefaced attempt to dictate that he should vote either white or not at all,—these together form a terrible indictment against the W.M. of "the Buninyong Masonic Lodge" and his satellites. We should like to believe the whole thing is utterly untrue, but we fear there is too much circumstantiality in the account for any such good fortune to befall us. We are aware the account is *ex parte*; indeed, we are arguing upon the tale as it has reached us. But journals with a due sense of their responsibilities do not admit such intelligence into their columns unless it is duly vouched for. But even if the details have been inaccurately given or unduly coloured, there is still forced upon us the belief that the working of "the Buninyong Lodge" must be flagrantly un-Masonic. Even assuming that Dr. Hallett is a most obnoxious member, nothing could justify the outrage of which he is reported to have been the victim. There is a proper Masonic tribunal before which members guilty of un-Masonic conduct may be arraigned. The W.M. had no right to sit in judgment on the merits of his own difference with Dr. Hallett, supposing there to have been one. A member, even of superior height and strength, has no right forcibly to remove from the door of a Lodge another who is neither suspended nor excluded from his

rights and privileges. And, lastly, the attempt to force a favourable ballot by excluding a member supposed to be unfavourably inclined towards the candidate, was a monstrous invasion of one of the most sacred rights of membership. We have no hesitation in saying that if this case is not brought under the notice of the District Grand authorities, our Grand Lodge should take the initiative, and forthwith order an inquiry; and if the case is proved, visit the offending members with the heaviest penalties sanctioned by the laws of Masonry. No such ruffianly conduct would pass unpunished in any class of society. It certainly cannot be tolerated in Freemasonry.

Then the cases cited by our Bro. Metham, of the P.M. boasting at "the bar of a public-house, with oath following oath, that he had used a black ball, and would use it even against the G.M. himself, if by doing so he could spit his spite against the Master of his Lodge;" of the drunken candidate who had to be supported through the ceremony of his initiation; of members admitted who could not sign their names and the like; all these are so many more proofs of what we have said in the course of these remarks, and of what every officer who has latterly consecrated a new Lodge has made a point of saying, that it is impossible we can exercise too great an amount of caution in the election of new members. We have room in our ranks and a hearty welcome for the good men and true who may wish to join us. Let the selfish, the ruffianly, and the disreputable, who will trade on Masonry or violate the principles of the Craft in every act of their daily life, be rigidly excluded. Had due caution been exercised in the Buninyong Lodge the scene we have had described to us could not have happened. Had the same caution been exercised in Devon, the Spiteful P.M., the drunken candidate, the members who cannot sign their names, would have been impossibilities. We are very far from placing the outrageous conduct in the Buninyong Lodge and the exceptional misconduct cited by Bro. Metham on the same level. They all, however, serve to point one and the same moral:—Be cautious whom you introduce into the ranks of Freemasonry.

THE LATEST ABUSE OF FREEMASONRY.

WE have long since become accustomed to the attacks of ignorant scribes. They can do us no harm, and we endure them, pretty much on the same ground that the late Earl of Derby's big navy endured the thwackings of his little wife: they amused her, and did him no harm. But occasionally we light upon an attack exhibiting more than the ordinary amount of spite, ignorance, and presumption. Upon all such we think it expedient to bestow a few words, not because they are more harmful to Freemasonry, but because the outside world, though actuated by no malice, is in a state of ignorance as to our laws and constitutions.

Last week, the *Hampshire Post and Southsea Observer* devoted the greater part of two columns to an article on "the Cant of Masonry." Our first objection to this precious ebullition of spite is the crass ignorance it displays. The writer introduces a few Masonic terms which he has, no doubt, specially hunted up for the occasion. Save and except these, there is absolutely nothing in the whole course of the article to show the writer has the faintest notion what Freemasonry is. Our second objection follows, naturally enough, that a writer so ignorant should presume to condemn a society of which he knows nothing. We think we shall have no difficulty in the course of the following remarks in proving the validity of these objections.

The occasion of this diatribe in the *Hampshire Post and Southsea Observer* was the recent consecration, at Havant, by our respected R.W. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, P.G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight, of new Lodge buildings for the Carnarvon Lodge, No. 804. We pass over the petty spite of the opening remark about "the lawyers, tailors, butchers, and tradesmen of all sorts, who usurp the name of 'Masons,' and who are vain enough to think that they inherit in some mysterious way the honour and glory of having erected Westminster Abbey, Solomon's Temple, the Pyramids of Egypt, and the Tower of Babel." This is, no doubt, intended as a sneer at the worthy gentleman

who sits in Parliament as one of the representatives of the northern division of the county, and who presides over "the lawyers, tailors, butchers, and tradesmen of all sorts," who, in Hampshire, usurp the name of "Masons." If so, the sneer will injuriously affect not Bro. Beach at whom it is levelled, but the writer who makes it. Nor do we think it a matter of serious moment if the new Lodge at Havant is not equal, in point of architectural merit, to Westminster Abbey or King Solomon's Temple. It will, doubtless, answer the purpose for which it has been built, and that is all we look for in buildings dedicated to Freemasonry. Modern Masons are very proud of their connection with the operative Masonic Guilds of by-gone days, but they lay claim to no special knowledge of the builder's art. Had the writer been at the pains of ascertaining what modern Masonry is, he would quickly have discovered that we are Speculative, not Operative Masons, and that we use the tools of the working Masons merely as so many symbols in connection with that system of morality which we profess, and which we humbly yet earnestly hope we act up to, according to our poor ability. We ought not, however, to be surprised at the writer's ignorance when we find him further on, describing our ancestors as "for the most part unmitigated ruffians," or at his vulgarity when we find him imitating the language of Josh Billings.

We pass to what we presume we must describe as the body of the article, in which Masonry is considered from a religious, political, and moral point of view. We must apologise if we cannot follow the writer's meaning exactly as he would have us follow it. We doubt, indeed, if he could define his meaning, save in so far as he has sought to strike a mortal blow at Freemasonry. However, Bro. Ford is reported to have expressed his belief that "Christianity and Masonry are consonant in principle." Whereupon the writer delivers himself of this most sapient argument: "If this be true, then, surely Masonry is superfluous. If they are not so, then Masonry must be mischievous." Our readers will note the *sequitur* in each section of this marvellous illustration of the art of reasoning. If an institution is in consonance with the principles of Christianity, it is superfluous; if not, it is mischievous. We will not stop to notice this further. The teachings of Freemasonry are based upon the Sacred Volume of the Law—we saw nothing about Christianity, except it were in his mention of "both books of the Sacred Volume," in Bro. Ford's address. The *Hampshire Post and Southsea Observer* may ridicule our assertion, but ridicule is not disproof. But worse than this follows. We are told the Order "has its political as well as its religious and moral aspect." We have always been under the impression that Freemasonry holds itself strictly aloof from everything connected with politics; but then we are only poor deluded Masons, who know what the Order is and what it is not. The writer in our Hampshire contemporary is not a Mason. His assertion, therefore, that Masonry is a political body, must override ours, that it is not. And as Freemasonry is a political body, and Bro. Ford the exponent of its virtues at the recent consecration at Havant is a Conservative, it follows, of course, that "the principles of Conservatism" are "embodied in Masonry." "Ergo," writes this very abstruse dialectician, "there is a direct connection between Conservatism and Christ." This last inference we overlook, as impertinent to the question. As to Masonry being a political body, it is simply untrue. If to enjoin on its followers due respect for the laws of their country, or of the country in which they may be residing, is sufficient to constitute it a political body, then we are fain to admit we are such. But the word "political," when applied to matters of State, irrespective of all forms of government, has one meaning; when applied to different polities or different sets of opinions as to the best form of polity, it has another. In order to make this more clear to the bemuddled brain of our contemporary, we will simply point out that had Bro. Ford been a citizen of the United States, he would have insisted on all Masons in that country being loyal to the American Constitution. Bro. Ford, however, is a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. It was, therefore, his duty to preach loyalty to the British Crown. We have grave reasons for suspecting that the writer in the *Hampshire Post and Southsea Observer* is not acquainted with the meaning of the words he uses, or he never would have been so silly as to confound loyalty to all forms of government, which is the creed of Masons, with party politics. Had he cared to obtain even a slight knowledge of this portion of the subject, he might easily have

learned—to select a single instance—that the Marquis of Hartington, the leader of the Liberal Party in the House of Commons, is in the foremost rank of Masons. It must follow, then, that as the Conservative principles of Messrs. Beach and Ford are embodied in Masonry, they being Freemasons, so the Liberal principles of the Marquis of Hartington, he being a Freemason, must likewise be embodied in Masonry. Therefore, to place the matter before our readers in Euclidian fashion, two sets of political principles, directly opposed to each other, are in consonance with the principles of the same Institution. But things which are in consonance with the same thing are in consonance with each other; therefore, Conservative principles and Liberal principles are in consonance with each other. But they have long since been proved to be antagonistic; therefore, Liberal and Conservative principles are both in consonance with, and opposed to each other; which is absurd. But, of course, any inquiry that would have led to this result would only have left this splenetic writer less room for the exercise of his spleen at the expense of Messrs. Beach and Ford.

We come next to the moral aspect of Freemasonry. The writer is dreadfully shocked the Lodge at Havant should have been dedicated to "Masonry, Virtue, and Universal Benevolence," and remarks that "it is notorious that many Masons attach more importance to their Masonry than to all the virtues in the world." According to our humble unenlightened Masonic notions, Masonry includes both Virtue and Universal Benevolence. Rightly, therefore, was Masonry, as being the whole, placed first in order, and then "Virtue and Universal Benevolence," which are only two of its constituent parts. Then, we are told "of all the shams of the Order, the assumption of Universal Benevolence is the greatest and most preposterous." This, as being the mere expression of an opinion, need not detain us long. The good that Freemasonry does may fairly be set against the assumed Benevolence, which is "the greatest and most preposterous of all the shams of the Order." Again, if people are prejudiced, we consider it would not be very difficult for them, on public grounds, to believe that "the operations of Masonry, as a secret society, are actually pernicious." But, unfortunately for this belief, we are not a secret society in the sense intended by this writer. We are all duly registered according to law, at least in this country, so that the government can easily learn, if it chuses, who and what manner of men we are. At the time the law was enacted against secret societies, Freemasons were specially and by name exempted from its operation. This would certainly not have been the case had we been a "pernicious" society. As to the statement that "the reason the Masons do not reveal their secret is no doubt that they have none to reveal," we confess we have heard this more than once, but it was always made by non-Masons, who were probably very angry they could not discover it. It happens, indeed, as regards this assertion, that we have our secrets, though they are not of the dangerous character this writer may imagine.

We have touched briefly upon the leading points of this viciously-written article. Were all the world as well acquainted with Freemasonry as we Masons are, we should allow all such attacks to pass unnoticed. But a mystery attaches to us, and when we find our Order assailed with nearly two whole columns of abuse, it is, perhaps, as well the world should know the abuse is uncalled for. Moreover, there is a further justification in the case of this particular specimen of the abuse which is occasionally levelled at us. It will be difficult to find its equal either in vulgarity of tone or the profundity of its ignorance.

NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS PROPOSED BY BRO. METHAM.

WE cannot say we are disposed to accept, in their entirety, the suggestions which Bro. Metham offered in his address at South Molton for the better regulation of the Devonian Lodges. To certain of these no reasonable Mason would dream of taking exception. To others, however, there are, we fancy, innumerable objections, and some of these are likely to prove unanswerable. Bro. Metham has fulfilled a most painful duty admirably. He has proclaimed publicly that certain recent matters in his province have brought, and continue to bring, a

large amount of odium on the Craft. He is naturally anxious to prevent a recurrence of them. Having, therefore, in the first place boldly and publicly denounced the un-Masonic conduct of certain brethren, he endeavoured to indicate the likeliest means for preventing such misconduct in the future. He therefore submitted a series of six regulations, by which it occurred to him this desirable consummation might be attained. We give them *seriatim*, with our reasons for agreeing or disagreeing, as the case may be, with their respective points. They are as follow:

1. "The abandonment of refreshments, as a rule, after every Lodge meeting."

We take exception to this proposed rule. Our Lodges meet but seldom, from six to twelve times in the year, rarely oftener. The bulk of the members are men who would either dine or sup about the hour when Lodges adjourn for refreshment. It seems to us a needlessly harsh rule that would deny the twenty or thirty members, who have attended the duties of the evening, the privilege of sitting round the same table, and enjoying a brief fraternal intercourse over a well served dinner or supper, similar in degree and kind to what they would indulge in at their own homes. We have no very high opinion of men who cannot be trusted to share a homely meal without being guilty of some impropriety. Some there are, of course, who will make the Lodge dinner or banquet an opportunity for over-indulgence in the pleasures of the table. These, however, we are happy to believe form only an insignificant minority among Craftsmen, and it strikes us the height of unreason that the vices of the very few should be visited on the many. Those who cannot take Lodge refreshment without committing themselves more or less grossly are not fit to associate with other members, or indeed to mix in any society of men. What we object to—and we hope we can enjoy the good things of this life as well as other folk—are the elaborate and oftentimes pretentious banquets, which by many are regarded as the be-all and end-all of Freemasonry. Against this it is we are anxious to believe our worthy brother is raising his voice; and in so far as this is the case, but only to that extent, do we think refreshment after a Lodge meeting should be dispensed with.

2. "That when refreshments are taken on special occasions they should, under no circumstances whatever, be prolonged beyond eleven o'clock."

We think this a perfectly just and reasonable proposition. We consider the brethren have a right to refreshment after labour, not from any canting, hypocritical motive, but for reasons we have already indicated. It is allowable for a Mason to take similar refreshment from home to what he would partake of at home. It is desirable to encourage social intercourse among brethren. But while we recognise the propriety of Lodge refreshment, we see no reason why it should be prolonged to an unreasonable hour.

3. "That no brother should be allowed to sit at table who had not attended the duties of his Lodge during the evening."

This is obviously a just rule to propose, though there are numerous instances in which it would as obviously be discourteous to enforce it. For instance, the Secretaries of our Charitable Institutions have very onerous duties to perform. It is impossible they can always attend the duties of the Lodges they are invited or desire to visit. But as applied to members of the Lodge itself, the old fashioned rule of "No Song, no Supper," is a just one. It is the workman who stands in need of refreshment, not he who shirks his work.

4. "That no brother who becomes insolvent should be allowed to continue a member of a Lodge, nor be admitted into any other Lodge until his debts have been paid in full."

Here, again, we must join issue with Bro. Metham. Such a rule smacks not a little of the objectionable practice of "hitting a man when he is down." There are, undoubtedly, many persons who make a point of incurring debt, and then wash themselves, periodically, of their liabilities, by seeking the protection of the Court of Bankruptcy. It is impossible, of course, to condemn the conduct of such persons too severely. But the majority of insolvent persons become so most unwillingly, through no fault of their own. Peradventure they have suffered

by a general depression of trade. Their own particular branch of business has been suffering, and they are among the unfortunate victims. A large firm has failed, and involved them in the wide-spread ruin that ordinarily attends such failure. Or a bank stops payment, and the accumulated savings of years are swept away in a moment. These are among the most ordinary cases of insolvency, and it occurs to us the insolvents are to be pitied rather than condemned. Indeed, towards this class of cases Freemasonry may practise what it enjoins, and by opportune relief, help them to win back again the smiles and favours of fortune. If a man works honestly and honourably at his calling till, finding it becoming more and more unprofitable, he pays all he can, if not all he owes, that man is chargeable with poverty, but not with crime. To draw the line between the two classes of insolvents, it seems to us, will be a matter of great difficulty, nor do we think any such rule as is proposed is in any wise necessary. Masons will not but sympathise with an unfortunate brother. The dishonest insolvent will find no encouragement to attend our Lodges.

5. "That the Worshipful Master elect should be pledged to perform all the duties of his chair, and to instal his successor."

One of the greatest misfortunes to a Lodge is to have its chair occupied by a Master careless about, or incompetent to fulfil, his duties. On the principle of "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well," it can only be an honour to sit in the chair of K.S., if its responsibilities are fully and faithfully discharged. If the W.M. sets an example of ignorance of, and indifference to, his duty, how can his subordinate officers and the members generally be expected to fulfil theirs? We have again and again seen an incompetent W.M. presiding, and we honestly say we never witnessed a more painful sight. Only the gentlemanly feeling and sense of decorum exhibited by those present prevented the whole thing from degenerating into a most complete farce. If a W.M. elect will not pledge himself to do what his office demands of him, the election should be deemed null and void. Other qualities are needed, in addition to a knowledge of his duties, in order to make an efficient W.M.; but we have dealt with the one only point raised by Bro. Metham, and we fully recognise its justice.

"6. That the provisions of the emergency clause should be rigidly complied with, and that a notice be duly sent to the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and Provincial Grand Secretary, the Masters of every Lodge in the town in which the candidate resides, and to the W.M. of every Lodge within three miles in which he is proposed as a candidate."

This, as tending to greater security against the admission of undesirable candidates, is worthy of commendation. We have dwelt at length, in another part of our columns, on the increasing necessity there is for caution in the election of new members. As the general appearance of a sightly building is oftentimes spoiled by the presence of some piece of unbecoming workmanship, as its general safety is liable to be endangered if a portion of the material of which it is composed is worthless, so the sightliness of our Masonic Temple will be lessened, nay, the existence of the glorious structure endangered, if unworthy candidates are admitted within our ranks. As we say elsewhere, we do not want increased numerical, but increased moral, strength. Mere numbers are of little avail. At Marathon, the compact little army of intelligent and well disciplined Greeks under Miltiades was more than a match for the Persians. So with the troops of Pausanias, of Kimon, of Alexander; they fought and conquered in spite of the numbers that were arrayed against them. So has it happened in modern times, in our own and other histories. Numbers, indeed, are too often a cause of weakness. We see every reason to believe that Freemasonry will become weaker morally the stronger it is numerically, unless that caution, on which we have so strenuously insisted elsewhere, is exercised at all times and in all Lodges.

We have thus analysed one by one the merits of Bro. Metham's propositions. We do not agree with him entirely. We are even sanguine enough to believe that the present byelaws in operation in our Lodges, if duly enforced, are enough to guard Freemasonry from any serious misadventure. We fully recognise, however, his zeal in

the cause of the Craft. He has done his duty unflinchingly, and he deserves the thanks of the whole Craft throughout England. If others will but imitate the good example he has set us and speak out plainly, calling a spade a spade when occasion requires, we shall have but few public scandals to complain of. On the other hand, if the Rules of our Society are thought but little of, we may find ourselves, perhaps, stronger as regards mere numbers, but our influence, our moral strength, will be seriously lessened.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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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BRO. METHAM'S ADDRESS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I have read, with much satisfaction, Brother Metham's address, in Devonshire, at the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon, in August last, and your comments thereon. Although contemplating a modification of the remedies proposed by Brother Metham to cure the evils acknowledged to exist amongst some of the Craft, fully do I endorse your sentiments, as recorded, "that it is absolutely necessary that Masonic Lodges should be purged of disgraceful members," and also the injunction of one of our late Grand Masters, the late Earl of Zetland K.G., enunciated in my hearing, that Masonic Lodges should exercise the utmost caution in the admission and acceptance of candidates as members into the ranks of our Craft. Visiting Devonshire for the restoration of my health at the time of the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge at South Molton in Devonshire, it would have given me much pleasure to have been present, and heard Brother Metham's excellent address, having been old school-fellows, and, I believe in the same seminary we both first learned our primary Latin lessons. It is only proper to add that much credit and gratitude are due to Brother Rodda, P.P.G.R. of Devon, for his fidelity, perseverance and zeal, amidst much misrepresentation and obloquy, for taking the initiative in prosecuting the case, however painful to himself—which imperatively called for the strict enforcement of Masonic discipline, thus maintaining the honour, integrity and purity of the Craft.

I have the pleasure to testify that I have had the honour of the acquaintance and friendship of Brother Rodda for many years past. All who know this distinguished Mason must readily acknowledge his transcendent abilities—his great attainments in literature and extensive Masonic knowledge: than whom no one is better versed in Masonic lore, or has had greater Masonic charity, experience or zeal for the prosperity of the Order. I am proud to acknowledge him as a true friend and faithful brother.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

DANIEL ACE D.D.

P.P.G.C. for Lincolnshire, and W.M. 1232.

Laughton Vicarage, near Gainsborough.

25th September 1876.

WHICH IS CORRECT?

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It causes me much satisfaction to find that the letter I ventured to send you under the above heading has been answered so ably, and so much to the point. I am encouraged to go on, and shall consider that when arguments bearing on one rendering of a word or sentence remain unconfuted the common sense of the brethren generally goes with the writers, and that henceforth this correspondence may be referred to as providing that authority to the want of which I have alluded.

Having no desire to maintain that my opinion must be right, and all others to the contrary wrong, I shall not indicate in any manner the interpretation of our working to which I incline. "I want to know, you know," as well as others. It is no mock modesty or assumed humbleness which leads me to say that as yet I am but a probationer in the art of Freemasonry, and have still to learn very much. The questions now being put forward will certainly produce the reasonings of other men's brains, and although not by any means "enveloped in a cloud of uncertainty, or suspended in a hazy atmosphere of doubt and perplexity," I shall secure for myself and others logical deductions for "the reason why."

My present object is not the early realisation of any pet scheme or theory. It is an appeal to common sense, and the reasoning faculties of those who profess to teach our noble art, not to permit any longer those manifest errors of language and expression which so frequently render us the laughing stock of the educated. What can these think of such solecisms as are so frequently to be heard in our Lodges of Instruction? Fancy a reasonably educated man condemned to hear uttered by the lips of a so-called "preceptor" such an enquiry as "Was you admitted?" and the reply of the brother questioned "I were!" This is not an exaggeration, but has actually occurred in my presence. Can it be wondered at that with so positive an evidence

Grand Secretary to learn the necessary steps to be taken to appoint a Provincial Grand Master for Devon and Exeter."

From the minutes of a meeting, held a few days later, we gather that Bro. C. W. Bampfylde was elected Provincial Grand Master, and accepted the office. This minute is as follows:—

"1774, December 27th.—This Lodge, in conjunction with the Lodges held at the Valiant Soldier and the Bear, elected Bro. Charles Warwick Bampfylde Provincial Grand Master, who accepted the office."

These statements are confirmed by the following extracts from the Secretary's Book of St. George's Lodge, now No. 112, and then held at the Bear Inn:—

(1.) "1774, December 27th.—An application was made from the Union Lodge, inviting the members of this Lodge to join in a petition to the Grand Lodge to appoint Brother Charles Warwick Bampfylde, Provincial Grand Master."

[This petition, it seems, was signed February 23rd 1775.]

(2.) "Brother Charles Warwick Bampfylde having been appointed Provincial Grand Master of Devon and Exeter, by the Grand Master of England, was duly installed by Codrington, Master of the Union Lodge, on the 19th December, 1775."

Thus Bro. C. W., afterwards Sir C. W., Bampfylde, was the first Provincial Grand Master of Devon, and held office for 44 years, till 1819, when he resigned. Any minutes of the Provincial G. Lodges held under his administration must, we regret to hear, have been lost, as none remain, the only evidence we have of his Prov. G. Mastership being the minutes already quoted. Sir C. W. Bampfylde was succeeded, on his resignation, 1819, by Viscount Ebrington, afterwards Earl Fortescue. On his death, in 1861, the Rev. John Hayshe governed the Province as D.P.G.M. till the 24th May 1866, on which day, in accordance with Lord Zetland's patent of appointment already mentioned, he was installed P.G.M. by Bro. Aeneas McIntyre Q.C. Grand Registrar. The order of procession on this auspicious occasion is then given, and then lists of the P. G. Officers for 1875-6, and of the Past Prov. G. Officers of all grades. Appended is a list of the various meetings of Prov. G. Lodge during the administrations of the late Earl Fortescue, and, thus far, of the Rev. J. Hayshe, with notes of any events of importance which distinguished them. Then are given two lists of the Devon Lodges, the first being arranged in numerical order, with the days of meeting, the towns in which they are held, and the numbers they held originally, to 1863, and since; the other alphabetically, according to the towns in which they are held. Last of all comes a list of the P.M.'s of the Province, arranged under the Lodges they severally belonged to, and with a description of the Past Provincial Grand Rank (if any) which they have held. As to this last list of all, we note the absence from it of the names of Earl Fortescue, Lord Poltimore and others, who figure in the register of Past Provincial Grand Officers. We mention this, as we do not see how, according to the Constitutions, unless they are contributing members, they can be Provincial or Past Provincial Grand Officers, and we presume, unless P.M.'s, they would hardly have been appointed. We must remark also, that in the footnote, at p. 35, to the List of Lodges alphabetically arranged according to towns, the date of the warrant of the G. Masters' Lodge is set down for 13th August 1739. No "Ancient," or, as they were subsequently called, "Athol" Lodges, were warranted anterior to 1750. This has been stated authoritatively by Bro. Hughan, who is more conversant with these important matters than any other English Craftsman of whose researches we have any knowledge. The date is almost certain to be 1759. We advise a correction of this in future issues.

We have thus sketched at some length the contents of this useful guide-book to the Province of Devon. We are vastly pleased with it, and it only remains to add, that its general appearance and typography are eminently respectable. We trust the day is not far distant when every Province and District under the jurisdiction of our English Grand Lodge will be in a position to boast of a similar compilation.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW DOCKS AT AYR.

IT having been announced that the G.M. Mason of Scotland would perform the interesting ceremony, there was a large muster of the Ayrshire brethren, as well as a good contingent from Edinburgh and Glasgow, a special train running from the last-named city for their accommodation. About 1,000 Masons put in an appearance. The Grand Lodge met in the County Building, at 1 o'clock. Unfortunately, illness prevented Sir M. R. S. Stewart from being present, and he had deputed Sir James Fergusson, Bart., P.P.G.M. of Ayrshire, as his deputy, who ably fulfilled the duties of the day. He was assisted by Bros. C. Dalrymple M.P. as D.G.M., Wm. Mann S.G.M., Wm. Hay S.G.W., D. Kinnaird J.G.W., R. J. Inglis, Chaplain of Mother Kilwinning, as the G. Chaplain, J. Laurie G. Secretary, R. Wylie P.P.G.M. of Ayrshire, as G. Treasurer, R. Montgomerie M.P. as G.S.D., R. W. Cochrane Partrick as G.J.D., Capt. G. F. Colt G.S.B., C. W. M'Muller G.D. of M., D. Murray Lyon P.P.G.M., J. T. Middleton G.A., D. Davidson G.O.A.T., Arthorpe G.M., R. Morrison P. of Stewards, and the Grand Stewards were R. J. Brown, E. S. Law, H. W. Findlay and J. Taylor; W. M. Brice G. Tyler.

The working tools were carried by some of the Bairns of Mother Kilwinning, No. 0, Bros. J. Ferguson, J. Tweed, R. Corner, Robert Burns, Thompson, J. McCrone and others. The Lodges represented were Mother Kilwinning 0, Canongate 5, Journeymen, Edinburgh, 8, Dumbarton 18, St. John Kilmarnock, 22, St. Mungo, Glasgow, 27, London 52, Doric, Port Glasgow, 68, Thistle and Rose, Glasgow, 73, Troon 86, Kilwinning, Ayr, 124, a large muster; as well as St. John Newton 125, Kilmarnock, St. Andrew, 126, St. Mirrens, Paisley, 127,

Tarbolton 133, Ayr Operatives 138, Irvine 149, Kilbuscan 156, Royal Arch, Ayr, 163, Thistle and Rose, Steventon, 169, Scotia, Glasgow, 178, Maypole 198, St. Paul, Ayr, 204, Old Cumnock 230, Hustin 242, Dunfermline 250, Dalry 290, New Cumnock 334, Ardrossan 442, Catrine 497, Burns St. Mary 505, Stranraer 519, Bonnie Doon Patria 565—this, though one of the youngest Lodges, was third in numerical strength, and was preceded by 566—Fergusson St. James and Dailly, named after the Acting Grand Master of the day. The route chosen for the procession was rather lengthy, in order to allow all the inhabitants to see the Masonic display, it being 104 years since the Grand Lodge had assembled before in Ayr. All the Masonic processions in the county since—and there have been a great many—were conducted by the Provincial Grand Lodge, headed by the Mother Lodge. On arriving at the site, the stone was laid with full Masonic ceremonies, and the fact of the ceremony having been completed was heralded by the firing of a number of shots from the big guns situated on the shore. The loud cheering which prevailed having ceased,

Sir James Fergusson said: Right Worshipful Officers of the Grand Lodge, Brethren, the Provost of Ayr, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Having completed the appropriate ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of this grand work, I have now, in words of my own, in the first place, to express the gratification which I feel in being privileged to perform this interesting ceremony. I must allude, in the first place, to one to whom I bear much respect and regard—the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, deeply regretting that he is prevented by severe illness, from performing his duty to-day; but I am not the less highly honoured by being privileged to do his duty. I would congratulate the Provost and Magistrates of this ancient burgh, the trustees of the harbour, and all concerned, in the work on this event, which is not only the laying of the foundation-stone, but the placing, as I may say, of the chief corner-stone of the great dock of Ayr. (Cheers.) For this block of granite, brought from the most distant part of the kingdom—the mines of Cornwall—is destined to bear the great gates of the dock through which we trust commerce in abundance in future years may pass. (Loud cheers.) Let me say one word upon the ceremony which has just been performed. The Grand Lodge, on the invitation of the Harbour Trustees, have come here to lend to this opening ceremony all the importance which it is in their power to confer. It is for them to bring to the practical part of the work their contribution of symbolical ceremony; which, let me tell you, is no idle form, for if the ministration of justice in the kingdom is surrounded with certain features of majesty, so ought the great industrial triumphs of peace to be surrounded by fit ceremonies of respect. (Applause.) Our friends are here engaged in a work which has called forth the highest enterprise, that could not have been undertaken without acts of public munificence and great enterprise, and it was fitting that the Grand Lodge of Scotland should come here to wish success to the work, and to lend all the importance their presence can confer. I regret this day that one is not by our side who, through his life, did so much for the encouragement of works of value to his fellow citizens. (Applause.) But for James Baird's public spirit we could not have hoped that the great work could have been undertaken. (Applause.) Although we may hope that in the future the commerce of Ayr will be amply sufficient to pay for the construction of works of even larger grandeur than the present undertaking, still, at this moment, it would have been difficult and onerous to the town to have found the funds, had it not been that the great man who has passed from amongst us came forward with his open and generous hand. Not to all is it given to see in his lifetime the success and completion of works of usefulness, and though it is an example for those who can do something in their lifetime for the permanent advantage of their fellow countrymen so to do, and though the author of the work has passed away, he has secured to his fellow citizens, for the future, the means of completing it, and in this, as in many other works, his monument stands, and will stand for ages, as an example to Scotchmen, if they succeed in life, to dedicate the good things of this world that came to them not only to founding a family, which, I trust, will long endure, but to works of usefulness which will be for the good of their children's children in ages to come. (Cheers.) In conclusion, Sir James wished an abundant measure of success to this grand work, so honourable to those who had undertaken it, and, he would add, to the country at large. (Cheers.)

A large and influential company gathered in the Assembly Rooms at four o'clock. After an elegant and *recherché* dinner had been partaken of, Provost Goudie, who presided, gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts.

The latest example of absurd credulity on the part of the natives of India is the belief, now prevalent at Dinapore, Patna, and the vicinity, that British "soldiers have orders to decapitate any native abroad after sunset, or found in secluded places." The heads are deposited in the Masonic Lodges, and thence distributed over foreign countries, and by their means the Sicar is able to gain intelligence in all political intrigues. So implicitly is all this nonsense believed that no native servant will stir abroad after dark, and even "respectable men of business" are said to give it credit.—*Naval and Military Gazette*.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—GOOD DIGESTION.—With the weather alarmingly changeable, and foul miasmas penetrating to the very sources of life, the skin will become inactive, and the digestion impaired, unless corrected by suitable means. Holloway's Pills are universally acknowledged to be the safest, speediest, and best corrective of impurity. Loss of appetite, acidity, flatulency and nausea, are a few of the inconveniences which are remedied with ease by these purifying Pills. They strike at the root of all abdominal ailments; they excite in the stomach a proper secretion of gastric juice, and regulate the action of the liver, promoting in that organ a copious supply of pure, wholesome bile, absolutely necessary for digestion. These Pills remove all distension and obstruction.

Dispensary, on condition that "the Committee of Charity be entitled to recommend such number of patients as the shares entitle them to." On 6th June of the same year, after the election of officers, Bro. De Witt Clinton reports that he has had delivered to him the old warrant held by Master's Lodge, Albany, and has issued them a new one, but that Union Lodge, Albany, declines to surrender its old warrant, in consequence of which he recommends that decisive measures be taken to enforce the authority of Grand Lodge. This report is agreed to. Of six petitions for warrants, three were granted, one of the three being the Lodge U.D., formed of a section of the members of "L'Unité Américaine." The remaining three were ordered to stand over, or were referred to the Grand Officers. At this meeting an annual salary of two hundred and fifty dollars, in addition to his fees, was voted to the Grand Secretary, in consideration of his increased labours and responsibilities. The installation of Grand Officers was fixed for the 25th, and was held accordingly. No Grand Lodge was summoned in September, owing to the prevalence of an epidemic in New York, in accordance with the prayer of the Masters of the Lodges in that city. On 5th December eight petitions for new warrants were presented, of which three were granted, and the rest referred to the Grand Presiding Officers. Complaint was made against the S.W. and others of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, "for associating in the higher Degrees" with an expelled member, and the complaint was referred to a Committee. A letter was read from Solomon's Lodge, No. 56, Poughkeepsie, announcing its vote of fifty dollars in aid of distressed brethren in the city. The G.S. is directed to acknowledge suitably the letter and vote. On 2nd January 1799, the Ind. Royal Arch, No. 2, is censured for refusing to admit the S.G.W. De Witt Clinton into the Lodge on the 27th ult. At the same time the assurances of the W.M. of Ind. Royal Arch, No. 2, that no disrespect was intended to the S.G.W. are accepted as satisfactory. At the meeting on the 5th March 1799 the warrant of L'Unité Américaine, No. 12, is surrendered to Grand Lodge. A petition for a new Lodge is rejected for "want of a proper recommendation." We again note that the Grand Treasurer is ordered to subscribe in behalf of Grand Lodge for ten shares in the City Dispensary, under the same conditions as already detailed on a former occasion. Pending the adjustment of certain differences which appeared to have arisen in St. Alban's Lodge, a Committee is appointed on 5th June, to receive the Lodge warrant, to inquire into the differences, and "to return or retain the warrant, as to them may appear the most eligible." After the usual election of officers, the W.M.'s of the City Lodges are requested to forward the names of two members, one as Steward, and the other as Deacon, from whom to appoint the Stewards and Deacons of Grand Lodge. Complaint is also made that Temple Lodge, No. 13, is working improperly, and a Committee of inquiry is appointed. At an extra Grand Lodge on the 11th June, a warrant is granted for a new Lodge in Paris, County Oneida. A Committee is appointed to inquire into the Lodge St. George's, Shenectady, reported not to be working under a warrant of New York G. Lodge. A letter from the Grand Master of Maryland, complaining of a censure passed upon him by that Grand Lodge, and asking advice thereon, is referred to a Committee. Arrangements having been made for celebrating St. John's day, the Report *re* the associating in the Higher Degrees of sundry members of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, with an excluded member is delivered, the result being the exclusion of the S.W. of that Lodge, and the suspension of the others concerned till the next regular Communication of G. Lodge. On the 28th August, we read that the Grand Secretary, with his books, attended, "and waited until near nine o'clock, when none of the other members of the Grand Stewards' Lodge appearing he withdrew." On the 4th December, the death of Grand Secretary, John Abrams, is reported, and it is resolved to erect some memorial as a tribute of respect for the services he had rendered. A letter from the Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, soliciting fraternal intercourse between the two Grand Lodges, and giving a list of the Lodges, fourteen in number, under its jurisdiction, is received, and a suitable reply, reciprocating the friendly feeling, is ordered to be written. Petitions for warrants for "Fortitude" and "Horizontal" Lodges are granted, while a third petition from members of Master's, No. 2, Albany, to form Hiram Lodge in Coymans County of Albany, is referred to the Grand Officers. A sum of 45 dols., collected the previous St. John's Day for distressed prisoners in gaol, is ordered to be expended for their relief. On the 23rd of the same month an extra meeting was held for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to pay a just tribute of respect to the memory of Bro. General George Washington, deceased on the 14th instant. After recording his many virtues and the eminent services he had rendered, both as Commander-in-Chief and President of the United States, the resolution adopted is, that all the Lodges in the jurisdiction wear mourning for six months; that a committee be appointed to take steps to place a suitable memorial of him in the room where Grand Lodge assembles, and that the same Committee further take steps with other committees of Americans in respect of some public testimonial of respect and veneration. Permission is granted to West Chester Lodge, No. 46, to meet, for the convenience of members, at the town of the White Plains and East Chester alternately, and the warrant of Temple Lodge, No. 13, is returned. On the 30th of the month Grand Lodge meets for the purpose of taking part in the funeral ceremony of Washington. The offer of the Grand Secretary to meet the day following in the Reformed Protestant French Church in Pine Street, and there join the procession, being accepted. A detailed account of the order of procession is given in the minutes of the meeting. A petition to form "Abrams Lodge" is referred to the Grand Officers. In the minutes of the Stewards' Lodge, of the 26th February 1800, is entered an account of the expenses incurred at the solemn funeral ceremony, the amount being dols. 154.44. In the same minutes we find recorded the donation of 10 dols. to a "transient Mason of good character and Masonic conduct, named Verdier St. Armand," who had been robbed of all his property by privateers, and was in great distress. At the meeting of Grand Lodge, on 5th March, reasons having been given for the delay in settling a variety of im-

portant business, the Grand Secretary, who some time previously had been directed to obtain 24 copies of the Constitutions, announced that he had been unable to obtain them anywhere. A motion to print more copies was, however, negatived. We also learn that "two letters of importance for Masonry, directed to the Grand Secretary, by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina," are referred to a Committee for report. It is then minuted that the Abrams Lodge had been duly constituted. The petition for a new Lodge, to be known as the Washington Lodge, being duly recommended, is unanimously granted, but a second petition for the formation of a "Mount Moriah Lodge" is rejected as being neither properly certified nor recommended. The petition of the late S.W. of Hiram Lodge, No. 7, who had associated with an excluded member, and been expelled, having been considered, he is restored to his former Masonic rights and privileges. The Grand Officers are then directed to take measures for inquiring into certain irregularities complained of as prevailing in Steuben Lodge, No. 18, Newburgh, County of Ulster. The Grand Secretary having made some remarks on the inconvenience arising from the present mode of numbering Lodges in the City, and in the County, the subject is referred to the next regular meeting, and the Lodge is closed. At an extra meeting on the 25th of the month, the Committee to see after the conduct of the Steuben Lodge state they have advised that a meeting of the Lodge be held, and that officers be elected for the current year. Petitions for warrants for four new Lodges, namely, "Warren Lodge," "Asylum Lodge," Coymans, Albany, and Mohawk Lodge, afterwards altered to "Morton Lodge," Shenectady, County Albany, and for "Hiram Lodge," Aurelius, County of Cayuga, are unanimously granted. The Committee appointed to consider the important letters received from South Carolina deliver their report, which is accepted, and a Committee of seven is at once appointed to execute its terms. The other matters recorded are of the usual character, being ordinary motions, petitions in the ordinary way for relief, &c. &c. Among the Grand Officers who figure in this portion of the record may be mentioned as eminent in the annals of New York State, as well as in New York Masonry, the names of De Witt Clinton and Martin Hoffman, both Grand Senior Wardens, and John Jacob Astor appointed Grand Treasurer in succession to Hoffman. Having thus far noted the progress of the story, we await with interest the further numbers, and till they reach us must take leave, with regret, of this valuable publication.

Rules and Regulations of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon. The Rev. J. Hayshe, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. Plymouth: Leonard D. Westcott, Printer, 14 Frankfort Street. 1876.

THE mere publication of the Bye Laws of a Lodge or Province must be regarded as a necessity, but when we find, as in the case before us, that the publication of such Bye Laws is supplemented by that of a brief, yet sufficient historical sketch of the Province, we are justified in considering it as pre-eminently a mark of zeal and energy in the Craftsmen who compose its several Lodges. The case of a member who will devote time, labour, and money to the preparation and issue of comparatively so slight a work as this without at least a corresponding amount of encouragement from his brethren must be set down as exceptional. The rule we take it is, that where such calendars and histories are published, there will be found a sufficient number of active and intelligent Masons to encourage the good work. Were the good example set by Devon, Cornwall, and other Provinces we might name followed generally, the labours of writing a trustworthy Masonic History would be very considerably lessened. We hail, therefore, with pleasure, the appearance of this short history of the Province of Devon, and we tender our thanks to Bro. Avery, the Provincial Grand Treasurer, for his kindness in forwarding us a copy. Nor must we pass unnoticed the name of the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. W. G. Rogers, to whose editorial labour and researches we are indebted mainly, as we are informed, for the publication of this important little addition to the history of the Craft in this country. To him, likewise, we express our warmest congratulations for the very able manner in which he has fulfilled his task.

As to the contents of the pamphlet, there is first of all given a copy of the warrant issued by our late M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland, on the 22nd January 1866, and appointing the Rev. John Hayshe to the high position of Grand Master of the Province in which he had already obtained such high and well merited distinction. Then come the Laws and Regulations which have been compiled for the government of Devon. These are followed by a short sketch of the Provincial Grand Lodge, from its establishment in 1775, to the appointment of the present P.G.M., together with some particulars of the Union Lodge, Exeter, to whose exertions we mainly owe it that the Provincial Grand Lodge was established. This Union Lodge, we are told, was warranted on 6th August 1766, was consecrated 6th October of the same year, and continued to hold its meetings regularly till 20th October 1778. It ceased to meet for some time, but it assembled again on 27th April 1781. After the year 1788 it appears to have transacted no Masonic business, and in the following year it was struck off the roll of Lodges. In 1769 it passed a resolution limiting the number of its members to twenty-four. Among the brethren at different times borne on the register of this Lodge are the names of gentlemen of good standing in the County, as well as of "members of the Legal, Medical, and Clerical professions," two of these last having been subsequently raised to the Episcopal bench, namely, the late Dr. H. Bathurst, Bishop of Norwich, and the late Dr. Herbert Marsh, Bishop of Peterborough. The first intimation we have that the formation of a Provincial Grand Lodge was in contemplation will be found in the following extract from the Minute Book of the Lodge, dated 20th December 1774. We quote it in full:—

"1774, December 20th.—Ordered, That application be made to the

of ignorance, such persons cannot sometimes understand the nice distinction between words which, possessing nearly a similar sound, have yet the most contradictory meaning. "Parrot-like" is hardly the proper term to apply to the elocutionary exercise they attempt, for the result is a miserable travesty of grand and inspiring language which is more characteristic of the mischievous propensities of the ape.

If no other good can be done in pursuance of my so-called *pet scheme*, "uniformity of working," at least the minds of many brethren may be led to give consideration to the necessity for preserving our ritual and lectures from ridicule, and if nothing beyond this results, the labour of your correspondents will not be thrown away. It may indeed help to overcome the powerful barriers of prejudice, conceit, obtuseness and obstinacy, to which our Bro. Gottheil refers, and eventually shorten that word impossibility, which I dislike so much, by its first syllable. "He who perseveres may ultimately overcome all difficulties," so we are taught; so do many of us believe. We'll "learn to labour and to wait."

Meanwhile Preceptor No 1 says "The hardest bodies polish by attrition." Preceptor No. 2 says "by collision," and again the former says, "They travelled East in search of knowledge, and West to promulgate the same," whilst the latter says "they travelled West to propagate the same."

In respect of both these cases,—"Which is correct?"

Yours fraternally,

P.M., P.Z.

Clapham, 25th September 1876.

UNIFORMITY OF WORKING.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BRO.—I am glad to see that the question of uniformity of ritual is again engaging the attention of some of our most active working Masons. It is a subject that, in my humble sphere, I have tried to promote. While fully agreeing with the opinions expressed by both "Q" and Bro. Gottheil on the question raised by P.M., P.Z., I must slightly differ from the concluding remarks of Bro. G., as my experience has shown me that, at any rate in comparatively limited circles, their attempts have not proved *entire and unmitigated failures*. On the contrary, I have seen several examples of great successes in the localities where a few earnest brothers set themselves zealously to the work in a kind and brotherly spirit, without which I agree that failure may be expected. However, it is something to have the *best wishes* of so eminent a Brother and practical Preceptor as Bro. Gottheil, for even that will help on the good work to a considerable extent.

But there is another subject of still greater importance than even uniformity of ritual, great though I fully believe that to be, and that is, Uniformity of Working.

The mere difference of the words in which the necessary instructions are conveyed to our candidates, or the precise answer that should be given to every question in the lectures, sinks into comparative insignificance when we take into consideration the differences that exist in the different modes that are employed in giving the batteries! taking the steps!! and even in showing the signs!!!

In your impression of the 23rd inst., you speak with commendation of the way in which Bro. Abbott translated the French mode of working to the Confidence Lodge of Instruction. Not having been privileged to be present, of course I can say nothing of the way in which it was done; but old standards in Masonic ceremonies, as Bros. Meggy and Stevens, certified to its correctness. If it was like the French work that I have seen, I think the brethren who were present will agree with me that so far as the Universality of Masonry is concerned there is room for improvement if we desire uniformity of working.

But we need not confine ourselves to France to find out these differences. Go to some of our own country Lodges, cross the Atlantic, or run over to Dublin, to say nothing of the lesser Irish towns, or visit Scotland, and you will find that the modes of working are various under each different Constitution, and that even in adjoining towns and sometimes in the Lodges in the same town there is a diversity of work. As an humble Masonic student I hold this to be a grievous error, and one that demands our most strenuous efforts to correct. But for a work of this magnitude to be performed we want the assistance of the leading authorities of each Masonic jurisdiction, to co-operate either by conferences or in whatever other way they may deem best. This they will not do till the body at large see the necessity for the step, and I trust these few lines may enable you to work upon the right tack to bring about this result.

Fraternally yours,

G. W. W.

PSYCHO AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL.—Visitors to London who are fond of the marvellous, need only go to the Egyptian Hall, and see the performance of Messrs. Maskelyne and Cooke, to have their powers of wondering tried to their fullest extent, not only by the surprising exposition of so-called spiritualistic manifestations, but most of all by the performance of the little lay figure, "Psycho," which has been brought to such a pitch of perfection as to thoroughly eclipse all previous automata ever manufactured or thought of. Its most striking peculiarity is not the mere movement of its arms or head, which could of course be effected by clock-work or other machinery, but these movements are so combined and regulated as to allow of no explanation except that the figure is possessed of mind as well as matter, or that it is mysteriously governed by some outside force, with which it communicates independently of electricity or any other force yet known to men of science, who are as unable to solve the mystery as are any of the simple and unlearned pleasure-seekers who go in such large numbers to see this latest triumph of man's ingenuity.

REVIEWS.

All Books intended for Review should be addressed to the Editor of The Freemason's Chronicle, 67 Barbican, E.C.

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Early History and Transactions of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, 1781-1815. Part V. Published by authority of the Grand Lodge. Granted to Kane Lodge, No. 454, June 1874. New York: Masonic and Miscellaneous Publishers, No. 2 Bleecker-street; D. Sickels and Co., Managers. 1876.

The period embraced within this part extends from the month of November 1797 to the end of May 1800, during which time the Royal Art may be said to have made very satisfactory progress. True, certain troubles were caused, notably through an attempted introduction of foreign authority within the limits of the New York jurisdiction. The attempt, however, was summarily repressed. We have, further, a record of the proceedings taken by Grand Lodge in memory of the illustrious Washington. A considerable number of Warrants for new Lodges are issued, so that the influence of Freemasonry is slowly but surely being extended, at the same time that the work of consolidation is being prosecuted earnestly and with unabated vigour. One other point is noteworthy, that Bro. Livingston still remains in office as Grand Master, having held the reins of government during a period, thus far, of sixteen years. After these general remarks, we pass, as in the previous parts, to the details which compose this portion of the record, noting the more salient points in regular chronological order.

The first record of any interest is contained in the minutes for the 6th December 1797, wherein it is mentioned that a letter had been received from a certain Huet Lachelle, styling himself a Dep. G.M. under the Grand Lodge of France, and requesting permission to visit the Grand Lodge, either in such capacity or in his private character of a Master Mason. But D.G.M. Morton, having stated he had heard, on good authority, that this Huet Lachelle had granted a Warrant for the establishment of a Lodge, by the name of "L'Union Française," in the city of New York; a Committee is appointed to wait on the said Lachelle, in order to inform him of his invasion of the rights of the State Grand Lodge, and declining to receive him till he pledges himself, in writing, "to revoke the powers granted by him in the said Warrant." Lachelle, however, when the Committee call upon him, declines to revoke the Warrant he had granted, claiming the right to issue such instruments when and where he pleased, but refusing to exhibit this authority for exercising such right. In the result Lachelle, his associates of the Lodge "L'Union Française," and certain dissatisfied members of "L'Unité Américaine," are inhibited from attending any of the Lodges in New York jurisdiction. The report of the Committee appointed to inquire as to the rank of Union Lodge of Albany is agreed to, the report fixing the rank of the said Lodge from 26th February 1765, the date of its first Provincial Warrant. A number of documents relating to dissensions existing in Lodge "L'Unité Américaine," are likewise submitted at this Grand Lodge. It was further agreed to hold an extra meeting, to consider the action taken by certain brethren in reference to a matter of grave importance connected with the foregoing differences. Among the other business transacted, we note the grant of a petition from "Paine's Lodge," No. 27, to change its name to "Hiram Lodge," No. 27, the reason assigned being "the numerous inconveniences they labour under, from the Lodge bearing the name of a man who, since that took place, has rendered himself odious by his indecent attacks on Christianity. A petition from West Chester Lodge, No. 46, to change its place of meeting to some more convenient place in the county is ordered to stand over. At the extra meeting called, as above, on the 12th of the month, the brethren, members of L'Unité Américaine, summoned, as well as Lachelle and his associates, are summarily dealt with in the manner already explained. At another extra meeting, however, held on the 18th, a petition of twenty-eight members of L'Unité Américaine is read, detailing the origin and circumstances of the recent dissensions in their Lodge and their association with Lachelle. They expressed their readiness to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the State Grand Lodge, and solicit permission to meet together as a Lodge. Thereupon it is resolved to re-instate them in their Masonic rights conditionally on their surrendering the warrant received by them from Lachelle, and also on their complying with such disposition of the property and papers of the Lodge L'Unité Américaine as Grand Lodge in its wisdom may direct. The suspension of another brother mixed up with these differences is likewise removed, on explanation and due submission made. At a third extra meeting, held on the 25th, the Committee appointed to report on this prolonged disturbance detail at considerable length the various steps they have taken. They announce that Lachelle's warrant has been returned into the hands of the P.G.M. of San Domingo, who had given it, and that finding the antagonism between the W.M. of L'Unité Américaine and his supporters on the one hand, and his opponents on the other, irreconcilable, they have constituted the latter into a Lodge. These steps are approved, and a dispensation for six months to the Lodge thus erected is granted. It is also directed that the minutes of this new Lodge of L'Unité Américaine be kept both in English and French. A dispensation for the day only is likewise granted to certain brethren confined in the city jail for debt to meet as a Lodge and celebrate St. John's Day. On the 7th March 1798, petitions for warrants to erect three new Lodges are granted, namely, for the Adoniram, Reusselaer, and Sharon Felicity Lodges respectively. A fourth petition for a new Lodge, to be called the Roman Lodge, is referred to the Grand Presiding Officers. It is further ordered that twenty shillings be paid in future for a Grand Lodge Certificate, the fee to be the perquisite of the Grand Secretary, and also that the Grand Treasurer subscribe in the name of the Grand Lodge for ten shares in the City

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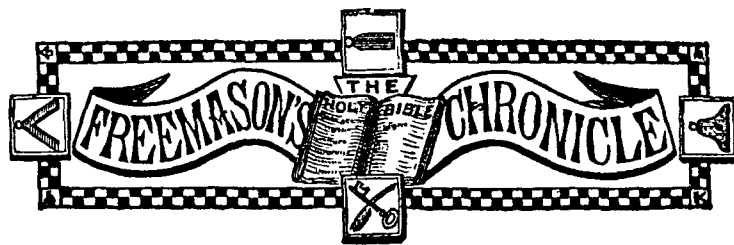
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Tuesday the Queen presented new colours to the First, or "Royal Scots" regiment, of which her father, the late Duke of Kent, was Colonel-in-Chief. Her Majesty, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Beatrice and the Duke of Connaught, lately arrived at the Castle, drove over to Ballater in a carriage and four, the ladies and gentlemen in attendance following in two other carriages. The regiment, which was drawn up in line under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel MacGwire, received her with a royal salute. The ceremony of trooping the old colours having been performed, the troops were formed up in a hollow square, and the Queen, having previously addressed to the regiment a brief but effective speech, presented the new colours to Lieutenants Moore and Bond, who received them kneeling. The officer in command having suitably acknowledged, on behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, Her Majesty's words, the regiment marched past in quick time. After a royal salute and three cheers, given most enthusiastically, the royal party left the ground. The old colours were presented to Her Majesty, who was pleased to accept them, and promised they should be placed in Windsor Castle. The Prince and Princess of Wales, with their two sons, and Prince John of Glucksburgh, were present, and witnessed the presentation.

On Wednesday the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, left Abergeldie for Ballater Station, on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, at Dunrobin Castle. Throughout the journey their Royal Highnesses were greeted with the utmost loyalty at the several halting places. The Duke and Duchess were on the platform at Goldspie-station to receive their guests, the route thence to the Castle being very tastefully decorated and lined the whole way with the inhabitants, who had turned out *en masse* to greet the royal visitors. The visit is expected to last some eight or ten days, in the course of which the Prince and Princess, it is understood, will visit Wick, Thurso, and other towns in the neighbourhood.

On Tuesday, H.R.H. Prince Leopold paid his promised visit to Cupar, the County town of Fife. The occasion was regarded as a public holiday. The road to be traversed was gaily decorated in the usual fashion, and the reception His Royal Highness met with was most flattering. On Wednesday, the Prince was formally installed as Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrew's, which comprises some 800 members, and of which the Queen is patroness. There was a large and fashionable assembly at the Club House on the Links to greet the Captain elect. The Prince having struck off the first ball, which entitles him as Captain to the Royal Adelaide Medal, the annual competition for prizes commenced, the result being that the first prize, the King William the Fourth Medal, fell to Mr. Leslie Balfour, while for the gold medal of the club there was a tie between Messrs. Stuart of Edinburgh, and Brown of Berwickshire. In the evening a banquet was held at the Club House, the Hon. Charles Carnegie, the retiring Captain, presiding, after which the Prince was duly installed and invested with the Adelaide Medal.

The public excitement over the Bulgarian atrocities still continues. Mr. Gladstone has spoken once or twice since our last issue. On Tuesday, Mr. Childers offered a few remarks at the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, at Knottingley, near Pontefract. On Wednesday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is a guest of Mr. Rowland Winn, M.P., at Nostal Priory, Yorkshire, addressed a vast concourse of people, in the grounds; and the same day the Deputation appointed at the recent meeting at Guildhall, to convey certain resolutions to the government, waited on the Earl of Derby at the Foreign Office. His Lordship courteously received the Deputation, which was headed by

the Lord Mayor, and explained his views, so far as the necessities of his official position allowed. The Deputation do not appear, however, to have been satisfied with his Lordship's statement, for they subsequently met at the Cannon-street Hotel, and arranged to continue the present agitation. Whether this is a wise policy or not to pursue, remains to be seen.

A Court of Common Council was held on Wednesday, at Guildhall, when the report of the City Lands Committee on the removal of Temple Bar was brought up. The Committee recommend that authority should be given them to take down and remove the structure, with the exception of the northern and southern walls, and that then they should consider the best means of marking the boundary of the City jurisdiction at that spot. On division, the report was carried by 69 to 45, and was then referred back for execution. The necessity for the removal of this time-honoured Bar has long been recognised, but we trust a place will be found where it may stand in peace and quietness without impeding, as it certainly does now, the enormous traffic of the metropolis.

"Hell Gate" has been blown up. Our readers need not be shocked at the word. It is merely the name of a rock at the entrance of New York Harbour, which has ever been a serious obstruction to free navigation. Fifty thousand pounds of dynamite were used in its destruction, and the force of the explosion was felt for a distance of fully ten miles; but no damage was done either to life or property, so complete were all the arrangements of the engineers.

The series of trials, at Shoeburyness, of the 81-ton gun, commenced on Wednesday, in the presence of Colonel Younghusband, R.A., and several military officials, as well as of a numerous body of visitors. Five rounds were fired, the charge of powder being 370 lbs., and the weight of the projectile 1,760 lbs. The average distance at which the shot first grazed the earth was 4,694 yards, or about two and a half miles, for the first four rounds, the fifth having, for sufficient reasons, been struck out of the record. In these rounds, the gun was elevated at an angle of seven degrees. The gun was afterwards lowered to one degree to suit the circumstances of the tide flowing in on the sands, when two more rounds were fired, the distances to the first graze being respectively 1,096 yards and 1,080 yards, and the time of flight 2.2 seconds. In these two cases the whole distance supposed to have been traversed by the projectile was 11,000 yards, or considerably over six miles. The effects of the practice with this formidable monster were very perceptible; windows and window-frames were shattered; a large boarded gate leading into the barracks was burst open; the entire wall of the officers' mess-room seemed likely to yield, while in the soldiers' huts, large pieces of plaster were knocked down, and in several the ceilings threatened to come in. What will have become of these buildings when the series of rounds is complete, it would hardly be safe to speculate.

If the efforts of the six Great Powers are rewarded with the success they deserve, we shall very shortly hear of the termination of the Eastern difficulty. In his reply to the deputation that waited upon him on Wednesday, the Earl of Derby stated that though peace was not absolutely certain, the prospect, so far as the disposition of all interested in securing the return of peace was concerned, was very favourable. His Lordship expressed not only a hope, but likewise the confident belief, that the contest would be brought to an issue without the further effusion of blood. In confirmation of this announcement of our Foreign Minister, we have the reply of the German Emperor to a deputation that waited upon him at Stuttgart, in which His Majesty declared that the prospect of peace was more assured than ever, and that a basis had been established among the Great Powers which justified him in believing that a favourable result will be arrived at. The news from Constantinople, that Turkey is favourable to the conditions of peace proposed by Great Britain and endorsed by the other powers, is also satisfactory. On the other hand, we hear that Servia has rejected the further prolongation of the armistice, and that hostilities have actually recommenced. It is further announced that Servia has decidedly rejected the terms proposed by the Great Powers and the Porte, and save in the case of foreign occupation, will fight on *à outrance* till the independence of Servia and Bosnia is secured. Russia and Austria are both strongly opposed to the erection of Servia into a kingdom, and the latter Power is said to have hinted to Prince Milan that, in the event of his persisting in his present adventurous career,

a change of ruler may become necessary. It is evident, then, we are not out of the wood yet; but it is, at least, satisfactory to know that all civilised Europe is working hard and with a will to secure peace on a durable basis. We sincerely trust their efforts may be crowned with success.

Old Warrants.

[We take this opportunity of expressing to the many friends who have so cordially responded to our invitation by forwarding copies of their Lodge Warrants our very sincere thanks for their kindness. We trust their example will be followed by the majority of those to whom we have addressed ourselves. We note, however, that a few consider it little short of high treason to make public these documents. All such must pardon us if we express our belief that their objections to publication are very childish. All of us, or at least all those among us who trouble themselves about such matters, know perfectly well what the body of a Warrant contains. These estimable brethren who object to publication are only keeping hidden from the Masonic public a few particulars, namely, the date of issue of each warrant, the name of the G.M. who issued it, the style and title of the Lodge, and the names of the W.M. and Wardens appointed thereunder. It is no idle curiosity which prompts us to seek this information, but a desire to make the list of Lodges on the Roll of England historically more perfect, there being in the present Grand Lodge Calendar over a hundred Lodges with no date of constitution inserted against them.]

No. 29.

COPY OF WARRANT.

No. 344 from A.D. 1792, "Moderns;" No. 442 from A.D. 1814, after the Union; No. 294 from A.D. 1832, and No. 241 from A.D. 1863.

No. 522. To ALL and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful, and loving Brethren, I, *John Allen*, of Clement's Inn, in the County of Middlesex, Provincial Grand Master of the Most Antient and Honorable Society of FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS in and for the County Palatine of LANCASTER, by virtue of and under the Patent of His Grace the Most Noble Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, late Grand Master of the said Order, &c., &c.

SEND GREETING.

KNOW YE, That upon the humble Petition of our Right Worthy and well beloved Brethren, *Thomas Golightly, Esq., Thomas Manley, James Roberts, Thomas Porter, Michael Renwick, John Christian, Hugh Hartwick Garbers, Ralph Wright, William Denison, and Benjamin Beale*, Merchants, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in them, I have constituted, and by these presents do constitute them the said Brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened at the house of Henry Forshaw, known by the name of the *Golden Lion*, in Dale Street, Liverpool, in the County of Lancaster, by the name of the "MERCHANTS'" Lodge, being numbered 522 in the list of Lodges; to be there formed, and held on every other Tuesday until the time and place of meeting shall, with the concurrence of me or my successors, be altered. With such powers, privileges, and advantages as of right belong to regular established Lodges. AND I do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint our said Brethren, *Thomas Golightly, Master, Michael Renwick, Senior Warden, and James Roberts, Junior Warden*, for opening the said Lodge, and for such further time only as shall be thought proper by the Brethren thereof. It being my will and intent that this appointment shall not in any wise affect the future election of Officers of the said Lodge, but that the same shall be regulated by such By-Laws of the said Lodge as shall be consistent with the General Laws and Constitutions of our antient society. AND I do hereby will and require you the said *Thomas Golightly, Michael Renwick, and James Roberts*, and your successors, to take especial care that you and the rest of the Members of the said Lodge do at all times observe, perform, and keep all and every the Rules, Orders, and Regulations contained in the Book of Constitutions, except such as have been or hereafter shall be repealed at any Quarterly or other general communication, together with such other Rules, Orders, Regulations, and Instructions as shall from time to time be by me or my Deputy, or by my Successors, Provincial Grand Masters for the time being, transmitted to you or your Successors, and that you and your Successors omit not once in every year (or oftener, as occasion may be) to transmit to me or my Deputy, or our Successors, copies of all such Rules, Orders, and Regulations as shall from time to time be made by your said Lodge for the good order and government thereof, together with a list of the Members of the said Lodge, with their respective titles or additions, and such sum or sums of money as shall from time to time accrue, due from and be contributed by your said Lodge or the Members thereof to the *Fund of Charity* and the *Grand Fund* of the said Society. AND, lastly, I will and require you the said *Thomas Golightly, Michael Renwick, and James Roberts*, as soon as conveniently may be, to send an account in writing of your proceedings under and by virtue of this my Warrant of Constitutions. *Recommending to you and the rest of the Brethren the cultivation of the*

Royal Craft, and your keeping in view the three grand principles of our Order—*Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.*

GIVEN at London, under my Hand and Seal, this Twenty-fifth day of March, A.L. 5780, A.D. 1780.

JNO. ALLEN Pro. Gr. Mar. [L.S.]

The present No., title, &c. are, The Merchants' Lodge, No. 241, Freemasons' Hall, Liverpool.

No. 30.

By Thomas Dunckerley of Hampton Court Palace in the County of Middlesex, Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons &c.

To those whom it may concern

GREETING

Know ye That at the humble petition of Several Brethren & Companions residing at or near the Town of Redruth in the County of Cornwall

I do hereby grant unto the said Companions & Brethren full power and authority to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at the Town of Redruth aforesaid under the title of the Druids Chapter of Love & Liberality, the stated days of exaltations to be on the last Wednesday of every month For so doing I grant this Warrant of Dispensation for Six Months from the date hereof or until such time as they shall receive their patents of Constitution from the Grand & Royal Chapter

Given at Hampton Court Palace this 15th day of July A.L. 5795 A.D. 1791.

THOS. DUNCKERLEY.

To { John Knight } Z
Comp. { Peter Pender } H
{ Philip Trevena } J

HE

Seal

Of the Druids Chapter of Love and Liberality at Redruth Cornwall.

No. 79 until A.D. 1817, and No. 12 until extinction.

The Chapter for which this Warrant was granted has been for some time extinct, but through the kindness of the W. Bro. John Coombe, P.S.G.D. of Cornwall, we are enabled to present a transcript of the original authority, derived from Bro. Dunckerley, by which the members worked, and which is both curious and valuable.

JOHN CONSTABLE.

No. 31.

("Moderns.") No. 340 in 1792, No. 435 at the "Union," No. 289 A.D. 1832, and No. 238 from A.D. 1863.

MANCHESTER G.M.

To all and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful & loving Brethren, We George Montagn, Duke Earl of Manchester, Viscount Mandeville &c &c Grand Master of the most N^o 516 ancient & honorable Society of free and accepted Masons, send greeting.

Know ye, that we at the humble petition of our right trusty and well beloved Brethren, John Leonhardi, Luder Hoffham, John Frederick Wrede and several other Brethren, residing in or near the City of London, Do hereby constitute the said Brethren into a regular Lodge of free and accepted Masons, (under the Title & Denomination of the Pilgrim Lodge) to be open'd at the House, known by the Name of the Mitre Tavern, Fleet street, London, and do further at their said petition, and of the great Trust & Confidence reposed in every of the said above named Brethren, hereby appoint the said John Leonhardi to be Master, Luder Hoffham Senior Warden, & John Frederick Wrede Junior Warden, for opening the said Lodge, & for such further time only, as shall be thought proper by the Brethren thereof It being our Will, that this our appointment of the above Officers, shall in nowise affect any future Election of Officers of the Lodge, but that such Elections shall be regulated, agreeable to such Bye Laws of the said Lodge as shall be consistent with the General Laws of the Society contained in the Book of Constitution. And we hereby will and require you the said John Leonhardi, to take special Care that all & every the said Brethren are or have been regularly made Masons, and that they do observe perform and keep, all the Rules and Orders contained in the Book of Constitutions. And further that you do from time to time cause to be enter'd in a Book for that purpose, an account of your proceedings in the Lodge, together with all such Rules Orders and Regulations as shall be made for the good Government of the same, that in nowise you omit, once in every year to send to us or our Successors Grand Masters or to Rowland Holt Esq. our Deputy Grand Master or to the Deputy Grand Master for the time being, an Account in writing of your said proceedings and Copies of all such Rules Orders and Regulations as shall be made as aforesaid together with a List of the Members of the Lodge, and such a Sum of Money as may suit the circumstances of the Lodge and reasonably be expected towards the Grand Charity. Moreover we hereby will and require you the said John Leonhardi,

as soon as conveniently may be, to send an Account in writing of what may be done by virtue of these Presents.

GIVEN at London under our Hand and Seal of Masonry this 25th day of Aug^t A. 5979 A.D. 1779.

By the Grand Master's Command,

R. HOLT D.G.M.

Witness

Ja^s Heseltine G.S.

The present number, title, &c. are, The Pilgrim Lodge, No. 238, held at the London Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

We are much obliged to the W.M. of No. 238 for his interesting communication and transcript of the Warrant, and trust that the example he has thus set will be followed by many other Worshipful Masters of our London Lodges, especially of the "Ancients."—EDITOR.

We have received from our esteemed Bro. Jacob Norton, the first portion of an interesting article on "Coloured Freemasonry." His views on this important question are not our views; but we are far from being bigoted, and nothing gives us greater pleasure than to be able to afford a Brother who holds other opinions the opportunity of conveying them to our readers. Bro. Norton's article will appear in our next issue.

The ceremony of Consecration will be rehearsed by Bro. Jas. Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts, P.M., Secretary to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons, on Monday, 9th October, at 7 o'clock, at the Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst Road, Hackney. Bro. W. Stephens, P.M. 1365, will rehearse the ceremony of Installation on that occasion, when it is requested the brethren will appear in Masonic clothing.

At the usual monthly meeting of the Upton Lodge, No. 1227, held at the Spotted Dog, Upton, Essex, on Thursday, 21st September 1876, Bro. D. Posener W.M. in the chair, it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this Lodge having heard with extreme sorrow and deep regret of the death of Bro. W. J. Page, their Junior Warden, request that a letter of condolence be written to Mrs. Page, expressing their sympathy with her in the irreparable loss she has so suddenly and so unexpectedly sustained."

RENFREWSHIRE EAST PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A MEETING of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Saturday last, in the hall of Lodge Paisley, St. Mirren, No. 129, for the purpose of considering in what way the members of the Lodge would assist in welcoming his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Glasgow, on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to lay the foundation stone of the new Post Office there. Bro. Colonel Campbell, of Blythwood, P.G.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. James Caldwell, Craigielea Substitute Master. Bro. James Gilmour 129, officiated as Senior Warden, and Bro. J. Peters 153 as Junior Warden. There was a large attendance. The P.G. Master stated that he had had an interview with the authorities in Glasgow, and had ascertained the arrangements so far as made for the Prince of Wales's visit. The Masonic brethren would assemble very likely at Burnbank, where they would be joined by the Grand Lodge. A procession would be formed, and the brethren would proceed by way of the Lord Provost's house, when, after the Grand Lodge had passed, they would be followed by his Royal Highness and the Princess of Wales and Royal party. It would be impossible to accommodate the whole Masonic body at the place of ceremony in George Square, and as the general public would have largely to share in the proceedings, it had been decided that on the arrival of the brethren at the Square, they should open upon either side of the road and along the route, and remain there till after the ceremony, when the royal party would return to the Lord Provost's house by the way they came. He suggested that a committee be appointed to communicate with the Grand Lodge, and also with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland, and thereafter, on learning the definite arrangements, send information to all Lodges in the Province. This was agreed to, and the following committee appointed:—Bros. Colonel Campbell, James Caldwell, James Gilmour, J. Peters, A. Macpherson, ex-Bailie Fisher, A. Wallace, and J. Carswell. Bro. H. S. Edmonds suggested that if the Masons were to line the sides of the streets it was but fair that the senior Lodges should proceed first in the procession, instead of as in the usual way, and thus they would be arranged as they were entitled to be, nearest the place of ceremony. It was agreed to forward this suggestion to the Grand Lodge.

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 1½d 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.

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.

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SATURDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER.

193—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
463—Chigwell, Castle Hotel, Woodford, Essex.

MONDAY, 2nd OCTOBER.

45—Strong Man, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Sq., Clerkenwell, at 8. (Instruction.)
174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7.0. (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.
158—Harmony, Huyshe Masonic Temple, Plymouth.
199—Peace and Harmony, Royal Oak Hotel, Dover.
236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
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, Cheshire.
1051—Rowley, Athenæum, Lancaster.
1264—Neptune, Masonic Temple, 22 Hope-street, Liverpool.

TUESDAY, 3rd OCTOBER.

Colonial Board, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
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.)
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
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, Stroud, 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.
1322—Waverley, Caledonia Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
1336—Square and Compass, Wynnstay Arms, High-street, Wrexham.

WEDNESDAY, 4th OCTOBER.

193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
1155—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
137—Amity, Masonic Hall, Thames-street, Poole.
261—Unanimity and Sincerity, Clarke's Hotel, Taunton.
298—Harmony, Masonic Room, Ann-street, Rochdale.
326—Moirs, Freemasons' Hall, Park-street, Bristol.
471—Silurian, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Mon.
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—Alnwick, 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.
1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, at 7. (Instruction.)

THURSDAY, 5th OCTOBER.

8—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
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.
1280—Hervey, 152 Fulham-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—Great City, 111 Cheapside, E.C., at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1489—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.
412—St. Peter's, Masonic Hall, Boroughbury, Peterborough.
489—Benevolence, Masonic Hall, Bridgeland-street, Bideford, Devon.
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—Underly, Masonic Room, Market-place, Kirkby Lonsdale.
1282—Anchorage, Foresters' Hall, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
1284—Brent, Masonic Hall, Globe Hotel, Topsham.
1331—Aldershot Camp, Assembly Rooms, High-street, Aldershot.

FRIDAY, 6th OCTOBER.

933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Courts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, 7.30. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Metropolitan Societies' Asylum, Balls-poud-road, N.
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.
1397—Chorlton, Masonic Rooms, Chorlton Cum Hardy.
1561—Morecambe, Atheneum, Lancaster.
R. A. 355—Wiltshire, Swindon, Wilts.

SATURDAY, 7th OCTOBER.

General Committee, Boys' School, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
R. A.—Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

MONDAY.

61—Probity, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
154—Unanimity, Masonic Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
284—Nelson of the Nile, Freemasons' Hall, New-road, Batley.
302—Hope, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
307—Prince Frederick, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
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, Dean House, Lindley, Huddersfield.
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.
448—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax.
1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.
R. A. 298—Loyalty, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
R. A. 600—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.

WEDNESDAY.

290—Huddersfield, Masonic Hall, Huddersfield.
387—Airedale, Masonic Hall, Westgate, Shipley.
750—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Railway-street, Cleckheaton.
R. A. 304—Philanthropic, Masonic Hall, Gt. George-street, Leeds.

THURSDAY.

289—Fidelity, Masonic Hall, Carlton-hill, Leeds.
439—Scientific, Private Room, Bingley.
971—Trafalgar, Private Room, Commercial-street, Batley.
974—Pentelpha, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
1231—Savile, Royal Hotel, Elland.
1513—Friendly, King's Head Hotel, Barnsley.
R. A. 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
R. A. 307—Good Intent, White Horse Hotel, Hebden Bridge.
R. A. 337—Confidence, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.

FRIDAY.

242—St. George's, Victoria Room, Doncaster.
308—Alfred, Masonic Hall, Kelsall-street, Leeds.
401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.
521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
652—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
837—De Grey and Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.
1034—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.
1102—Mirfield, Assembly Rooms, Eastthorpe, Mirfield.

SATURDAY.

1149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.

IRELAND.

WEDNESDAY—704—Ahoghell, Union Tavern, Ahoghell.

SCOTLAND.

TUESDAY—41—St. Cuthbert Kilwinning, Kirkcudbright, N.B.

WEDNESDAY—0—Mother Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, Kilwinning.
" 21—Old St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Lanark.

THURSDAY—11—St. John, King's Arms, Maybole.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

All the Meetings are at 8.0 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

MONDAY—R. A. 119—Rosslyn, 25 Robertson-street, Glasgow.

" 124—Kilwinning, Union Tavern, Ayr.
" 138—Operative, Blue Bell, Hotel, Ayr.
" 237—St. John's, Masons' Arms, Girvan.
" 332—Union, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

TUESDAY—3 bis.—St. John's, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

" 68—Doric, 41 Church-street, Port Glasgow.
" 73—Thistle and Rose, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 87—Thistle, Freemasons' Hall, Cathedral-street, Glasgow.
" 173—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Largo.
" 193—Royal Arch, Town Hall, Maybole.
" 233—Hamilton, Spalding's Hotel, Hamilton.
" 331—St. Peter's, Portland Arms, Galston.
" 437—Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan-road, Glasgow.

WEDNESDAY—K. T.—St. Mungo Encampment, 213 Buchanan-street.

" 21—Old St. John, Masonic Hall, Lanark.
" 86—Navigation, Commercial Hall, Troon.
" 117—St. Mary, School Room, Douglas-street, Partick, Glasgow.
" 126—St. Andrew's, George Hotel, Kilmarnock.
" 128—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Shettleston.
" 166—St. John's, 29 Grame-street, Airdrie.
" 354—Caledonian Railway, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 442—Neptune, Freemasons' Hall, Ardrossan.
" 571—Dramatic, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow, at 3 p.m.

THURSDAY—11—St. John's, King's Arms, Maybole.

" 27—St. Mungo, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 140—St. Andrew, Masonic Hall, Irvine.
" 167—St. John's, Freemasons' Hall, Main-street, Beith.
" 165—Royal Arch, King's Arms, Ayr.
" 202—St. Clement, Trades Hall, Kilmarnock.
" 370—Renfrew, Co. Kilwinning, Freemasons' Hall, High-st., Paisley.
" 465—St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall, Garngad-road, Glasgow.
" R. A. 320—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Ardrossan.

FRIDAY—275—Shamrock and Thistle, 24 Struthers-street, Glasgow.

" 360—Commercial, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 403—Clyde, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 175—St. John's, Old St. John's Hall, Cathcart-street, Greenock.
" 217—Cumberland, Old Town Hall, Port Glasgow.
" 459—Kilbourne, Cumbræ Hotel, Millport.
" R. A. 116—Old Council Hall, Rutherglen.
" 212—Huslin, St. Johnstone, Cross Keys, Johnstone.
" 131—St. James's, Crown Inn, Tarbolton, (Burns's Lodge.)
" 512—Thorn-tree, School Room, Thornliebank. 7 p.m.

SATURDAY—23—St. John's, Black Bull, Kirkintilloch.

" 305—St. John's, Woodhall, Freemasons' Hall, Holytown.
" 458—St. John's, Wilson's Hall, Bushy, 6 p.m.
" 524—St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall, East Kilbride, 6 p.m.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

[The holidays are now over, and everywhere throughout the country Lodges are resuming their labours. The moment, therefore, is opportune for again inviting our readers to lend us all the assistance in their power in making our notices of Lodge meetings agree as nearly as possible in date with the number in which they appear. Particulars of meetings held two or three weeks previously cannot be regarded as "news." We promise that notices will be inserted, as far, at least, as the space at our disposal will permit, if they are despatched in time to reach us by the first post on Friday morning. We set our face strongly against holding over this important class of matter. But we cannot undertake to insert notices more than a week old, save under very exceptional circumstances, and in the case of foreign Lodges. Our readers will be kind enough to bear in mind that, if they desire the particulars of their Lodge doings to appear in these columns, the facilities afforded by the Post Office will enable us to receive their communications within, at the outside, twenty-four hours of their being written. If they cannot oblige us thus far, they must not feel hurt or disappointed if we cannot find space for their insertion. We are sparing no effort to make this journal worthy of the increased support it is receiving in all parts of the country, and among our foreign Lodges. We are desirous of making it not only a worthy medium for the expression of opinion on all topics of general interest to the whole Craft, but likewise as complete a record as possible of the week's Masonic news. Our readers will at once perceive that as regards the latter portion of our programme we must necessarily, and to a great extent, rely on their kindly co-operation. We do not for a moment doubt this co-operation will be forthcoming, we only ask that it may be rendered promptly. *Bis dat qui cito dat.* Whoso sends us a report of Lodge proceedings promptly, confers on us a double favour.]

St. John Lodge, No. 3 bis.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting in its own Hall, on Saturday, the 23rd inst. There was a fair attendance of members. The 1st degree was very ably wrought by Bro. Wm. Bell I.P.M., and the 2nd by Bro. T. B. Bell S.M.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge met on Thursday evening last, Sept. 28, at Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules, Leadenhall-street, when there was a very numerous attendance of the brethren for the purpose of working the fifteen sections. Bro. Horsley presided. Bro. Austin P.M. as S.W., Bro. Musto P.M. as J.W., Bros. Grammer Secretary, Atkins P.M. Treasurer, Crawley P.M., Hoare P.M., Constable P.M., Rudderforth, Webb, and other brethren, numbering upwards of forty. The Lodge was opened in the three degrees, and after the minutes were read and confirmed, Bro. Horsley proceeded to work the fifteen sections, assisted by the following brethren—Bros. Grammer, Smith, Hewlett, Webb, Musto, Crawley, Rudderforth, Wilkins, Hogarth, Constable, Ellis, and Job. Bros. Smith, Spencer, Johnson, Yetton, Abell, Abbott, Bone, McCarthy, and Constable were unanimously elected members of this Lodge of Instruction. It was then proposed by Bro. Crawley, seconded by Bro. Austin, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be entered on the minutes to the W.M., Bro. Horsley, for his kindness in presiding on this occasion. Bro. Horsley was also made an honorary member. A vote of thanks was proposed by the W.M., seconded by Bro. Pitt, to Bros. Austin, Crawley, Musto, and the rest of the brethren who had assisted in working the sections. The same was carried unanimously. There was also a vote of thanks, proposed by the W.M. and seconded by the J.W., to Bro. Grammer, the Secretary, for presenting the circulars to the Lodge, and for his general exertions in the business of this Lodge of Instruction. All Masonic business being ended the Lodge was closed in ancient form.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—This Lodge met on Monday, the 25th inst., at Bro. Gay's, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Present—Bros. Crawley W.M., Powell S.W., Knight J.W., Killick Secretary, Lake S.D., Ockenden J.D., Millward I.G., Christopher Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. Beckett (Preceptor) and Main. Visitors—Bros. Weeden 813, Higgins H. 185, Baxter 1003, J. Crawley P.M. 174. After the preliminary opening, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, and the Traditional History given, Bro. Weeden candidate. Bro. J. Crawley P.M. 174 worked the sections of the Third Lecture. Bros. J. Crawley, Baxter, Weeden and Higgins, were elected members, and Bro. Powell was appointed W.M. for the ensuing week. The ceremony of Installation will be worked on Monday next, by Bro. Beckett.

Lodge of Lights, No. 148, Warrington.—The monthly meeting of this old Lodge was held on Monday last, at the Masonic Rooms. The W.M., Bro. W. H. Robinson, was supported by Bros. Thomas Tunstall S.W., Joseph Pickthall J.W., and a large number of members and visitors. The Lodge was opened in form, when the

minutes were read and declared to be correctly recorded. The Lodge was opened in the second, when Bro. Ferguson claimed preferment, and having sustained his claim, was entrusted and retired. The Lodge opened in the third, and Bro. Ferguson was re-admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree, in ample form, by the W.M. On the Lodge being closed down, Bro. John Armstrong S.W. 1250 and Treasurer of No. 148, rose to propose a vote of congratulation to two brethren who had, and were about to have, high Masonic distinction bestowed upon them. They all felt that the Lodge was complimented by these appointments. Bro. Bowes had done much for Masonry in Warrington, his able services, however, were not confined to West Lancashire, for he was as well known in the Northern Province of Cumberland and Westmoreland as in Warrington. He, Bro. Armstrong, had it on the best authority that Bro. Bowes had, for many years, ever been ready to afford help in the North whenever needed, and Lord Bective, M.P., the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, acknowledged the obligations of the Province when he appointed Bro. Bowes Junior Grand Warden, at the great meeting at Kirkby Lonsdale a few weeks since. They one and all congratulated Bro. Bowes on the well merited honour which had been bestowed upon him. Bro. Sharp, P.M., &c., was the other worthy brother upon whom the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale was about to confer a similar honour. Bro. Sharp, while he occupied the chair of K.S., rendered their beautiful ceremonies in a manner they all appreciated, and they congratulated him most sincerely. Bro. Tunstall S.W. seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation. Bros. Bowes and Sharp acknowledged the compliment in suitable terms. Bro. Bowes proposed a vote of congratulation to Bro. James Paterson I.G., on the occasion of his marriage. This was seconded by Bro. J. R. Young S.D., and carried unanimously. The Provincial Grand Lodge Circular having been read, and there being no further business, the Lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren separated in harmony.

Perseverance Royal Arch Chapter, Leith, No. 152.—This Chapter celebrated the Autumnal Equinox Festival on Monday, 25th September. The Chapter being opened in ample form, the meeting proceeded to elect and instal the several office bearers for 1876-77. Principals John Laurie Z., George Hudson H., David Turner J., all re-elected. David Laird Scribe E. and Treasurer, John Neil N., James Reid D.Z., G. A. Laurie 1st Soj., J. W. Sceales 2nd Soj., J. Turner 3rd Soj., T. M. Thomson C., G. M. Davidson D.M., G. J. Laurie Org., J. Whitehead S., Alex. Henderson Janitor. The installation over, Comp. J. Laurie M.E.Z. proposed Companions John Taylor, of Chapter Edinburgh, No. 1, and John Schopp, of Chapter Canongate, Kilwinning, No. 56, for application as honorary members of the Chapter for the interest they had shown to the Chapter and Masonry in general, which was warmly received, for which they returned thanks for the high honour conferred upon them. The Chapter was then closed. The Companions then set down to a most excellent supper, purveyed in grand style by Comp. J. Whitehead, Steward to the Chapter. Comp. J. Laurie M.E.Z. occupied the chair, Comp. G. A. Laurie, croupier. Having done ample justice to the viands set on the table, which were all that could be desired, the usual loyal and Masonic complimentary toasts were given from the chair, and duly responded to, they being interspersed with songs and instrumental music, given by the members of the Chapter. Too much praise could not be given to Comp. Fischer for his excellent performance on the guitar. The several glees, given by Comps. Johnston, Say, Gardner and Laurie, were given with much spirit and taste, and warmly received. Comp. G. J. Laurie, Organist to the Chapter, to whom a great deal of the evening's enjoyment depended, presided at the piano in his usual masterly style. The company broke up, at a late hour, after spending a most pleasant evening, with "Sorry to part, but happy to meet again."

Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, No. 174.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting at Bro. Seaton's, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., last Monday evening. Present—Bros. Salmonese W.M., Hawthorne S.W., Brown J.W., W. Fraser S.D., Hilliard J.D., Hewlett I.G., Crawley P.M. Preceptor. The Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the first ceremony, Bro. Berry being the candidate. Bro. Webb worked the fifth section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The S.W. was elected to officiate as W.M. at the next meeting. On the proposition of Bro. Browne, seconded by P.M. Crawley, Bro. Larg 1607 was elected a member. There were also present Bros. Ellis Hon. Sec., Baxter, Burrell, Horsley, Newton, Stead, &c. The Lodge was closed in due form, and adjourned until Monday evening, the 2nd October.

Caledonian of Unity Chapter, No. 73.—This Chapter held its Election Meeting on Monday, 25th inst., at 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow. Comp. G. W. Wheeler Z. opened a Lodge of excellent Masters at 7 p.m., with Comps. Wm. Hoy and Fred. Jenkinson as S. and J.W., when he advanced to the degree Bro. Wm. Pitt. The Chapter was then opened. Comps. D. Gilchrist P.Z. as H., J. Kinaird J., when the same gentleman was duly exalted as a R.A. Mason. The election was then proceeded with: Comps. G. W. Wheeler Z. (re-elected 3rd time), J. Kinaird H., W. Gunn J., J. Balfour S.E. (re-elected), T. Youlle S.N., John Dannerman (re-elected 3rd time), Wm. Hoy 1st S., Fred. Jenkinson 2nd S., David Broadfoot 3rd S., Angus Nicholson 1st Captain of the Vails, Wm. Jamieson Janitor. The members of Chapter 50 were then introduced, and Comp. J. Miller Z. said that, in accordance with an invitation from Comp. Wheeler, they had attended to have their Officers installed along with those of 73. Comp. Wheeler expressed the pleasure he felt in being able to meet these friends of Chapter 50, and as Comp. J. Duthie Z. of 67 was present, he would ask him to kindly instal the officers of both Chapters. Comp. Duthie as Z., assisted by Comps. E. C. D. Gilchrist and G. M. Donald, both P.Z.'s of 73, then installed the Comps. above named for 73, and the following

as the officers of No. 50, viz.:—Comps. Wm. Bell I.P.M. St. Johns 34 Z., James Lonttit R.W.M. 418 H., Colin McKenzie J., Morrison S.E. (re-elected), D. Leeds S.N., P. Agnew T. (re-elected), A. Holms 1st S., J. Wright 2nd, J. Barkie 3rd, and R. Gardner Janitor. The Comps. of the two Chapters then adjourned for refreshment, and were presided over by Comp. Wheeler, who, after the usual loyal toasts, proposed the Provincial Grand Chapter of Lanarkshire. Comp. James Balfour 1st P.G.S. replied on behalf of the Provincial Chapter. He then proposed the Oldest Chapter in the Province, highly eulogising the character of her new Z., arguing that from the excellent way in which he had filled the chair of St. John's Lodge, that he would make an equally good Z. Comp. Bell said he was afraid he should often want to come to his friends Balfour and Wheeler for advice and assistance, before he could efficiently fill the chair. The chairman then gave the Cathedral Chapter 67, to which Comp. J. Duthie as Z. replied. Comp. Bell proposed the Chairman; he did not wonder at the prosperity of 73, as it was so well officered. Comp. Wheeler said the success was attributable to his officers rather than to his own efforts. He then gave the Other Newly Elected Officers, which was acknowledged by J. Lonttit H. of 50. The final toast wound up a pleasant meeting.

Robert Burns Chapter, No. 143.—The annual meeting of this flourishing Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Holytown, on Saturday, 23rd September. Comp. H. J. Shields 33° Z. presiding, supported by Comps. D. Baker H., A. Laird J., Wm. McMurdo as E., and J. Menzies 1st S. After the election, Comp. Shields, assisted by Comp. McMurdo I.P.Z., proceeded to instal the following Comps: D. Baker Z., J. Nemmo H., R. Reid J., Wm. McMurdo S.E., R. R. McKay S.N., Henry Dyer T., J. Menzies 1st S., Jas. Kesley 2nd, Wm. Lochron 3rd, and J. Mason Janitor.

The Royal Ark Mariners' Lodge in connection with this Chapter was then opened, and Comp. Wm. McMurdo was unanimously chosen as Commander N., with the assistance of Comps. C. Meek and R. McKay. There being no further business, the Lodge was again moored in safety by her new Commander.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—The members met as usual on Wednesday last, at the Masons' Hall Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. W. H. G. Rudderforth, who was assisted by the following members:—Sayer S.W., G. Corner J.W., Staley S.D., Hollands J.D., I. T. Miller I.G., Bone Steward. The W.M. opened the Lodge punctually at 7, and proceeded with the rehearsal of the third degree, combining the traditional history. We have seldom heard the duty performed with greater ability, clearness, or precision. Bro. Croaker acted as candidate. The Lodge was closed down to first, and called off. Upon business being resumed, Bro. Sayer was elected Master for the ensuing week, and promised that the brethren appointed to office should not lose their position on the following Lodge night through their unavoidable absence this evening. The following brethren were also present:—Bros. W. D. Bayley, J. Constable, J. K. Pitt, Turquand, Abell, Biddell, Bone, Ockenden, Bagg, Colmer, Craske, Fenner, Gomm, Smith, Christopher (Tyler).

Star Lodge, No. 219.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Monday, the 25th inst. The R.W.M. Bro. John Morgan, in that excellent way in which he performs all the ceremonies, wrought the 1st and 2nd degrees.

A new Lodge for Polmadie.—At the meeting of the Renfrewshire East Provincial Grand Lodge, on Saturday last, a deputation appeared and presented a petition, numerously signed, asking the sanction of the Lodge to form a new Lodge of Freemasons at Polmadie, near Glasgow. The petition received unanimous support, and was signed in the usual way by the P.G.M., Colonel Campbell.

St. Andrew Royal Arch (Bonhill and Alexandria), No. 321.—PRESENTATION.—The regular quarterly meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, 22nd inst. The Lodge having been called from labour to refreshment, Bro. J. Stewart, R.W.M., in a neat speech presented Bro. Andrew M'Lintock, Treasurer, with a handsome silver snuff box and a purse of sovereigns. Bro. M'Lintock having feelingly replied, a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Dramatic Lodge, No. 571.—This Lodge held an emergency meeting on Saturday, the 23rd inst. In the absence, from the city, of the R.W.M., the chair was taken by Bro. Phillips, and two candidates were very carefully initiated.

Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 780.—Amongst those of our Lodges which stand foremost in rank as regards the numerical strength of its members, this one holds a conspicuous place. On its roll are brethren who have made their mark in the Masonic world, and its meetings are invariably well attended. Friday, the 22nd inst. was appointed for the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing twelve months, and, as a consequence, a large contingent assembled at the hostelry of our brother who so ably conducts the "Star and Garter" at Kew Bridge. The chair was occupied by the W.M., Brother Gardiner, who was supported by his officers—Bros. J. Chambers Roe S.W., Cuzner J.W., W. Goss S.D., Smith Treasurer, Hilton Secretary, W. Gomm I.G., Gilbert Tyler. Amongst those present as visitors we may enumerate Bros. W. Steward W.M. 1351, C. J. Livett W.M. elect 1351, R. Walker 382, W. F. Savage 1425, Clench 511, Webb 834, E. Arrowsmith 783, C. Palmer 1503, G. W. Dixon 209, J. T. Craven

342, H. Craven 342, Fras. Williams, A. Warpell 1351, W. W. Morgan 1385, T. W. Clarke 177, H. Parker 34, Simpson P.M. 180, Henry Cole 862, Kellway, Past Provincial Grand Warden Somerset, &c., &c. For an Installation Meeting the agenda paper was a heavy one, and the proceedings of the day commenced with the formal opening of the Lodge, and the reading of the minutes of last meeting, which were duly confirmed. The next business was the raising of Bros. Benjamin E. Blasby and Richard Edward Cundall. Bros. Henry Morris and Ludolph Franckel were then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Bro. Past Master Smith then took the chair, and Bro. Chambers Roe was introduced as the W.M. elect. The ceremony of Installation was ably performed, Bro. Smith receiving the congratulations of all present for the perfect way in which he conducted the proceedings. The appointment of officers for the year resulted as follows:—Bros. Cuzner S.W., Goss J.W., Smith Treasurer, Hilton Secretary, C. F. May S.D., Gomm J.D., Darcey I.G., Metcalfe D.C., Gilbert Tyler (elected for the eleventh time). After the several charges had been given, the new W.M. directed that the ballot should be taken for Mr. John Milross, which being unanimous, that gentleman was introduced and initiated into our mysteries. Bro. Roe conducted the ceremony, and gave an earnest that the choice made by the brethren had fallen on one who was competent to fulfil the duties of his office. After the reading of several communications, the W.M. announced that it was his intention to act as a Steward at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and remarked that doubtless some other brethren would intimate their willingness to serve as Stewards for the other Charities. This brought a response from Bro. W. Gardiner, who said he would serve as Steward for the Girls' School, whereupon Bro. P.M. Smith reminded him that he had acted for the Girls at the last Festival, and suggested he should give the Boys a turn. This request was cordially assented to by Bro. Gardiner, and it was carried, on the motion of Bro. Smith, seconded by Bro. P.M. Beasley, that a sum of ten guineas be voted from the funds of the Lodge,—which had been shown by the auditor's report, previously confirmed, to be in an eminently satisfactory condition,—to each of these Institutions, the amounts to be placed on the respective Stewards' Lists. Ten guineas were also voted for the Girls School, for which Institution the Lodge will nominate a Steward, according to its annual custom. A candidate for initiation at the next meeting was then proposed, and the Lodge afterwards closed. After a brief adjournment a capital banquet was served, every detail reflecting the greatest credit upon Bro. J. H. Stanbury and his staff of assistants. After ample justice had been done by all present, the cloth was removed, and Bro. Chambers Roe, who presided, proceeded with the toasts. The health of Her Majesty was enthusiastically received, and in speaking to that of the M.W. the G.M., Bro. Roe said that the Prince, it was well known, was proud of his connection with the Craft, and sincerely had the welfare of the Fraternity at heart. The health of the Pro Grand Master was given, followed by that of the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, past and present. With this was coupled the name of Bro. Smith P.M., who, in replying, congratulated the W.M. on his obtaining the exalted position he held that evening, which he (Bro. Smith) said must be exceedingly gratifying. Bro. Gardiner I.P.M. proposed the health of the new Master. He was sure that all the brethren could wish or anticipate would be fulfilled by the brother they had selected, who possessed the much-to-be-desired qualification of good temper, coupled with firmness and decision of character. Bro. Chambers Roe thanked Bro. Gardiner and the members of the Lodge for the kind expression of feeling displayed. He would always endeavour to do his duty fairly and fearlessly; by a conscientious discharge of the trust reposed in him, he trusted his efforts would meet with the approval of the brethren. The next toast was the Initiate, the Chairman remarking that though the Royal Alfred was a large Lodge, it was necessary that new blood should be introduced from time to time. He was sure, in Bro. Milross, they had a brother who would be a credit to them. Bro. Milross briefly replied. Bro. P.M. Beasley here favoured the company with "Believe me if all those endearing young charms," which he sang in a pleasing and effective manner. The Prov. Grand Officers, next given, was responded to by Bro. G. W. Dixon (Berks and Bucks) and by Bro. Craven (Province of Hampshire). The W.M. gave the P.M.'s, and presented, on behalf of the Lodge, a jewel to Bro. W. Gardiner I.P.M., who, in the course of his remarks acknowledging the same, said it would always be gratifying to his family to know that he had met with so substantial an acknowledgment from the brethren, and concluded by a reference to his successor, who he was proud to see so cordially welcomed. "The Officers," brought forth a reply from Bro. Cuzner, who thanked Bro. Roe for the confidence he had displayed in placing him in the chair he had the honour to fill. Before closing our remarks, we may say a word for Bro. Stanbury. The dinner and dessert he provided (though charged at a price small by comparison with that of many establishments we could mention) was admirably served, and when we say that not a "grumble" was to be heard from the large assembly, we feel justified in paying him this small compliment. A call for the Tyler concluded a most pleasant evening's proceedings.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 880.—Held at Bro. Allen's, "Royal Edward," Triangle, Hackney. The weekly meeting of the above Lodge was held on Tuesday, 26th September. Bros. Wallington W.M., W. J. Smith S.W., Brown 1227 J.W., Perrin S.D., Worsley J.D., Dallas I.G., Worsley Secretary; P.M. Bro. Horsley (Preceptor); also Bros. Christian, Hogarth, Foliot, Skelton, Morgan, Barker, Brown 1607, Perry, &c. The minutes of the last Lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was impressively rehearsed, Bro. Brown, S.W. of Lodge 1607, acting as candidate. Bro. Horsley worked the 1st and 3rd Sections of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed down to the 1st. Bro. Morgan announced that he had seen a proof section of Bro. Harty's Installation Picture, and reminded the brethren that if

they, or any of their friends, were present at the Albert Hall, and had not yet forwarded their photographs, the time for receiving the same was becoming very short. Bro. Morgan further explained the arrangement made by Bro. Harty with Bro. Haigh, whereby the latter brother would take (free of charge) the portraits of those who were entitled to be represented in this great Historical Engraving. In concluding his remarks, Bro. Morgan complimented the members of this Lodge of Instruction on the dignified way in which their proceedings were conducted. Bro. W. J. Smith was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation, all Masonic business being ended, the Lodge closed in perfect harmony. We would remind our readers that this excellent Lodge of Instruction will work the 15 Sections on Tuesday, 24th October, on which occasion it is anticipated there will be a good attendance.

Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871.—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, the 21st, at the White Hart Hotel, 217 High Street, Deptford. Present—Bros. H. J. Tuson W.M., J. J. Pakes S.W., F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, G. Andrews, P.M., D.C., H. J. Fisher Organist, J. G. Vohmann I.G., H. W. F. Fellows, F. H. Burr, W. O. Lochhead, W. Simmonds, E. James, R. Mason, W. H. Truelove, J. G. Thomas, W. Abbott, W. White, A. Macers, G. Eve, L. Michaels, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Bros. W. White, L. Michaels, and W. Abbott were passed to the second degree. Messrs. Gustav Wildermuth, J. Buchele and Joel Davis were balloted for and duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. G. Andrews P.M. gave the Lecture on the tracing board in the second degree, also the ancient charge in the first degree, which was listened to with great attention. There being no other business, the Lodge was closed until the hour of 5 on Thursday, the 26th of October. There being no banquet or refreshment the brethren separated. Among the Visitors were Bros. G. H. Kitson 548, D. Smith 1326, &c.

Clapton Lodge, No. 1365.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, the 21st instant, at the White Hart Hotel, Clapton. Bro. R. Wyatt W.M. in the chair, supported by Bros. W. Stephens P.M. as S.W., G. Soper J.W., and a very numerous attendance of brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and after the confirmation of the minutes of the election meeting were confirmed. A board of Installed Masters was formed, Bro. G. Soper J.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge, and duly installed into the chair by the retiring W.M., Bro. Wyatt, who very perfectly and impressively rendered the ceremony. The newly installed W.M. invested his Officers, J. Badkin S.W., T. Cozens J.W., J. Sims S.D., McMillan J.D., Finch I.G., Miles Treasurer, and Lutwyche Secretary. After some business, the Lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by the worthy host. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, these were enthusiastically received. The toast of the W.M. was eloquently responded to. With the health of the P.M. was coupled the name of Bro. Wyatt I.P.M., who was complimented on his discharge of the duties of the chair, and presented, in the name of the Lodge, with a very elegant Past Master's Jewel. The toast of the Masonic Charities found an able exponent in Bro. W. Stephens P.M. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by each one present. The Tyler's brought the meeting to a close. The visitors were Bros. Vine P.M. 173, Murlis W.M. 1489, Somers W.M. 1602, Cusworth S.W. 813, Hobbs S.W. 749, Felton S.W. 1613, H. J. Felton 1056, Herold 1056, Cochrane 1056, Papineau 9, Withers 299, Verdon 188, Allen 733, Keart 813, Green 861, Perrin 765, Glaskin 569 and 1489, Humphreys 1364, Hawthorn 1489, Collier 1314, &c.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—This Lodge held its weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 27th September, at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston. Bros. Henry Meyer W.M., Hill S.W., Dignam J.W., Robinson S.D., Brown J.D., O. Dietrich I.G. Bros. Fieldwick Preceptor; Gilchrist, J. B. Shackleton, E. Dietrich, Hewlett, Baber, Ferrar and Marsh. The Lodge was opened with solemn prayer, minutes were confirmed, initiation ceremony rehearsed, Bro. Baber as candidate. Lodge opened in the second degree, and Bro. E. Dietrich answered the usual questions. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. The 1st and 2nd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Hewlett, assisted by the brethren. A brother hailing from St. Davids in the East, Calcutta (371), Scotch Constitution, applied to the Lodge for assistance, and was relieved. The 3rd and 4th sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Gilchrist, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Hill was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Nothing else offering the Lodge was closed, and adjourned to Wednesday next at 8 p.m.

Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540.—An emergency meeting of this Lodge was held on the 22nd inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Bros. T. J. Sabine P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex W.M., J. C. Mason S.W. and W.M. elect, E. S. Stidolph J.W., Rev. H. J. Hatch Chaplain, F. Walters P.G.J.D. Middlesex P.M. Secretary, G. H. Wright as S.D., C. W. Hudson J.D., H. Faija C.E. I.G., A. J. Hawkes D.C.; C. J. Sparks, W. Klinkenstein, C. Graham, H. Levy, H. Blackwell, R. J. Harrison, R. H. Willats, &c. The Lodge was opened, and Bro. G. Newman was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Paul Levy, W. M. Phillips, T. Harding and C. Winstanley were passed Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., initiated his two friends, Messrs. C. S. Hodges and W. Carter, into the Order. The work throughout was excellently rendered. Pursuant to a notice of motion given by Bro. T. J. H. Wilkins, the sum of twenty guineas was unanimously voted to Bro. T. J. Sabine, in recognition of his valuable services as the 1st W.M. and one of the founders, and it is expected this amount will be augmented by the brethren. The

Lodge was then closed until the 21st October. The visitors were Bros. L. Van Boelen, L. Beek S.D. 1559, L. Alexander P.M. 188, C. H. McKay 97, W. Burmeister, Brady 20, W. Downing P.M., J. Blum W.M. 1017, E. G. Rushworth W.M. 1309, W. T. Lover W.M. elect 1178, and others.

Great City Lodge of Instruction.—The members of this important Lodge met at 111 Cheapside, on Thursday, the 28th inst., at 6.30 p.m. The Lodge having been opened, a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Seex, W.M. elect of "The Great City Lodge," proceeded with the ceremony of installation, and inducted Bro. James Stevens P.M. 1426 into the chair of K.S. It need hardly be stated that Bro. Seex performed his difficult task with great ability, and in a manner alike creditable to himself and to the distinguished Lodge over which he is called to reign during the next 12 months. Bro. Stevens then invested his officers:—Bros. S. Browne S.W., A. Goodman J.W., W. Parker S.D., W. H. C. Wiltshire J.D., J. K. Pitt I.G., J. W. Colmer Treasurer. In accordance with previous announcement, Bro. Stevens gave a complete explanation of the tracing board of the first degree, to the great edification and delight of the brethren present. On the motion of Bro. Taylor, W.M. of the Doric, No. 933, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Seex. Bro. Seex, in response, said he felt he had been highly honoured in having been called upon to work the ceremony he had performed in such an important Lodge as this. A vote of thanks to Bro. Stevens, proposed by Bro. Poore Preceptor, and seconded by Bro. Colmer Treasurer, was carried with acclamation. Bro. Stevens, in reply, said he considered it a duty to impart what knowledge he possessed, and in doing so it always afforded him the greatest pleasure. No greater compliment could be paid to him at any time by members of the Craft than by requesting his services. Bro. Taylor, W.M. 933, was elected a joining member. We noticed the following brethren present—Bros. Constable, Blackie, W. W. Morgan jun., Noehmer, McMurray, &c.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, at the "Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Haggerston, Bro. Thomas Charles Chapman P.G.S. Herts, W.M., presiding. There were present Bros. Henry Meyer acting S.W., J. B. Shackleton J.W., Bernard Meyer Treasurer, W. H. Lee P.M. Secretary, James Symes S.D., Neville Green J.D., W. H. Brand I.G., and Gilchrist Tyler. The appearance of the Lodge, which was draped in black, out of respect to the late Bros. Lister and Alford, caused a sense of gloom to prevail among all present. The business of the evening included a ballot for Bro. J. L. Payne, joining member,—elected; the raising of Bro. Dietrich, the passing of Bro. Lorkin, and the election and initiation of Messrs. Rudolf Polak, James Hill, Geo. Alfred McGregor Stevenson, and John Stokes. The several ceremonies were very carefully performed. Towards the end the W.M. displayed a little nervousness, not, however, to be attributed to any want of skill or ability, but to the presence of one or more shining lights in Masonry. Bro. Lee then formally announced the death of Bros. Lister S.W. and Alford. The former was initiated in the Gresham Lodge, and had taken a very prominent part in the establishment of a Lodge of Instruction, now known as the Duke of Connaught, from which this Lodge originated. Brother Lister had filled the office of J.W., and was present in his place as S.W. at the last meeting. By his death the Lodge had lost one of its best and most active members, and his widow and children are now deploring the loss of a kind husband and father. Bro. Lee accordingly moved a resolution of condolence with the late Bro. Lister's family. Bro. J. B. Shackleton most warmly seconded the same, while Bro. Chapman added his tribute of regret at the death of so valuable a member, who had always been distinguished for his honourable and straightforward conduct. Bro. Symes then expressed his sorrow for the lamented death of Bro. Alford, and moved a similar resolution of condolence with his sorrowing relatives, the duty being especially painful to him from long association with the deceased brother, to whose merits he felt himself quite inadequate to do justice. Bro. Johnson, in seconding this resolution, said that all who had been associated in business with Bro. Alford had looked upon him as a man of the most punctilious honour. It is needless to add that the resolutions were passed *nem con.* The death of the S.W. necessitated, of course, a fresh election, the result being that Bro. Shackleton was appointed S.W., and the Officers in rotation advanced a step, Bro. Symes becoming J.W., Bro. Green S.D., and Bro. Brand J.D., while Bro. Meyer was appointed I.G., and Bro. Johnson D.C. The Lodge was then closed, and the usual repast followed. On the removal of the cloth, the regular toasts were given, and very enthusiastically received. The health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. Lee. That of the Visitors was suitably acknowledged: The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant evening, in perfect harmony. Among the visitors present were Bros. Pinder W.M. 15, G. C. Young 820, Oscar Dietrich (from a Geneva Lodge), W. E. Gompertz P.M. 869, and W. W. Morgan 1385.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS. OCTOBER ELECTION, 1876.

The favour of the Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers is earnestly solicited on behalf of

EDWIN HAIR,
AGED 8 YEARS AND 9 MONTHS,

SON of the late Bro. JOHN ATKINSON HAIR, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who died very suddenly, 24th June 1876, of heart disease, age 39 years; leaving a widow, one daughter, and two sons entirely dependent on the kindness of an old and warmly attached Masonic friend, the Petitioner, Bro. George Thompson.

Bro. John A. Hair was initiated in the St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481, Newcastle, in 1863, and was twice elected the Worshipful Master of that Lodge, to which he continued to be a subscribing member, as well as to three other Lodges of the Province, until the time of his death; he was also P.P.G.J.W. of Northumberland. He was exalted in the St. Peter's Chapter, and in due time was elected First Principal thereof. He was also a member in the Royal Kent Encampment of Knight Templars, W.M. of the Northumberland and Berwick Lodge of Mark Masters, and P.P.G.S.D. of M.M.

The case is strongly recommended by the following brethren, any of whom will be glad to receive Proxies:

The Rt. Hon. EARL PERCY, R.W. Prov. G.M. Northumberland, Alnwick Castle, Northumberland.

L. M. COCKCROFT, Esq., V.W. Dept. Prov. G.M., Northumberland, Bank Chambers, Mosley Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Bro. J. THOMPSON, P. Prov. G.S.W., Prov. G. Sec. Northumberland, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne. JOHN HOPPER, P.P.G.S.W., Lombard Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

E. D. DAVIS, P.P.G.S.W., Prov. G.D.O. Eldon Square, Newcastle.

Bro. H. M. LEVY, P.M., 188, P.Z. 188, 24 Southampton Row, Holborn, London.

E. P. ALBERT, P.M., 1017, G. Pursv., 68 Berners Street, London.

HUBERT LAWS, P.P.G.S.W., Secretary to the Charities' Committee, Prov. of Northumberland, Grainger St., Newcastle.

T. W. WHITE, P.G. St. B., P.M. 21, 6 Barnsbury Square, London, N.

T. Y. STRACHAN, P.P.G.J.W., Grainger Street West, Newcastle.

O. J. BANISTER, P.G. Sd. B., Summer Hill House, Horton Road, Bradford, Yorkshire.

Lt.-Col. ADDISON POTTER, P.P.G.J.W., Heaton Hall, Newcastle.

Geo. THOMPSON, P.P.G.S.W., 94 Rye Hill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS, OCTOBER ELECTION, 1876.

The Votes and Interest of the Governors and Subscribers are earnestly solicited on behalf of

WILLIAM BECK,

SON of the late Brother DAVID DAVISON BECK, of Greenwich, P.M. 186 and 1306. The Father was a Contractor, but owing to losses in Trade and illness left a Widow and Five Children totally unprovided for. The Creditors taking everything.

The Case is strongly recommended by the following Brethren:

Bro. JAMES BRETT, P.G.P., 14 Sidney-road, Homerton

" C. A. COTTEBRUNE, P.G.P., 29 Dean-street, Soho

" JOHN BOYD, P.G.D., Jermyn-st., St. James's

" GEORGE KELLY, P.G.S., P.M. 46 and 63, King-st., Westminster

" E. J. PAGE, V.P., P.G.S., P.M., 23, 860, and 1331, 118 Kennington-park-road

" W. L. HOLT, P.G.S., W.M., No. 5, 9 Victoria-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.

" J. R. STACEY, P.M., 180, 13 Gibson-square, N.

" JAMES LEWIS THOMAS, P.M., 142, 492, 1323, and 1415, 28 Gloucester-street, Pimlico, S.W.

" EDWARD CLARK, P.M., 1194 and 1323, 19 Buckingham-st., Strand

" H. A. COLLINGTON, P.M. 79, 140, 871, 1320, 1 Edward-street, Greenwich

Bro. A. J. BROWN, late 79, 55 Trafalgar-road, Greenwich

" S. WEBB, P.M. 198 and 1287, Oxford-street

" W. BARTLETT, P.M. 186 and 1306, 6 Tottenham-court-road

" J. E. WYLLIE, P.M. 186, 33, Chapel-st., Grosvenor-square

" W. MANN, V.P.W.M. 1306, P.M. 144, 186, 1306 and 1331, 5 Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, S.W.

" T. S. MORTLOCK, P.M. 186, "Tredegar Arms," Lichfield-street, Bow-road

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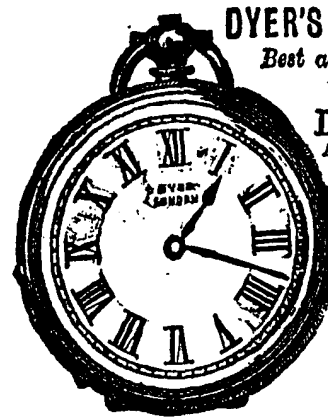
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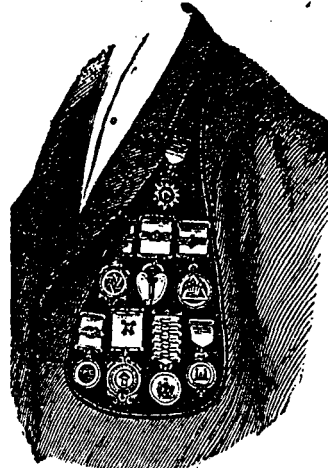
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