

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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PLACES OF MEETING.

WE fully recognise the propriety of the motion made and carried in the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, on Monday evening, to the effect that Lodges should hold their meetings in buildings specially erected for Masonic purposes. For this reason is it we have noted, with so much pleasure, the various schemes which have latterly been proposed, and, in some cases, carried to a successful issue, for the erection of Masonic Halls or Temples. We readily concede that an hotel or a tavern is not the place for a Lodge to hold its assemblies. It is certainly not creditable that a Lodge should be driven to seek its home at the Dun Cow, or the Pig and Bandbox; and if the Lodge funds permit it, we think it desirable that appropriate premises should be obtained in some private building. And, as our Lodges rarely hold more than one meeting in the month, it appears to us that if a number of them, say half a score, or a dozen, combined together and agreed to pay the rental amongst them, it would be quite possible to obtain the needful accommodation. Unfortunately, though all this seems plain sailing enough, there are several contingencies to be surmounted before a change so desirable in all respects can be effected. Firstly, we must find the ten or dozen Lodges located sufficiently near to each other to make the use, in common, of one suite of rooms a matter of convenience. Then, having found a sufficient number of Lodges conveniently situated, we must next look for the requisite accommodation, and this, we fear, it will not be possible, or at all events easy, to find, and especially in the metropolis. Overlooking, for the moment, certain essential *desiderata*, which our readers will well understand without our specifying them more fully, there must certainly be experienced some difficulty in procuring premises large enough to accommodate say, thirty or forty members. Having, however, found the needful premises, there must then arise the question of rental, which is invariably reckoned at a high figure where it is needed for some special purpose. An artist's studio, for instance, will always command a good price, and so a room where a Masonic Lodge might be conveniently held would doubtless be charged for at a high rate. We will, however, assume that the number of Lodges conveniently situate near each other—that is, of course, whose members for the most part reside in the same neighbourhood—have been found, and that the suitable premises for holding their assemblies have been obtained at something like a reasonable charge, the next question of importance is, how and whence shall the Lodges obtain the needful provision for a dinner, supper, or banquet, as the case may be. We are not of the number of those who attach supreme importance to the working of the fourth degree, but in Masonry we are presumed to practise towards one another good fellowship. Among the means to this end which the wisdom of man has provided, even from the remotest ages of antiquity, none have proved themselves so successful as the quiet social gatherings at which people refresh themselves more or less formally, frugally, or elaborately. When the members of a Lodge have assembled together from different districts, or in the case under consideration from different parts of the same district, and have carefully and conscientiously fulfilled the duties of the Lodge, it is by no means unreasonable they should expect to have some refreshment—it may be even a banquet, in honour of some particular occasion, such as the installation of a new Master, or the presentation of a testimonial to some worthy

brother. The question then arises—where shall this needful refreshment be had, in the Lodge Room, or in a convenient room hard by? If in the former, it must be brought at additional expense, and this will doubtless be reckoned in calculating the rental to be paid; if in the latter, the brethren will most likely require to be served in a room that is capable of being tyled as well as of holding a fair number of guests. Thus either two convenient rooms must be found in the same locality, and pretty close to each other, or the Lodge premises must be settled near a respectable *restaurant*, who will cater for the Lodges at moderate charges. Now, we ask our readers, Will our Lodges take the necessary steps to secure the execution of all the set plans and arrangements? It is easy enough for our Lodges who meet at Freemasons' Hall to have their simple repast, or elaborate banquet provided for them: all the necessary conveniences are at hand; but it is impossible that all our Lodges should meet at the Hall. As a matter of fact, about one-fifth of the London Lodges meet there, and we imagine any very considerable increase in this number would not be possible. In the Metropolis space is valuable, and building costly, so that we do not see how all its Lodges are to be accommodated, except recourse is had to taverns and hotels. We should very much like to see all our Lodges well and privately housed, but we do not think this is possible under existing circumstances; at all events, until a number of Masonic Halls have been erected in the Metropolis, and so located that each may accommodate the Lodges in a particular district or neighbourhood. Till then we must rub along as best we can, contenting ourselves with such arrangements as hotel and tavern-keepers are willing to make for our convenience. The day is far distant when the Freemasons of London will bring themselves to expend £300,000 in the erection and furnishing of a Masonic Temple; and even were this done to-morrow, we yet fail to see where the 250 Lodges, more or less, in the Metropolitan district, would find the requisite accommodation. In the provinces, the problem, Where shall our Lodges hold their meetings? is far easier of solution, in many cases at least; but in London it is not so easy to secure the complete privacy which is so desirable.

AN ERROR OF JUDGMENT.

(Communicated.)

THERE is one matter in connection with the proceedings of the Special Communication of Grand Lodge which, for some reason or other, has hitherto escaped notice. The Pro Grand Master, in moving the adoption of the Report of the Committee of which he was Chairman, did so in his capacity of Chairman, and not as the President of Grand Lodge. This enabled his lordship to advocate the acceptance of the Report, and he did so very fully, not only enlarging on the benefits of the Institution to whose funds it was proposed to contribute, but likewise anticipating any arguments which might be urged in favour of any other proposition, and notably of one on which it was believed that many brethren had set their minds. The Craft will think the Pro Grand Master was right in acting thus. What is the good of being Chairman of a Committee, taking part in its deliberations, and concurring in—it may be at times even suggesting—the proposal that is recommended, if, when the time for submitting it for final adoption arrives,

you are not permitted to utter a word in its favour? Therefore, it is generally held that Lord Carnarvon did no more than he was justified in doing when he advocated the acceptance by Grand Lodge of the Committee's report. But he must pardon some of us for saying that he overstepped the limits of discretion when he urged so forcibly on the brethren present that his proposal should command their unanimous approval. Had this been a mere figure of speech which his lordship adopted in commending his motion to the notice of Grand Lodge, no one would have cared anything. Every one hopes that a proposition of his will obtain universal assent from the Society or body of men to whom it is submitted. But there was something beyond this in the Pro Grand Master's advocacy of this particular proposal. Ordinarily, he remarked, he courted criticism; but on this particular occasion, and in reference to this particular proposition, he was specially anxious that members should forego their own predilections, if they had any, in favour of adopting some other course, in order that Grand Lodge should evince perfect unanimity. There are many who think this was straining the duty of an advocate. The Pro Grand Master could have no reason in supposing that the brethren would not accord to his proposal a generous and, if possible, a unanimous support. Whatever the nature of any proposal he submitted, it would be such as to command respect, if not approval. An opinion is abroad that his lordship would have acted more prudently had he submitted his case simply on its merits, fulfilling, of course, his duty as proposer to the utmost of his great ability, but without going further. All of us are agreed as to the propriety of commemorating this particular event of the Prince's return from India, but not as to the superiority of this or that form of memorial over all other forms. It sometimes happens, when it is found difficult or impossible to reconcile conflicting views, that some one appears on the scene as a kind of *Deus ex Machina*, and suggests a plan which people, finding there is no chance of carrying out their own views, most willingly support. There may have been something of this kind on the present occasion, and Lord Carnarvon may have been the individual who stepped forward at the critical moment, and extricated Grand Lodge from its embarrassment. But this after all is only surmise. When Lord Carnarvon so seriously deprecated all criticism of his project, there had barely been time to learn its nature, much less to discuss its merits. It is only by a critical examination of various plans to fulfil some definite purpose that people can learn which among them is the best, and yet the proposer of this Lifeboat scheme invited unanimity without any previous criticism. This, however, is not so much the ground of this objection. It is to be feared that others may follow the example thus set them, and those others may not be as wise and considerate men as our present Pro Grand Master. The Craft has already had a foretaste of the damage that may be done to a good cause by imprudent advocacy, in the case of Bro. Havers' scheme for a memorial. He, forsooth, must needs press its notice on the acceptance of Grand Lodge, on the ground that it had already obtained the approval of the illustrious personage it most nearly concerned. This, of course, was a great offence against good taste, which no one in his senses would dream of placing in the same category with our Pro Grand Master's excess of zeal for the cause he advocated. But there may be other Havers in the days to come, who may take advantage of the precedent thus established, and urge unduly on the brethren the acceptance of some ill-considered and, perhaps, impracticable scheme. There are many who have said, and still hold, that a gift presented to each of our Charitable Institutions would have been preferable; but all of us will no doubt waive our preference if it turn out the Committee's proposal finds the most favour with Grand Lodge. It is the duty of brethren to criticise the various projects which come under their notice; but when a majority has accepted one of them, then it is the duty of the minority to sacrifice their own predilections, and support it with as much loyalty as though it had emanated from themselves.

[The above has been "communicated" to us for insertion in these columns, as representing the views of certain brethren on a point of some importance. We do not feel justified in refusing the request, but we do not hold ourselves responsible for the views to which the writer has given expression.—ED. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:O:—

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.

—:O:—

HUGHAN'S LIST OF LODGES, A.D. 1734.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am obliged for your fraternal review of my edition of Pine's List of Lodges A.D. 1734, published in the *Masonic Magazine* for November, and since issued separately and for private circulation. Of course, my notes were brief, and intended simply to be explanatory of certain difficult points only. Many of your suggestions are certainly most ingenious, and may yet turn out to be appropriate and accurate, but as yet I have not been able to fit some of them into the positions you intend them to occupy. You are quite correct in hinting that No. 55 was held at the "Rummer," not "Cup," and that "Queen's Head" is more likely to be correct than "Queen Anne." The titles are guesses—in most cases—made by the transcriber, as the "signs" of the houses are engraved side by side with the particulars of the Lodges, and frequently it is not easy to decide exactly what they are intended to represent, many not being so easily interpreted as the "Goose and Gridiron." In the *Masonic Magazine* for January, I shall present to the Craft a list of Lodges printed A.D. 1734, which was copied from Pine's of 1734, and which has the names of the signs in which the Lodges met exactly described, just as many are in the Book of Constitutions, A.D. 1738. The dates of the Lodges held at Hamburg, Boston, and Valenciennes are credited to the year 1733 in the *Book of Constitutions*, but, as I have pointed out before, the foreign Lodges may generally be assumed to be one year earlier of constitution than the English Lodges which immediately follow them, should no dates be assigned to the former. This has been proved to be the case in the three mentioned, so also with No. 79, Philadelphia, and others. Thory was wrong in stating No. 90 was granted A.D. 1729. An examination of the list of 1734 proves that the last Lodge chartered in that year was No. 60. Dr. Oliver, in *Illustrations of Masonry* (a most valuable book), is right in speaking of No. 10 as the Lodge which received the members of "No. 2." That No. 2, however, was in existence A.D. 1734, but was extinct in 1738, so the number three of the former year was the number two of the latter, and hence number eleven of the one period was number ten of the other. You are not correct in assuming it was the three of Rawlinson's and Pine's lists which surrendered its ancient privileges, and joined the "Old Dundee," as it was in reality the then number two which was the original number three of A.D. 1717. The four of 1717 was the three of 1734, the two of 1738 to 1813, and the four again from the "Union" to the present time.

My reason for stating so positively that No. 13 of Pine's list of 1734, and held at London, is the present No. 20 of Chatham is, that the Constitution of 1756 has the following:—"Grapes, Chatham, March 28th, 1723." This agrees with the Lodge in question. There are also other reasons, but probably the foregoing will suffice. I beg also to draw your attention to the fact that, in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for 21st October 1876, an extract is given from the By-Laws of the Prov. G. L. of Kent, in which it is declared that—"it appears by the records of the Grand Lodge that a warrant, bearing date the 28th March 1723, was issued under the seal of Masonry, enabling certain brethren therein named to open and hold a Lodge of Freemasons at the 'Crown,' Cripplegate, London, under, called or known by the number 13 . . . and in the year 1748 the said Lodge was removed to Chatham, in the county of Kent, and by the closing up of the list of Lodges in the year 1756 it became number 10; and which Lodge . . . at the Union . . . became No. 20."

With respect to the "Strong Man Lodge," if it were warranted (as stated in all the lists) A.D. 1734, then it must be the number 128. If it were No. 110, then the warrant was not issued in 1734, but, as the list states, "2nd February 1732-3." If the latter, then it ceased to exist, by the list of 1776, long before the "Union of 1813." I have the "Strong Man" Lodge noted by name in various lists from an early date, but always under the year 1734. There has only been this one Lodge in connection with the year 1734 for very many years. Even in 1776 it was the only 1734 London Lodge, although, at that time, there was one of that same year for Plymouth. In the Constitution of 1738 occurs a London Lodge of 5th November 1734. The dates of the Warrants, unfortunately, are not an absolute test, as in early days they do not appear to have been accurately kept.

No. 35 of Pine's could not be the No. 35 of to-day at Cowes, as the former was chartered in 1724, and the latter in 1731. No. 35 of Pine's was originally held at Portsmouth, and was alive even so late as 1832, being the No. 17 of the "Moderns" at the "Union." The Medina Lodge will doubtless turn out to be at one time a London Lodge, just as with the present No. 20, Chatham.

I have doubtless said enough to satisfy you that I have carefully examined the important and valuable Records and Lists of Lodges at my elbow, before deciding as to the numerical position of any of the many Lodges mentioned in my last publication.

With best wishes, fraternally yours,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN.

[We have referred the above communication to "Our Reviewer" and append the following observations which he has thought it necessary to make]:—

(1) Lodge No. 11 (Pine's and Rawlinson's Lists) now, in Bro. Hughan's opinion, No. 18.—Substantially, Bro. Hughan and myself

agree in some particulars, but he has not read my statement correctly, while I have not been as explicit as I might have been. Permit me to point out that I did not assume "it was the *Three* of Rawlinson's and Pine's Lists which surrendered its ancient privileges and joined the 'Old Dundee.'" My statement was:—"If the facts are as stated by Oliver, this old No. 3," [that is, the old Lodge, No. 3, held at the Apple Tree Tavern, Charles Street, Covent Garden, and the third in order of sequence of the old Time Immemorial Lodges which revived Grand Lodge in 1717], in Rawlinson's and Pine's Lists, No. 11, and, according to Hughan, No. 18 at this present time, voluntarily surrendered," &c., &c. The comma after "No. 3," disjoins it from what follows in sense as well as literally. Bro. Hughan's error, however, is very excusable, nor would he have fallen into it, had I arranged the sentence "This old No. 3, No. 11 in Rawlinson's and Pine's List," &c. &c. In short, Bro. Hughan and I are of the same mind as far as the following. The old "Time Immemorial" Lodge No. 1 of 1717 exists in our present Antiquity, No. 2; the old "Time Immemorial" Lodge, No. 4, held at the Rummer and Grapes Tavern, Channel Row, Westminster, in 1717, and moved in the interim between that year and 1734 to the Horn, Westminster, ranking as No. 3 in Pine's and Rawlinson's Lists, and as No. 2 of 1738-1813, is now our No. 4 "R. Somerset House and Inverness;" while if No. 11 of Pine and Rawlinson 1734 (No. 10 according to Book of Constitution, 1738) is, as Bro. Hughan surmises, our No. 18; and the footnote at pp. 160.1 of Preston's *Illustrations of Masonry* about the members of No. 3 1717, having surrendered their privileges, and become No. 10, in 1738, under a new constitution, though "they wanted it not," is correct; then we have, in our present old Dundee, No. 18, a trace of this "Time Immemorial" Lodge No. 3 (not No. 2, as Bro. Hughan has quoted me), and, as I pointed out, three of the four old Lodges which revived Grand Lodge in 1717 are still in existence—in the case of Antiquity and R. Som. House and Inverness, in their entirety, and retaining all their ancient privileges; and in No. 18, "Old Dundee," under a new Constitution granted 1722-3, which the members of old No. 3 wanted not, and by seeking which they surrendered their ancient privileges. Or, as I put it in my review, "our present Lodges, No. 2, No. 4, and No. 18 are directly traceable to three (Nos. 1, 3, and 4), out of the four old Lodges existing in London in 1717." So far it seems to me that all is tolerably plain sailing between us; but now, in his above communication, Bro. Hughan has made a further statement, respecting which I feel that I must join issue with him. In support of my view I adduce the footnote in Preston already referred to. Bro. Hughan says, "You are not correct in assuming it was the *three* of Rawlinson's and Pine's Lists which surrendered its ancient privileges, and joined the 'Old Dundee'" (this I have just now shown was no assumption of mine), "as it was in reality the then number *two* which was the original number three of A.D. 1717." I will first of all state that the footnote containing the account of the four old Lodges of 1717 must have been written, not by Preston, who died in 1819, or by Oliver, though I found it in his edition of Preston, but by Stephen Jones, a P.M. of Antiquity, to whom was entrusted the publication of the thirteenth edition of the *Illustrations*, which made its appearance in 1821. For in it occur the words "is still extant (in 1820)," that is, the year in which the duty of preparing this 13th Edition was entrusted to Jones. Well, the note says, in brief, old No. 1 is now "Antiquity;" old No. 2, "formerly held at the Crown, in Parker's Lane, Drury Lane, has been extinct above fifty years, by the death of its old members;" old No. 3 is the one which had granted to it a new Constitution in 1722-3, and figures in the Book of Constitutions in 1738 as No. 10. The members of old No. 4 joined "the Somerset House Lodge, which immediately assumed their rank." This is the present No. 4. There is, then, no question as to the present existence of the old Nos. 1 and 4. Now, Bro. Hughan says it was not No. 3 of Pine's and Rawlinson's Lists which surrendered its privileges, but their No. 2. I have said I never made this assertion about Pine's No. 3, and Bro. Hughan must pardon me for thinking he is in error in saying it was Pine's No. 2. The note in Preston says distinctly that it was the Old No. 3 which, in 1722-3, moved to the "Queen's Head, in Knave's Acre," and was the No. 10 in the List of Lodges appended to the Book of Constitutions published in 1738. No. 11 in Pine's List corresponds with this as to place and date, and No. 11 in Rawlinson's as to place, the date 1723 being in this case, I believe, supplied by Bro. Hughan himself. That the No. 11 of 1734 would become, by the demise in the interim of No. 2, No. 10 of 1738, is clear; but how is it possible that No. 2 of Pine could be the old No. 3, while the latter had already merged its existence in No. 11 of the same list? The note says the old No. 3 became the No. 10 of 1738, having in 1722-3 removed to the Queen's Head, Knave's Acre, and taken out a new Constitution. There could not have been one and the same Lodge existing both as No. 2 and No. 11 in the same list. If the note is right, and No. 10 of 1738 is, as Bro. Hughan says, the same with No. 11 of Pine and Rawlinson, then the No. 2 of these latter must be one and the same with the old Time Immemorial No. 2, which in 1717 met "at the Crown in Parker's Lane, Drury Lane," and had been extinct, by the death of its members, above fifty years when the note was written. In such case Pine's and Rawlinson's Lists contained Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (originally No. 4 of 1717) Time Immemorial Lodges, and No. 11, being the one in which the old No. 3 had merged its existence; the 1738 list contained Nos. 1 and 2 (originally No. 4 of 1717), T. I. Lodges, and No. 10 (the No. 11 of 1734 and No. 3 of 1717); and the present roll includes these last three, No. 1 being now No. 2, No. 2 (the old No. 4) being now No. 4, and No. 10 (No. 11 of 1734, and No. 3 of 1717) being now No. 18. In other words, it must be that either Nos. 1, 3 and 4 of the four old Lodges, or Nos. 1, 2 and 4 are at this present time represented by Nos. 2, 4, and 18. In my humble opinion, and taking the note in Preston, and Pine's, Rawlinson's, and the 1738 Lists as the foundation of my belief, it is the former of the two alternatives which is correct, the No. 2 of Pine's List being the old No. 2 of 1717, which became extinct by the deaths of its members between 1734 and 1738.

2. Our present No. 20 R. Kent Lodge of Antiquity, Chatham. I

admit that the excerpt from the bye-laws of the Prov. G.L. of Kent had escaped my observation. However, no harm is done. The suggestion I offered, with a full sense of its "faintness," merely falls to the ground.

3. Pine's No. 35 and our present No. 35 "Medina." I had noted the difference in age between the two, 1724 and 1731 being the years of Constitution affixed respectively. But it occurred to me there might have been a surrender of rank and the issue of a new Constitution, as in the case of old No. 3, referred to above. This, again, however, was merely a suggestion, based on the proximity of Gosport and Cowes, Portsmouth, where, as Bro. Hughan says, Pine's No. 35 was originally held, being also close at hand.

4. The present "Strong Man" Lodge, No. 45. I still incline to the belief that this Lodge is to be connected with Pine's, No. 110, held at the "Ship Coffee House, near the Hermitage Bridge," rather than with No. 128 at the "Duke of Marlborough, Petticoat Lane, White Chapel." I admit that as regards date, our No. 45 agrees with the latter, both being set down as warranted in 1734, the former in Grand Lodge Calendar, the latter in Pine's list. But Oliver's note at p. 44 of *The Revelations of a Square*, is so minute in all its details, which are said to be derived from "the Records of Grand Lodge." The date of the warrant is given as 2nd February, 1734—which, according to the old mode of reckoning would be the year 1733—and this, perhaps, will explain why, in later lists, no other Lodge bearing date 1734 is found; the No. 110, or whatever it may have become in the meantime by the closing-up of Lodges, being reckoned among the 1733 Lodges. I say this, having at this moment no other lists by me for reference. That there is some difficulty about the date is apparent on Oliver's own showing; for while 2nd Feb. 1734, is given in the note, we are told in the text, "the Strong Man Lodge was numbered 68" (query, 98) "in the lists of 1738, 1764, and 1767, and was established according to the former authorities" (which are meant is not clear), "2nd February, 1733, and by the latter, 17th February, 1734." Here, then, are three different dates—namely, 2nd February, 1733, and 17th February, 1734, in the text, and 2nd February, 1734, in the note; to which Bro. Hughan now adds a fourth,—namely, that of Pine's No. 128, warranted 5th November, 1734. The confusion between 2nd February, 1733, and 2nd February, 1734, is, I think, explicable by the old style of reckoning referred to, while in modern times we should be more exact, and fix the date distinctly in 1734, as is done in Grand Lodge Calendar. The date apart, however, Oliver is very exact, as I have said, in his details, and points out how, by successive closings-up of the Lodges, this No. 110 became No. 98 in 1740, No. 68 in 1756, No. 57 in 1770, No. 44 in 1781, and No. 41 in 1792. This was its number at the Union, after which it became No. 61 in 1814, and as Bro. Hughan adds in his "List of Lodges at the Union," No. 53 in 1832, and No. 45 in 1863. An authority in the "Strong Man" Lodge itself ought to be able to determine these points.

[These are the only notes which our Reviewer asks should be appended to Bro. Hughan's letter.—EDITOR FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.]

VISIT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER TO GOSPORT.

From the *Portsmouth Times and Naval Gazette*.

ON Wednesday, the 10th inst., R.W. the Prov. G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight (Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P.) paid a visit to Gosport, for the purpose of consecrating a new Royal Arch Chapter, and also of installing Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill M.A., Prov. G. Chaplain, as W.M. of the Gosport Lodge, No. 903. The double ceremony was anticipated with considerable interest, and in spite of the unfavourable state of the weather there was a numerous attendance.

The first named ceremony commenced at the Star Assembly Room at 2.30 p.m., when the consecrating Principal opened the Chapter, the other chairs being occupied by Comp. W. Hickman as H., and Comp. H. M. Emanuel as J., and among the 1st Principals present were Comps. J. E. Le Feuvre Prov. S.E., M. E. Frost Prov. Grand Treasurer, J. N. Hillman, T. Best, H. Cawte, R. H. C. Ubsdell, Lillywhite, E. S. Main, &c. The other members having entered the Chapter, the consecrating Principal addressed the Comps. on the nature of the meeting. Subsequently, the P.G.S.E., Bro. Le Feuvre, read the petition and charter, and the companions having signified their approval, in response to an enquiry from the presiding Principal, of the Principals named in the charter, an oration on Royal Arch Masonry was delivered by Comp. Main. The D.C. then presented to the presiding Principal the collars and jewels of the new Chapter and the Principals appointed; and the 1st Principal Designate presented the members of the new Chapter. An anthem having been sung, the various other ceremonies connected with the consecration were proceeded with, the several musical portions being admirably carried out by the choir, Comps. J. W. D. Pillow, R. Osborne, F. Feltham, and Winterbottom. The consecrating Principal then dedicated and constituted the Chapter, and this portion of the ceremony was brought to a close by another anthem being sung.

The installation of the three Principals, Comps. John Wallingford as Z., H. Sleeman as H., and G. Felton Lancaster as J., was performed by Comp. E. S. Main P.Z., assisted by Comp. J. Lillywhite Z. 257 as H., and Comp. Hillman P.Z. as J., the ceremony being conducted in an admirable manner.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the following were invested as officers of the new Chapter:—Comps. E. S. Main I.P.Z., Pago S.E., J. Wilson N., Rev. E. B. C. Churchill P. Soj., Robinson and Long Assistant Sojs. The officers having been addressed by Comp. Main, Comp. Whitcomb was elected Treasurer, and several new members

and joining members were proposed, after which the Chapter was closed. Among those present, in addition to the members already mentioned, were Comps. E. G. Holbrook P.Z. 309, G. A. Green J. 309, Malby H. 487, Harrison J. 804, De Fraine H. 257, Leigh Bailey S.E. 257, Winterbottom 257, J. Craven H. 342, A. Riddell J. 342, W. Payne S.E. 342, R. Newland N. 342, Simister, R. Barber, Turney, Norris, and G. Gunnell of 342, E. Groves, G. Bond, Palsgrave, Le Messurier, and Gamblen of 487, Morine, Hillier, Powell, Biggs and Exell P.G. Jan., and many others. We should mention that the Assembly Rooms had been prepared for the ceremony in a most elaborate manner, the walls being tastefully decorated with various flags, while beneath the canopy over the first Principal's seat on the raised dais was a handsome Prince of Wales's banner. Flowering plants (kindly lent by Messrs. Legg and Son, of Gosport) were also placed in various parts of the hall.

The ceremony of installing the W.M. of the Gosport Lodge was commenced at five p.m., when the brethren present had an opportunity of noting the highly impressive and effective manner in which the sublime ritual of the craft was rendered by the Prov. G.M. At the conclusion of the ceremony a vote of thanks to the G.M., proposed by the W.M., and seconded by the I.P.M., was carried with great heartiness. The P.G.M., in reply, expressed the gratification which he experienced from the continued progress of the Lodge, and from the selection of W.M. which had been made, adding that he should not have selected him as Prov. G. Chaplain had he not known that he was a good and skilful Mason. Referring to the consecration of the Chapter, the P.G.M. said it was an era in Masonry when a Lodge was sufficiently powerful to be enabled to have a Chapter attached to it. He did not recommend young Masons to be in a hurry to join a Chapter, merely to take a higher degree in Masonry, but he would venture to counsel them to make themselves well acquainted with the duties and principles inculcated in the degrees which they had already passed, before seeking admission to a higher degree. He made these remarks in order that brethren might not think it incumbent upon them to proceed to take the Royal Arch degree the moment they were entitled to do so, without due reflection and a desire really to advance themselves in Freemasonry, and at the same time with a determination to adhere to the principles of the Order by every means in their power. If that was their resolve the higher degree would give them an opportunity of acquiring more knowledge, and more extended means of practising what they had learned. It was resolved to give a donation of £20 to the male fund of the Masonic Benevolent Institution, by which the Lodge will become a vice-president, which position it holds in the two other Charities of the craft. Bro. E. G. Holbrook mentioned that he had undertaken to fill the office of Steward at the next Festival of the Boys' School, and made an appeal for support, either from the Lodge or from members, Bro. G. F. Lancaster also mentioned that he was a Steward for the Benevolent Festival, and indulged in the hope that that Charity might not be forgotten. A Past Master's jewel, which had been voted by the Lodge, was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. J. Maling, by the W.M., who, amidst the acclamations of the brethren, referred to the assiduity and zeal with which his predecessor had discharged his duties. The W.M. appointed the officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. Maling I.P.M., W. Hillier S.W., V. Brown J.W., C. B. Whitcomb Treasurer, R. W. Mitchell Hon. Secretary, E. Percy Thompson S.D., G. Grant J.D., R.W. Downing I.G., S. W. Misselbrook Org., J. W. Warden D.C., Irons and Perryman Stewards, Cauvin and Vinnicombe Tylers. There was even a more numerous attendance at the Lodge than at the Chapter, the unusually large number of 35 installed Masters being present at the W.M.'s installation, viz.—Bros. Beach P.G.M., W. Hickman D.P.G.M., Captain Best P.G.S.W., F. Pineo P.G.J.W., M. E. Frost P.G. Treasurer, J. E. Le Feuvre P.G. Secretary, E. G. Holbrook P.G. Reg., H. M. Emanuel P.P.G.W., H. Cawtie P.P.G.W., Wallingford P.P.G.W., J. Lillywhite P.P.G.R., De Fraine P.P.G.D., Craven P.P.G. Superintendent of Works, T. Batchelor P.P.G. Superintendent of Works, E. Groves P.G.G.C., R. Newland P.P.G.D.C., E. S. Main P.P.G.D.C., J. Wilson, H. Sleeman, J. Maling, Whitcomb, G. F. Lancaster, J. Hall and Morine P.M.'s 903, F. Court W.M. 257, L. Bailly P.M. 257, E. Downing W.M. 309, Green and Riddle P.M.'s 309, Turney W.M. 342, Bunting W.M. 487, Malby P.M. 487, P.G.S.B., Coles 359, P.P.G.D.C., Dyer 359, P.G.S.B., and Tnohy P.P.G.D.C.

The annual banquet was held at the India Arms Hotel, and was excellently served by Mr. Newman. The W.M. (Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill) presided, supported by the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M. and several Present and Past Provincial Officers. "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales K.G.," "The M.W. Pro G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon," "The R.W. Deputy G.M. the Earl of Skolmersdale, and the Officers of Grand Lodge," were severally given. The D.P.G.M. (Bro. Hickman) as a Past Officer of Grand Lodge, responded, highly eulogising the manner in which the Prince and the Earl of Carnarvon discharged their Masonic and other duties.

The W.M., in giving "The R.W. Prov. G.M. of Hants and the Isle of Wight," said he was sure the Gosport Lodge were very proud to receive him as their guest, and, as the W.M., he thanked him for attending to instal him. They all knew that he was a good, true, and faithful Mason; how he was ready to come among them; and how kind and genial his manner was. He was sure they would unite with him in wishing he might have many years to rule over the province. (Applause.)

The P.G.M., who had a most enthusiastic reception, said it had been a great pleasure to him to attend to day and witness the success which had attended the working of the Gosport Lodge. It was the duty of the Grand Master, so far as he could, to visit the various Lodges throughout the Province, as by that means alone could he make himself acquainted with the kind of work that was going on, and the ability of individual Masons, and so arrive at a knowledge of what was really transpiring in Masonry in the Province. After alluding to the difficulty he experienced in paying all the visits that he desired to make, he said it gave him great satisfaction to be

present and to witness the prosperity of the Gosport Lodge. But it would ill become him, offering his congratulations as he did on the success which attended their efforts, if he did not address a few words to them upon what was really going on in Freemasonry at the present time. He believed that Freemasonry was never so powerful, never so great as now. But he desired to impress upon them that, as Freemasonry had increased to an unparalleled degree, so had the responsibility attaching to every individual member of the Craft (hear, hear). They must remember that as Freemasonry became more powerful, and as Freemasons became more numerous, so their Order attracted more notice from the outer world. As long as they were a comparatively small body they might be treated as comparatively insignificant, but directly they became more powerful they attracted notice—and very unpleasant notice in certain quarters (hear, hear, and laughter). Probably there had been no time when Freemasonry had been so bitterly vituperated as of late (hear, hear, and laughter). They must all regret it, but it would ill become them to join in any vituperation on their part (hear, hear). They could afford to let any invective against Freemasonry recoil on those who uttered it. When talking among themselves, they could not but feel astonished at this invective, because they were conscious how little they deserved those censures (applause). There was a most harmless and inoffensive Order, attacking no one. They felt that the charges levelled against them were not deserved, but it became more their duty to prove that they were not, and to impress upon every Freemason a desire to do something, if it was possibly in his power, to show that any censure on the Order was undeserved. He hoped all would desire to show to the outer world that when they entered into Freemasonry they entered upon new duties and into a new sphere of existence, imposing upon them the paramount obligation to do their best to maintain the Order into which they had entered. If that was the duty they felt in their very hearts, and they did their very best to carry it out, it could not but have an effect on the outward life of every Freemason. If they could show this to the outer world; if they could show that a Freemason was permeated by such an intense love for his Order that he would do anything for its prosperity, and that this prosperity tended to the good of society in general and the benefit of his fellow-men, Freemasonry must indeed exist to a much more powerful degree than it had ever done (applause). Let them do their best, in their generation, to maintain the Order they loved. He believed that in many parts of the world they had zealous Freemasons. In America probably Freemasonry existed to a greater extent than in any part of the world. But he believed that in England Freemasonry was carried out in its integrity to a greater extent than in any part of the earth (hear, hear). In some parts of the world Freemasonry was carried out under difficulties. No doubt, where persecution existed, their efforts were thwarted, and Freemasonry could not be carried out to the same extent and purity that it was where it was suffered to freely exist, according to primeval principles. He trusted that in England Freemasonry would ever have free scope. Let them do their best to promote it, and so long as Freemasons exerted themselves to maintain the Order which had been handed down for hundreds and thousands of years, so long would it exist in a more extended and beautiful way than it had ever hitherto done. It was a great gratification to him to be enabled, in some small degree, to promote the welfare of Freemasonry, and so long as he was enabled to carry out the wishes of the Grand Master of England in the Province of Hampshire, and to receive the support of the brethren in doing so, so long should he be delighted to continue as their Provincial Grand Master, and to do his best in that capacity (loud applause). The P.G.M., in highly eulogistic terms, proposed "The W.M.," and Bro. the Rev. E. B. C. Churchill responded. Other toasts followed.

At the meeting of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, held on Monday evening, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, a proposal was brought forward by Bro. Kingston P.M. and seconded by Bro. W. Jones P.M., to the effect that the Lodge in future should hold its meetings at Freemasons' Hall. The ground on which the proposal was made was a very proper one, namely, that our Lodge meetings should be held, as in Scotland, not at hotels and taverns, but in buildings specially erected for Masonic purposes. We refer to the subject elsewhere.

THE POPE AND THE EMPRESS EUGENIE.—We (*Westminster Gazette*) learn, on good authority from Rome, that the young Prince Louis Napoleon has been initiated, by Prince Humbert, into the mysteries of Italian Freemasonry. The Pope is very dissatisfied with the conduct of the ex-empress Eugénie and of her son. Pius IX. had advised the young Prince to quit Italy as soon as possible. This judicious advice, however, has not been followed; on the contrary, the Empress has been very assiduous in her visits to the Quirinal, and is in constant intercourse with those of the noble families in Rome who are partisans of King Victor Emmanuel. For these reasons the Pope refused to dispense, with his own hands, the Holy Communion both to the Empress and the Prince. As the Empress Eugénie's request was made to him, the Pope said, "Anche, l'altro prese la Santa Comunione a Sant' Anna dorata." By the "other" the Pope meant Napoleon III. The Pope held up, as an example to the Empress and the Prince, the conduct of Don Carlos, who, on his recent visit to Rome, sought the Apostolic blessing, and, on advice, at once took his departure from Italy.

ANTIQUITY AND ADAPTATION.

(From the Voice of Masonry.)

IT matters little whether Masonry originated among the priests of Egypt, the Thugs of India, the philosophers of Greece, the Hebrews of Canaan, the merchants of Phœnicia, or at the "Apple Tree Tavern," in London; whether it was born in the Garden of Eden, among the mountains of Abyssinia, in the civilised cities of Greece, in the plains of Hindostan, on the hills of Palestine, or in the streets of the metropolis of the British realm. It matters little whether it is as old as creation; whether it was born in Solomon's time, or in the reign of Sesotoris; whether it was coeval with the Pyramids or with the Bunker Hill Monument; whether its nativity be dated six thousand years ago, or in "1717."

It may form an interesting question for solution by the antiquarian or historian—when and where, and by whom was Masonry first established? It might be a pleasure and a gratification to those interested in the growth and progress of the Fraternity to be able to trace, in all its ramifications, from its conception to its present position of power and influence. Those who throw the light of history on its path, give us pleasure and deserve well of their brethren and the world for their labours, and we would not have them, for a moment, intermit their efforts to roll away the dense cloud that overshadows the past Masonry. But, after all, that is not the great question to be answered to-day.

Masonry may be ancient as Babylon—as venerable as the Pyramids—and yet be of little use to this age and the present population of the globe. How many associations of the olden time, had they been continued to the present age, would have been of practical value? Not many. Mere age does not command respect. It must be coupled with worth to ensure consideration. Neither will antiquity prove that Masonry is for this age and people. We may agree that the fact of its having long existed proves its value; but evil things have been aged, and white locks frequently shadow the brow of the fool or the criminal.

The great question as regards our Institution now is, not how old it is; neither is it whether it has been adapted to the condition of mankind in the past; but whether it is needful and beneficial to human progress and human prosperity now. This question being answered in the affirmative, Masonry is worthy of the support of philanthropists everywhere; if answered truly in the negative, it is unworthy of countenance—no matter how beneficial it may have proved itself in times past.

How ought this question to be answered? What does truth require in the premises? Masonry is, professedly and confessedly, a benevolent institution. It teaches that it is the imperative duty of each person to care for and assist a needy fellow creature. It teaches that mankind are brethren, and, as such, are bound to extend aid to each other in the day of adversity. By most impressive rites and appropriate symbols, it impresses these duties upon the minds and consciences of the members, and, by regulations proved practical by experience, these duties are ever kept clearly and plainly before them: "When they lie down and they rise up; when they go out and they come in."

The intention of the Society is to make men more benevolent. We believe the intention is fulfilled; indeed, it can hardly be otherwise. The lessons received in the Lodge will naturally have their designed effect. A score, or a hundred persons come regularly together, and consult concerning the wants and the needs of their brethren and friends. The needy are helped, the despondent encouraged, and the hungry fed. They meet regularly. These matters are talked over at every meeting. Thus, a habit of thinking of the needy and of ministering to their wants is formed, and it becomes an important part of the business of those who voluntarily put themselves into this process of training to do the work of benevolence. Having placed themselves under obligation to do these generous works, and having banded themselves together for that purpose, the result is found in the more humane line of action which they exhibit. That Masons give for benevolent and charitable purposes, outside of their Lodge payments, as much as others not members, is a fact which, so far as we know, has never been denied. That they give more, according to their means, than non-society men, we have no doubt. Every subscription list for charitable purposes, circulated in a place where a Lodge is in existence, will bear us out in that belief. We say this, not in a spirit of boasting, but because it shows that the professions of benevolence put forth by Freemasons are not empty ones. My own observation would prove that Masons generally give double the amount which could be exacted of them on an impartial assessment. But we will place the amount of their gifts at the same figures with others not members of the Lodge. Then we shall, of course, have to give the Lodge credit for all that is contributed to charity within it, for if there had been no Lodge these contributions would never have been made. Thus we find that Masonry adds very materially to the treasury of charity. It seems like a work of supererogation to say a word as to the need for, and the benefit of, an institution of this kind in the present condition of mankind. But perhaps a word will not be out of place, for the good people are slow to admit the benefits conferred by our Order.

We can imagine a state of society which would not require such an institution as Masonry to exist. Were every one disposed to be governed, in act and word, by the Saviour's Golden Rule, there would be no need of Masonry. Were all honest and charitable, ready to relieve distress wherever seen, Masonry's occupation would be gone. But a blind, unfeeling selfishness pervades the minds of men. Self is ever present with most persons. The voice of the poor and needy is smothered by the noise of business and of greed, and their cry is not heard by those who have the means to be, and who ought to be, their benefactors. Not a week before preparing this article, a woman, in this land of plenty, died of starvation, surrounded by those, the crumbs from whose tables would have given the needed sustenance to

preserve her life. She had saved the lives of her children, by giving them all she had been able to gather. Can we say that where such things happen—and this is but one of many of the same class—that there is no need of such a benevolent organization as Masonry has been proved to be? Shall we demolish Masonry at the beck of the fanatical, one-ideaed opponents, while mothers starve, surrounded by their famishing children? Did Masonry do as some of its enemies falsely charge, and only care for its own members and their families, still it would be a good institution, and worthy of being sustained. If every head of a family provided well for his own, there would be no suffering in poverty; did every society see that its own members were supplied, there would be much less suffering than now prevails. Masonry does this; some other societies do not. Even church sometimes forgets the invalid brother who suffers from sickness, or the weakly sister whose sands of life have nearly run out, though we are glad to be able to state our conviction that such neglect is far less common than it was in years gone by. Religion has become less doctrinal and more practical than formerly. In this particular the church may have learned and practised a valuable lesson from the Lodge—a lesson which they ought to have learned to practise long ages ago—that charity is greater than either faith or hope, and abides for ever.

We think we have the right to conclude from the considerations so briefly expressed, that Masonry, whether it be ancient or modern, is adapted to this age; that the world needs it as a school of benevolence and charity; that it materially helps forward the car of human progress; that it, to a great degree, assuages the woes of poverty, and feeds the hungry and clothes the naked. As long as poverty and want prevail—"as long as penury has a want to relieve or sorrow a fear to dry"—the world will need Masonry to assist in the holy work. And, though the bigot may rage and the fanatic curse, Masonry will survive until that period shall come when distress shall have ended and relief shall not be needed.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Eastern Star No. 95, and Tredegar No. 1625.

On Monday evening last, the 15th inst., a number of brethren met at the Royal Hotel, Mile End Road, E., for the purpose of establishing a Lodge of Instruction under the sanction and authority of the Tredegar Lodge, held at the same establishment. Bro. E. Gottheil P.M. was unanimously voted to the chair. Amongst those present were Bros. C. Lacey P.M., the Worshipful Master of the Mother Lodge, T. J. Barnes P.M., Geo. Verry P.M., J. Berry P.M., &c., &c. The preliminaries having been agreed upon, Bro. E. Gottheil was appointed Preceptor, T. J. Barnes Treasurer, and Geo. Hollington Secretary. The meeting then resolved itself into a committee, and several bye-laws were considered and agreed upon. A meeting had also been convened—for the same date, hour and place—of the members of the "Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction," which had been in abeyance for about three or four years, and although the intention and object had been conspicuously advertised, out of upwards of one hundred members but seven attended. This being deemed a quorum, it was unanimously resolved that the two Lodges amalgamate, and that the furniture, privileges, &c., should constitute the property of the new establishment. The new Lodge will meet every Monday throughout the year at 8 p.m. There are hundreds of brethren residing in the district and its vicinity, who, we trust, will exert themselves to second the efforts of those who so willingly give their services to the cause of Masonic instruction. It is at all times exceedingly difficult to uphold the life and sustain the vigour of these Lodges. The element of unity is contained in the perseverance of rarely more than half-a-dozen members, the rest of the attendance being, as a rule, more or less fluctuating. It should therefore be the duty of the many able brethren who, we know, reside in the immediate neighbourhood to set an example, by their presence, at every possible opportunity to the dilatory, apathetic, and negligent. It is in their power to make this one of the most prosperous, as well as one of the best conducted Lodges in the country. For our own part, we wish it every success, and shall at all times be pleased, by giving the proceedings every publicity, to further its interests, and promote its prosperity.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—The weekly meeting of the above Lodge was held at Bro. Allen's, Royal Edward W.M., Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday last. Present—Bro. Cambridge W.M., Lovelock S.W., Smith J.W., Saunders S.D., Perrin J.D., Brand I.G., Worsley Secretary, Wallington P.M. Preceptor; also Bros. Barker, Horsley, Hewlett, Lay, Crane, Defriez, Davis, Crouch, Ashburner. The Lodge was opened in duo form. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Lay acting as candidate. Bro. Wallington gave the traditional history. Bro. Horsley worked the 1st and 3rd sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was resumed to the first degree. Bro. Lovelock was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The 15 sections will be worked in this Lodge on Tuesday next, the 23rd instant, by the following brethren:—Bros. Horsley 933 W.M., Pinder W.M. 15 S.W., Wallington P.M. 860 J.W. First Lecture by Bros. Dallas 1524, W. J. Smith W.S. 860, E. T. Worsley J.D. 860, Ashburner P.M. 1278, Musto P.M. 1319, Williams 233, Rudderforth 12. Second Lecture by Bros. Cambridge J.W. 15, Hogarth 1107, Defriez S.W. 45, J.D. 1278, Pinder W.M. 15, Hewlett 141. Third Lecture by Bros. Wallington P.M. 860, Allen S.D. 733, Perrin W.M. 1056.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

ON the 10th inst., the usual Quarterly Meeting of the Freemasons of West Yorkshire took place at the Masonic Hall, Great George Street, Leeds, under the banner of the Goderich Lodge 1211. After the Lodge had been opened by the W.M. and Officers of the Lodge, the Provincial Grand Lodge entered, and was opened and presided over by Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire. After the usual formalities had been gone through, and the reading of a portion of Scripture and prayer, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was saluted in ancient style.

Replying to this salutation, Sir Henry Edwards said: Brethren,—I am happy to meet the members of this Provincial Grand Lodge at the opening of a new Year, in order that the affairs of interest in connection with Freemasonry in this Province may be duly considered and debated. A year ago we were indebted to the Philanthropic Lodge, and again we have to thank the Freemasons of Leeds, and especially the Worshipful Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Goderich Lodge, for the present renewal of hospitality accorded to the Province on its first Quarterly Meeting for the current year. I again acknowledge, with much pleasure and satisfaction, the salutation of the brethren. The cordiality of your reception convinces me that the administration of our laws and the government of the Province meets with the approval of the Craft. Fifty years have now elapsed since the establishment of West Yorkshire into a separate Province, and when I look back over that period of time, and contrast the prospect of the future in comparison with the past, I think there is cause for general congratulation in the gradual progress which the principles of Freemasonry have made, and the marked improvement which has taken place in a variety of details in the Masonic government and unity of working displayed in the different Lodges. I assure you that I have the well government of this Province at heart, and that I will endeavour to select for my Provincial Grand Officers men of ability and popularity in the Craft. It will always be my desire, so far as lies in my power, to advance the position of the hard-working brethren in the Lodges, and to promote their prosperity and happiness, as well as to secure fair and impartial discussions upon matters of vital interest in my Province. It is a matter of sincere congratulation that our Royal Grand Master has again been graciously pleased to accept the highest office which the Craft can confer upon him, and that in December he was once more invited to occupy the position of our most Worshipful Grand Master in the Grand Lodge of England. At the Festival of the Masonic Benevolent Institution in February, his Royal Highness the Provincial Grand Master of Oxfordshire will, it is hoped, take the chair; and that of the Girls in May, Lord Suffield; and at the Boy's Festival, a most distinguished prelate of the Church of England will preside. We are now enabled to strike a balance of the results of the working of the Craft during the year just closed. These results may be roughly stated as follows:—Sixty-nine warrants for new lodges, and the enormous number of 8503 Grand Lodge certificates have been issued from head-quarters, each being largely in excess of those sent out in the previous year, and may be taken as a fair indication of the steady progress which the Craft has made during the past year. The voluntary contributions to the three Charities have this year reached the munificent sum of £39,335 7s 6d. This circumstance is a proof of the liberality of the fraternity, and would seem to point to the conclusion that the wants and needs of these institutions only require to be made known in order to meet with a fitting response. But this gratifying result of the year does not end by pouring these large sums into the coffers of these institutions. It imposes upon the managing bodies an increased responsibility for the economical disposal of this princely sum, and for a corresponding degree of efficiency in the educational and other results. In these respects it is to be regretted that, although the receipts of the Boys' School have been largely increased, the extravagant management and the indifferent educational results so forcibly pointed out by your Committee of Investigation a year ago still continue, without any evidence of improvement in the future. I feel bound to say this simply in the exercise of sound judgment upon the matter alluded to without lending myself in the remotest degree to either side in the personal controversy which has unfortunately been associated with the discussion of this question. A number of Freemasons, under a provisionally organised, "Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution," have placed two girls for education, partial maintenance, and advancement in life, in local establishments, and a Lodge in the province has done the same in respect to an orphan boy. These experiments will test the merits of local, as compared with metropolitan establishments, and I cannot refrain from wishing these efforts to be attended with complete success. My Deputy, just before Christmas, had the honour of establishing two new Lodges in this Province, numbered 1645 and 1648 on the books of the Grand Lodge of England. These new Lodges are in districts, carved out of localities in this thickly populated Province, wherein are older existing Lodges closely associated around them. I cordially recommend to the new brethren the Pro Grand Master's condemnation of the unconstitutional practice of new Lodges canvassing, or in any way proposing, that members should be members of older Lodges, and younger Lodges in the same town, and at the same time. I am glad the Pro Grand Master has expressed himself so emphatically on this subject; and feel convinced that the very judicious hints conveyed on his part to the Board of General Purposes must meet with the approval of the Craft in this Province. In conclusion, I ask all the Lodges represented on this occasion to accept the fraternal congratulations and good wishes of myself and of my most talented, energetic, and indefatigable Deputy, Bro. Thomas W. Tew, for the year just commenced. After the address of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, the routine business of the Province was gone through, and a resolution on the agenda paper, by Bro. Ruddock, on the subject of a pamphlet relating to the Boys' School, was with-

drawn. About 230 brethren attended the meeting. At the close of the Lodge, an excellent banquet was served in the Banquet Hall, by Bro. Oates, in his customary style, after which, Bro. Sir H. Edwards presiding, the usual Loyal, Patriotic and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and a pleasant and convivial evening was enjoyed.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Lion and Lamb Chapter.—A convocation of this Chapter was held on the 17th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. The Chapter was opened in due form by Comps. G. Newman M.E.Z., F. Copestick H., H. Birdseye J. The Companions were then admitted, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. G. Hall, J. Lorkin, J. Grocott, H. Brand and W. Medwin were proposed by Comps. J. Dunn, Copestick Scribe E., and J. Curle, and were duly exalted into R.A. Masonry. The installation of officers then took place, and the Chapter closed. The Comps. adjourned to supper.

Mersey Lodge, No. 477, Birkenhead.—On Thursday, 7th January, this Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons met at the Lodge-room, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, and investiture of officers for the ensuing year. There was a very large attendance of members, and amongst the visitors were Bros. James Salmon P.M. 425 and 1477, P.P.S.G.D. Cheshire and P.J.G.W. North Wales and Shropshire, Richard B. Mellor P.M. 605 and P.P.J.G.D., M. C. McNerney 384, Thomas Chesworth W.M. 1576, A. Stephens W.M. 954, McNerney W.M. 605, W. Matthews W.M. 721, James Ridehalgh P.M. 1276, J. Taylor W.M. 1276, Jacobs 702, &c. After the Lodge had been opened according to ancient usage, Bro. Robert Gracie P.M. proceeded with the installation of Bro. William Pulford, the W.M. elect, as W.M. for the ensuing year, which was performed in a very impressive manner. The remaining officers of the Lodge were then installed as follows:—Bros. G. J. Adams I.P.M., Robert Grace P.M. Lecturer, J. Wedgwood P.M., Henry Martin P.M., John Griffiths P.M., Donald Fraser P.M. Treasurer, Samuel Jones P.M. Secretary, John Dutton S.W., Thomas Brown J.W., Wm. Worrall S.D., Wm. Bennett J.D., Robert Ridyard I.G., George Dicken D.C., Robert Hamilton and John Woolley (Chester) Stewards, and Holtoway Tyler. The Treasurer's report showed the Lodge to be in a flourishing condition. Last year there was a balance in hand of £7 16s, and the total amount received during 1876 was £397 19s 3d. Against this, the expenditure had been £331 14s 11½d, leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £66 4s 3½d. Before the conclusion of the business, Bro. D. Fraser P.M. brought forward a scheme for the erection of a new Masonic Hall for Birkenhead. Masonry, he said, had recently so rapidly extended in Birkenhead and the surrounding neighbourhood that many now thought it was time that a suitable site should be secured for erecting a new Hall upon, as it was quite patent to everybody that they had not now anything like sufficient space to accommodate their members with any degree of comfort. By their present arrangement they had still three years left unexpired of their lease in the building they now occupied, and if the feeling of the members was tested he had no doubt by the time the three years had expired they might have a suitable hall erected for their accommodation which would be an ornament to Birkenhead. The Worshipful Master seconded the proposition, and it was ultimately decided that if it was found expedient to erect such a hall, the Mersey Lodge take five hundred £1 shares in the new undertaking. The practical feeling then tested showed itself by several members present guaranteeing to take up shares equal to £2,500, which is equal to one-half the total amount required to carry out Bro. Fraser's scheme, and augurs well for its being carried out. The Lodge having been closed in due form, the company adjourned to Bro. Charles Berry's, Ranelagh Hotel, where a splendid banquet was served up to about 120. The newly-elected W.M. presided, and the vice-chairs were occupied by the S.W. and J.W. The toast of "The Queen" having been received in true Masonic form, "The M.W.G. Master, Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was next given, and met with a most hearty reception. The remaining toasts, which were effectively proposed by the W.M., were—"The R.W. Prov. G.M. Lord de Tabley, and Prov. Grand Officers Past and Present;" "The Worshipful Master;" "The Worshipful Past Masters of the Mersey Lodge;" "The Officers of the Mersey Lodge;" "The Past Officers of the Mersey Lodge;" "The Visitors;" "The Masonic Charities;" and "All poor and distressed Masons." During the evening Bro. Fraser P.M. Treasurer, presented Bro. J. G. Adams I.P.M. with a P.M.'s jewel, and Bro. Robert Gracie P.M. with a Past Treasurer's jewel. Several musical brethren contributed materially to the harmony of the evening. We congratulate the brethren of the Mersey Lodge on the progress they have made during the past year. The Lodge is now one of the most important in the province, and worthy in every way of the great community of Birkenhead.

Portsmouth Lodge, No. 487.—The installation of the W.M. Bro. George Bond, of the Castle Hotel, Southsea, took place on Thursday evening, in the Masonic Hall, St. Mary's-street. There was a very good master of brethren. The retiring W.M., Bro. E. Bunting, was supported by the following past and present W.M.'s:—Bros. M. E. Frost, G. Rake, G. S. Lancaster, Cudlipp, R. H. C. Udsell, F. Pineo, F. Court, Maltby, E. Groves, Moore, Turney, E. Downing, Harrison, and G. F. Lancaster (Gosport). The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. Frost, after which the W.M. appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Richard Beale S.W., Robert Osborne J.W., Prov. G. Organist, G. S. Lancaster Treasurer, M. E. Frost Secretary, J. Astridge Assistant Secretary, Loder S.D., W. L. Smith J.D., T. P. Palsgrave I.G., W. Tuck and F. White Stewards, Johnson Chaplain, Exell Tyler. A vote of thanks was

accorded to the retiring W.M., and to Bro. Frost for the efficient manner in which he had installed the W.M. At the banquet which followed there was a good attendance, and the usual Masonic toasts were honoured. The W.M. presided with great tact and *bonhomie*, and the after-dinner speeches were terse and to the point. Due honour was paid to the chiefs of the Craft, and the health of the W.M., which was given with much heartiness by his predecessor (Bro. Bunting), was received with enthusiasm, and elicited an appropriate response from Bro. Bond. "The Visitors" found an able representative in Bro. Horsey (Industry Lodge, 186, London), who expressed the gratification which he had experienced from what he had seen of the working of the Lodge. With the aid of harmony, to which Bros. Pillow P. Prov. G. Organist, Osborne, W. L. Smith and others contributed, the evening was passed most agreeably.

Wellington Lodge, No. 548.—The above Lodge met on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the White Swan Hotel, Deptford. Bros. Dr. F. Chittenden W.M., Brooks S.W., Riley J.W., Welsford P.M. Treasurer, E. J. B. Bumstead P.M. Treasurer, and Past Masters Phillips, West, Bagshaw and Wakefield. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. W. Warren was passed to the 2nd degree. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Brooks S.W. was presented to the Lodge, and was duly installed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Dr. Chittenden, who performed the ceremony perfectly. Bro. J. J. West P.M. impressively delivered the addresses. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers, Bros. Riley S.W., Joulden J.W., Welsford P.M. re-invested Treasurer, Bumstead Secretary, Magee S.D., Thitson J.D., Callison sen. I.G., Fieldson D.C., Fourlard Organist, and Laing P.M. Tyler. An elegant P.M.'s jewel was presented to the retiring W.M. for the manner he had discharged his duties during his year of office. Bro. Dr. Chittenden thanked the brethren for their valuable gift. After the lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet. The W.M. gave the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. Bro. E. P. Albert P.M. 188, G.P., returned thanks for the Grand Officers. The Master, Wardens, and other toasts followed, after which the brethren separated.

Camalodunum Lodge, No. 660, Malton.—The annual installation banquet was held on Tuesday, at Malton. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Thomas Clough, of the City and County Bank, took place in the Freemasons' Hall, Yorkersgate, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Samuel King P.P.G.J.D. and P.M.; and the Worshipful Master appointed the following officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. King S.W., Harold Copperthwaite J.W., R. H. Boyer Treasurer, A. W. Walker Secretary, T. B. Smith S.D., J. D. Dods-worth J.D., Fred Wand D.C., Seth Tinsley I.G., Thomas Wilkins and J. Goldie Stewards, and Kirton Waudby Steward and Tyler. The banquet was afterwards held at the Talbot Hotel.

Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity, No. 663, Devizes.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday, the 16th instant. The Lodge was opened in the first and second degrees by the W.M. Bro. T. B. Fox, who then requested Bro. Nott P.M. P.P.G. Reg. Wilts to take the chair. After the necessary preliminaries, a Board of Installed Masters, 12 in number, was formed, and the W.M. elect was duly installed by Bro. Nott into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The newly installed Master was then saluted, and afterwards appointed and invested his officers, to each of whom a short address as to the duties of his office was delivered by Bro. J. H. Chandler P.M. The usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens and brethren, were delivered by the Installing Master. The following is the list of officers:—Bros. T. B. Fox I.P.M., Dr. J. W. Burman S.W., W. H. Burt J.W., Rev. H. Richardson P.M. Chaplain, D. A. Gibbs P.M. Treasurer, William Nott P.M. Secretary, H. Howse S.D., W. Day J.D., J. A. Randall I.G., Thos. Waite P.M. acting M.C., W. E. Fulford and G. S. A. Waylen Stewards, J. H. Chandler P.M. acting Organist, and John Hayter Tyler. The usual routine of the annual meeting was then proceeded with. The Treasurer's accounts were approved and passed, from which it appeared there had been five initiations and two joining members during the year. Grants were made to each of the Masonic Charities, to one of which, the Benevolent, the P.G.M., Lord Methuen, goes up as Steward for the Province, a member of this Lodge, Bro. Jno. Chandler, filling a similar office for the Girls' School. A brother was proposed as a joining member, after which the Lodge was closed. Amongst those present were the following P.M.'s, viz., Members of the Lodge, Bros. Fox, Gibbs, Waite, Ward, Rev. T. F. T. Ravenshaw P.G. Ch. Eng., Nott P.P.G. Reg. Wilts, J. H. Chandler P.P.G.O., O'Reilly, John Chandler P.P.S.G.W. and D.C. Wilts, and T. H. Chandler, and Visitors Gauntlett P.M. 632, P.P.G.S.B. Wilts, A. Plummer P.M. 355, as well as several other visitors. Letters of regret at inability to be present, and conveying good wishes to the W.M., were read from the P.G.M. Lord Methuen, the D.P.G.M. Bro. G. Goldney M.P., the P.G. Secretary, Bro. Tombs, and many others. After the Lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Crown Hotel, to which Bro. Watson Taylor, of Eriestoke Park, though unable, from ill health, to be present himself, contributed a supply of venison and game.

Pannure Lodge, No. 720.—This rapidly-increasing Lodge held its regular meeting at the Balham Hotel, Balham, on the 15th of January, and was largely attended both by members and visitors. The W.M. Bro. D. Trusler, was supported by Bros. C. Burgess S.W., H. Payne P.M. as J.W., Thomas Poore P.M. Secretary and Treasurer, James Stevens P.M., McKay S.D., Woolfe J.D., Smith I.G., McMurray D.C., Spiegel Steward, W. Steadman Tyler; and Bros. Mitchell, Davis, Sheadd P.M., Burton, Gunner, Treves, Blogg, Sanders, Holliday, Lilley, King, Huntley, Mills, and Wiltshire. Visitors—Bros. Porter 147, W. Howell 183, Pillington 1339, John Syer 1017, Miller 1420, Bain 360, Bye 141, and Biddlecome 720. The Lodge was opened at

5 p.m., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, was duly passed and raised. The degree of M.M. was conferred on Bros. King, Gunner, Treves, and Holliday, each candidate being separately obligated and entrusted by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Stevens P.M., who completed the ceremonies, and delivered the traditional history. Bro. Blogg was passed to the F. C. degree. The ballot being clear for the admission into Freemasonry of Messrs. W. Simpson, G. Lambert, and C. Richardson, those gentlemen were duly introduced and initiated. Three other gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation in February, making a list of six aspirants for the privileges of the Order. The Stewardship of the R.M. Benevolent Institution, at the ensuing Festival was accepted by Bro. Spiegel, and the Lodge voted a donation from the Charity Fund to be placed on his list. A very affecting letter from the widow of a lately deceased member of the Lodge, conveying thanks for a vote of condolence recently passed, was read, and, after some brotherly remarks, in approval of the same, was ordered to be recorded at length on the minutes. In a case of great distress, arising from the untimely decease of a late officer, arrangements were made to ensure suitable relief to the widow and children. After five hours of continuous work, the Lodge was closed in order, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. Owing to the lateness of the hour, brevity in speech, both in giving and responding to the usual toasts, was consistently observed, and whilst nothing befitting the occasion was neglected, the inevitable separation took place well within the date of meeting.

Grey Friars Lodge, No. 1101.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Wednesday the 10th of January, at the Masonic Hall, Reading. Present—Bros. Edward Margrett W.M., Arthur Welch S.W., E. J. Tabor acting J.W., Rev. C. R. Honey Chaplain, William P. Ivey P.M. Secretary, J. T. Stransom Treasurer, J. Early Danks S.D., William Ferguson J.D., Thos. Newman Steward, Edward J. Blackwell I.G., Wm. Hemmings Tyler. Past Master Bro. J. Weightman; also, Bros. Hukins, Hunt, Hilder, Cottrell, Creed, Robinson, Rose, Bailey, and Phillips. Visitors—Bros. S. Bradley J.D. 414, F. Ferguson W.S. 414, A. Mitchell 65 St. John, Stonehaven, G.L. Scotland. Business—The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. After balloting for a candidate for initiation, Bro. E. Hunt having replied satisfactorily to his examination, retired. The Lodge was then advanced, and Bro. Hunt was passed, the ceremony being performed in a very correct manner by the W.M., who gave the Lecture on the Tracing Board. As a Lodge of Instruction could not be held previous to this meeting, the junior officers worked somewhat at a disadvantage. We doubt not this will be rectified in future. The bye-laws, as revised, were passed. The sum of five guineas from the Broken Column was unanimously voted to the W.M.'s Stewardship of the R.M.B.I. at the approaching Festival in February. The labours of the evening being ended, the Lodge was closed.

The Great City Lodge of Instruction, No. 1426.—This Lodge met at No. 111 Cheapside, on Thursday, the 18th inst., Bro. Edward Moody P.M. 1426 presiding. Bros. Shaw S.W., Brown J.W., Walmsley S.D., Bain J.D., Parker I.G., Spiegel acting Sec., James Stevens P.M., Blachie, Bain, Blissett, Blume, &c. The Lodge was opened and the minutes read. These, with communications relating thereto, caused considerable discussion, which resulted in an adjournment of the debate to the evening of Thursday the 25th inst., and we are requested to inform the members of the Lodge that their attendance on that occasion will be much esteemed. The Lodge having been passed to the second degree, Bro. Blissett—as candidate—proved his proficiency, and the ceremony of raising was ably rehearsed. Bros. Blissett (of the Rifle Lodge, Edinburgh) and J. Bain (Commercial, 360) were elected members.

Whittington Lodge, No. 862.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Monday, the 15th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bros. Walker W.M., Moore S.W., Walmsley J.W., T. Kingston P.M. Treasurer, Jas. Weaver P.M. Secretary, Faroham S.D., C. E. Parker J.D., Goddard I.G., and Past Masters Bros. T. Kingston and Jones. The Lodge was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Bros. Evans and Coates were passed to the second degree. Bros. Mackaness, Leo, and Maxwell were raised to the third degree. A notice of motion was given by Bro. Kingston that the Lodge be removed to some more convenient place; this was carried, and it will in future be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of the usual banquet.

A Stockholm correspondent of the *Gottenburg Handels-Tidende* states (evidently in error) that the Prince of Wales is expected, on the 21st inst., at Stockholm, to assist at the opening of the new Masonic Lodge, a ceremony which will take place on that day, which is the birthday of King Oscar II. The new Lodge has cost 1,600,000 crowns. Great preparations are being made for the banquet, where more than a thousand brethren are expected to meet; and for the ball which the King gives on the 22nd, and to which 2,000 invitations have been sent out.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, before Vice Chancellor Bacon,—"Grillon v. Guenin—Tamar Indien," a perpetual injunction to restrain the Defendant from infringing the above well-known proprietary medicine was granted this day (Friday), with costs—a result entirely due to the indisputable evidence produced by the Plaintiff's representative, Bro. F. C. Kinnear.

LEYTON COLLEGE, ESSEX.**BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG GENTLEMEN,**

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References to the leading banking and commercial firms in London and the Provinces, and to numerous brethren whose sons are now, or have been, educated at the College. Prospectus forwarded on application to the Principal.

The duties of the next Term will commence on Monday, 22nd January.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THIS INSTITUTION will take place on Monday, the 12th February 1877, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, London, upon which occasion

H.R.H. Prince Leopold, K.G., &c., &c.

R.W. Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire,

has graciously signified his intention of presiding.

Brethren desirous of accepting the office of Steward upon this auspicious occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their names, as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give every information required.

JAMES TERRY, Prov. G.D.C. Herts,
Secretary.

* * H.R.H. Prince Leopold has been pleased to alter the day of the Festival from Wednesday the 14th February (being Ash Wednesday) to Monday the 12th.

4 Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

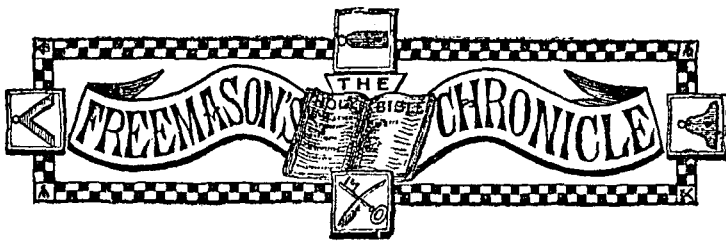
BRO. CONSTABLE'S Tickets, entitling the holder to a chance in the drawing for

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67 BARBICAN, E.C.

NOTICE.—BACK NUMBERS.

Brethren who desire to complete their sets of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, should make early application for Back Numbers. At present all are in print, but of some we have only a few copies left. Cases for binding the several volumes can be had at the Office, 67 Barbican.

OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

THE QUEEN has been at Windsor having, however, this week paid a brief visit to London. On Monday, the Prince and Princess of Wales left Sandringham in order to pay their promised visit to the Duke and Duchess of Manchester. All along the route the demonstrations of loyalty were of the heartiest character. At Huntingdon, great preparations were made to welcome them. No less than five triumphal arches were erected, the station gaily decorated in the usual fashion, and a guard of honour of the Duke of Manchester's Volunteer Light Cavalry was drawn up, while the other volunteer bodies in the neighbourhood were present under arms in considerable strength. On the Royal cortege emerging from the railway station, the crowd were somewhat too demonstrative, following up the carriages in great numbers, and very closely. Having lunched at the Earl of Sandwich's residence, Hinchinbrook, the party continued their journey to Kimbolton Castle, which was reached about half-past o'clock. Tuesday was devoted to hunting, their Royal Highnesses being greatly favoured in respect of the weather. The meet took place in a meadow not far from the Pertenhall cross-roads. Several good runs were obtained, and one old fox was run

into the park, and lost his brush close to the Castle; after which the guests adjourned to luncheon. On Wednesday, after inspecting the Duke's farm, and the splendid herd of shorthorns which his Grace is forming, the Prince and party were present at a large meet of the Fitzwilliam hounds, about four miles off, at Catsworth Guidepost, Mr. Charles Fitzwilliam, Master of the Hunt, and all the leading patrons of sport in the neighbourhood being present, Capital sport was obtained. On Thursday, a grand ball was given in honour of the Royal visit, and proved a great success. Yesterday, it was arranged, should be devoted to hunting with the Cambridgeshire hounds. In short, the visit has been one round of princely hospitality, and the noble owner of Kimbolton, who, as our readers are doubtless aware, is Provincial Grand Master of Northamptonshire and Hunts, must have been highly gratified at the honour paid him by their Royal Highnesses.

Though the weather has latterly been less stormy and the waters have subsided to a great extent in many parts of the country, and notably in the valley of the Thames, thousands of acres are still inundated. The Prince of Wales in his journey to Kimbolton from Sandringham passed through an immense tract of country, which had all the appearance of a lake. Indeed, even in the neighbourhood of Windsor, where there has been a subsidence of the waters, the country all round is more like a marsh, and orders have been issued postponing the return of the boys to Eton, till the 24th instant. The work of collecting money for the relief of the sufferers is going on bravely, and up to Wednesday the amount received by the Mansion House Committee had reached the very respectable total of £7,200. Local Committees have also been formed for administering relief, and though all that is lost may not be made good, we doubt not the funds raised will go a long way towards compensating the sufferers. But though the calamitous floods have abated, it is still necessary to adopt precautionary measures, especially near the Thames, as a succession of high tides is expected at the end of the month. The work of raising the river wall to prevent the overflow of water is being prosecuted, therefore, with great vigour, especially in the neighbourhood of Nine Elms.

On Tuesday, the opening of the new hall of Balliol College, Oxford was commemorated by a grand banquet, at which were present some two hundred and fifty past and present members of the College, together with several distinguished guests, among them being the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Dean of Westminster, Viscount Cardwell, Lord Coleridge, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earls of Donoughmore and Jersey, and the Right Hon. S. Cave, M.P. A succession of toasts of the usual character was given, that of "Prosperity to Balliol College," which was proposed by his Grace of Canterbury, being received with enthusiasm, and very happily responded to by the learned Master of the College, Mr. Jowett.

Bro. Clabon presided at the Quarterly General Court of the Boys' School, held on Monday. Twelve vacancies were declared for the next election in April, the number of candidates being fifty-nine. A pension of £120 per annum was granted to the Collector of the School, who retires after a long service of twenty years. Bro. Snow's proposition to erect extra buildings for the accommodation of fifty additional boys was withdrawn, the whole question of increased accommodation being referred to the House Committee, for their report to the General Committee, and through the latter to the Quarterly Committee. We shall have occasion to refer to this subject at greater length on some future occasion.

Mr. James Weir, a gentleman engaged in literary pursuits, and having Chambers at 50 Lincoln's Inn Fields, is apparently not very partial to the music of chamber organs, at all events not when the instrument is played in a suite of chambers immediately beneath him. It seems, however, that he will have to endure the nuisance, unless Mr. Sanderson Corpe, the owner of the objectionable instrument, will abstain from playing it when Mr. Weir is fulfilling his literary duties. Such, in fact, will be the effect of the ruling of the Judge of the Westminster County Court, to whom Mr. Weir made application on Tuesday for an injunction to restrain Mr. Corpe from this organ performance. Evidence was adduced by the plaintiff to the effect that this organ was a great annoyance, not only to Mr. Weir himself, but to occupants of other chambers in the same house, and that when it was played the vibration was very great. The instrument was described as 13 feet high, 10 feet wide, and 4 feet or 5 feet in depth.

The defendant, having proved that he had the landlord's permission to erect the organ, his Honour expressed the opinion that the nuisance was not actionable, though it was intolerable, and a verdict was entered for the defendant, with costs. And so the matter stands. Mr. Corpe may go on playing his organ to the annoyance of his fellow-tenants of 50 Lincoln's Inn Fields, while Mr. Weir endeavours to prosecute his literary labours under the most trying circumstances; and yet there is no remedy. "The law allows it, and the Court awards it."

At this season of the year preparations are always being made for the University Boat Race, which is rowed annually about Easter. Before Christmas trial Eights were out practising both at Oxford and Cambridge, but the floods have seriously interfered with the work, and if they last long enough, will make the business of training a matter of some difficulty. However, as far as it can be done, strenuous efforts are being made to get together the strongest representative eights for the two Universities, and these efforts are very likely to prove successful. There is no lack at either of them of good men and true, ready and willing to do battle in honour of their *alma mater*. Time, indeed, seems to pass rapidly, when we find ourselves now wondering whether Cambridge will repeat her victory of last year, or Oxford will be strong enough to turn the tables on her rival.

According to all accounts, there appears to be very little chance of the Turks yielding, even at the last moment, to the demands of the Great Powers, though these have been greatly reduced since the Conference held its first meeting. In one or two quarters we have seen a belief expressed that some kind of arrangement may be come to to-day, but this seems almost hoping against hope. This being so, people are of course beginning to speculate as to what will be the outcome of all this palavering. It is generally stated that should Turkey decline to yield, the Special Plenipotentiaries will leave Constantinople; but it by no means follows that the Great Powers will remain unrepresented at the Porte. Nor as between Russia and Turkey does it by any means follow that a rupture of diplomatic relations will lead to war. True, Russia will be in a great fix, and having come forward in November last, and threatened her rival with all kinds of penalties, if she did not yield to her demands as the self-elected champion of Christianity, she will stand before all Europe as having sustained a serious diplomatic defeat. But for all this the Czar may find it wise to hold back, if it be true, as has been stated before, that her military strength is less formidable than she had expected. Great dissatisfaction is said to prevail at the prospect of a collision, and the enthusiasm for the Slavs is reported to be reduced to a very low ebb indeed. Turkey, too, has shown herself more powerful than was expected, and with far more of vitality in her than could have been expected from Czar Nicholas's "dying man" of 1853. It is little use, however, indulging any further speculations as to future events. We shall know soon enough what will happen; and when Parliament meets, about three weeks hence, full details will, no doubt, be given of the negotiations now so shortly about to terminate. Meanwhile, if our readers are anxious to study this Eastern Question more fully, we advise them to read the articles in the *Edinburgh* and the *Quarterly*, just published. They will gather from these a far more complete idea of the question in all its bearings than can be obtained from any other papers or periodicals. They are written, too, in the calmest and most dispassionate tone, without the slightest prejudice in favour of this or that view, and their value is greatly increased by the fact of their concurring on all essential points. This must have weight with the general public, for the *Edinburgh* and *Quarterly* are seldom at one with each other in the great political problems of the day.

The Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was held on Saturday, the 13th inst., at Freemasons' Hall; Bro. Col. Creaton V.P., in the chair. The Secretary, Bro. Robert Wentworth Little, read the minutes, which were confirmed; he also announced the purpose for which the meeting was convened. Bro. Col. Creaton proposed that the sum of £500 be granted to complete the amount required agreeably to tender for the new laundry. This was seconded by Bro. A. H. Tattershall. Bro. Little reported that there were 54 candidates for the next election in April, and there would be 13 vacancies. Bro. John Symonds P.G.D. suggested that the Committee should

establish as a test of ability to read on the part of the intending candidates the standard fixed by the Education Department of the Privy Council. These views having met with the approval of the Chairman and Committee, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Col. Creaton, and the meeting was adjourned. Amongst those present were Bros. H. A. Dubois, A. H. Tattershall, J. Symonds, H. Browne, H. Massey, Z. D. Berry, Thos. Massa, J. Boyd, H. Dicketts, Dr. Ramsay, S. Rosenthal, T. W. White, E. H. Finney, &c.

We have been favoured with a copy of the Report of the Directors of the Redruth Masonic Hall Company Limited, and we heartily congratulate them on the result of their management, as well as on the prospects which apparently are in store for them. The authorised capital of the company consists of 750 shares of £2 each. Of these 522 had been issued to the end of the year 1876, representing a sum of £1,044, and ten more have since been taken up. The total receipts from all sources amount to £1,107 4s 11d. *Per contra*, the expenditure is as follows:—Paid for site in 1874, £36; on account to contractors, £850, the total contract being £1,079; paid to Messrs. Barwell, Son, and Fisher, £30 7s 0d; interest and commission on banking account, £1 14s; the actual payments representing a sum of £918 1d. The unpaid calls amount to £172 3s 3d, and the cash balance in hand to £17 0s 8d. The directors announce that the balance of the contract will be paid to the contractors when the Hall is formally handed over to the company, and that the Hall is so nearly completed as to allow of the Lodges of the town holding their meetings there. It is further announced that an additional sum of £200 will be needed in order to provide the requisite fittings; but as the directors are unwilling to raise this by a mortgage on the Hall, arrangements have been made with the Company's bankers for the advance of the sum on the directors' several and joint promissory notes. It is further pointed out that the parts of the Hall not required for Masonic Lodges have been found sufficiently attractive to obtain proposals for their use at fair rentals, the lower Hall being already leased to the Ancient Order of Foresters and a religious body, who use the same two nights in the week, at a yearly rental; the present income of the company being about £50 per annum, which is close upon 5 per cent. on the total capital, or 4 per cent. if the additional outlay on fixtures, &c., be included. We have rarely seen a more satisfactory Report from so young a company, and we heartily wish it all prosperity.

The Regular Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of British Burmah was held on 12th September last, in the Masonic Temple, Rangoon. In the absence of the District Grand Master, Bro. Krauss D.D.G.M. presided. A number of Dist. Grand and Past Grand Officers were present, together with representatives of Lodges Nos. 614, 832, and 1268, apologies being read from sundry for their inability to attend. An unusual report was submitted at the outset of the proceedings, to the effect that a certain candidate having satisfied the D.G.M. of his ability "to read and write," permission had been granted to the W.M. of his Lodge to confer on him the second and third degrees. The Report of the D.G.L. Committee, held on 3rd August, announcing the resignation by Bro. Colonel H. T. Duncan of his office of D.G.M. was then read and adopted. It was also announced that Colonel Duncan had presented the insignia of his office to the D.G.L. A vote of thanks for his services, and of regret at his resignation, as also of thanks for his handsome gift to the Lodge, was unanimously passed. The financial statement of the D.G. Treasurer, as examined and audited, was next submitted and found correct. The other business having been transacted, and a request from Bro. the Rev. J. E. Marks, that a sum of 15 rupees per mensem be paid out of the Benevolent Fund for one year towards the education of Hubert Penfold, having been arranged for reference to the District Grand Lodge Committee, the D.G. Lodge was closed with the customary formalities.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—At the beginning of the year, countless causes are at work to lower the tone of the nervous system, which will be followed by ill health unless proper means be employed to avert that evil. Holloway's far famed preparations supply a faultless remedy for both external and internal complaints connected with the changes of seasons. All affections of the skin, roughness, blotches, pimples, bronchial and deeper seated inflammations, erysipelas, rheumatic pains and gouty pang, alike succumb to the exalted virtues of Holloway's Ointment and Pills. The maladies most prevalent in winter, to wit: chest complaints and stomacal ailments, daily bear witness to the potential influence of this treatment, which saves suffering and spares disaster.

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, 20th JANUARY.

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

MONDAY, 22nd JANUARY.

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.)
183—Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.

TUESDAY, 23rd JANUARY.

Audit Committee, Girls' School, Battersea, at 4.
14—Tuscan, Freemason's Hall, W.C.
55—Constitutional, Wheatsheaf, Hand Court, W.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
186—Industry, The Restaurant, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.
205—Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
860—Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1158—Southern Star, Montpelier Tavern, Walworth.
1196—Urban, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, E.C.
1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
1441—Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
1472—Henley, Railway Tavern, Stratford New Town, 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.
253—Tyrian, Masonic Hall, Gower-street, Derby.
1016—Elkington, Masonic Rooms, New-street, Birmingham.

WEDNESDAY, 24th JANUARY.

Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
193—Confidence, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, at 7.0. (Instruction.)
862—Whittington, Black Bull, Holborn, at 8. (Instruction.)
1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
1283—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. 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 8.0. (Instruction.)
R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1039—St. John's, George Hotel, Lichfield.
1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans, Herts.

THURSDAY, 25th JANUARY.

General Committee, Girls' School, Freemasons' Hall at 4.
3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 7.0. (Instruction.)
15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C. (Instruction.)
87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
1426—The Great City, 111 Cheapside, E.C., at 6.30. (Instruction.)
1489—Marquess of Ripon, Albion, Albion-road, Dalston, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
78—Imperial George, Assheaton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire.
100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth.
214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Romford.
807—Cabbell, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
966—St. Edward's, Literary Institute, Leek, Stafford.
1612—West Middlesex, Railway Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)

FRIDAY, 26th JANUARY.

569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. (Inst.)
933—Doric, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile End-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1260—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
1278—Burdett Coutts, Approach Tavern, Victoria Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
1365—Clapton, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
1385—Gladsmuir, Red Lion Hotel, Barnet.

SATURDAY, 27th JANUARY.

198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.
1293—Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.

WEST YORKSHIRE.

MONDAY.

R. A. 827—St. John's, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dewsbury.

TUESDAY.

1214—Scarborough, Wilton Arms Hotel, Batley.

WEDNESDAY.

253—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
390—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley.
910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Pontefract.

THURSDAY.

208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury.
275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.
337—Candour, Private Rooms, Commercial Inn, Uppermill.
810—Craven, Devonshire Hotel, Skipton.
904—Phoenix, Ship Hotel, Rotherham.

FRIDAY.

401—Royal Forest, Hark to Bounty Inn, Slaidburn.
952—Holme Valley, Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth.
1031—Eccleshill, Freemasons' Hall, Eccleshill.

SATURDAY.

149—Peace, Masonic Rooms, Meltham.
1309—Prince George, Station House, Bottoms, Eastwood.
1462—Wharnccliffe, Rose and Crown Hotel, Penistone.

EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

MONDAY—349—St. Clair, Freemasons' Hall.
TUESDAY—151—Defensive Band, Alexandra Hall, Cockburn-street.
" R. A. 40—Naval and Military, Freemasons' Hall.
WEDNESDAY—112—St. John, Fisher-row, Royal Hotel, Musselburgh.
THURSDAY—392—Caledonian, Freemasons' Hall.
FRIDAY—223—Trafalgar, 54 Bernard-street, Leith.

GLASGOW AND THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.

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

MONDAY—102—St. Mark's, St. Mark's Hall, Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 219—Star, 12 Trongate, Glasgow.
" 362—St. Clair, 25 Robertson-street, Glasgow.
TUESDAY—413—Athol, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.
" 419—Neptune, 35 St. James's-street, Glasgow.
WEDNESDAY—4—Kilwinning, 241 Dumbarton-road, Glasgow.
" 519—Maryhill, 167 Main-street, Maryhill.
THURSDAY—570—Kenmuir, Freemasons' Hall, Springbourne, Glasgow.
FRIDAY—R. A. 79—Commercial, 30 Hope-street, Glasgow.
" 408—Clyde, 213 Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Albion Lodge, No. 9.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on the 10th of January, at the Regent Masonic Hall, Air-street. Present—Bros. E. Kimber W.M., W. T. Scott S.W., James Abbott Secretary, T. Moring Treasurer, F. McCarthy S.D., G. Robey J.D., S. Coste D.C., E. Coste Steward, G. Robey I.G., James Rawles Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Vallentine, Friend, Albert, Marsh, Storr, W. Willey; Bros. Harvey, Longstaff, E. D. Willey, King, Pollard, Blackman, Salisbury, Thompson, Elliott, Coles, Redfern, Saunders, H. Pallant, Le Miere. Visitors—J. D. Massey W.M. 173, G. R. Soper W.M. 1365, J. Westerby 1613, B. Groner 1613, S. J. Pitt 890 and 1556, J. E. Cockett 1364, J. F. Starkey P.M. 855, C. R. Burr 1158, W. Seaman P.M. 619. Bro. S. Vallentine acted as Installing Master and very impressively installed Bro. W. T. Scott. The following were appointed officers:—F. McCarthy S.W., T. Moring Treasurer, J. Abbott Secretary, L. H. Harvey S.D., G. Robey J.D., S. Coste D.C., J. Forbes Organist, G. Blackman I.G., E. Coste Steward, J. Rawles Tyler. The appointment of the Junior Warden will be made at the next meeting. Mr. Ferdinand Coles was ballotted for, and initiated by Bro. Scott, in a manner that showed him capable of keeping up the credit of this ancient Lodge. The newly-appointed officers did their respective duties in a most able manner. The Lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and spent a most pleasant evening.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—This Lodge held its usual weekly meeting at Bro. Maidwell's, the "Hercules," Leadenhall-street, on Thursday evening last, 18th January, at 7.30. Present—Bros. Hewlett W.M., Hogarth S.W., Horsley J.W., Maidwell S.D., Powell J.D., Marks I.G., Grammer Secretary, Atkins P.M. Treasurer, Webb Preceptor pro tem, and several other brethren. The ceremony of the 3rd degree was rehearsed in a very able manner by the W.M., Bro. Hewlett, Bro. Hollands acting as candidate. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Horsley, assisted by the brethren. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, No. 65.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Tuesday, the 16th of January, at the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Present—Bros. Maidwell W.M., Ellis S.W., Fraser J.W., Hollands Secretary, Sayer S.D., Walker J.D., Rudderforth Preceptor, Hill I.G. Past Master Bro. Turquand 1556; Bros. Dart, Daniel, Marks, West, Richards. The Lodge was opened in due form. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Daniel answered the questions leading to the 3rd degree, and was entrusted. Bro. Hollands now took the chair, and raised Bro. Daniel. Bro. Maidwell resumed the chair, and Bro. Rudderforth worked the 2nd section of the 3rd degree, assisted by the brethren. The Lodge was closed down, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by Bro. Maidwell, Bro. Marks candidate. Bros. Hawkins, Trewinnard and Turquand were elected members. Notice was given that the annual supper would be held at the above address on Tuesday, 6th February. Tickets to be had of Bro. Maidwell, and of the Hon. Sec., Bro. Holland.

Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—The regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on the 11th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Comps. H. A. Dubois M.E.Z., J. W. Baldwin H., J. Mason J., T. J. Sabine P.Z. Treasurer, F. Walters P.Z. P.P. 1st Assistant Middlesex S.E., J. C. Mason S.N., J. C. Mason P.S., T. W. Adams 1st Assistant, J. H. Spencer, M. D. Loewenstark, &c. The Chapter was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. The bye-laws were read, and various alterations made. The elections for Principals and Officers unanimously resulted as follows:—Comps. J. W. Baldwin Z., J. Mason H., J. Cattley Mason J., T. J. Sabine P.Z. Treasurer, F. Walters P.Z. S.E. (re-elected for the 13th time), M. D. Loewenstark S.N., B. Isaacs P.S. and W. Y. Laing P.Z. Janitor. The fee for exaltation was raised from 3 to 4 guineas, and the annual subscription from 32s to 42s. An Audit Committee was appointed, and a notice of motion that a sum of 5 guineas be given from the funds of the Chapter for the purpose of presenting the M.E.Z., Comp. H. A. Dubois, with a jewel on his retiring from office. The Chapter was then closed. A capital banquet was supplied by Comp. Spencer, and the usual Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were honoured. Comp. R. P. Tebb 176 was present as a visitor.

Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate.—On Friday, the 5th inst., Brother W. Crawford was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, by the retiring W.M., Bro. Silani, who performed the ceremony with accuracy and impressiveness. The Union Lodge Room is one of the handsomest in Kent, and the meetings are always attractive to the brethren of surrounding Lodges. On this occasion an unusually large number of members were present. The W.M. has the best wishes of his brethren for a successful year of office, and we are confident he will do honour to the chair, and add to the high reputation the Lodge has always maintained. This, however, will be no easy task, as he succeeds a most deservedly popular, and in every respect able and efficient W.M. The W.M. having been duly installed, appointed the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. Chancellor S.W., G. H. Chexfield J.W., W. C. Brasier P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Treasurer, A. Wootton P.M. P.P.G.D.C. Secretary, A. Chexfield S.D., Rev. Sitwell J.D. and Chaplain, R. Reid I.G., Doughty Tyler, Gibbs Organist, Philpott Director of Ceremonies, E. Pickering Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Raisbeck, Robinson, and F. Perry Stewards. Bro. Brasier was elected to serve on the Charity Committee. The W.M. then presented the retiring W.M., Bro. Silani, with a valuable P.M.'s jewel, as a slight token of the high appreciation in which the Lodge held him, and for the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year, for which Bro. Silani returned thanks in feeling terms. The following were then proposed as joining members:—Bros. H. Baily, of Belvedere Lodge; John Ross Gallant W.M. New Concord 813; E. Isaacson P.M. 457, and Walter Searle. For initiation Mr. William Robertson. The brethren then adjourned to the Elephant Hotel, where between forty and fifty sat down to an excellent banquet. The table and walls of the room were tastefully and appropriately decorated, and presented a very attractive appearance. The usual Masonic toasts were done justice to, and the health of the W.M. and the installing W.M. most cordially received. Each, in turn, suitably replied. Between the toasts several of the brethren displayed their vocal abilities, they were accompanied on the piano by Bro. Aubrey, the Misses Addie and Theresa Lancaster, by their beautiful songs added much to the pleasures of the evening. Bros. Talfourd, Staner, Reeve and others, though not at the installation, were present at the banquet. The following visiting brethren were present: J. Terry Secretary Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, W. Smeed P.J.G.W., Middlesex, Rev. G. W. Sicklemore P.M. 1209 P.P.S.G.W., T. H. Snowden P.M. 429 and 1209 P.P.J.G.W., H. Wootton P.M. 1209 P.P.G.A. Secretary, L. A. Hill P.M. 1206 P.P.G.S.W., W. Mate P.M. 1206 P.P.G.R., W. Winch P.M. 429 P.P.J.G.D., L. Finch P.M. 429 and 1209 P.P.G.D.C., G. Page W.M. 1209 P.G.S., E. Isaacson P.M. 457, J. R. Gallant W.M. 813, S. Watkins W.M. 212, W. S. C. Harrison P.M. 429, H. Wootton 1209, H. Bailey 503.

Faith Chapter, No. 141.—A number of Companions assembled on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C., to celebrate the anniversary and witness the installation and investiture of the officers for the ensuing year. Companion N. Gluckstein M.E.Z. opened the proceedings, and then vacated the First Principal's chair in favour of Companion E. Gottheil P.Z., who at once installed Companions C. F. Hogard M.E.Z., J. Constable H., and W. E. Gompertz J. The following officers were then invested, Jas. Pinder S.E., R. Z. Bloomfield S.N., M. Bamberger Treas., Hollands P.S., J. D. Barnett 1st Assistant, D. Posener 2nd Assistant, Charles Ohse D.C., F. Croaker W.S., Longstaff Janitor. The newly installed Z. immediately applied himself to the duties of his office. A Ballot was taken, which proved in favour of Bros. Geo. Corble W.M. of the Chigwell Lodge 453, Thos. W. C. Bush 185, and Charles Cruchley 177, and these brethren being present, were duly admitted, and exalted to the degree. The business in the Chapter being completed, the banquet was served, under the efficient superintendence of Comp. Smith, to the gratification and enjoyment of all present. The various toasts were then given and responded to. The M.E.Z. took occasion to remark upon the prosperous condition of the Chapter, which, after the short existence of four years, has progressed so far as to bid fair to become one of the most important in the Craft. He was also pleased to observe the efficient working of all the subordinate as well as the principal officers. In some chapters Companions assume positions they are incapable of properly filling, and are installed in the principal chairs only to vacate them, and have their work done for them. This, he was happy to think, was not the case in the Faith Chapter, and looking at the Companions who are following on to the higher offices, not likely to be for years to come; while that is the case, the prosperity of the Chapter is secure (cheers.) Comp. Geo. Corble, in responding for the exaltees, expressed his heartfelt thanks for the cordial reception of himself and fellows. His highest ambition in the Craft had been to reach the exalted position of the W.M. of his Lodge, and having attained the rank, he fancied he was securely placed on the top of the tree; but he had been undeceived that evening, for on witnessing the beautiful ceremony of the Royal Arch, he discovered that he had only reached the first rung of the ladder, and that a vast deal had yet to be studied before attaining the highest point of Masonic eminence. As far as their abilities would permit, his colleagues as well as himself would strive to become useful members of the Order (applause). Comp. N. Gluckstein P.Z. replied for the P.Z.'s collectively, but Comp. T. Mortlock P.Z. wished to say, in addition to what had fallen from the I.P.Z., that as an old P.Z., and one who had visited a great number of Chapters, having more than ordinary opportunities to witness the way in which the work is generally done, he had no hesitation in asserting that there is not a Chapter existing in which the ceremonies are performed with such thorough efficiency by every officer, from the highest to the lowest, as had been done that evening in the Chapter. Although Comp. Gluckstein was deputed to respond for the P.Z.'s generally, he felt he ought not to let the opportunity pass to pay them a tribute they so richly deserved (hear, hear). Comp. J. Constable replied for the Officers, and in the course of his remarks paid a graceful compliment to Comp. E. Gottheil,

through whose instrumentality he (Bro. Constable) had derived the Masonic knowledge he possessed. Comp. Gompertz said, having held the position of S.E. since the foundation of the Chapter, he would have been content to retain that office, and continue to give his services in that capacity; but being pressed to assume higher duties, he could not hesitate. The Companions would always find him at their service in whatever situation he might be placed. (applause.) The various speeches were interspersed with songs, by Comp. Constable, Barnett, Mortlock, Snare, and Canton. A very handsome gold P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. N. Gluckstein upon his retirement from the first principal's chair. Companion Hogard in presenting it said, that the testimonial was richly deserved. Companion Gluckstein is held in high esteem by every member of the Chapter. Companion N. Gluckstein could scarcely find words sufficiently expressive of his feelings of gratitude for all the kindness and generous indulgence which had been accorded him. He was well aware of his shortcomings, the work had not come up to his own anxious desires and wishes, but he had done his duty to the best of his ability. He assured the Companions that the events of that day would never fade from his memory; he deemed it one of the most joyous and gratifying in the whole course of his existence. Whenever his humble services were required they would always be at the disposal of the Chapter. (Great cheering.)

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.—This Lodge held its regular monthly meeting at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Monday. Bro. J. D. Barnett W.M. presided, and there were present Bros. J. Peartree S.W. and Treasurer, D. Posener J.W., S. G. Pare S.D., W. D. Bayley J.D., P. Levy Secretary, F. Croaker I.G., J. Ross I.P.M., and Bros. S. E. Moss, N. Moss, M. Harris, E. Harfeld, R. Z. Bloomfield and J. Constable, Past Masters of the Lodge, and R. E. Potter Tyler. As soon as the Lodge was opened Bros. Solomon and Ager were passed, and then Bros. Salaman and Butler were raised to the sublime degree. Bro. Peartree was next unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Constable was appointed Treasurer, and accepted the office conditionally that when the term of Bro. Peartree's Mastership was ended, that worthy brother should resume his duties as Treasurer, duties he had fulfilled with so much zeal and ability during the last fifteen years. Bro. Potter was re-elected Tyler, and then the following Past Masters were chosen as the Committee of the Lodge Benevolent Fund, namely, Bros. S. Solomons, M. Harris, Maurice Hart, A. E. Sydney, S. E. Moss and E. Harfeld. On the motion of Past Master Bloomfield, the sum of ten guineas was unanimously voted from the Lodge funds for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the retiring W.M., Bro. Barnett, whose services have secured for him the respect and admiration of his fellow members. The Lodge then adjourned to the banquet, which was admirably served by the new manager, Mr. E. H. Rand. In fact, during our whole experience at the City Terminus Hotel, we have never been present on any occasion when the Lodge was better or more liberally treated, and that too at a price less by one-third than was charged by Mr. Rand's predecessor. On the removal of the cloth, the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Peartree, in responding to the toast of his health as W.M. elect, expressed the pleasure he felt at having been so highly honoured by the brethren. He had been a member of the Lodge for seven and twenty years, and had held the office of Treasurer for fifteen of them. He had always taken a deep interest in the welfare of Tranquillity. At his time of life, and after a service so prolonged, the brethren must not expect too great things of him, and he should rely to a great extent on the tried ability of his immediate predecessor, Bro. Barnett, who he was sure would render him all that assistance he had proved himself, during his year of office, so capable of rendering. In concluding a very happy speech, Bro. Peartree stated that no words of his would adequately express the feelings he experienced. He then resumed his seat amid general expressions of congratulation. The health of the Visitors, who were represented by Bros. Irving, a M.M. from New Zealand, Hyatt and Westerby, was replied to by the first mentioned brother. We also remarked that the healths of the several Junior Officers were given and acknowledged separately. The intervals between the toasts were enlivened by some excellent singing. Bro. Child was very effective, as he always is, and Bro. Bayley sang a very humorous ditty, the refrain of which was "Perhaps 'tis just as well." But the vocal talent was far from being displayed by the Lodge Members only. Bro. Hyatt, a visitor, whose professional name, Mr. Percival, is sufficiently familiar in musical circles, sang very sweetly indeed, and quite charmed all present by the exquisite taste and feeling he exhibited in his delivery. In fact, a most agreeable and harmonious evening—harmonious in more senses than one—was spent, and when the hour for separating arrived, the brethren departed to their several homes, delighted with all they had seen and heard, and above all things extremely well pleased with the successful efforts of Mr. Rand, as the purveyor of the Banquet.

Lion Lodge, No. 312, Whitby.—On Monday afternoon, the brethren of the Lion Lodge met at the Masonic Hall, John-street, West Cliff, at two o'clock, for the purpose of taking part in the installation of Bro. J. M. Bottomley, as W.M. for the ensuing year. There was an imposing assemblage. The Installing Master was Bro. John Stevenson P.M., and the interesting and impressive ceremonial was admirably gone through. The officers of the Lodge for the ensuing year are as follows:—Bros. J. M. Bottomley W.M., S. Chadwick S.W., W. G. Lockey J.W., F. Thornton S.D., G. T. Crowther J.D., W. E. Wolsey I.G., Geo. Elliott D.C., James Wood Tyler, James Maule and Geo. Ferrow Stewards, J. W. Lawson P.M. Treasurer, J. B. Dale Secretary. The annual banquet was sat down to at the Royal Hotel, at 4.30, and was a most sumptuous repast. There was a goodly number of Past Masters, officers and brethren. The W.M. presided, and the S.W. was in the vice-chair.

Sincerity Lodge, No. 174.—This Lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, the 17th of January, at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C. Present—Bros. W. F. Wells W.M., G. J. Hilliard S.W., J. Appleby J.W., J. Newton P.M. Secretary, S. Rawley P.M. Treas., G. Seddon S.D., J. M. Dunstan J.D., G. Jones D.C., C. H. Webb I.G., Verry Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Barlow, Bulmer, Lacey, Moore. Visitors Bros. C. Wells 1306, W. R. Langford, and R. Ives, late 174, G. Greenland 781, J. T. Lovelock 212, H. Ingall 228, J. Wright P.G.P., W. Geary 742, E. G. Legge 1196, G. D. Bundy 902, A. Ellis 933, F. Dunn 72, James Terry Secretary R.M.B.I., and W. W. Morgan jun. The preliminary business of the Lodge having been transacted, the ballot was taken for Messrs. J. A. Keable and W. H. Martin, also for Bro. W. P. Wyatt of No. 1607 as a joining member, all of which ballots were favourable, after which Bro. Vigor was passed to the second degree. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. G. J. Hilliard, was then proceeded with, and most ably performed by Bro. P.M. Lacey. The officers appointed were as follow:—J. Appleby S.W., G. Seddon J.W., J. Newton P.M. Sec., J. M. Dunstan S.D., C. H. Webb J.D., G. Jones I.G., F. Brown D.C., J. Miller W.S.; the Treasurer, Bro. S. Rawley P.M., and the Tyler, Bro. Verry, were re-appointed. The report of the Audit Committee having been accepted, it was proposed that a vote of thanks to Bro. P.M. Lacey be recorded on the minutes for the kind and efficient way in which he had performed the ceremony of installation, which was unanimously carried. It was also unanimously resolved that a Past Master's jewel be presented to the I.P.M. Bro. Wells, for his services during his year of office. Mr. Cant, who had been previously accepted, and Mr. Martin, being then in attendance, were initiated by the W.M. After this ceremony it was announced that Mr. Keable, the other candidate, had arrived, and he also was initiated. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet. After grace the W.M. proposed the toast of "The Queen," coupled with "The Craft." He considered that any comments from him would be out of place; every one respected Her Majesty, and so long as she remained on the throne, we might consider ourselves and the country safe. The toast having been enthusiastically received, the National Anthem was sung. The W.M. proposed the health of "Our Grand Master the Prince of Wales," who he hoped might long be spared to rule the Craft, and also to govern the nation. The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers was next honoured, after which the W.M. proposed what he considered the toast of the evening. The Sincerity Lodge was always pleased to welcome new members, and those they had initiated that evening he knew to be worthy men. He hoped the brethren would drink their health with spirit, and give them a hearty welcome. It was natural the old members of a Lodge should die off, and unless they had new ones to take their place, they would soon become, as it were, dead. The toast having been honoured, the I.P.M. Bro. Wells, sang the Entered Apprentice song, which was entered into with marked enthusiasm by all present. Bro. Cant, who was the first to reply, thanked the members for the way in which he had been received, and hoped he would always meet as hearty a welcome as he had on the present occasion. Bro. Keable wished to promote the interest of true brotherhood, and Bro. Martin hoped to prove worthy of the confidence reposed in him that evening. Bro. Wells, in proposing the toast of the W.M., said he knew from experience the feeling of a brother who occupied the chair for the first time at a banquet. He hoped their present Master would have good health during his year of office. He was quite certain that he would prove capable of carrying out the duties required of him, to the satisfaction of the brethren, who would not regret the choice they had made. In reply the W.M. thanked the brethren for appointing him, and also for the way in which they had responded to the invitation of Bro. Wells. He would do all he could to merit their approval, and should he fail in anything, he had an efficient array of Past Masters, who, he hoped, would assist him. He had always coveted the position he then occupied, and hoped to bring no discredit to it. The W.M. next asked the brethren to drink to the very good health of Bro. Wells. As it was his first appearance as Past Master, he hoped they would drink it with great enthusiasm. Bro. Wells was greatly pleased to hear the way in which the toast of his health had been responded to. Whether he had done the work during his year of office as it ought to be done, or as it ought not to be done, he hoped the brethren would consider that he had had the cause at heart, and he was glad to know his efforts had met with some approval. He was never so happy as when he was among them, and his pride had been from the time he had entered the Lodge to occupy that chair he had just vacated. He would always wear the handsome jewel they had presented him with with feelings of pleasure. Bro. P.M. Barlow, whose privilege it has always been to propose the toast of the Masonic Institutions, next took the gavel. He explained, for the benefit of those young brethren, who, perhaps, knew little of what was being done by the Craft, the various Institutions which were supported by them. The Sincerity Lodge had always been among the foremost, and he hoped they would ever continue in that proud position. Each year for the past 20 years the Lodge had been represented at one of the Festivals, and he hoped the members of the Lodge would all become subscribers, which could be done at a small annual outlay. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Terry. Bro. Terry considered it a great privilege to have to respond in this Lodge. It was quite unnecessary to enumerate to them the duties of a Mason as regards our Institutions. He would just give them an idea of what was being done. First, there was the Girls' School, where they fed, clothed, and educated 159 daughters of Freemasons. He was sorry the Secretary of that Institution was so ill as to be unable to attend and plead on behalf of that Charity, but hoped the brethren would not forget to send him a Steward with a good list for the next Festival. With regard to the boys, every Mason who had been in the Craft for two or three years must have heard of that Institution, where they maintained 189 boys. If any proof was required of the efficiency of their training, he would refer them to the result of the last Cambridge Local Examination. The grand desire was to elect more

boys, which they hoped, with the assistance of the Craft, to be able to do. For the Girls' School they were laying out between £12,000 and £14,000, and for this they intended receiving 50 additional girls. When they had 200 girls and 200 boys, he thought the Craft would rest contented. With his own Institution, the Lodge of Sincerity had always been connected; for many years they had not let a Festival pass without being well represented, and he was pleased to say that all the Past Masters round him had served the office of Steward, some of them more than once. For his next Festival three members of the Lodge were Stewards, and he was sure they would all bring good lists. Although all members of the same Lodge, they did not clash. He thought it was right for their Institutions that some remarks should be made with reference to what had been said at the late meeting of Grand Lodge. It was there remarked that £4,000 divided between the three would only come as drops in the ocean. He was afraid the noble Earl was not so well informed on that point as many would have wished, or he would not have said what he did. All the lists had been settled for the next elections, and from them it appeared there were over 180 applications, and only 32 vacancies. With these figures he did not consider it sufficient to say that £1,500 would be of no use to either of the Charities. On the contrary, every farthing would be of service, and he hoped that before the meeting of Grand Lodge in March next, the matter would be well considered. The Lifeboat Institution was one of the best in the Kingdom, but they must not forget that while the boats which it was proposed to present were saving the lives they would probably be called upon to save, it was certain that many a poor old brother or poor child might perish. The amount they had to give would enable about 10 girls, 10 boys, and 8 Benevolent candidates to be relieved. He had one especial pleasure that evening, he had been asked by Bro. Blain to read the balance sheet of the concert which had lately been given. As the result of one evening's entertainment, he found that the sum of £57 16s 2d was to be handed over; out of this sum Bro. Blain made himself Life Governor of all three Institutions; he proposed to present to Bro. Moore, who had worked throughout in a most energetic manner, a life governorship, and in addition to the one he had advertised should be balloted for, he now proposed to ballot for a life subscribership,* thus they had five governorships and one subscribership as the result of the concert. Bro. Terry hoped the example of Bro. Blain would be followed in many other parts of London, and that the next one Bro. Blain conducted would bring in £157 instead of £57 as this one had done. He heard a cry of "No, no," but was pleased it was not general, they did not mind where they went so long as it was for a good cause. If any of the outer world wanted to know what Freemasonry was, send them to Wood Green, to Clapham or Croydon, or let them go to any part of the Kingdom, they were sure to find some brother or the widow of some brother who blessed the day they entered the portals of our Order. He concluded by hoping the Lodge would continue the support they had hitherto accorded the Charities. "The Visitors" was next given; the W.M. was pleased to see so many present, they would always be glad to see them again. As long as he had known the Lodge, which was for 8 or 9 years, it was a toast that was always heartily received. Bro. Legge, who had visited the Lodge on several occasions, was sorry so many of the visitors disappeared; as soon as they found the sort of reception they received they became joining members; he thought further proof of their appreciation was unnecessary. Several others replied, all thanking the Lodge, and expressing their pleasure at being present. The Past Masters was next given, and ably responded to, after which the Officers had a chance of "stepping" to the front; most of them apologised for their non-attendance at the Sincerity Lodge of Instruction, but hoped it would not prevent the duties of the mother Lodge being efficiently performed. Bro. P.M. Newton, the Secretary, referred to the Association for securing Life Governorships by weekly payments, and hoped to present a balance sheet for the first year at their next meeting. The Tyler brought the proceedings to a termination. Some capital songs were sung, and one of the initiates, Bro. Keable, recited "The Soldier's Pardon," most impressively. The brethren were all indebted to the S.W. for his performance on the piano.

Domestic Lodge, No. 177.—On Friday, the 12th inst., there was a large gathering of the members of this Lodge, the brethren assembling to testify the great respect entertained by them for the W.M. elect, Bro. Jas. Willing jun. The W.M., Bro. Treadwell, was present for the first time since his accident, and the brethren expressed their congratulations. Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., occupied the chair. Jas. Willing jun. S.W., Palmer J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. P.M. Treasurer, T. Williams Secretary, Buscall S.D., G. Clarke J.D., White I.G. and P.M.'s Bros. Ferguson, T. A. Adams P.G.P., Hayden, J. Brett P.G.P., H. Elmes, Tims, Walford, H. Potter, J. R. Foulger; Bros. Harris, Pinhey, Sherlock, J. Abrams, Scard, J. Jones, Foxcroft, Richards, J. Jennings, Morris, Jones, Kent, Montague, Callaghan, &c., &c. After the preliminary opening of the Lodge and the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Cox was raised to the 3rd degree. Bros. Pethor, Scatterwood, Davies, Read and Brangwin were passed to the 2nd degree, and Bro. Cohen was initiated, the ceremonies being performed by Bro. J. Smith in a most satisfactory way. The report of the audit committee was next read and adopted. A Board of installed Masters was then opened, and Bro. Jas. Willing jun. was duly installed into the chair by Bro. J. Smith, whose strict adherence to the ritual gave great satisfaction. The addresses were given by the veteran Preceptor, Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P., whose beautiful rendering received the commendation of every brother and visitor. The newly installed W.M., having received the congratulations and salutations of the brethren, invested his officers: Bros. W. Palmer S.W., Buscall J.W., J. Smith P.G.P. re-invested Treasurer. T. Williams Secretary, E. White S.D., Spinks J.D. The W.M. said he regretted that Bro. Geo. Clarke had been obliged to resign his office; he was, however, pleased to say that Bro. Clarke continued a

* The date of this ballot will be duly announced in our columns.—Ed, F.C.

member. In appointing Bro. W. Harris I.G., the W.M. said it was but a stepping stone to higher offices, which Bro. Harris was eminently qualified to fill. Bro. Dally was re-elected Tyler. The W.M., who is a P.M. of the Metropolitan Lodge, where he had always conducted his duties satisfactorily, showed his proficiency by initiating Bros. Cohen and Piper into the Order, the ceremony being given by him with due solemnity, and a correct working most pleasing to listen to. Bro. W. Harris I.G. withdrew his notice of motion, to raise the subscription to £3 3s, and proposed that the annual subscription should be £2 12s 6d, and £1 1s for country members. Bro. Ferguson P.M. seconded it. Bro. J. Smith, in supporting, said that in so numerous a Lodge the working expenses ought to be paid out of the subscriptions, and the amount received from initiation and joining fees might then be given to the Charities. The motion, having been put, it was carried. Bro. Palmer S.W. informed the brethren that a testimonial was about to be presented from various Lodges meeting at Anderton's Hotel to Bro. W. Smith, the courteous manager, who is always ready to study their interests. Bro. Smith had been connected with them for 23 years, and he hoped the members of the Domestic Lodge would contribute to the fund. Bro. Ferguson P.M. proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. J. Smith, P.M. P.G.P. and Treasurer, for the great pleasure they had received by his excellent rendering of the ceremony of installation. This was seconded by Bro. Buscall J.W. Bro. Treadwell I.P.M., also begged to tender Bro. J. Smith his sincere thanks for his valuable assistance in the chair during his absence, through illness. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. T. A. Adams P.M. P.G.P., for the manner in which he delivered the addresses. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren, 133 in number, sat down to a banquet, provided by Bro. Clemow, and superintended by Bro. Smith. The W.M., with his usual ability, presided. He gave the usual loyal toast, also that of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.W., who, he hoped, would be spared for many years to be among them. (Cheers.) The W.M. next proposed the toast of the Pro Grand Master The Earl of Carnarvon, the R.W. Lord Skelmersdale D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England. He said: We are proud to have among us three brethren who have been selected to receive Grand Lodge honours, Bros. J. Smith P.G.P., T. A. Adams P.G.P., and J. Brett P.G.P. (Cheers.) No matter whether in this Lodge or Grand Lodge, they were always ready and willing to evince their valuable experience and give their services. The former brother, in a very able speech, returned thanks. He was pleased to hear the Charities spoken of; they had a worthy brother who had undertaken the duties of Steward at the next Festival for the Royal Benevolent Institution; he will put your principles to the test, whatever you may do he will be grateful for. Bro. T. A. Adams P.G.P. in returning thanks said he was an old member of the Lodge, having been initiated, 30 years since, by his esteemed friend Bro. Jos. Smith; he could only say his services were always at their command. (Cheers.) Bro. J. Smith P.G.P. then rose and said, he had to propose a toast; one he was sure they would listen to with every attention, for it was a worthy one; it was the health of the W.M., Bro. Jas. Willing. He (Bro. Smith) had great confidence in him. It was not the first time he had been Master, and during his year of office he had carried out every detail satisfactorily, and now you will have the advantage of his former experience, a taste of which was exhibited by the way in which he had performed the ceremony of initiation; he hoped the brethren would drink the toast with the enthusiasm it merited. Bro. W. Harris here sang a very excellent song. Bro. Willing returned thanks for the toast; with feelings of great pleasure; he had received great kindness from every brother in the Lodge. He was a member of another Lodge, and had passed the chair in it. In this Lodge the brethren know what Freemasonry is. He would do all in his power for their comfort, not only in the working, but in every respect. The W.M. then said he was proud in having to propose the next toast, that was the Past Masters; they were all pleased to see them. A just compliment is due to all for their excellent services rendered. All knew what Bro. J. Smith had accomplished; the same might be said of them all. He was sure every one was gratified to see Bro. Treadwell I.P.M. again among them. (Cheers.) Although he had not been there so frequently as they could have wished, owing to his sad accident, he would, in the name of the Lodge, present him with a gold Past Master's Jewel, for the services rendered by him, and also as a token of the respect in which he is held. Although his sufferings had been great, he hoped they would soon be alleviated. Bro. Treadwell said he was grateful for the valuable testimonial presented to him. He had, unfortunately, been laid up four months, but a debt of gratitude was due to Bros. Geo. Everett and J. Smith for their assistance; also to Bro. Willing, the W.M., in conjunction with their esteemed friend the worthy Secretary, Bro. Williams. He hoped, on the retirement of the W.M. from the chair, he would have over £100 balance in hand; he was sure, by his indomitable energy, he was capable of accomplishing this. The W.M. next proposed the toast of the Visitors. They were usually numerous at the Lodge, and all the members were pleased to see them. They were honoured by the presence of 25 visitors, and he would call on Bros. Sidner P.G.D.C. British Burmah, W. Fisher, and Bro. Swallow to respond to the toast. These brethren eloquently returned thanks, and paid deserved compliments to the W.M. for his excellent working, and for the hospitality they had received. Bro. Hudson gave a selection from the "Man of the World," his accent being perfect. The W.M. said he had a special toast to propose,—one that he was sure would be greeted with their warmest enthusiasm. In the capacity of Installing Master, and also as Treasurer, Bro. Smith was one who looked after their interests. He is a Vice-President of all our Masonic Charities. At the Summer Festivals, and also in the Lodge, his valuable services are always appreciated. He had great pleasure in proposing the health of Bro. Jas. Smith. Bro. Smith, in reply, said he thanked them sincerely for the manner the toast had been received. Bro. Jas. Brett had

hitherto always installed the W.M., and the brethren had experienced a great Masonic treat, but for the last two years he had had the pleasure to instal their W.M. You, Worshipful Master, have spoken of me as your Treasurer; while in that capacity it will be my earnest desire to keep you free from debt. The W.M. next proposed the toast of the "Initiates." These two brethren, by their attention to the ceremony, and the recommendation they brought, were entitled to their regard and esteem. Bro. Foxcroft then gave a recitation. The toast of "The Officers" was next honoured. Bro. Williams, the Secretary, by his assiduous attention to the duties of his office, was a credit to the Lodge. Bro. Palmer S.W. knew his duties thoroughly, and was capable of filling any office; so also was Bro. Buscall J.W., Bro. W. Harris I.G. and all the other officers did their work well, and he hoped eventually to see them occupy high positions in the Lodge, they all merited the confidence of the brethren. This toast having been responded to, that of "The Press" was given, and "The Tyler" brought the proceedings to a close. Visitors were—Bros. J. Compton P.P.G.D.C. Kent, B. Swallow P.M. 1563, T. Fisher S.W. 834, H. Massey P.M. 619, Tarryer 1310, Stiles 1507, Briggs 25, Hartman 1540, Harper P.M., Hadson 1540, Stoak 1178, Pearcey 228, Owen, Arrowsmith 733, J. H. Button 77, J. Gibbs 1178, Forrester 1293, and H. M. Levy P.M. 183.

Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469, Spalding.—The Festival of St. John was celebrated on Thursday, the 11th inst. The brethren met for the audit of accounts at two o'clock, and had the satisfaction of reporting to the full Lodge afterwards that a good balance was in hand, but the recent decorations of the Lodge will we believe much more than absorb that sum. At three o'clock there was a very large Lodge to witness the installation of Bro. James Robinson as W.M. The routine business having been disposed of, the ceremony of induction into the office was performed by Bro. Woodrow, with great solemnity, and much to the satisfaction of the Lodge—the largest, we believe, ever known in the town, except on the occasion of Provincial Grand Lodge meetings, when brethren are present from all parts of the country. Bro. Robinson appointed the following officers:—Bros. Barrell S.W., Dr. Perry J.W., Ham Sec., Symes S.D., Benner J.D., A. Harrison I.G. At 5.30, the banquet was served in the Board-room, Bro. Harper placing on the tables a splendid spread, in which all the delicacies of the season found a place. The waiting was excellent, and this department appeared to be highly appreciated. The peculiar character of the event necessitates a curtailment of the speeches. The W.M., in giving "The Queen and the Craft," referred to the fact that Her Majesty had three sons in the Order, and that abundantly testified her interest in it. The W.M. next gave "The Prince of Wales, G.M. of England, and the Grand Lodge Officers," and showed that the Prince was a most industrious Grand Master. The toast was received with enthusiasm. Bro. C. F. Bonner, in proposing "The P.G.M. of Lincolnshire and Officers," gracefully alluded to the interest taken in Masonry by the Duke of St. Albans and Major Smith. Bro. J. A. Thomas (Boston) made a very humorous speech in acknowledgment of the compliment: Bro. Dr. Perry gave "The P.M.'s of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge," a toast he said which needed no remarks from him, for their talents and worth were well known to and much appreciated by the brethren. Bro. Bonner, with whose name the toast was coupled, regretted the absence of the "Father of the Lodge," but he maintained that no one had a greater interest in the welfare of Freemasonry than he had. So long as he was permitted to associate himself with Freemasons, he should be delighted to do so, and he trusted their Order would in time to come be better understood and appreciated. Bro. Woodrow then gave "The W.M." He paid a very warm tribute to Bro. Robinson's great interest in the Lodge, and to his geniality and influence, circumstances which plainly augured a year of exceptional prosperity. The W.M. made a very modest response, expressing an opinion that the brethren had formed too high an opinion of his qualifications for the office. He expressed his determination to do his utmost—a sentiment which was received with loud applause. Bro. Vise, in giving the next toast, "The Retiring W.M.," showed that, whilst new friendships were very pleasing, they ought not to forget old friends. He paid a warm and generous tribute to Bro. Woodward for the satisfactory manner in which he had performed the duties of his office during the past year. Bro. Woodward, in responding, said he had endeavoured to do his best, and stated that he should have been unable to carry out the duties of his office had it not been for the assistance of his officers. Bro. A. Harrison, in very becoming and expressive words, proposed "The Installing Master." Bro. Woodrow, who received a most enthusiastic reception, briefly acknowledged the toast, expressing his confidence in the new W.M., and promising to assist him to his utmost in fulfilling the somewhat difficult and responsible duties of the office. Bro. W. Crust then gave "The Newly Invested Officers." Bro. Barrell, after expressing his gratitude for the kind reception of the toast, said it would be the intention of the officers of the Lodge to worthily support their chief during his year of office. Bro. Symes next proposed "The other Lodges in the Province." Bro. Ferguson (Boston) responded. Bro. J. H. White gave "The Visiting Brethren." Bro. Pilcher (Peterborough), in a very graceful and appropriate reply, showed that Masonry was not the great imposition that outsiders would have them believe, but a grand reality, as was evidenced in their noble Masonic institutions. Bro. Griffin (Peterborough) next gave "The Newly Initiated." Bro. Harper, in an excellent speech, responded. Bro. W. H. Bailes (Boston), in giving "The Masonic Charities," said he was old enough to remember when the Masonic body possessed only one charitable institution. With the advance of the times, however, they had been able to increase that number to three, all of which were in a state of great prosperity, and doing very much good. He also referred to the recent vote of Grand Lodge, by which the munificent sum of four thousand guineas was proposed to be presented to the funds of the Lifeboat Institution. The toast was well received. Bro. James Cutbush (Highgate), who was

evidently well acquainted with the Masonic institutions, gave a very useful speech in reply. He showed, by personal experience, the great amount of usefulness that was being done, and the suffering that was healed by the provision made for the aged. He urged upon the brethren a still more warm support, and thought that, as the highest aim of the Order was that of doing charitable works, they could not do better than help and encourage these three grand institutions, which were doing marvellous good to the recipients of their favour. Bro. Cutbush's reply was very warmly received, and his very interesting remarks listened to with great attention. Bro. Ham gave "The Ladies," to which Bro. F. Thomas made a telling response. Bro. Benner gave "To all Poor and Distressed Masons," which was replied to by Bro. Kennerell. This being the last toast on the list, many of the visiting and other brethren left the room to return to Peterborough. The Boston contingent went by later train. Nearly twenty visiting brothers were present, and consequently the ordinary number at dinner was largely swelled. Some excellent songs were given by Bros. Pilcher, Woodrow, and Abbott, and, on the whole, the evening was the most interesting in the annals of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge. Prospects undoubtedly bid fair for a most successful year's work.

Bank of England Lodge, No. 263.—The members of this Lodge met at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on the 11th inst. Mr. F. Donald Campbell was initiated into the Fraternity by Bro. Raphael Costa P.M. The ceremony of installing Bro. Thomas Howden into the chair of K.S. was efficiently performed by the retiring Master, Bro. Morton. The health of the initiate was proposed at the banquet by W. Bro. Charles Hopwood M.P., an old Past Master of the Lodge, in a stirring speech, detailing his own recollections of a Masonic career, traced back to the day of his initiation, and the ennobling influence he had experienced from study of the principles of the Order. W. Bros. Charles Horsley, Thomas Boyd P.G.S., J. Dicketts P.G.S. and Martin attended as visitors.

Eclectic Lodge, No. 1201.—The installation meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, the 12th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. There was a very large attendance of members, while the Visitors mustered in great force to show their respect for the W.M. elect, Bro. E. J. Harty, the well-known artist, who is engaged on the Historical Engraving to Commemorate the Installation of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master. The Lodge having been opened, and the preliminary business transacted, a ballot was taken for Bro. Thomas Shipway, of Lodge No. 378 S.C., which resulted in his favour. Mr. C. T. Pearce, who had previously been ballotted for, was then initiated, Bro. J. H. Watts ably performing the ceremony. A Board of Installed Masters, numbering 19, was then formed, and Bro. Watts completed the duties of his year of office by installing his successor in a manner that called forth unqualified praise from all present. The following were appointed as officers:—Arthur E. Taylor S.W., G. W. Saul J.W., W. E. Barber Secretary, James Mander P.M. and Treasurer, T. Lee S.D., F. C. Dobbing J.D., N. C. Pochin D.C., Dr. Lloyd Steward, G. Moss I.G., T. Davis Assist. Steward, Grant Tyler. Lodge was then closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned to the Princess Saloon, Holborn Restaurant, where a sumptuous banquet was prepared. About 75 sat down, and did justice to the ample fare provided. Bro. Harty, in a most genial manner, presided. In giving the toast of the Queen and the Craft, he stated that Her Majesty was the daughter of a Grand Master, the niece of one, and the mother of one. Loyalty to the throne being one of the watchwords of Masonry, it would be superfluous to make further comment. He would call upon them to do honour to the toast. In proposing the health of the M.W.G.M., the W.M. remarked that H.R.H. had endeared himself to the hearts of all by his geniality and good nature. The next toast was that of the M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy G. M., the rest of the Grand Officers Present and Past. The W.M. coupled with it the name of Bro. T. Fenn, whose services in the cause of Masonry were known to every member of the Craft. He especially alluded to the Installation of the M.W.G.M., where Bro. Fenn's services were so conspicuously displayed, mainly contributing to the great success of that epoch in Freemasonry. Bro. Fenn thanked the brethren on behalf of the Grand Officers, and hoped they appreciated the labours of their rulers. He had the pleasure of consecrating the Eclectic Lodge and installing its first Master. At that time, the Eclectic was a working Lodge only, and he considered the step that had been taken that day, of dining after Lodge labours, was a good one. He believed that where brethren did not join at the festive board, many differences of opinion expressed in the Lodge were allowed to grow into causes of disagreement, but where the brethren met afterwards, for a few hours enjoyment, they were forgotten, or, at most, treated only as matters of business. He was gratified to see the way in which they dispensed their hospitality, and hoped the Lodge would have prosperity, and would ever be able to welcome brethren as they were that evening doing under the presidency of Bro. Harty. The health of the initiate, Bro. Pearce, was next proposed by the W.M., and this brother, who proved himself a master of oratory, said—Worshipful Master and Brethren,—Had I been called upon yesterday to reply to this assemblage, I should have had to address you as Fellow Citizens, as Gentlemen, or as Friends; to-day, I am proud to say, that I can address you by the name of Brothers. This will be a memorable day in my existence, short though that may be. Though I am, as the Worshipful Master says, the youngest Mason in the room, I have seen many years, and I have one regret—that I have lived so long without joining an association which does honour to both God and humanity. I have been deeply impressed by my initiation into the Brotherhood, and, I trust that late in life as I am before I have joined you, I shall not be thought less able to appreciate its beauties, or less able to feel that you have honoured me in initiating me into your mysteries. I might say I was born a Mason, for my late father, who has been dead 47 years, was a Mason in a Sussex Lodge; there-

fore, he stood at one time in the position in which I stand to-night, and if there are footsteps which it is an honour to follow, I think to-night I am following his footsteps. To-day is, therefore, in many respects a memorable one for me, and I trust that my future experience of the Craft may be marked by that purity of religion which I have seen. I am no stranger to Freemasonry, in the points of its history and antiquity. I know that it has outlived races, nations and creeds, that religionisms have failed, but that Freemasonry has lived, lives, because it unites man to his Maker; that it is characterised by a boundless charity, which pours a healing balm into the bosom of the afflicted. As I have gathered to-night from the Worshipful Master, in the course of the interesting ceremony, it forgets not the widow, the orphan, nor the aged brother, though that brother had the only one tie to the fraternity, that he lifted up his heart to the same God we worship. I feel by my initiation to-night I have entered upon a new crisis in my history. I trust that during the remaining years of my life I shall practise its teachings, knowing no sect, holding brotherhood with all, of whatever clime or country, who are within its circle, and who are bound in the one universal bond which exemplifies the greatest of all religions, true charity and brotherly love. Yesterday I was a man; to-day I can clasp my breast and say, "Am I not a man and a brother?" (Great applause.) I thank you most cordially for the hearty reception you have given to the toast. Bro. P.M. J. H. Watts proposed the health of the W.M., who, he said, was a young Mason, having been initiated only three and a half years since. During the time he had been in office in the Lodge he had not missed a meeting. He was now engaged on one of the greatest works in connection with Freemasonry; he alluded to the picture of that grand assembly at the Albert Hall, when the Grand Master was installed. The W.M., in reply, said, as a "bashful Irishman" he was proud of the position he occupied, as Master of the Eclectic; it was the highest dignity a Mason could obtain in a Lodge. He quite agreed with the remarks of Bro. Fenn as to dining, and hoped the Lodge would find the benefit of the change. For the future, hospitality would be a prominent feature with them. The health of the Visitors was given and responded to by Bros. J. Stevens, W. W. Morgan, and While, who were followed by those brethren who formed the deputation who had come over from Ireland to do honour to Bro. Harty on his installation. This included a member of the Board of General Purposes (Ireland), Bro. Wm. Spence P.M. and Treasurer Lodge 75. Other toasts were given, the Charities finding able exponents in Bros. Binckes and Terry, who both called upon the brethren to support the Institutions. The Officers were duly honoured, and the Tyler brought the proceedings to a termination at an advanced hour. Visitors—Bros. Thomas Fenn, S. Harvey, William Spence, Gordon, John Constable, James Stevens, J. W. Wright, E. J. Scott, T. E. Tallent, G. Kelly, E. M. Haigh, Frederick Binckes, W. Smallpiece, A. C. Burrell, James Terry, John While, M. Higgs, J. Perry Godfrey, Dr. John Norton, G. Brooke, W. C. Clarke, E. W. Braine, C. Whewell, H. Purdue, J. C. Adams, G. Gardiner, Taylor, J. Hilton, W. H. Baswell, A. Stewart, G. Davis, A. Botibol, M. M. Lembeig, H. Beadle, E. Henman, Reid, Fletcher, Papprell, R. G. Tolmie, H. D. Blackman, W. W. Morgan, &c.

Druid's Lodge of Love and Liberality, No. 589.—Held its annual meeting on the 8th of January, at the Masonic Hall, Redruth. Present—Bros. John F. Penrose P.P.G.S.D. P.M. acting W.M., John Thomas S.W., W. H. Treseder J.W., John Hocking jun. P.M. Secretary, James Sims P.M. Treasurer, T. A. Kistler, S.D., William Lidgley J.D., E. T. Pearce D.C., T. Chapman I.G., John Polkinghorne Tyler. Past Masters Bros. Tregay, Reynolds, Davey, Cock, Dabb, and J. H. Michell. The Visitors were represented by the W.M. and Wardens of the Fortitude 131, Phoenix 331, Cornubian 450, Tregulow 1006, Mount Edgcumbe 1544. Bro. John Thomas was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony being most impressively performed, before a board of fourteen P.M.'s, by the acting W.M. Bro. J. F. Penrose. The W.M. elected his officers for the ensuing year, after which the brethren adjourned to Bro. Tabbs' Hotel, where 60 of the brethren partook of an excellent banquet. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given.

William Preston Lodge of Instruction, No. 766.—This Lodge met on Friday, the 12th of January, at the Feathers Tavern, Upper George-street, Edgware-road. Present—Bros. S. Godden of 862 W.M., Coates S.W., S. Nichols J.W., Aug. Braun Secretary, J. Kennard Treasurer, Parsons S.D., Tribbel J.D., Cleg-horn I.G.; also present, Bros. Tate 862, Ridley 1314, Evans, and Murch. After preliminaries, the W.M. most ably rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Evans acting as candidate. Bro. R. Tate, who acted as P.M. on this occasion, worked the first section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. It was proposed and seconded that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. S. Godden, for the able manner in which he had performed the duties of the chair for the first time.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642.—This Lodge held its regular meeting on Thursday, the 11th of January, at Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill. Present—Bros. William Joseph Murlis W.M., George Penn S.W., Samuel Parkhouse J.W., Joseph Pushman Secretary, William Stephens Treasurer, Clench J.D., Samuel Smout D.C., S. Smout jun. Steward, Lander I.G., Schofield, Tyler. Visitors—Bros. Watts W.M. St. Paul's Lodge, Knight Smith, Organist, Ivy Lodge, Buttenbach No. 12, Scrutton 87, Cave Metropolitan. One gentleman was initiated. Bro. Walter Wheeler 511 was successfully ballotted for as a joining member. Several propositions for initiation at the next meeting were handed in. After the Lodge had been closed, the brethren dined together, when the usual toasts were duly honoured. It was decided to hold a ball in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for aged Freemasons.

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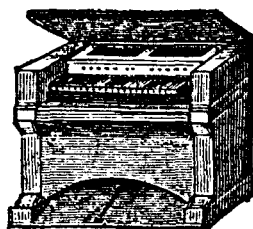
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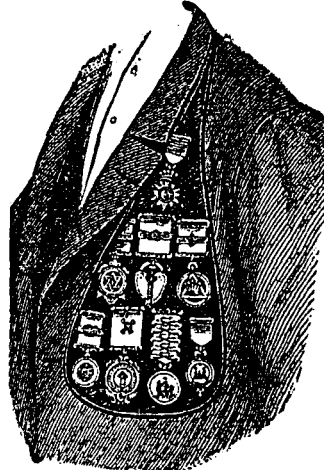
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