

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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FREEMASONRY IN NORTH WALES AND SALOP.

(Continued from page 306.)

OUR last paper dealt with the Shrewsbury Lodges and their fortunes. In this we purpose giving a few particulars of Freemasonry as it exists in Oswestry, another town in Salop, the name being generally set down as a corruption of "Oswald's Tree." This Oswald was a Christian King of Northumbria, who, in a field where now stands the town of Oswestry, was defeated and slain on the 5th of August 642, in a battle with the pagan Penda, King of Mercia. The latter had the body of his fallen foe cut into pieces, which were affixed to stakes placed in different parts of the field. The Anglo-Saxon chronicler, the venerable Bede, recounts instances showing the miraculous properties of the earth taken from this field, while Oswald was admitted by the Romish Church into the list of their saints, and a church was raised to commemorate his martyrdom. In the vicinity of the town, at a place called by the Welsh "Cae Naef," that is, "Heaven's Field," is a remarkably fine spring of water, bearing the name of Oswald's Well, and over which as recently as the year 1770 were the ruins of an ancient chapel, also dedicated to him. The first charter was granted to the town in the reign of Henry II. by the lord of the manor, William Earl of Arundel, and his son having taken part with the barons against King John, the latter, in the year 1212, marched on the town and reduced it to ashes. A similar fate befel it later, at the hands of Llewellyn, Prince of North Wales; but in 1277 Edward I. caused it to be surrounded by a wall and ditch, some portions of the former still remaining, though the four gates were removed in 1769. The charter granted by Richard II. in 1397 exempted the burgesses from all customs throughout the kingdom, the liberty of the city of London being excepted. They also acquired during this reign, among other privileges, that of compelling the inhabitants of the eleven towns within the hundred to bring their cattle, corn, victuals, and wares into the market-place before sending them to any other market or fair. The Welsh tenantry of the hundred were also bound by their tenure to keep watch and ward for three days and three nights at the gates of the town during the fairs of St. Andrew and St. Oswald, but it being found that they ravaged and plundered the place instead of protecting it, they were very properly relieved of this duty, and were required instead to pay a sum of money to Englishmen for the safe custody of the town. So much for early history. Now it is a flourishing and populous town, and the chief depôt of the Cambrian Railway. No wonder, then, that we should find a brace of promising Lodges working as nearly as possible after the manner we have described at Shrewsbury. The elder of the two—the St. Oswald, No. 1124, founded in the year 1866—is very strong, and capable of imparting a vast amount of energy, and setting an admirable example to others which are less favoured in respect of members and means. It can boast on its roll of members the Marquis of Londonderry, Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart. M.P., the Grand Master of the Province, and Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., and it includes among its Past Masters and Officers several of the best and ablest Masons in the Province. Among the former must be singled out for especial notice Bro. W. H. Spaul, who is both Grand Secretary and Grand Scribe E. of the Province. Brother Spaul is a thorough good Mason, and a more learned one does not exist anywhere. He is a man of

retired habits, abominating all attempts at display. To such a one it may easily be imagined that the mere parrot-like recitals of ritual are most objectionable, and that he courts discussion or, at all events, the consideration of, the abstruser and more mystic elements of Freemasonry. In a well-organised and well-governed Province the position of Prov. Grand Secretary must be as nearly as possible a sinecure; but this is the reverse with Bro. Spaul, who is constantly receiving letters from the brethren on every variety of subjects, and even on matters which it would be impossible to answer, or rather, which, in his capacity of only P.G. Sec., he could not take upon himself to answer. Another distinguished member is Worshipful Bro. Corfield, who is zealous as well as able, who has the best interests of the Fraternity at heart, and to whom, if he had the opportunity, nothing would give greater pleasure than to break through and remove the barrier of exclusiveness, so opposed to the principles of the Craft, which many among the members of this Lodge are apt to set up. Bro. George Owen, one of the Past Masters, has also rendered signal services to the Lodge, being highly esteemed for his knowledge of ritual, as well as for the generosity of his disposition and his readiness on all occasions to do everything for the welfare of the Province. Bros. Woods and Walker and Dr. Beresford are likewise among the supports of the Lodge, while Bro. John Thomas has distinguished himself by the rapid progress he has made in the acquisition of Masonic knowledge. The number of members is about forty. The sister Lodge, the Fitzalan, No. 1432, was founded in the year 1873, and can only boast, therefore, of a five years' existence. It has gone through many vicissitudes of fortune, and has not always been free from anxiety as to its future. The best men have not always been appointed officers, but, in spite of this and other drawbacks, it is in a fair way to prosper, thanks to the zealous efforts of Bros. Beresford, A. Walker, John Thomas, and E. B. Smith, who are among its Past Masters. The last mentioned brother, in particular, who has had great experience in London as a Mason, is an invaluable aid to the Fitzalan. His knowledge of the best principles for governing a Lodge, his zeal, and his ample acquirements render him especially fitted for the post of Secretary of a young and aspiring Lodge. No doubt, in time, the Fitzalan will become sufficiently powerful to be recognised by the St. Oswald, and then the members of the latter will not suppose it derogatory from their position to interest themselves in the welfare of their junior. More especially is this likely to be the case since we find that, though the younger of the two Lodges, it has attached to it a R.A. Chapter, so that R.A. Masons need not now journey to Shrewsbury or Welshpool, to which latter place we are about to betake ourselves.

Welshpool, with which are associated the Lords of Powys and their Castle, and which, like every other border town of England and Wales, was the frequent scene of strife and bloodshed when, as yet, the Principality was not subject to the Kings of England, should be properly written as two words. It is named from its vicinity to a lake or "Pool," the "Welsh" being added to distinguish it from Poole in Dorsetshire. So, at least, we remember to have read in some topographical dictionary. But be it as it may, Welshpool has a Lodge of Freemasons, No. 998, which bears the same name, and though numbering only some thirty-five members, is a model of discipline, and, in fact, an exemplar in all things to its fellow Lodges in the Province. The pride of Welshpool—speaking, of course, Masonically—is its having been the birthplace of one of

the grandest and most enlightened Masons England has ever known, and one to whom this Province of North Wales and Salop is indebted for its regeneration and present status. We allude, of course, to the late Dr. Goldsboro', than whom a more zealous, abler, or more enthusiastic Mason never entered the precincts of a Lodge. He was W. Master of the "Welshpool" for two years, and during that period regularly travelled from London in order to be present at its meetings. He initiated between forty and fifty brethren, and so highly valued were the services he rendered, not to this Lodge alone, but to the Province generally, that the present Prov. G. Master conferred on him the Office of Prov. G.S. Warden. No wonder, then, the "Welshpool" should be as we have described, or that it should include among its members, many able, experienced brethren, worthy emulators of the Goldsboro' virtues, such Masons as Bros. D. P. Owen, W. Collender, T. R. Morris, Past Masters—Samuel Davies, mayor of the town, Dr. G. Robinson, and J. Pugh Morris. The Lodge was founded in 1864, and we trust it may long remain an ornament to the Craft, of which it is a young, but flourishing branch.

MOIRA LODGE, No. 92.

THIS Lodge held its installation meeting on Saturday last, at the Criterion, Piccadilly. Bro. Alex. Mortimore presided, and there were present Bros. Wickham Noakes S.W. and W.M. elect, Harold Carter J.W., E. Horne P.M. Treasurer, R. F. Williams P.M. Secretary, G. C. Andrews S.D., H. T. Auldjo J.D., T. Wilkinson I.G., H. R. Brett P.M., Charles S. Sweeting P.M., R. F. Gould P.M., Henry Harben P.M., C. S. Amos P.M., G. J. Atkins P.M., Josiah Hoole P.M., Bertram Noakes and William Bohn, together with the following visitors, namely, Bros. Richard Pidcock 916, Chas. W. C. Hutton 96 P.G.D., J. J. Hamilton 1692, Sharon G. Turner 2, Cranstonn Kerr 1067, Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke G.S.D., James Self P.G.S.W. Essex, John C. Walker 14, W. W. Morgan Sec. 211, C. A. Murton P.G.D., E. J. H. Booth S.D. 1692, R. M. Gardiner 34, George Lambert P.P.G.J.W. Herts, Rev. H. Smith P.P.G. Chap. Leicester and Rutland, C. C. Dumas P.A.G.D.C. P.M. 46, T. Davies Sewell P.G.S. P.M. 21, E. C. Goodhart W.M. 1692, John Saunders P.M. 1139, Wm. Kirkness, W. Elgood 871, W. Bartholomew 229, R. G. Webster W.M. 569. The Lodge having been opened with the customary formalities, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, and Bro. Josiah Hoole, who performed the part of installing officer, inducted Bro. Wickham Noakes into the chair of the Lodge in a highly effective and appropriate manner. Having been saluted in due form, Bro. Noakes appointed and invested his Officers as follow, namely, Bro. Harold Carter S.W., G. C. Andrew J.W., H. T. Auldjo S.D., T. Wilkinson J.D., William Bohn I.G. Bro. E. Horne P.M., having been re-elected Treasurer, was invested, and Bro. R. F. Williams P.M. was re-appointed Secretary. The other business having been disposed of, the Lodge was closed, and the banquet followed. On the removal of the cloth, the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts, remarking, in connection with that of the G.M., on the exertions His Royal Highness had made during the Paris International Exhibition in his capacity of Chairman of the Royal British Commission. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Shadwell Clerke replied for the toast of the Pro Grand Master, &c., &c., and expressed on behalf of himself and the other Grand Officers who were present the gratification they derived from the reception they had met with. He congratulated the W.M. on having attained his present position, and wished him a long continuance of prosperity. It then devolved on Bro. R. F. Gould P.M. to propose the important toast of the evening, namely, that of the Memory of Earl Moira, the Patron of the Lodge, and in the fulfilment of his duty Bro. Gould spoke as follows:—The subject of the toast, known successively as Lord Rawdon, Earl Moira, and finally as Marquis of Hastings, was the eldest son of the first Earl Moira; and having selected a military career, at the age of 17, joined the 15th Regiment as an Ensign, and being shortly afterwards promoted into the 63rd, accompanied this latter corps to America, where he was engaged in the bloody battle of Bunker's Hill, receiving on the occasion two shots in his cap, and being mentioned in despatches by General Burgoyne "as having stamped his fame for life"—a prophetic utterance which, as will be seen hereafter, was fulfilled to the letter, though not, perhaps, in the capacity of a soldier. Before attaining his 24th year he was appointed Adjutant-General to the British forces in America, and greatly distinguished himself during the hazardous retreat from Philadelphia to New York, receiving in consequence a separate command, during the tenure of which he defeated the American General Green, at the battle of Hobkirk's Hill. In 1782, being succeeded as Adjutant-General by the unfortunate Major André, he returned to England, when he was created an English peer and appointed A.D.C. to the King, with the rank of Colonel. In 1793, he commanded a body of troops near Southampton, intended to co-operate with the Royalists in Brittany, and though his private expenditure at this period exceeded £30,000 a year, such was his delicacy that he would accept neither pay, emolument, nor patronage, whilst the troops under his command were kept in a state of indecision which did not promise real service. In the following year, he commanded a force of 10,000 men, sent to reinforce the Duke of York in Holland, and effected one of the most extraordinary marches of which military history affords an example. In 1813, he was appointed Governor-General and Commander-in-

Chief of India, and during the ten years of his sway brought two wars of the greatest magnitude to a successful issue. As at the present moment a rupture with one Indian potentate is exciting apprehension, it may be interesting if I state, and in so doing I use Lord Moira's own words, "that on his acceding to the government of India, in 1813, there were made over to him no less than six hostile discussions with native powers, each capable of entailing a resort to arms;" and, likewise, that "the independent powers of India were so numerous and strong, as to conceive themselves equal to expel the British;" whilst at the termination of Earl Moira's rule, every native state in that vast region was in either acknowledged, or essential subjugation, to our Government. James Mill, the historian of British India, thus speaks of Lord Moira: "The administration of the Marquess of Hastings may be regarded as the completion of the great scheme of which Clive had laid the foundation, and Warren Hastings and the Marquess of Wellesley had reared the superstructure. The crowning pinnacle was the work of Lord Hastings, and by him was the supremacy of the British Empire in India finally established." In 1823, having meantime been created Marquis of Hastings, he returned to England, whence, in the following year, he proceeded to Malta as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. He died on 28th November 1826, on board H.M.S. Revenge, at Baiu Bay, near Naples. Contemporary records state that his excessive liberality and unbounded generosity had so impoverished him, that his ample fortune absolutely sank under the benevolence of his nature. Earl Moira's Masonic services were also of a very distinguished nature, and greatly endeared him to the Craft. In 1789, he was appointed by the then Grand Master, the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III., acting Grand Master, which position he continued to occupy until his departure for India in 1813. In 1804, he became the patron of this Lodge, which has since been designated by his name, and has held its annual festival on his birthday. In January 1813, on his leaving for India, a testimonial of the value of £1,000 was presented to him by the Craft, together with a jewelled collar of the additional value of £1,500. The Duke of Sussex presided, and no less than six Royal dukes were present on the occasion. His lordship remained, as I have before said, for ten years in India, and on relinquishing the Governor-Generalship, publicly declared "that his pride and exultation were complete, at its having been seen that Masonic principles had influenced him in the exercise of his authority." In 1823, on his return to England, great preparations were made by this Lodge to entertain him at a grand dinner, at which the Duke of Sussex G.M. was to have presided, and which was to have been open to the entire Craft, but owing to his lordship's ill-health, the idea was at first postponed, and then reluctantly abandoned. I may observe, brethren, that the toast we are about to drink, in the manner, and under the circumstances which connect it with our annual festival, has a special significance, which has been handed down from remote antiquity. I would first premise, that it was the custom of the Old Medieval Guilds, from which we are undoubtedly descended, to terminate all occasions of initiation or commemoration by a grand drinking bout. Of these Guilds it has been said, that whilst England was their birth-place, London was their cradle. Their essence consisted "in a brotherly banding together for mutual help and support," and their distinguishing characteristic was the assembly of their members at stated periods, at a common table, where they ate and drank together for the purposes of identification, and to ascertain whether any man was absent on unlawful business. Indeed, so much importance was attached, in some guilds, to an adequate observance of their festal obligations, that the allowance of the Master or Alderman, on the occasion of a festival, was fixed at two gallons of ale, and a wholesome rule existed that no member was to go to sleep, or to keep the ale up to himself. As regards this custom of meeting at a common table, to its happy influence is ascribed, by all authorities alike, the permanency and vitality of our guildic, as well as of our Masonic Institutions. On the decease of a guild-brother, memorial services were sometimes held for three successive days, but on the third day toasts were drunk to all dead members. This particular usage, however, that of commemorating the virtues of the dead, is traceable to the very twilight of antiquity. It was a universal practice among the Pagans of the North to indulge in hilarious feasts, whose principal diet was furnished by victims offered upon the altars of their divinities. At these banquets the heroic deeds of distinguished warriors were sung, and toasts drunk, amid uproarious glee, to the memory of deceased friends, and in honour of their gods. The custom of toasting the memory of departed members of the Masonic fraternity, on festal occasions, has come down to us from this semi-religious observance of the Germans. At the feasts of the Northern people, a garland of flowers, with a rose prominently placed in the centre, was suspended from the ceiling, above the table, as a symbol that everything which might be done or spoken by the participants in the banquet should be held strictly secret. Hence has arisen the well known phrase *sub rosa*, or *under the rose*. To-night, therefore, brethren, in toasting the memory of Earl Moira, whilst commemorating the virtues of a Great Ruler in the Craft, at the same moment, and *under the rose*, for though the emblem of secrecy is not visible in our midst, its import is represented by this closely tyed room, we celebrate one of the most cherished of our traditional observances, which, hallowed by the associations of a remote past, is honoured in the present by our faithful adherence to time-honoured custom, and will, we hope, be perpetuated in the future, and for all time by our successors in the Craft. Bro. Gould concluded by reading the following lines, penned by Earl Moira in 1793:—"The Hoir Apparent of the Empire is our chief. We fraternise for the purposes of social intercourse, or mutual assistance, of charity to the distressed, and goodwill to all, and fidelity to a trust, reverence to the magistrate, and obedience to the laws, are sculptured in capitals upon the pediment of our Institution." The toast was duly honoured, and then Bro. Mortimore I.P.M. rose, and in complimentary terms proposed the health of the W.M., who, in the course of his reply, expressed the sincere regret which he, in common with the rest of the Lodge, felt at the absence of Bro. Cornelius Thorne, a Past Master of the Moira, on whom last year had

been conferred the honourable appointment of District Grand Master of Northern China. Bro. Noakes next proposed the health of the Past Masters, to which Bro. Mortimore replied, both speeches being short, but in excellent taste. Bro. Geo. Lambert responded for the Visitors. Bro. Bartholomew, a very old Mason, adding a few words, and reciting a few lines of impromptu verse in honour of the occasion. Bro. Carter acknowledged the toast of the Wardens, and Bro. Auldjo that of the Subordinate Officers, and in due course the concluding toast was drunk, and the brethren rose. A few of the old school, however, remained, for the purpose of enjoying a little social chat and talking over old times, the chat being occasionally relieved by recitations and songs, of which latter Thackeray's well-known chant of "Little Billie" may be mentioned as a fair specimen. Some quaint lines on Morrison's Pills were sang, and, indeed, a very pleasant subsidiary gathering was held when the chief one had been brought to a close. We must not omit to add that in the intervals between the toasts a selection of vocal music was given, under the able direction of Bro. Lawler, who was assisted by Bro. G. T. Carter and the Misses Matilda Roby and Helen Heath, the accompanist being Miss Bernard. All acquitted themselves so well that little need be said. Yet it is worth while recording that Bro. Carter sang the old song, by Braham, "The Anchor's Weighed," with great expression. Bro. Lawler was very effective in his rendering of "I fear no foe;" Miss Matilda Roby quite enchanted the guests with her spirited and artistic execution of the old English song, "Come Lasses and Lads," while Miss Helen Heath, who sang "The Ash Grove" and "Wapping Old Stairs," was warmly and deservedly applauded. Miss Bernard, at the piano-forte, played well, and added greatly to the effect of the singing by the admirable manner in which she accompanied her fellow artists.

SEVENTY-FIVE DAYS' SEARCH FOR MORE LIGHT.

FROM THE "MASONIC REVIEW."

AS a delver in the mines of Masonic lore I frequently find precious grains of metal in unsuspected places. Just now, looking over the envelopes sent me here in London, I find some of the seals of the leading Craftsmen rich in symbolical meaning. Of these I will instance a few.

That of R.W. James H. Neilson, of Dublin, Ireland (a most painstaking student in Freemasonry, and Representative between the Grand Lodge of Egypt and Ireland), is a shield containing a mailed hand holding upright the head of a javelin.

That of Brother Robert S. Brown, of Edinburgh, Scotland, a diligent delver in the rights of Constantine, etc., and the Representative between the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and Scotland, is a cross (in red) enclosing the ancient form of Chi Rho cross, and the letters suggesting Constantine's visions, viz., I.H.S.V.

That of Brother Hyde Clark, formerly a most ardent Mason, and the founder of lodges in the Turkish dominions, is a rose within a wreath.

That of Hon. John F. Townshend, long the Deputy Grand Master of Ireland, is a portly stag, such as Virgil describes in his *Aeneid*, Book I, pp 189, 190, viz.: "*Capita alta ferentes Cornibus arboreis.*"

That of R.W. Bro. Alexander Tate, Provincial Grand Secretary of Ireland, is a monogram of the two letters A.T. most artistically interwoven and printed in red.

That of Col. W. M. Neilson, Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow, is the body, head and arms of a strong man, printed in black, he carries a heavy mallet upon his shoulder. Bro. W. Hyde Pallen, of London, uses the cockle-shell, in memory of the Order of Harodim, of which he was one of three initiates in 1859. The pilgrim's shell is more peculiarly appropriate to Bro. Pallen, as in his family coat of arms there are eleven of these objects. But I am taking too much space with this subject.

Nothing in all my foreign tours, thus far, has given me greater pleasure and profit than my visits successively, to the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," and the "Royal Masonic Institution for Girls." In these visits, I was favoured by the guidance of Bro. Pallen, named above, whose devotion to me during my stay in London was unremitting. The hospitalities of his table; the courtesies of his most amiable family; the conveniences of his office in Golden Square, where he is the Assistant Grand Secretary to the Supreme Council 33°, and one of the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, also Secretary of "The Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1393," etc., etc., made me in so many ways his dependant, that I almost wonder what this singularly-gifted and excellent frater will do with himself after I leave here.

On the 22nd of August, we went to the Girls' School, driving in a cab (best, and easiest, and cheapest, and pleasantest of all earthly conveyances) to Waterloo Station, and thence, four miles by express train, over the tops of houses and under the basements thereof, to Clapham Junction, where several hundred railways concentrate (I speak "after the manner of men,") and near to which is the beautiful edifice devoted to God in the holy service of Masonic Charity. How many years is it, since first I read of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls? and here I am, where I have so long desired to be. As I enter the gateway, and my eyes and nostrils enjoy the first sweets of the variegated beds of flowers, my soul expands with my sensual organs, and I feel that I am on holy ground. Scarcely indeed can I restrain myself from baring my feet and kneeling, as though He who displayed His divine presence in the Burning Bush at Horeb were before me. No vain worship. He was before me, though invisible, and it was His spirit that prompted this noble enterprise when its corner stone was planted, when its cap stone was set up with shouting and praise, and through all its vicissitudes for nearly a century of life. Yes, the Divine Spirit dwells here, and through the thin veil that

separates mortality from immortality, it demands no great stretch of faith to "see the Invisible."

The day of my visit to the School was emphatically a field-day, one of the most important days in its history; for by taking in 18 new pupils to-day, the total of membership is 200, the largest number ever accommodated here. Two hundred bright, loving creatures, healthy, untainted in heart and person, gathered in from all parts of England by Masonic vigilance; and to be boarded, clothed, educated, and fitted out for places of usefulness, and honour in society, from the proceeds of Masonic Charity. Happy event. Let me enter fully into the spirit of it.

And first, by the attention of the Head Matron I was shown every part of the Institution, kitchen, laundry, infirmary, dormitories, lavatories, gardens, playgrounds, orchards and what not. The very perfection of order and cleanliness reigns throughout. In the dormitories I was struck with the cleanliness, ventilation, separate beds exquisitely neat, large spaces for breathing, and all that is needful to afford delightful rest and loving dreams to the dear creatures for whom the whole is so bountifully prepared. Each dormitory, whether containing 30 beds or only 8, is overlooked from a teachers' room. Amplest precautions are made against fire. The lavatories, bath rooms, etc., are abundantly supplied with water, both hot and cold. In brief, the best care of this old and wealthy people has been exhausted to give these two hundred girls a happy place, in these the happiest days of their lives.

The uniform of the pupils is simply white dresses, with aprons trimmed in blue, the white emblematic of purity, the blue of the great Order which, under God, is acting as the guardians of these girls.

The seventeen new pupils were catalogued in due order. Each brings a Medical Certificate from a physician of note. Each, before election, has been fully reported as to moral character and advancement in the elements of learning. The limits of age are eight years and sixteen. As each is tolled off from the crowd and entered upon the books of the school, a "mother" is allotted to her out of the girls of her own age. The part of the mother is to teach the new comer the ways of the school, and introduce her to the rest of the girls, and rescue her from a too boisterous reception at the hands of the multitude. How completely the "mother" plays her part, and how proud she is of the title and the duties, I saw and heard abundant evidence. It takes but a short time for the tyro to forget the heartache of parting from friends, when an indefatigable "mother" is always by her side abounding in words and deeds of love.

After dining with the House Committee, and receiving attentions at their hands which I propose to acknowledge in another place, I had an hour to witness the exercises of calisthenics and the marchings of the pupils. The accuracy and precision of step, and manual exercises exceeded anything I had ever witnessed, and the memory of those ten score joyous figures as they marched and countermarched past me, exercised arms, knees and muscular parts generally, and flashed happy eyes upon me, will surely abide with me so long as I live. Then came evening prayers, reading and singing, which brought back to memory one of the earliest poems of Mrs. Hemans, which ends thus:

"Earth will forsake,—oh happy to have given
The earliest freshness of the heart to heaven."

My visit to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys followed upon the next day. Here the occasion was similar, the reception of 35 new pupils swelling the aggregate of the School to two hundred and eleven, which is the largest number ever enrolled. The method of reception was substantially the same. The Medical Examiner (the accomplished Dr. Hall, who seems to have half London under his charge), gave due attention to matters in his department. Kisses were exchanged between the lads and ladies in black who had brought them there, and whose attempts to look cheerful at parting quite broke down, when the poor little fellows hid their faces in mother's bosom, and gave vent to irrepressible tears. As I sat quietly among them, I was witness to many an incident in nature's great drama. Last messages were exchanged, whispered words of good advice were imparted, pieces of money were furtively slipped into little hands, then veils were dropped and the ladies left for homes that will to-night seem strangely dark and solitary to them, while their minds revert to the sleepers in these dormitories who are haply dreaming of them. And so the world goes on.

THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE for next week will contain our Annual Summary of the Masonic Events of the Year.

The ceremony of Installation will be rehearsed on Tuesday, 31st inst., at 8.0 p.m., in the Mount Edgecumbe Lodge of Instruction, No. 1446, on which occasion Bro. W. H. Dean, W.M. 417, P.P.G.S.B. Dorset, will preside.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the lungs. In common colds and influenza the Pills taken internally and the Ointment rubbed externally are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic this treatment is easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway's Pills and Ointment purify the blood, remove all obstructions to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the overgorged air tubes, and induce respiration free without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits. Such are the ready means of saving suffering when afflicted with colds, coughs, bronchitis, and other complaints, by which so many are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

—O:—

OLD LODGE LISTS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—The engraved list for 1729, recently presented to Grand Lodge, and so gracefully acknowledged by the Pro Grand Master at the last Quarterly Communication, is a most valuable addition to our "National Masonic Library." With its contents many brethren are already familiar, from its having formed one of the reprints with which Bro. Hughan has enlightened the Craft in regard to its past history; but it is gratifying on all grounds that the original should be placed along with the other ancient records of our Institution.

The list in question is remarkable for being the first printed book in which Lodges were arranged according to seniority of constitution. Numbers and dates of constitution are therein exhibited for the first time, and it is, moreover, the only official list we possess which ascribes actual dates to either of the four old (or pre-revival) Lodges. Original Nos. 1 and 2 being dated at 1691 and 1712 respectively. The latter of these Lodges has long since died out (1733), but the former, now the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, being our oldest English Lodge, a few remarks on its probable date of constitution, may not be out of place.

In Aubrey's Natural History of Wiltshire (Ed. 1847, Brittan) a work written between 1656 and 1691, at p 99, the following appears:—

Memorandum.—"This day, May the 18th, being Munday, 1691, after Rogation Sunday, is a great convention at St. Paul's Church, of the fraternity of the adopted Masons, where Sir Christopher Wren is to be adopted a brother, and Sir Henry Goodric, of the Tower, and divers others. There have been Kings of this sodality."

This passage, besides disproving the statement of Preston (Illustrations of Masonry), that Sir C. Wren had been received into the Order at a much earlier date, would seem to justify the inference that from about the period of his actual initiation (1691) the meetings of the old Lodge of St. Paul began to be held *statedly*, and that from being what was then termed an "*occasional*," it became a "*stated*" Lodge.

The engraved list for 1729, by placing the date of constitution of the Lodge at 1691, adds weight to this supposition.

Yours fraternally,

R. F. GOULD.

P.S.—I should be much obliged to any reader of the CHRONICLE could he inform me where a copy of "Dalloway's Historical Account of Master and Freemason" can be seen?

CHARITY STEWARDS.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Having brought to a conclusion my remarks on the three heads which I proposed to myself for consideration in connection with the subject of "Charity Stewards," I now ask permission to submit to your readers my views with reference to the necessity for an extended support to our Masonic Institutions, and to the means by which it may be permanently assured. With this object I shall confine myself to an examination of the sources from which such support may be—and ought to be—obtained, other than those already treated of in association with the Anniversary Festivals.

The sources in question are—

1. Supreme Governing Masonic Bodies, viz.—

- (a) The United Grand Lodge of England.
- (b) The Grand Chapter of England.
- (c) The Grand Mark Lodge of England.
- (d) The Order of Knights Templar of England.
- (e) The Supreme Council 33° of England.
- (f) The Grand Council of Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

2. District and Provincial Grand Lodges and Chapters under the U.G.L. of England. Similar organisations under the other Supreme Bodies.

3. Private Craft Lodges.

- " R.A. Chapters.
- " Mark Lodges.
- " Preceptories of K.T.
- " R.C. Chapters and Consistories 33°.
- " Councils of Red Cross.

4. Individual members of the Order.

5. The Masonic Charitable Associations.

A full examination of the position of the first on the list—and, of course, by far the most influential and extensive—"The United Grand Lodge of England," in reference to the Institutions, will suffice for this letter.

The two Educational Institutions received support from Grand Lodge down to the year 1839, by a fee of 2s 6d on each certificate issued. The aggregate amount granted to that year was, to the Girls' School, £3,580; to the Boys' School, £3,533. The total

amount for the fourteen years immediately preceding the commutation received from Grand Lodge was £1,536 6s 3d, giving an annual average of £109 11s 8d, the last year of the fourteen being £143 in 1839—when the fee of 2s 6d per certificate was commuted for a fixed sum of £150—at which it has ever since remained.

The inadequacy of the amount contributed by Grand Lodge, by way of annual support to the two Educational Institutions, must strike at once the most careless or inattentive reader. If a commutation of £150 per annum was considered fair and equitable in the year 1839, it must, *ex necessitate*, be admitted to be unfair and inequitable in the year 1878. In the year 1839 the amount contributed, £143, represented 1,144 certificates. The income of Grand Lodge was £2,829 15s 11d. In the year 1877, the number of certificates issued was 8,465, which, at 2s 6d each, would produce £1,058 2s 6d, the income of Grand Lodge being £12,519 12s 5d. In the year 1838 the number of girls educated and maintained in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls was 58. The number of boys educated and clothed by the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was 65, the income from all sums being £884 6s. In the year 1878, the number of girls educated, clothed and maintained is 200. The number of boys educated, clothed and maintained is 211.

In the face of these facts, the enormous prosperity, numerical and material—the continued and continuing prosperity of the Order—the immensely increased funds at its disposal, the Grand Lodge of England has not, as yet, even proposed to consider whether the time has not arrived for more substantial annual assistance to two Institutions whose resources are severely taxed—the Boys' School most prominently so—to meet the ever advancing claims upon them.

I do not lose sight of the grants by Grand Lodge from time to time—as set forth in the Official Calendar, nor of the large outlay necessitated for the rebuilding of Freemasons' Hall, Tavern, &c. Until the latter had been defrayed, and Grand Lodge freed from liability, none thought of seeking aid from its funds. Neither do I overlook the loss occasioned by the recent bank failure; happily that will not be seriously felt.

Grand Lodge has now nothing to do but to largely accumulate funds, after providing liberally for every branch of administrative charge, and I contend it may well be asked to take into its serious consideration the needs of our Institutions, which are by unanimous consent not only most important in themselves, but are also regarded with justifiable pride,—are under most distinguished and exalted patronage,—while unquestionably they are at the same time objects of solicitude and anxiety, and must continue to be so until, by well-directed munificence, they are rendered independent of precarious and intermittent support.

I am compelled to conclude this somewhat abruptly, and shall trouble you again at no distant date.

I am, Dear Sir and Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

10th December 1878.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In my humble opinion, no good purpose is served in prolonging a correspondence when an attempt is made to divert the real and original argument from its natural channel by a side issue.

In reply, therefore, to Bro. Radclyffe, in CHRONICLE of the 7th, permit me distinctly to say, not in the least or smallest degree did I misunderstand his remarks in his letter published in your paper of 26th October last, but that I simply quoted his own words thus:—

"Would it not be an easy matter to compel every Lodge to subscribe, say one-third of their subscriptions?"

It was upon this absurd theory of compulsion I commented, and not upon Lodge funds being placed under different heads, as stated by Bro. Radclyffe in last letter, *vide* your issue of 7th.

I am in the habit of disposing of one question before opening another. If, therefore, our brother thinks there is any thing in this wild idea of compulsion, I ask him for argument in its favour, supported by facts and reason, or to throw it aside as one of those lop-sided ideas that now and then crop up with all who think, but which will not stand the test of further thought and investigation. But should Bro. Radclyffe adhere still to the original theory of compulsion, he might call to his aid "OLD FILE;" that is, if the latter can make up his mind whether this proposed system of compulsion is an obnoxious "Poll Tax," or a just demand upon the Craft as a body—I say, if "OLD FILE" can make up his mind on the subject, for evidently he had not, by the very opposite and contradictory remarks and ideas expressed in his letters in your issues of 30th November and 7th December, merely reminding our brethren that by the free and voluntary principle of "giving," hitherto in use by the Craft,—a principle and a system which has founded, maintained, and brought to a state of useful and efficient working those Charities which all good Masons point to with just and pardonable pride,—these Institutions, supported by the free offerings of the Craft to the extent of between thirty and forty thousand pounds per annum, a fact that at once proclaims free and voluntary "Giving is Charity," developed in one of its best forms, shedding lustre on the Order, making glad some hearts of all engaged in the good work, and in a degree to them far greater than to that poor humanity who merely receive the benefit of this free and voluntary giving.

I submit, therefore, that any machine made system of "compulsion," as embodied in the quotation which was extracted from Bro. Radclyffe's letter of 26th October, is fatal to the true character of Masonry: that it would reduce the Order to the level of a benefit society, and drive from its ranks some of our best and earnest workers, who labour for the Institutions, doing this from the fact that

they are Charities in the truest sense, and dependent for their very existence (for the fulfilment of a mission) on this noble spirit of true "giving" uncompelled, which is "Charity."

Yours fraternally,

CHARLES GODTSCHALK,

P.M. 70 and 1255.

THE "OFF NIGHT" AT THE TRANQUILLITY.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Nothing in the world is more easy than to find fault, and, to some minds, there is scarcely anything on earth more pleasurable. Let the motives be of the purest, there is a secret sense of enjoyment in the feeling of superiority over one's fellows when pointing out their shortcomings, and, be the faults venial or important, the operation produces equal satisfaction to the censor. The professional critic, sometimes venomous and seldom unbiassed, is, as a general rule, sufficiently sincere and honest. Except in rare cases, he, however, takes little trouble to carry investigation any considerable depth below the surface. His aim is to please his readers and maintain consistency with some particular phase of thought. The amateur critic is a being of quite a different stamp. His is a labour of love. He delights in getting to the bottom of things. His research, under certain circumstances, is most profound and exhaustive; sometime induced by kindly motive, but more often actuated by desires it is unnecessary here to characterise. Of late your columns have been made the vehicle of various specimens of amateur criticism. Self-appointed censors have tasked themselves with the duty of lecturing the Craft upon the sins of unthriftiness, and considerably indicated the course to be pursued in future. Balance-sheets were analysed, and Lodges censured. To this there may be no objection *per se*, and there is no doubt their generally amiable dispositions, will enable Craftsmen to bear the impertinent infliction meekly. There is, however, a limit to forbearance when a Lodge like Tranquillity, No. 185, is assailed. "ONE WHO KNOWS" publishes the fact that a certain sum had been expended upon a supper for a number of brethren, and some of them, like "Oliver Twist," actually had the audacity to ask for more. This sort of thing was, to the feelings of the Masonic Bumble, outrageous and distasteful. "ONE WHO KNOWS" should take into consideration that Dickens's typical workhouse brat received his luxuries without pay, while the member who imitated poor Oliver's example is amply taxed. But "ONE WHO KNOWS" meant to find fault, and conveniently ignores the fact. "ONE WHO KNOWS" asserts that some of the members do not spend six shillings and sevenpence halfpenny, the cost per head for the above-named supper, upon their dinners for a whole week. Possibly so; but it will scarcely be asserted they can dine very sumptuously for that amount. Then why, in the name of charity, does he not look with the eye of leniency upon poor devils whose generally meagre fare might surely be held sufficient excuse for the offence of asking for a little more? "ONE WHO KNOWS" ought to know the status of the Lodge—the active support to the Masonic Charities inscribed on the records of the Institutions—the private Benevolent Fund, amounting to a magnificent sum, and a considerable surplus besides from the General Lodge Fund, placed at interest, with an ample annual revenue, and the many unpublished acts of benevolence periodically extended to the distressed, are all evidence of excellent management, and show that Masonic obligations are not neglected. Moreover, there is scarcely one amongst the members who does not annually subscribe, donate to, or otherwise assist the Charities. Then why, in the name of all that is just and fair, should a little extra indulgence be made matter for publicity, and held up to reprobation. Although I have no desire to enter into the controversy, so ably conducted in your columns about the subject of revenue and expenditure of Lodges, I cannot resist the temptation to say a few words upon the matter. I have read with considerable interest all that has been said on both sides, and am led to question whether Lodges would remain prosperous, and consequently the Institutions so well supported, were the usual convivialities abolished or even greatly restricted. No one can doubt the benevolent instincts of the Briton. A call to afford succour to victims of a sudden calamity, be its occurrence near or far, at home or abroad, immediately creates the deepest sympathy, and obtains munificent response. But, ordinarily, when help is required in support of established benevolence, the adventitious aid of a good spread is always found an excellent stimulant to force into greater activity the humane impulses of men's nature. Another doubt is, whether it will be possible to maintain the rate of annual subscriptions. A Lodge can be carried on, and at the end of the year show a tolerable balance for the purposes of charity, for little more than one-fourth of the amount now generally paid. It is of no practical use to ignore the fact that the majority of brethren care not one jot for the working in the Lodge. Membership is upheld for the sake of meeting congenial spirits from time to time at the banquet table, and there can be no manner of doubt, were it not for that enjoyment, a considerable number would resign upon alteration of present arrangements. There are no terms too strong to condemn undue extravagance, to the neglect of higher duties. But it must be borne in mind that the Masonic Charities are maintained with the utmost liberality, and that immense sums are annually subscribed towards their support. The Craft, therefore, as a body, cannot justly be charged with forgetting their Masonic obligations. Although it must be admitted that some Lodges are oblivious of what is expected of them in the matter of Charity, yet I am inclined to believe them to be exceptions to the general rule, and I for one should be sorry to see the prevailing system, which has worked so well, and effected such considerable benefit, materially interfered with. Vinegar and water diet may be sufficient to exhilarate some natures, but these are scarcely fair judges of the beneficent effects of a generous régime upon a vigorous and healthy

constitution, and how nearly allied is a sound digestion with sentiments of humanity, charity, and goodwill to every living creature.

Yours fraternally,

E. GOTTHEIL.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am sorry if my former letter on the subject has offended any one. I do not know if I am acquainted with the brother who writes the Masonic column for the *Sunday Times*. I read his reports and criticisms regularly every week, and I am anxious to assure him that, though I occasionally glean information from them, I have never yet found them "amusing." What did amuse was the contrast between your reporter's account and his. The two versions are not necessarily contradictory, but it is decidedly hard to reconcile the "gala night" views of the one with the extreme frugality on which the other lays so much stress. And with the letter of "ONE WHO KNOWS" before me, I should say his description is the more appropriate of the two. Six shillings and sevenpence halfpenny is a stiff price to pay for a mere supper, when every one knows he can dine well, if not sumptuously, at the Criterion, the Gaiety, the Holborn, the Horseshoe, &c., &c., for three shillings and sixpence, liquor not included. Put the cost of the Tranquillity supper at the same figure, and there remains a balance of three shillings and threehalfpence for attendance and fluids, &c., &c., a very liberal allowance, if malt liquor and tobacco were the order of the day. Still, as our brother of the *Sunday Times* says, this may be frugality in the Tranquillity, and yet be on a par with a gala banquet at other Lodges. However, I must not presume to criticise what other people choose to spend on refreshment, nor am I responsible for the introduction of the figure-test on this occasion. All I have to say further is, that there is something charming in the artless simplicity of your reporter, who describes as a marvel of frugality a supper which "ONE WHO KNOWS" tells us cost six shillings and sevenpence halfpenny per member. He would have been nearer the mark had he been able to show that it was something like the frugal fare we read of in "Ivanhoe"—the parched peas and the pure water from the Well of St. Dunstan, which the Holy Clerk of Copmanhurst offered to his guest the Black Knight.

Fraternally yours,

OLD FILE.

LORD CARNARVON'S MARRIAGE.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am delighted to see my suggestion under the above heading so heartily taken up by yourself and your readers, and I hope you will not permit the thing to drop. I think it would be very gratifying to make some presentation to our Brother the Duke of Connaught, as well as the Pro Grand Master; but the Earl of Carnarvon has served us so long and so well, and has done for the Craft such actual good work that I think some recognition in his case is imperative. Whatever is arranged eventually, I hope an opportunity will be given for country brethren to be present at the presentation, and probably a banquet at the Alexandra Palace, or some other convenient place, would be the best method of affording that opportunity.

I am, yours fraternally,

T. B. WHITEHEAD,

236, 1338, P.M. 1611, Prov. G.D.C. N. and E. Yorks.

York, 10th December 1878.

THE QUALIFICATION FOR THE CHAIR OF M.M.M.'s LODGES.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Owing to a technical objection, the acting M.W.G.M. at the Grand Lodge, on the 3rd inst., ruled that the recommendations of the Board of General Purposes as to the dispensing with the qualification as a W.M. or P.M. in the Craft Lodge for the chair of a Mark Lodge could not be discussed. It is unfortunate that the matter was omitted in the Board's Report, but it may possibly be all the better, as, through the opposition, it will give Mark Lodges an opportunity of expressing their opinion upon the alteration prior to the next Grand Lodge—and of supporting it, if they are in its favour.

I am no iconoclast, and deprecate change if merely for change sake—but this alteration commends itself to me, inasmuch as I know the advisability of removing the present restriction. In my own Lodge there are several Officers who have worked well, but who have not risen, and cannot rise higher than Warden, from the fact of their not having passed the chair in a Craft Lodge, and three of them do not even hold office in the Craft. The result will be, in two years, that the old P.M.'s must again commence the round—greatly to the injury of the Lodge, by the disheartening effect upon the present members, and the small inducement held out to new comers. As Mark Masonry is not, and never will be, recognised by Craft Masonry, it seems simply ridiculous thus to fetter its members, and to throw an unnecessary obstruction in their way. We wish for prosperity to our Order, and were thankful to the Board of General Purposes for thus, unsolicited, dealing with what has now become a crying evil. Little, therefore, were we prepared for an amendment upon this wise and timely proceeding.

It was said that Mark Masonry had progressed much of late years, and that with the enormous increase of Craft Lodges there ought to be no difficulty in recruiting our ranks with Installed

Masters from these Craft Lodges. But an ounce of fact is worth a ton of theory. We find that the great majority of Mark members are not from the rank of Installed Masters, but from those members whose chance of ever becoming so is very remote. And there is no earthly reason why this restriction should be retained. In the Arch it is no doubt a very wise precaution, but here we are governed, in a certain sense, by the Constitutions of the Craft, for Arch and Craft, in this way, may be considered as identical.

As to the objection that we cannot alter Constitutions without the sanction of the past generation who made them—and who are now no more—it is simply begging the question. The Craft has amended its own laws, and the Mark has amended its very ritual. To say then that we cannot change a law, in doing which we injure none of the ancient landmarks, traditions, or discipline of the Order, is what “no fellah can understand.” It is not a fundamental law—it is not a landmark—introduced possibly with a view of ultimately bringing about a fusion with Craft Masonry—the primary object of it has vanished. “Cut it down then, why cumbereth it the ground?” why retain it to act injuriously upon private Lodges, by whom the Grand Lodge is “clothed and fed?”

I hope this matter will be considered by each private Mark Lodge, and resolutions upon it forwarded to the Board of General Purposes in ample time for them to frame their resolution aright, and so secure its adoption. It will be a blessing to the Order, and make the hearts of young Mark Masons leap for joy. Only, let them bear in mind that with them now rests the result. Resolutions in its favour, and the attendance of their W.M., Wardens, and Overseers, at the next Grand Lodge, is essentially necessary if this great boon is to be secured.

Yours fraternally,

7th December 1878.

A P.M. IN CRAFT AND MARK.

A CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I am not quite sure that I rightly understand the query of your correspondent “J. W.” He says the Lodge in question “being in the second degree, was ‘resumed’ to the third degree, instead of being ‘opened’ in the usual form.” Clearly, a Lodge cannot be “resumed”—literally “taken back”—to a degree in which it has not been previously “opened.” A Lodge must be opened in the first degree, then, if necessary, in the second degree; and then, on a like supposition, in the third degree. Then it must be closed down to the second degree for the resumption of business in that degree, and then to the first degree for a like purpose. In the case of a Lodge which, having been opened in the third degree and resumed to the second, has still business to transact in the third, it is my humble opinion that if the Lodge has been closed down, it must be reopened in the superior degree. But a Lodge which has been regularly opened up to the third degree and closed down, does not need to be reopened in either of the inferior degrees. Bro. “J. W.” will find the case he contemplates provided for at p. 184 of Oliver's *Masonic Jurisprudence*; where it is laid down as “the result of common sense,” that the W.M. “cannot legally open a Lodge in the second degree without going through the ceremony of the first, nor in the third until he has passed through the other two; and if a Lodge open in the third is to be resumed in the first, the two superior degrees must be closed before the business of the preliminary degree can be entered on, for it will not be necessary to reopen it.”

Yours fraternally,

“Q.”

ANCIENT WARRANTS.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have read in your London Masonic contemporary a short notice of the *Cosmopolitan Masonic Calendar* for 1879, in which I find it stated that “the dates of the foundation of the Ancient Lodges have been given for the first time in any Masonic publication, thanks to Bro. W. J. Hughan.” I can fully enter into the pardonable feeling of pride with which the editor of your contemporary draws attention to this new and important feature in the said Calendar. Such additional information is indeed valuable, but considering that Bro. John Constable P.M. 185 has been engaged for some time past in obtaining transcripts of, and forwarding to you for publication in your columns, the Warrants of Ancient Lodges; and, considering that Bro. Constable has accomplished four-fifths of his task, and but for his absence from England for six months, would, ere now, most probably have completed it, it strikes me that Bro. Hughan has flagrantly violated the traditional etiquette of journalism which forbids one man from infringing on the labours of another, and so diverting to himself the credit which properly belongs to that other. I admire the spirit with which the proprietor and editor of the *Cosmopolitan Calendar* labour in order to make it as nearly perfect as possible, but I protest against Bro. Hughan appropriating to himself or allowing others to award him any credit for the labours of Bro. Constable. The latter has worked energetically, and, to judge from a letter of his which recently appeared in the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, is still engaged in the prosecution of his task. The greater reason, therefore, why Bro. Hughan, who poses before the Masonic public as the historian of the Craft, should not meddle with the labours of others, whose fame as labourers in the field of Masonic literature is less firmly established. He has already won his spurs, and, if he has any sense of chivalry in him, will stand by and, if need be, encourage others in their efforts to win theirs. Nor are you without just ground of complaint against Bro. Hughan for furnishing the information in question. With a courtesy in every way

worthy of your position in Masonic journalism, you arrested the publication of the Ancient Warrants during Bro. Constable's absence from England, though had you thought only of yourself, you might, I presume, have obtained access to the same sources of information as he had done, and with even greater facility perhaps. I will merely add to these remarks that a former statement of Bro. Hughan's fully justifies my criticism, which is not made in any unfriendly spirit, but on the good old principle, *palmarum qui meruit ferat*. In the letter you published from him on 12th October last, in which he attributed the entire credit of a certain discovery to Bro. Gould, he remarked “to whom also we beg to express our appreciation of the handsome manner in which he has always credited to ‘Caesar the things which are Caesar's,’ so unlike many writers, who take all from others and keep the credit to themselves.”

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

SCRUTATOR.

THINGS ONE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

To the Editor of THE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your issue of the 16th ult. you inserted a reply from Bro. W. Smallpeice to my queries regarding the status and privileges of an honorary member of a Lodge, to the effect that he can neither take part in the Lodge proceedings—nor vote—nor hold office; also that he can only attend a banquet by invitation or on payment of the usual Visitor's fee. Assuming Bro. Smallpeice's ruling to be correct, *cui bono* an honorary membership? I have always understood that a brother so complimented was, in right of his membership, though honorary, privileged to attend both Lodge and banquet, without invitation and without payment of any fee, in all cases when the banquet was paid for out of the Lodge funds. I should be glad to hear further from Bro. Smallpeice, or any other of your readers, on this head.

Yours fraternally,

FORTE.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

The monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Saturday last, in the Board-room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Capt. Wordsworth (West Yorkshire) presided, and the other brethren present were—Bros. Donald M. Dewar, Henry Muggeridge, Andrew Middlemass, R. B. Webster, W. F. C. Moutrie, G. J. Row, S. Rosenthal, the Rev. Richard Morris, J. G. Chancellor, H. Massey, G. J. Palmer, and F. Binckes Sec. The minutes of the House Committee, which were read, informed the brethren of the resignation of Bro. Peter Matthews, honorary surgeon-dentist to the Institution. The only business before the Committee was the consideration of the petitions of candidates for admission to the School, and the granting of outfits to late pupils. Three of the former were placed on the list, and four of the latter were granted, after which the Committee adjourned.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution met on Wednesday afternoon, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Col. Creaton occupied the chair, and the other brethren who attended were—Bros. Tattershall, S. F. Rawson, W. Hilton, Erasmus Wilson, James Brett, Cottebrune, F. Adlard, Geo. Bolton, T. Cubitt, Edgar Bowyer, John Wordsworth, C. F. Hogand, L. Stean, N. G. Phillips, J. M. P. Montagu, and James Terry Sec. The presentation to the Institution, by Bro. C. J. Perceval, of 19 vols. of *Household Words*, and also a large parcel of other books, was reported. A vote of thanks for the gift was afterwards passed to Bro. Perceval. Two annuitants were reported to have died; and a considerable number of new petitions were admitted. The Committee assented to Bro. Terry's request for the use of the Hall at the Institution at Croydon for the annual Christmas Entertainment on 1st January, Bro. J. G. Stevens moving, and Bro. Cubitt seconding, a donation of £20 towards expenses of the treat. The brethren unanimously agreed to it, and after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, separated.

At a recent meeting of the Vestrymen of the parish of St. Anne, Westminster, it was proposed by Bro. Samuel Webb, seconded by Bro. J. E. Shand:—

“This Vestry is of opinion that the present practice of allowing Crown Servants to conduct large businesses, amounting to some millions per annum, with little or no profit, under the title of *Civil Service Stores* (they not having the usual trade liabilities or expenses), involves an unwholesome principle, and is extremely unjust to the regular trading and most heavily taxed class of the community, and will ultimately prove detrimental to the State, if not embarrassing to the Public Exchequer. Such practice is inconsistent with their appointment as Public Servants, and demands an effectual remedy, either in longer hours with full employment, or a large reduction in salaries, and no pensions or superannuations.”

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.

SATURDAY, 14th DECEMBER.

- 193—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1126—The Great City, Cannon-street Hotel, E.C.
 1824—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1671—Mizpah, Albion Hotel, Aldersgate-street.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8.
 920—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1391—Commercial, Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.
 1612—West Middlesex, Institute, Ealing.
 K. T.—Faith, Masonic Rooms, 20 King-street, Wigan.

MONDAY, 16th DECEMBER.

- 1—Grand Master's, Freemasons' Tavern, W.C.
 45—Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-st., near Goswell-rd., at 8.0. (In.)
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 185—Fauquillity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 186—Industry, Bell Tavern, Carter-lane, Doctor's-commons, at 6.30. (Instruct.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8. (Instruction.)
 704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
 720—Pamure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1499—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30. (In.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8. (Inst.)
 1625—Tredegar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road. (Inst.)
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend.
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York.
 331—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
 324—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead.
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
 622—St. Cuthberta, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth.
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 827—St. John, Masonic Temple, Halifax-road, Dowsbury.
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
 985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport.
 1037—Portland, Royal Breakwater Hotel, Portland.
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congresbury.
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Dover.
 1238—Gooch, Prince Alfred Hotel, Southall.
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8 p.m. (Instruction.)
 1477—Sir Watkin, Masonic Hall, Mold.
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 R. A. 32—Jerusalem, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool.
 R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R. A. 302—Charity, New Masonic Hall, Darley-street, Bradford.
 R. A. 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Blackburn.
 M. M. 141—Skelmersdale, Pitt and Nelson Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne.

TUESDAY, 17th DECEMBER.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7. (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
 95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster-chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 194—St. Paul, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. (Instruction.)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
 880—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
 1339—Stockwell, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge, S.W.
 1446—Mount Edgumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1507—Metropolitan, 269 Pentonville-road. (Instruction.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street-rd. at 8. (In.)
 117—Wynstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
 243—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 402—Royal Sussex, George the Fourth, Nottingham.
 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Reading.
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1059—De Sherland, Fountain Hotel, Steerness.
 1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llangefni.
 1276—Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
 1473—Booth, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6.0. (Instruction.)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich.
 1570—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool.
 1761—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.

WEDNESDAY, 18th DECEMBER.

- Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7. (Instruction.)
 201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town at 8. (In.)
 538—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, Maddox-street, W., at 7.45. (Inst.)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. at 7.30.
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N. at 8. (Instruction.)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Peppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1196—Urban, The Three Bucks, Gresham-street, at 6.30. (Instruction.)
 1278—Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8.30. (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Finsbury Pk. Tav., Seven Sisters-rd., at 8.0. (Instruction.)
 1507—Metropolitan, And-rton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8.0. (Instruction.)
 1553—Duke of Connaught, Faunce Arms, Kennington Park, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1673—Langton, London Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

- 1707—Eleanor, Angel Hotel, Edmonton, at 8. (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.)

- 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham.
 121—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance.
 140—St. George, Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich.
 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough.
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton.
 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Saltford.
 537—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw.
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester.
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7. (Instruction.)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire.
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 874—Holmesdale, Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells.
 889—Dobie, Griffin Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames.
 969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington.
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury. (Instruction.)
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield.
 1040—Syke, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks.
 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool.
 1129—St. Chad's, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale.
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Hotel, Tipping-st., Ardwick, near Man.
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germain's, Cornwall.
 1206—Cinque Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich.
 1311—Brighouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighouse.
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton.
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon.
 1511—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Hornsea, Hull.
 1631—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom.
 R. A. 253—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike.
 R. A. 337—Moravian, Masonic Hall, Shipley.
 R. A. 591—Buckingham, George Hotel, Aylesbury.

THURSDAY, 19th DECEMBER.

- House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 7. (Instruction.)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 63—St. Mary, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8. (Instruction.)
 169—Temperance, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
 436—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8. (Inst.)
 720—Pamure Gen. L. of Inst., Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 8.
 813—New Concord, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 1139—South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1287—Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 1349—Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7. (Instruction.)
 1426—The Great City, Masons' Hall, Masons'-avenue, E.C. at 6.30. (Instruction.)
 1475—Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.
 1677—Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9. (In.)
 R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. (Inst.)
 M. M. —Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion-road, Dalston, at 8.30. (Inst.)
 42—Relief, Albion Hotel, Haymarket-street, Bury, Lanc.
 56—Howard, High-street, Arundel.
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, George-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.
 343—Concord, Militia Officers' Mess Rooms, Starkie-street, Preston.
 345—Perseverance, Old Bull Hotel, Church-street, Blackburn.
 367—Probity and Freedom, Red Lion Inn, Smallbridge.
 523—John of Gaunt, Freemasons' Hall, Halford-street, Leicester.
 600—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Salem-street, Bradford.
 663—Wiltshire of Fidelity, Town Hall, Devizes.
 1011—Richmond, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars-street, Salford.
 1042—Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
 1182—Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1299—Pembroke, West Derby Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool.
 1332—Unity, Masonic Hall, Crediton, Devon.
 1433—Fitzalan, Wynnstay Arms, Oswestry.
 1512—Hemming, Lion Hotel, Hampton.
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 R. A. 275—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, South-parade, Huddersfield.
 R. A. 1214—Scarbro, Scarbro Hall, Caledonia-road, Batley.
 K. T.—William de la More, Town Hall, Bootle.

FRIDAY, 20th DECEMBER.

- House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8. (Inst.)
 834—Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-road. (Instruction.)
 902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8. (Instruction.)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7. (Instruction.)
 1153—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1280—Hervey, Punch's Tavern, 99 Fleet-street, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1288—Finsbury Park Master Masons' Lodge of Inst. Finsbury Park Tavern, at 8.
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8. (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1612—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd. N. Kensington, at 7.30. (Inst.)
 London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C., at 6.
 R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8. (Inst.)
 R. C.—Invicta, Masonic Hall, 33 Golden-square.

- 49—Industry, 34 Denmark-street, Gateshead, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 127—Union, Freemasons' Hall, Margate.
 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester.
 347—Noah's Ark, Wagon and Horses Hotel, Tipton.
 516—Phoenix, Fox Hotel, Stowmarket.
 541—De Lorraine, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street-west, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 993—Alexandra, Midway Hotel, Levenshulme.
 1096—Lord Warden, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal.
 1311—Zetland, Masonic Hall, Great George-street, Leeds.
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 R. A. 403—Hertford, Shire Hall, Hertford.
 R. A. 521—Truth, Freemasons' Hall, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.
 R. A. 937—Marquess of Ripon, Town Hall, Ripon.

SATURDAY, 21st DECEMBER.

- 193—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1361—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Marc-street, Hackney.
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7. (Instruction.)
 1641—Crichton, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8.
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 R. A. 303—Affability, Station House Hotel, Bottoms, Slough.

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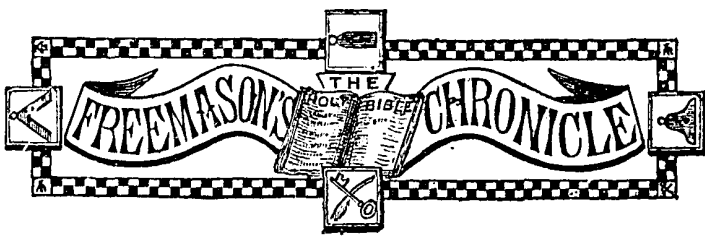
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OUR WEEKLY BUDGET.

ON Friday, at Windsor, the Queen presented new colours to the 2nd Battalion of the 4th Regiment of Infantry, which is under orders for the Cape of Good Hope. The Prince of Wales attended the Cattle Show at Islington on Monday, and on Thursday paid a visit to the Empress Eugenie at Chislehurst. The Duchess of Edinburgh, with her children arrived at Clarence House on Sunday from Germany. The Grand Duchess of Hesse has been attacked with diphtheria at Darmstadt, but the last bulletin speaks favourably.

In the House of Lords on Monday Lord Cranbrook moved a resolution to charge the expenses of the Afghan war upon the Indian revenues, and gave an explanation of the causes that had led to the outbreak of hostilities. Lord Halifax moved an amendment disapproving the policy of the Ministry, which he declared to be a reversal of the policy pursued by all preceding Governments. Lord Lawrence, the Earl of Derby, and Lord Carnarvon denied the justice of the war. The Duke of Somerset took an opposite view, and Lord Napier and Ettrick also supported the Government. The debate was then adjourned. On Tuesday night the debate was resumed by Earl Grey (who

supported the amendment), Lord Selborne, the Marquis of Bath, the Marquis of Ripon, Lord Northbrook, and Lord Cardwell. In support of the Government, the speakers were the Lord Chancellor, Lord Jersey, Lord Midleton, the Marquis of Salisbury, and the Earl of Beaconsfield. The House divided at half-past 2 o'clock, when the votes for the original resolution were 201, and against it 65, showing a majority for the Government of 136.

In the House of Commons on Friday Mr. Whitbread gave notice of a vote of censure on the Government. On Monday, the debate was opened by Mr. Whitbread, who, in the course of a long speech, maintained that the hostility of the Ameer Shere Ali had been provoked by the attempt of the Government to force him to receive a British mission. Mr. E. Stanhope contested this conclusion, and insisted that the reception of a Russian mission at Cabul, and the endeavours of the Ameer to excite the border tribes against us, rendered it absolutely necessary to adopt decisive measures. Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. W. E. Forster spoke against the Government, and Mr. Ridley and Mr. Marten in support. The debate was then adjourned. On Tuesday, the debate was resumed by Lord J. Manners, who was followed by Mr. Gladstone. The succeeding speakers were Sir R. Peel and Lord G. Hamilton, in support of the Government, and Sir C. Dilke and Mr. Leatham, who approved the vote of censure. The debate was again adjourned. The sitting on Wednesday was very short. On Thursday, in reply to Sir W. Harcourt, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that the Government had been led to believe that the Russian mission at Cabul had been withdrawn, but they had since learnt that such was not the fact. The Government did not intend to acquiesce in Russian influence at Cabul in any form. The adjourned debate was renewed by Mr. Grant-Duff, who was replied to by Mr. Bourke. The subsequent speakers were Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Lord W. Hay, Mr. A. G. Hardy, Mr. Foljambe, Mr. C. B. Denison, Mr. Rylands, Sir J. Hay, Mr. Goschen, and Captain Nolan. The debate was again adjourned.

Cabinet Councils were held on Friday, Monday, and Thursday, all the Ministers being present upon each occasion.

In consequence of adverse rumours, which caused a run upon the Bank, the directors of the West of England bank, whose head office is at Bristol, on Monday, issued a notice of suspension, but intimate their conviction that the assets will be fully adequate to meet all liabilities.

The success of General Roberts at the Piewar Pass appears to have been complete. The guns and ammunition captured and the dispersion of the Afghan troops indicate the destruction of all obstructive power on the eastern side of the Shutargardan Pass, towards which General Roberts is directing his march. In the meantime, preparations are being made for hutting the troops in the Kuram Valley. The cold has become very severe, and the native troops are rather sickly, but the Europeans are all healthy. General Biddulph is about to occupy the Khojak Pass. General Stewart has arrived at Quetta, and his division is at the Bolan Pass. A reply from the Ameer Shere Ali to the Viceroy's *ultimatum* has been received, dated 19th November, in which he complains of his independence being threatened, denies unfriendly intentions, and offers to receive at Cabul a small and temporary mission. There has been a change of Ministry at Constantinople, and Kheredine Pasha has been appointed Grand Vizier. The official explanation of the change is a desire to promote the extension of administrative reforms to all parts of the Empire, and to arrange the existing political difficulties pressing upon the Porte. The French Chamber of Deputies on Saturday, by 338 votes against 49, annulled the election of the Duc Decazes. On Tuesday the Chamber, contrary to the recommendation of the Committee, annulled, by 239 votes against 205, the election of Baron Reille, a Bonapartist. After a protracted debate, turning chiefly upon points of domestic politics, the Italian Chamber on Wednesday, by a majority of 74, rejected a vote of confidence in the Cairoli Ministry, which has since resigned. A new Cabinet, under Signor Depretis, is expected to assume office.

The Installation Ceremony will be rehearsed at the Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, on Tuesday evening next, at seven p.m., when the support of the Craft is earnestly invited.

KINGSTON—JAMAICA.

Royal Chapter, No. 207, Prov. 1.—At a Quarterly Convocation, held on 21st October, at the Friendly Hall, Present—M.E. Comps. C. H. Davis P.Z., D. Bamed P.H. *pro tem* (P.Z. of the Phoenix), R. Langley (P.Z.) J. *pro tem*, J. Ward S.E., G. Campbell Treasurer, D. Alberga P.S. *pro tem*, Jones and Leon Assist. S.'s, T. Garsia S.N. *pro tem*; also M.E. Comps. J. Garsia P.Z. of the Royal, Dias P.Z. of the Glenlyon, L. C. Hollar J. of the Phoenix, and several members and visitors of sister Chapters. Two candidates were exalted. According to the Bye Laws the Companions proceeded to the election of Officers for the ensuing year, with the following result:—M.E. Comps. Langley P.Z. Z. (this Companion has held this office twice previously), Andrews H., G. Sergeant J., A. H. Jones S.E., T. Garsia S.N., E. X. Leon P.S., G. Campbell Treas. (re-elected), G. Magnus Janitor (re-elected). The Companions then elected M.E. Comps. Langley, Davis and Garsia as Life Members, in consideration of their valuable services in connection with the formation of this Chapter. M.E. Comp. D. Bamed P.Z. of the Phoenix Chapter was elected an honorary member of this Chapter. The same honour was likewise conferred on M.E. Comp. Sherlock. After routine business, the Companions retired for light refreshments. The usual toasts were proposed and heartily responded to.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 914, Prov. 6.—The monthly ordinary meeting was held at Port Royal, on 7th November, presided over by Bros. G. P. Myers W.M., J. Tyndall S.W., J. Hall J.W., &c., &c., and a goodly number of members and visitors (the latter, we suppose, being due to the presence in the harbour of five vessels of war). There were four joining members elected, five candidates initiated, two candidates passed, and three raised. The several degrees were ably worked by the Master, assisted by the I.P.M. Bro. L. C. Hollar. The members of this Lodge having unanimously passed a resolution asking the Worshipful Master to import a Past Master's jewel, to be presented to the Wor. L. C. Hollar, as a reward of merit for the indefatigable services rendered, a Committee was appointed to prepare an address, and to present the same. The jewel having arrived, the Committee presented the following address:—

"Port Royal, 7th November 1878.

"To the Worshipful Luke Cole Hollar I.P.M. Phoenix Lodge, Port Royal, No. 914, Prov. No. 6.—Worshipful Sir and Brother,—We, the committee appointed by the members of the Phoenix Lodge, Port Royal, No. 914, Prov. No. 6, of Free and Accepted Masons, desire to testify our regard and esteem for you, and therefore take advantage to bear this testimony to your many good qualities, and the very efficient manner in which you have discharged the duties assigned to you as Secretary and Master. During your connection with us, your conduct, always regulated by true Masonic principles, your zeal for the welfare of our Ancient Order, your exertions to promote the harmony and brotherly love which have always characterised the Craft, and the ability and care with which you have filled the important offices to which you have been called, have won our esteem and regard. We beg your acceptance of the accompanying Past Master's jewel, as a tribute and reward of merit for the indefatigable services rendered. Wishing you every happiness this world can afford, and a hope that the G.A.O.T.U. will abundantly bless you, to smooth your steps in the rugged paths of this life, and, finally, to bring you to that world where all will be peace and love.

We remain, Worshipful Sir and Brother,

Yours fraternally,

W. H. RUTHERFORD.

EGBERT DE PASS SEN.

JOHN TYNDALL M.D., R.N."

After which the Master placed on the breast of Bro. Hollar the jewel, amid hearty applause. Bro. Hollar made the following reply:—

"To the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Officers, and Members.—Worshipful Sirs and Brothers,—It is with extreme delight I receive your kind address, accompanied with your valuable present. Although a few months have passed since I presided over this Lodge, yet to me it is a source of the highest gratification to know that the manner in which I have discharged the duties of Secretary and Wor. Master has met with your approval. It would be egotistic on my part were I to accord to myself all the praise you have thought fit to bestow on me, but I must here take the opportunity to state that much of the success of our Lodge is due to the indefatigable exertions of the officers of my administration, whose knowledge of the ritual of the several degrees rendered them of great assistance to me when required. It is with pleasure I can now observe among you not only an uncommon attention, but a spirit of active emulation, which must result in increased prosperity. I do with all sincerity thank you most heartily for your kind sentiments, and the jewel accompanying it, and hope that the G.A.O.T.U. will long spare our lives to unite in upholding and supporting our grand and noble institution, and let me beg that you will accept my unfeigned thanks for your invariable courtesy, prompt attention, and ready obedience to so humble an individual as myself.

I remain, Worshipful Sirs and Brothers,

Yours fraternally,

LUKE C. HOLLAR."

Other business transacted, Lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to a supper, when a very pleasant evening was spent. This Lodge has on its roll of members a good many of the officers, &c. of Her Majesty's ships. It is the only Lodge available for our brethren of the Navy and Army.

A Mark Mason's Lodge in connection with the Sussex Lodge was held on the 6th November.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

St Peter's Chapter Rose Croix.—A meeting was held at the Church Institute, Bolton, on Saturday, the 30th November, at four o'clock in the afternoon. Present—Ill. Bro. Thos. Entwisle 30°, as M.W.S., James Hall 1st General, Thomas Clarke 2nd General, Thomas Mitchell Recorder, A. Middleton C. of G., J. Thompson R., W. Rome G.M., J. W. Roiley Equerry, J. C. Lunt, J. T. Richardson, J. M. Sinclair, L. M. Simonson, James Horrocks, Geo. Ferguson, W. A. Byrom; also G. P. Brockbank 31°, R. Harwood 30°, T. Morris 18°, Past M.W.S. of the Chapter. The minutes of the former meeting having been confirmed, the following brethren were balloted for and elected:—Bro. Peter Staton, Bro. John Armstrong, and Bro. W. F. Vine. The acting M.W.S. announced to the brethren that the M.W.S. (Bro. Reginald Young) had been ordered by his medical adviser to spend the winter months in the South of France, in consequence of his precarious state of health, and had requested him to discharge the duties in his enforced absence. The brethren expressed their deep sympathy with Bro. Young in his affliction, and an earnest wish for a speedy restoration to his wonted health and spirits. Bro. Vines having been obligated in the customary manner in the preliminary degrees, forwarded a petition, which was favourably received, and he was thereupon introduced to the Chapter, presided over by Ill. Bro. Brockbank 31°, and Ill. Bro. Harwood 30° respectively at the first and second points, and duly perfected as a Rose Croix Mason, the duties of Raphael being discharged by Bro. J. E. Hall, and the organ presided over by Bro. J. C. Lunt. Opened on the 3rd point by Bro. Entwisle, when the newly obligated brother was admitted, and the customary forms observed. At the conclusion of business, the brethren adjourned to the Commercial Hotel, where banquet was served and presided over by Bro. Entwisle 30°, supported by the brethren who attended the Chapter. The customary toasts were proposed and responded to, and after a most enjoyable evening, the brethren retired at an early hour.

Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction, No. 1524.—Held at the Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, on the 11th inst. Present—Bros. T. Cull 1416 W.M., G. Davis 167 S.W., J. Yeomans 167 J.W., S. T. Byng S.D., J. Sparrow J.D., Cuthbert 4 Kil. S.C. I.G., Fieldwick Preceptor, G. Ferrar Treas. and Sec. *pro tem*; also Bros. W. H. Coughtrey 73, Mash 73, Spencer 73, P. Dickinson P.M. 1298, J. W. Wright 1298, Sparrow I.G. 1743, F. G. Chant 193, G. Cooper 1288, W. S. Lee J.W. 1201, W. Rowley S.D. 917, Brown 1607, McMillan 1365, McDowell 948, W. Ferrar 1437, R. A. Olley, J. Lorkin 192, Giller 1607, C. Olley, G. Saul S.W. 1201, G. H. Hunter J.W. 1298, W. H. Lee P.M. 975, J. A. Powell J.W. 186. After preliminaries, the Fifteen Sections were worked by Bro. T. Cull W.M., assisted by the following brethren:—Bros. J. Cuthbert, Yeomans, Rowley, Sparrow, Wright, Davis, Byng; Brown, Dickinson, G. Saul, W. S. Lee, F. G. Chant; G. H. Hunter, J. A. Powell, Sparrow. Bro. Hunter was elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. A vote of thanks was passed, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes, to Bro. Cull, for the able way in which he had worked the Fifteen Sections. A vote of thanks was also passed to the brethren of the Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction, who had assisted in working the sections. Nothing further offering, the Lodge was closed and adjourned to Wednesday, 18th inst.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1602.—At the Crown and Woolpack, St. John-street-road, on Tuesday. Bro. Read W.M., W. Rowley S.W., Pelikan J.W., Fenner acting Preceptor, Osborne Secretary, Hallam sen. S.D., Crosbie J.D., J. Millington I.G.; also Bros. Hyland, Wood, Ross, Arkell, Hallam jun., T. Goode, Green, Isaac, &c. Preliminaries duly regarded, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Ross acting as candidate. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Green being candidate. Bro. Hallam jun. worked the third section of the first lecture, assisted by the brethren. Bro. J. Crosbie, Treasurer of the Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693, was elected a member. Bro. W. Rowley was appointed to preside next Tuesday evening.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—On Monday last there was a very good muster of this Lodge at the Queen's Hotel, York, Bro. J. S. Cumberland W.M. presiding, supported by Bros. T. B. Whytehead I.P.M., T. Cooper P.M., Geo. Balmford P.M. and Treasurer, and the whole of the Officers, as well as a number of brethren. A candidate having been successfully balloted for, Bro. W. J. Girling was raised to the third degree by the I.P.M. It was decided to form a Masonic Literary and Archaeological Society in connection with the Lodge, and a committee was appointed to make all arrangements for the same before the fine weather, when expeditions will be made to places of interest. Bro. T. B. Whytehead presented to the Lodge Dr. Mackay's Lexicon of Freemasonry, and a copy of the Memorial Volume of the Banquet to the American Pilgrims at Freemasons' Hall. The W.M. made a few remarks on the working of the Lodge, and said his aim would be to bring it up to the best pitch, following the "Emulation" working in London. A very pleasant evening was afterwards spent, the toast list being enlivened by songs, &c. A letter of thanks was read from the Pilgrims of Mary Commandery Philadelphia, thanking the Eboracum Lodge for the splendid reception given them in July last.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—The weekly meeting was held at the Feathers, Ealing, on Thursday, the 5th instant. Present—Bro. Fisher W.M. (in the absence of Bro. Porter, who was detained by private business), Bros. Wells S.W., Jones J.W., Tucker Treasurer and Preceptor, Gasson S.D., Dyer J.D., Day I.G.; Bros. Webb, Clarke, Stephens, Seward, and others. After

preliminaries, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Clark candidate. Bro. Webb was instructed in the usual questions leading to the second degree, and the Lodge having been opened up, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Bro. Wells was appointed W.M. for the meeting on the 19th instant. This being the one preceding the regular Lodge, it is understood that the W.M. and the Officers of 1612 will fill their respective positions, when it is hoped there will be a good muster of the brethren.

Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693.—This thriving Lodge held its regular meeting on Tuesday, the 3rd instant, at Bro. Fysh's, the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road. Present—Bros. A. H. Trewinnard W.M., H. P. Isaac S.W., James Hawkins J.W., C. K. Killick sen. P.M. Secretary, A. W. Fenner S.D., H. Hall J.D., C. A. Western D.C., J. Thompson A.D.C., W. Burtle I.G., H. Opperman W.S., C. K. Killick I.P.M. jun.; also Bros. W. J. Hornblower, W. Gurson, G. F. Böhme, C. Millington, W. White, W. Fysh, S. J. C. Wolton. The Visitors were Bros. A. Wing W. M. Strong Man Lodge No. 45, and R. W. Roxby Confidence Lodge No. 193. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Bro. C. Millington gave proof of his efficiency, was entrusted, and withdrew. The Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and Bro. Millington was duly passed. Lodge was closed in the second degree, and Mr. John Kentish was balloted for, duly elected, and formally initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry, both ceremonies being performed by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. In pursuance of a notice of motion, Bro. Isaac proposed that the initiation fee be raised to seven guineas. Bro. Opperman proposed an amendment, that Bro. Isaac's proposition be postponed until the names of thirty or more subscribing members are on the books; this was seconded by Bro. Wolton, and after a friendly discussion the amendment was put to the Lodge and was lost. The original proposition was then put, and carried, subject to a proviso by Bro. Fenner, that the same do not take effect until the first meeting in October next year. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was of a substantial though frugal character, and was well served by Bro. Fysh, assisted by Bro. Allardyce. After the usual toasts had been duly honoured, the health of the W.M. was proposed by Bro. C. K. Killick jun. in a very short speech, for which the W.M. thanked the brethren, and remarked that as his year of office progressed, he trusted his efforts to support the dignity of the chair, and the honour of the Kingsland Lodge, would meet with the approbation of the members. The Initiate's was the next toast on the list, and this was heartily honoured. Bro. Kentish replied: He thanked the brethren, and trusted he would not prove unworthy of the honour of being a brother Mason; he would strive to gain a knowledge of Freemasonry, and so be a credit to the Lodge into which he had that evening been initiated. The Visitors' toast was responded to by Bro. Wing, who thanked the brethren for the reception they had given him, and expressed the gratification he felt in finding himself amongst so many that he had the honour of being personally known to. Bro. P. M. Killick jun. responded to the P.M.'s toast; he expressed his hearty good wishes for the future of the Kingsland Lodge. The Officers' health was replied to by Bro. Isaac; their desire was to do their best to support the W.M., and ensure the prosperity of the Lodge. The evening was made very enjoyable by some excellent singing, by Bros. Opperman, Isaac, Fysh, and Wing. Bro. Hawkins favoured the brethren with a recitation. The Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a conclusion, and the brethren separated. During the evening a distressed brother applied for relief, and 10s was voted out of the Lodge Benevolent Fund.

Ancient Carthage Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1717, at Tunis, in North Africa.—A regular meeting of the Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Tunis, on Friday, 30th November, at 4 p.m. Present—M.E. Comps. Broadley, Lenghi, and Dr. Mugnaini Z., H. and J., J. H. Stevens acting Scribe E., G. Pentecost Scribe N., Dr. Perrini P.S., P. M. Paleologo and G. B. Cassar Assists., V.C. Clement D. of Ceremonies, Dr. Cassanello Registrar, E. Gardelle Steward, and M. Lombroso acting Janitor. Members—Comps. Baraotti, They, Nurri, Blanch Treas., &c. The Chapter being duly opened in ancient form, Comp. J. H. Stevens (British Vice Consul) was elected, and invested as E., on the resignation of Comp. Pouiller, who preferred to retain his original post of Interpreter to the Chapter, but who was unfortunately absent from illness. The following candidates were unanimously elected:—Bros. Dr. N. Davis of Perseveranza Lodge, at Marsa Carara in Italy, John Eymon of Carthage and Utica Lodge, at Tunis, Denti and Ben Zaine No. 1717. The four candidates being present, were exalted to the sublime degree. Dr. N. Davis is the well-known author of "Carthage and its Remains," "The Ruined Cities of Africa," &c., and he conducted for several years, at the expense of the British Government, extensive excavations on the site of Ancient Carthage. On the termination of the ceremony the M.E.Z. expressed his pleasure in conferring the R.A. degree on so distinguished an author and old a Mason as Comp. Dr. Davis, who returned thanks to the Chapter in appropriate language. He said his gratification at taking the highest degree in English Craft Masonry was considerably increased by the fact that he had received it on the site of his old labours, and in a Chapter bearing the name of that famous city, associated with the dearest enterprise of his life. He promised to send from Italy a set of marble columns to further adorn the Chapter. M.E. Comp. Broadley expressed the acknowledgments of the assembled Companions. The first Principal then alluded to the loss the Chapter had sustained by the awfully sudden death of their Janitor, Comp. Henry Howard Haylock, who had fallen dead in the street on the preceding Friday, and an expression of the regret of the Chapter was ordered to be inscribed on the minutes, and the Chapter to remain in mourning till the end of the current year. Comp. John Eymon was then unanimously elected and invested as Janitor. The charitable collection having been made, the Chapter was duly closed and adjourned till the 20th December.

Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25.—The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. G. R. Shervill P.G.S. W.M., J. T. Robbins S.W., Lindener J.W., Wingham P.M. Treas., J. Dyte P.M. Sec., Hodson S.D., M. D. Loewenstark J.D., Wynne I.G., G. Denton; P.M.'s Bros. H. Dicketts, I. J. Wilson, Welch and Bley. The Lodge was opened, and minutes confirmed. A candidate for the third degree was raised by the W.M. Bro. J. Dyte P.M. and Secretary read a certificate from the Lodge of Instruction, No. 25, certifying the thorough proficiency of the S.W. in working the various degrees, to the entire satisfaction of the brethren present. This being the night for election of the W.M., Treasurer and Tyler, Bros. J. T. Robbins was unanimously elected W.M., Wingham P.M. re-elected Treasurer, and Radford Tyler. A sum of £2 was voted to a distressed brother of the Lodge. A sum of £5 was voted to the R. W. Little Memorial Fund. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to a very excellent banquet, provided in Bro. Best's usual style, superintended by Bro. E. Dawkins. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts. With that of the Right Worshipful the D.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, was associated the name of Bro. Douglass W.M. 23, Grand Steward of the year. Bro. Hodson S.D. here sang a capital song, and then Bro. Douglass returned thanks. Bro. Wingham P.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who had discharged his duty in every way, and all regretted he had to leave the chair. The W.M. said, from what had fallen from Bro. Wingham he was assured the members could give him credit for his good wishes for their Lodge, that holds so exalted a position in the Craft. He had to thank the Officers, who, during his year, had rendered him every assistance. The toast of the Visitors was responded to by Bro. H. M. Levy P.M. 188. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Masonic Charities, to which Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S., Sec. R.M. Institution for Boys, in his usual powerful and eloquent manner replied. Bro. Welch returned thanks for the Past Masters, and then the health of the Treas. and Sec. was given. They were each posts of honour, and the members might be congratulated in having two such excellent Officers. Bro. J. Dyte, in responding, was proud to say he had been a member of the Lodge for twenty-seven years, nine of which he had held the post of Secretary; although the duties of that office were not light, yet he performed them with feelings of great pleasure. In conjunction with the Treasurer, it was his wish they might arrange everything for the comfort of the Lodge. Bro. Wingham also replied. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the W.M. elect. Bro. Robbins, in a very excellent speech, responded. The toasts of the Wardens, Officers, and Tyler were given, and after a very agreeable and harmonious evening the brethren separated. The visitors were Bro. F. Binckes P.G.S., J. Catbush P.P.D.C. Herts, R. Douglass W.M. 23, H. M. Levy P.M. 188. The Lodge of Instruction attached to this Lodge meets every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock, at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W.

Egyptian Lodge of Instruction, No. 27.—At Bro. Maidwell's, the Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Thursday evening last. Present—Bros. Biddle W.M., Moss S.W., Maidwell J.W., Norden S.D., Lake J.D., Grammer I.G. and Hon. Secretary, Webb Preceptor, and other brethren. After the ceremonies of initiation and passing, five guineas were voted from the Lodge Funds to Bro. Maidwell's list for the Girls' School. Also one guinea towards the Christmas Entertainment of the aged Freemasons at Croydon, after which the Lodge was closed. Bro. Maidwell will work the ceremony of Installation in this Lodge next Thursday evening, at 7.30. The attendance of brethren is requested.

Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 37.—A meeting was held on Monday last, at the Church Institute, Bolton. Present—Bros. James Brown W.M., Samuel Crowther S.W., Johnson Mills J.W., J. D. Porteous Sec., E. Garstang S.D., J. Bootle J.D., J. Robinson I.G., J. W. Roiley Tyler; also Bros. G. P. Brockbank P.P.G.D., Freeman, Newton, and James Walker. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed. A communication was read from Prov. G. Sec., respecting Festival of Benevolent Institution. Bro. Crowther volunteered to act as Steward, along with Bro. Newton, who had previously sent in his name. Bro. Crowther was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. The members agreed to hold St. John's Festival on the first Monday in January 1879. Bros. Garstang and Robinson were appointed auditors. Lodge closed at 7 p.m. and the brethren adjourned to tea.

Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.—At the Old Rodney's Head, 12 Old-street, Goswell-road, on Monday, the 9th instant. Present—Bros. Wing W.M., Symons S.W., W. Rowley J.W., Tolmie Preceptor, Fenner Sec., Hallam sen. S.D., Percy J.D., Alford I.G.; also Bros. J. Millington, Isaac, Gyer, and others. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. J. Millington acting as candidate. Bro. Percy worked the first and second, Bro. Isaac the third, Bro. Hallam sen. the fourth, Bro. Tolmie the fifth and last section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge resumed. Bro. Symons was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A well-deserved vote of thanks was awarded to Bro. Gyer for repairing the W.M.'s pedestal. Lodge was closed, and the meeting adjourned until Monday at eight o'clock.

Ancient Ebor Preceptory, No. 101, K.T.—The regular meeting of this Preceptory was held at York, on Tuesday evening. E. Sir Knt. T. B. Whytehead P.E.P., G. Capt. of Guards Eng. presided, and was supported by E. Sir Knts. T. Cooper and W. Lawton, and Sir Knts. J. S. Cumberlaud, Geo. Simpson, G. H. Simpson, J.

Ward, and others. A ballot was taken for Comp. M. Millington, of the Paradise Chapter No. 139, as a candidate, which proved successful, and Lord Skelmersdale, Gt. Prior of England, Colonel S. H. Clerke, Gt. Sub. Prior of England, and Colonel W. J. B. Macleod-Moore were elected honorary members of the Preceptory, on the proposition of Sir Knt. Whytehead, seconded by the E.P. Sir Knt. Valentine, the former remarking that the labours of Colonel Macleod-Moore in the cause of the Order, its literature and history, were worthy of all honour. Comp. Millington was then received and installed a Knight of the Order of the Temple. A guinea from the Benevolent Fund was ordered to be placed on the list of E. Sir Knt. T. Cooper for the Masonic Benevolent Institution. Several communications were read from E. Sir Knt. Meyer, Grand Recorder of Pennsylvania, conveying thanks from the Mary Commandery, Philadelphia, to the Ancient Ebor Preceptory, for the magnificent reception accorded by them to the Pilgrims when in York last July, and stating that the eminent Preceptor for the time being of the Ancient Ebor Preceptory had been elected an honorary member of Mary Commandery. Sir Knight J. S. Cumberlaud Marshal was elected to the chair of E.P. for the coming year, and E. Sir Knight T. Cooper P.E.P. was re-elected Treasurer. Sir Knight J. Ward presented to the Preceptory a large and handsome mahogany dining table, for which he received the thanks of the Preceptory, which was then closed in ancient form.

St. John's Lodge, No. 104.—The regular monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at Ashton House, Greek-street, Stockport, on Monday, the 9th inst. Present—Bros. James Kirk W.M., Walter Schofield I.P.M., W. Harrison S.W., J. Swindells J.W., W. Bradley as Sec., W. W. Shelmerdine Treas., Henry Collier S.D., Wm. Booth J.D., D. Stevens S.S., H. Mather J.S., T. B. Birch I.G., Geo. Balfe Orgst., J. Meadows Tyler, Past Masters Bros. J. Beresford P.P.S.G.D., Lieut.-Colonel Wilkinson P.P.S.G.D., H. Finch, W. Schofield; Bros. T. Torkington, T. Burrows, John Bell, M. B. Sutton, Jas. P. Wooley, J. Fox, T. Taylor, J. Wood, Geo. Nayler, T. Haslam, Henry Seol, T. W. Stanley, &c., and many Visitors, among whom we noticed Bros. J. C. Chatham P.M. 322 P.P.G.S.B., Dr. R. Beales P.M. 537 P.P.G.J.W., J. Chapman P.M. 189 P.P.J.G.D. Devonshire, E. Hardon P.M. 1030 Prov. S.G.D. E. Lancashire, T. Smith P.M. 1126 P.P.J.G.D., W. Vaughan W.M. 1030, W. Slade W.M. 1052, R. E. Johnson P.M. 1052, G. H. Sharp W.M. 993, W. Parker W.M. elect 993, T. Wilkinson I.P.M. 1126, E. Edmondson 287, W. Alcock 322, W. Dean P.M. 287, J. Leigh S.W. 287, F. C. Eastwood 313 S.C., Jas. Slack P.M. 323, Jno. Slack P.M. 323; a Spanish brother from Lodge Wisdom, Barcelona, whose name we could not gather, S. M. Davies, FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, &c. The minutes of last regular meeting and of Lodge of Emergency having been ratified, Bro. P.M. Finch read letters of apology for non-attendance from Bros. J. P. Platt P.P.G.W., J. Wood P.P.G.R., F. Jackson Prov. G. Treas., E. H. Griffiths Prov. G. Sec., J. Hibbert P.P.G.J.D., and others. Some minor details having been disposed of, the important event of the day was proceeded with, and to that purpose Bro. Beresford introduced Bro. W. Harrison, the W.M. elect, to Bro. H. Finch, for the benefit of installation. The installing Master gave the customary address, with the ancient charges. The questions put by the acting Secretary were answered satisfactorily, and Bro. Harrison was solemnly obligated. The Lodge was now worked up to the third degree, after which Bro. W. Harrison was installed, proclaimed W.M., and as such received the salutations of the brethren. In due course the Officers for the next twelve months were invested, as follow:—J. Kirk I.P.M., H. Collier S.W., T. Burrows J.W., W. W. Shelmerdine, for the third time, Treas., T. Bullock (re-appointed) Sec., W. Booth S.D., G. T. Barrow J.D., T. B. Birch D. of C., G. Balfe Org., E. Stevens I.G., H. W. Mather S.S., J. Fox J.S., J. Meadows Tyler. The ceremony being so far accomplished, Bro. Finch delivered the addresses, and so brought to a close one of the most brilliant, successful, and enjoyable installations, it has been our good fortune to witness. The W.M. presented the I.P.M. with a P.M.'s jewel, in the name of the Lodge, for which Bro. Kirk returned thanks. The W.M. in a very cordial and complimentary manner, proposed a vote of thanks to the Installing Master, the same to be entered on the minutes. This was seconded by Bro. Col. Wilkinson very heartily, and supported by Bros. Dr. Beales, Beresford and Chapman, each in a most appreciative manner declaring they had never before witnessed an installation ceremony so admirably performed. The vote was put to the Lodge, and carried with applause. Bro. Finch briefly returned thanks. We must certainly congratulate St. John's Lodge in having a member—comparatively a young Mason—who has shown so much talent, and made himself so deservedly popular as Bro. Finch; nor must we omit to mention the musical talent it possesses. The able manner in which the choral service, which added greatly to the solemnity of the beautiful ceremony, was carried out, reflected great credit. The vocalists were Bros. Balfe, Edmondson, Alcock, T. Wilkinson, Kelsall, and W. Booth, with Bro. H. Collier S.W. presiding at the organ, and Bro. Col. Wilkinson at the piano. Hearty good wishes were tendered by the visiting brethren. The labours of the evening being ended, the Wor. Master closed the Lodge in due and ancient form. The brethren now adjourned to the spacious dining-hall which forms a part of the building in which the Lodge is held, and sat down to a most enjoyable banquet. At its conclusion the Musical Brethren sang "Non Nobis Domine," and, the cloth being removed, the W.M. gave the toast of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, which was followed by the National Anthem. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family was next honoured, followed by a glee. The W.M. now proposed the M.W. Grand Master of England H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, and was followed by Bro. Schofield, who gave that of the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the other Officers of G.L. Past and Present. Glee, "Glorious Apollo." W. Bro. Beresford felt it a very great honour to propose the health of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Lord de Tabley. The former toasts had met with every cordiality

from the brethren, and he felt sure that the toast he gave would be equally as loyally responded to. To Bro. Finch was entrusted the sixth toast on the list, and in proposing it he felt sure it would be warmly received by every member of the Lodge, and every visitor round the board. The prosperity of their province he attributed to the noble chief who was at their head, and to the highly capable and efficient staff that composed the Prov. G.L. Officers of Cheshire. Such a body of brethren reflect credit on the Order, and add lustre to the individual Lodges from which they are accredited. Honoured as they were by the presence of many worthy and distinguished Prov. Grand Officers, he felt regret in not having Bro. J. P. Platt among the company, for to him St. John's Lodge was greatly indebted. He also regretted that Bro. Dr. Beales had been compelled to leave by an early train. He called on the brethren to drink to the health of the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the other Officers of Prov. G.L. Bro. Beresford was the first to reply, and was followed by Bros. Colonel Wilkinson and Chetham. The W.M. gave the Sister Prov. Grand Lodges, which was responded to by Bro. J. Chapman, for Prov. Grand Lodge of Devon, and Bro. Hardon, for East Lancashire. Bro. Colonel Wilkinson proposed the next toast, and in doing so, said he really felt that it ought to have been placed in more able hands. Yet he felt a great deal of pleasure, and a certain identity with the toast, as he had watched the great progress made by Bro. Harrison in the Lodge, and the fidelity with which he had performed every office committed to his charge; that night he had reaped the benefit of his former labours, in being inducted into the highest office in the Lodge, a position all must look to from first to last with every degree of respect. He felt he was proposing the health of a brother worthy and capable of filling the chair of the Lodge, and he knew that the W.M. would do his work as thoroughly and efficiently in his present post as he had in the minor offices. He then gave them the health of the Worshipful Master, which was drunk with enthusiasm, the brethren honouring him with 21 guns. Bro. Balfe sang "Three times Three." The W. Master expressed his sincere thanks for the kind manner in which his health had been proposed and received, also for the honour conferred on him in being entrusted with the high position of Master for the ensuing year. He deeply felt the great responsibility, and would have accepted the office with diffidence were he not certain of discharging its duties in the same manner he had those offices which were the stepping stones to this. He was also sure of the cordial co-operation of the brethren, whether they were in or out of office, and that strengthened him in the work to be done. The W.M. proposed the health of the I.P.M., which was received with Masonic fire, and was followed by the glee, "Fill, Boys, and drink about." The I.P.M. acknowledged the honour done him by the brethren, at the banquet, in the Lodge room, and during his year of office. Bro. Beresford was entrusted with the toast of the visiting brethren, to which he did ample justice, extending a cordial greeting to all. Glee, "King Canute." The toast was most gratefully acknowledged by many visitors, and the next, put from the chair, was the P.M.'s of St. John's Lodge; this the W.M. proposed very cordially. Our musical brethren sang, "Let fortune smile or frown," and P.M. Schofield replied on behalf of the P.M.'s. In proposing the health of the newly elected Officers, the W.M. felt sure, with good P.M.'s and good Officers, the affairs of the Lodge must prosper. The Master of a Lodge felt somewhat like the Captain of a good ship, which, well-officered and well-manned, was a pleasure to command, he felt the good old ship, St. John's was well Officered and manned for the next year, as he hoped it would ever be. Glee: "Our Ship now goes." The toast was responded to by Bros. J.W., Secretary, and the other Officers. After which, Bro. Finch gave the Masonic Charities, which was ably proposed, and was responded to by Bro. Hardon. Bro. J.W., by request of the W.M., gave the Sister Lodges of Stockport, which was replied to by Bro. Chetham, and the glee "Life's a Bumper" ushered in the time for the Tyler's toast. The pleasant proceedings terminated by the Musical Brethren singing "To our next Merry Meeting." We regret we have been compelled to abbreviate our report, as our space is again crowded.

Prudent Brethren Chapter, No. 145.—The installation meeting of this Chapter was held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Comp. E. Moody Z., E. H. Thiellay H., Venn J., J. Boyd P.Z. Treas., G. S. States P.Z. S.E., Haslett P.S., and P.Z.'s T. Bull and H. Dicketts, with a goodly attendance of members and Visitors. The Chapter was opened and the minutes were confirmed. Comp. E. H. Thiellay was installed by Comp. T. Bull P.Z. into the chair, in a very efficient manner. The H. and J. Comps. Cox and Venn, were installed by Comp. J. Boyd P.Z. perfectly and impressively. Comp. J. Boyd was invested Treasurer, G. S. States S.E., Haslett S.N., Biggs P.S. There were several names on the agenda paper for exaltation. Bro. Woodliffe No. 87, and Rev. Bro. Fraser P.G. Chaplain, Ireland, were exalted into R.A. Masonry, the ceremony being perfectly worked. A very elegant P.Z.'s jewel was presented to the retiring Z., Comp. E. Moody, for the admirable manner he had discharged his duties in the chair during his year of office. This having been suitably acknowledged, the Chapter was closed, and the Companions partook of a very excellent banquet and dessert, provided by Bro. Best, Comp. E. Dawkins superintending. The Z. proposed the usual Loyal and R.A. Toasts. Among the Visitors were Comps. Rev. P. M. Holden, H. Dubois, &c., &c.

Sincerity Chapter, No. 174.—The regular convocation was held on Thursday, the 5th inst., at the Cheshire Cheese, Crutched-friars. Comps. J. Terry P.Z. as M.E.Z., G. Huggett H., Rawley P.Z. as J., W. C. Barlow P.Z. Treas., A. Leins S.E., Davey S.N., Bowyer P.S., Verry Janitor; P.Z.'s John Newton, Cook, Rawley and Bulmer. The Chapter was opened and minutes confirmed. Ballots were taken for the admission of Bros. H. Bond No. 174 and James No. 65. unanimously in their favour. The latter brother was duly exalted into R.A. Masonry by Comp. J. Terry P.Z. Comp. Perceval

announced his intention to serve as Steward at the Anniversary Festival of the Girls' School. A letter was read from the M.E.Z., regretting he was unable to be present, on account of illness. A sum of 21s was voted to the inmates of the R. M. Institution towards their annual entertainment. Chapter was then closed until the first Thursday in March. The Companions partook of a good and substantial banquet provided by Comp. J. Wright. Companion J. Terry genially presided, and gave the Loyal and R.A. Toasts. In proposing the health of the newly-exalted Companion, who had been introduced by Companion Leins, Comp. Terry remarked he was one whom they all respected. After a reply from Comp. James, Comp. Newton P.Z. rose with feelings of pleasure, at the same time with diffidence, to propose the toast of the evening; the health of the acting Z., Comp. James Terry. The exalted of the evening had spoken of how beautifully the ceremony had been rendered by their worthy Companion; he could speak of him from his youth upwards. But this was not necessary, as all knew his qualities. Personally, he (Comp. Newton) trusted it might be many a long day ere Comp. Terry was absent; it was always a red letter day when he was present. The acting Z. regretted the absence of the M.E.Z. on the present occasion. Some years since the Companions met but seven in number; now, he was pleased to say, they were a numerous assemblage. He and Comp. Newton had known each other from boyhood, and though at the present time he had other engagements, it was to him a source of great pleasure to be among his old friends, and he hoped the association might be continued for many years. The health of the H. and J. was given, and then the M.E.Z. proposed the health of the Visitors, Comp. H. M. Levy replying. With the toast of the P.Z.'s was associated the name of Comp. John Newton. Comp. Leins acknowledged the honour that was paid the Officers, and he was followed by Comp. E. Bowyer. Comp. Brown then came in for a due meed of praise, and then the Janitor was summoned. A very agreeable evening was passed, and Comp. J. Wright, the worthy host, was most assiduous in ministering to the comfort of the guests.

Confidence Lodge, No. 193.—The installation meeting was held on Monday, the 9th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, in the new and commodious room. Bro. Henry Leah W.M. in the chair. Bros. Biddell S.W., Footit J.W., Warne P.M. Treasurer, J. Shakell P.M. Secretary, James S.D., Lemiere J.D., Hall I.G.; P.M.'s Bros. Reed I.P.M., King, H. Webb, Kershaw, Burt, S. Webb, and a numerous attendance of the brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and minutes were confirmed. Bro. Reed P.M., by the courtesy of the W.M., passed Bros. J. Williams and Collins to the second degree. Bro. Biddell S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge; a Board of Installed Masters was formed, and he was duly installed into the chair by Bro. S. Webb. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Webb was warmly congratulated by the brethren and visitors. The W.M. invested the following as his Officers:—Bros. Footit S.W., James J.W., Warne P.M. Treasurer, Shakell Secretary, Lemiere S.D., Fells J.D., Smith I.G., S. Webb P.M. D.C., H. Webb W.S., Riley Tyler. The several appointments seemed to give great satisfaction. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to banquet and dessert, provided by Bro. F. Clemow. The W.M., after grace had been said, proposed the usual toasts. Bro. H. Leah I.P.M. proposed the health of the W.M. This toast, he was sure, would meet with their approbation. He (Bro. Leah) had, during his year, received assistance from every Officer, and the W.M. who had just been invested had never been absent. This augured well for the future of the Lodge, and the success that must accrue will be due to the W.M., who can and will do his duty. Bro. S. Webb P.M. then artistically sang, "When time has bereft me." The W.M. replied; having been elected W.M. of the Lodge, all he could do to deserve their approbation he would endeavour to accomplish. With the health of the Visitors was associated the name of Bro. E. Gottheil P.M. 141, to whom the W.M. was indebted for the Masonic knowledge he possessed. Bro. Gottheil acknowledged the kind remarks of the W.M., and gracefully thanked him and the members of the Lodge for the kindness they had shown the numerous body of Visitors. The next toast given was the health of the P.M.'s, and in proposing it the W.M. was pleased to speak of their various qualifications. He would couple with the toast the name of Bro. H. Leah, to whom he had great pleasure in presenting a jewel unanimously voted to him at their last meeting. Bro. Leah thanked the P.M.'s for the assistance they had given him personally. All present had seen what Bro. S. Webb had done in the installation ceremony. As for Bro. Read, when he (the speaker) had been unavoidably absent Bro. Read has always been ready to render assistance, and this he would do for any W.M. He thanked them for their valuable gift; he felt it to be an honour to be a Past Master of the Lodge in which he was initiated. Bro. S. Webb said, as the oldest P.M. he had been pleased to perform the ceremony of installation, but the W.M. had had valuable assistance in the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, of which Bro. Gottheil is the able Preceptor; the W.M. would show his proficiency in his new capacity. The W.M. then proposed the health of the Officers. He knew they would emulate the example of those who had preceded them. After a song from Bro. Read, Bro. Footit responded, and he was followed by Bros. James and Shakell. The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren separated. The Visitors were—Bros. Clarke J.W. 1654, W. H. Cunningham W.M. 22, H. Rymell S.W. 206, W. Rowley 174, G. Vaughan, F. H. Clemow, J. Larkin No. 3, E. Gottheil P.M. 141, Thompson 1693, Appleton 861, Stoke 1364, Slaton P.M. 1287, Beauchamp 167, Western 1693, T. Butt 907, Woodward 548, Griggs 1216, Greenwood 749, A. Macpherson, J. Dorton P.M. 1076, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188.

Confidence Lodge of Instruction, No. 193.—This Lodge held its usual meeting on Wednesday, the 11th December, at Bro. Seaton's, Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street. Present—Bros. W. M. Medcalf W.M., Thos. B. Biddle S.W., R. A. Morgan J.W., J. K. Pitt Sec., E. Gottheil Preceptor and Treasurer, J. E. Fells S.D.,

Thos. W. C. Bush J.D., D. Moss I.G.; Bros. Andrews, Woodward, Walker, &c. The ceremony of the second degree was rehearsed, Bro. Walker candidate. Bro. Moss worked the first and second sections of the Lecture. The Lodge voted one guinea for the "Old Folks" Christmas Entertainment. One guinea was voted, to be placed on Bro. Medcalf's list, he acting as Steward for the Benevolent Institution. Bro. Biddle was elected W.M. for Wednesday next.

Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198.—At the Jolly Farmer's, Southgate-road, Islington, on Saturday, 7th December. Bros. Brasted W.M., Gilham S.W., Millington J.W., Spencer S.D., C. Lorkin J.D., J. Lorkin I.G., and about thirty members. Minutes were read and confirmed, after which the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hallam sen. as candidate. Several sections of the lecture were worked by Bro. Pearcey, the Preceptor. Bro. Gilham was elected to preside at the next meeting. During the evening a brother of Lodges 219 and 525 applied for relief. It was proved that he had been assisted by another Lodge held here during the week, and also at one the night before, held elsewhere, which the applicant seemed to have forgotten; his appeal therefore was not entertained.

St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Present—Bros. Alfred Green W.M. Alfred Withers S.W., W. Radcliffe J.W., W. W. Morgan Sec., C. Greenwood P.M. Treas., Dr. Waters S.D., Usher Back J.D., W. E. Young I.G., C. T. Speight P.M. Tyler; Past Master Bro. John Laver. Visitor—Bro. Greenwood jun. Business—Lodge opened; minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Hitch answered the questions leading to the second degree. Lodge opened in the second, and Bro. Hitch was passed. Bro. Martin, a candidate for the third degree, was examined; the Lodge was opened up, and the candidate raised to the sublime degree. The W.M. gave the Traditional History and the Lecture on the tracing board of the degree, and completed the ceremony, as he had the former, in a very impressive manner. Closed in the third degree. Bro. Fellow Craft was admitted, and Lodge was closed in the second degree. After some routine business, a vote of thanks was passed, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Morgan, who had presented the Lodge with a new minute book. A proposed Lodge of Instruction was then advocated, and after discussion, it was moved by Bro. Back J.D., seconded by Bro. Radcliffe J.W., supported by Bros. P.M. Laver and A. Withers, that the necessary steps be taken. After the Lodge had been closed, the brethren partook of tea, and spent an hour together in conviviality.

Lodge of Good Fellowship, No. 276.—The annual meeting of this Lodge for the installation of Worshipful Master, appointment and investiture of officers, and for other purposes, took place on Thursday last at the Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, under favourable auspices. The ceremony of installation was entrusted to the Rev. F. B. Shepherd, an old Past Master of the Lodge, also of No. 1543, and P.P.G.S.W., and P.P.G.C. Essex; and was performed in a way that could not fail to give general satisfaction, and reflected considerable credit alike upon the Rev. brother and on those who selected him for the arduous task. He was ably assisted by Bro. D. M. B. Wheeler, the retiring Master. The W.M. Elect, Bro. Alfred Francis Giun, having been duly installed, he appointed and invested the following Officers:—Bros. D. M. B. Wheeler I.P.M., J. S. Brown S.W., J. P. Lewin J.W., F. Whitmore Treas., Rev. F. B. Shepherd Chaplain, J. Nicholls M.D. Sec., A. Durrant D.C., E. Shedd S.D., W. J. Upton J.D., A. Mead I.G., J. Scarlett Steward, and T. Sarel Tyler. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the Installing Master and the retiring Master, Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren shortly afterwards assembled at the White Hart Hotel, to an excellent banquet, serve by mine host Bro. Sheldrake in capital style. Amongst those present, in addition to the brethren above named, were—P.M.'s A. Goodchild, J. Burton, J. F. Bott, J. P. Sarel, W. Pullen; Bros. J. Scarlett, T. F. Woodard, H. Bowles, W. Langham, and the following Visitors—Thos. J. Ralling, W. W. Brown, G. W. Patmore, E. Hen-nemeyer, J. H. Geere, F. J. Snell, F. M. Williams, John J. C. Turner, &c., &c. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a musical programme, vocal and instrumental, of no mean order, was admirably carried out by Bros. Lewin, Upton, Brown, Bowles, Burton, &c., &c.

Shakespeare Lodge, No. 284.—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 10th December, at the Masonic Rooms, Warwick. Present—Bros. Brabazon Campbell M.A. W.M., Geo. Wilson M.D. S.W., F. Thursfield M.D. J.W., S. W. Cooke P.P.S.G.W. Sec., Mayett P.P.S.G.P. Treas., Rev. A. M. Russell S.D., Rev. P. S. Harris Steward, Geo. Bond I.G., Purser Tyler, Past Masters Bros. S. E. Smith F. Haynes M.D. Bro. the Rev. John Law was passed, and Bro. Wrigley was raised. Bro. Geo. Wilson M.D. S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

Prosperity Chapter, No. 290.—Huddersfield. In our report last week of the meeting of this Chapter, we ought to have stated that after the exaltation of Bro. Vickers, that Companions Turner, Harrop and George Sykes were respectively installed into the chairs of Z., H., and J., in a very masterly manner by Comp. William Harrop.

La Tolérance Lodge of Instruction, No. 538.—Green Dragon, Maddox-street, W. Nearly fifty brethren assembled on Wednesday, the 11th inst., to hear Bro. W. H. Dean, W.M. 417 P.P.G.S.B. Dorset, rehearse the ceremony of Installation. The Officers of the evening were Bros. E. Child S.W., T. W. Cooper J.W.,

C. J. W. Davis Treas., S. A. Cooper S.D., A. Ginger J.D., G. Cundy I.G., J. Hurdell Sec., Bro. F. G. Baker P.M. The first three sections of the first Lecture were worked. Bro. B. H. Swallow P.M. 382 P.P.G.J.D. Middlesex was presented as W.M. elect, and installed into the chair in a manner reflecting the highest credit on Bro. Dean. The case of a foreign brother's distressed widow being brought before the Lodge, the small sum which the Lodge is empowered to give was augmented by the voluntary support of the brethren present, and £1 18s was collected. A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. W. H. Dean brought the meeting to a close.

St. Matthew's Lodge, No. 539.—A meeting was held on Friday, 6th December, at the Dragon Inn, Walsall. Present—B George Cale W.M., William Bayliss P.M. P.P.J.G.D. S.W., William J. Boys P.M. J.W., T. Mount Humphries P.M. P.P.G.S. of Works Sec., James Symons P.M. P.P.G.S.B. Treas., Josiah Briscoe S.D., Joseph Newman P.M. P.P.J.G.W. as J.D., Joseph Simpson jun. I.G., Thomas Nickols Tyler. P.M. David Peacock P.M. P.P.G. Registrar. Visitors—Bros. William Bristow P.M. P.P.S.G.W. Prov. Grand Sec. Worcestershire, Geo. M. Waring P.M. 347. Bros. Cox and Shaw were raised, and three gentlemen were proposed for initiation.

Brecknock Lodge, No. 651.—This Lodge held its monthly meeting on Monday, the 2nd day of December, at the Castle Hotel, Brecon. Present—Bros. Richard Webb W.M., T. Butcher S.W., Thos. Jones J.W., Frank Grundy S.D., W. Webb J.D., J. A. Whittle Sec., John Morgan I.G., H. O. A. Maybery S., James Jones Tyler, Past Masters Rich and Phillips. The Lodge having been opened in due form and with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Lewis Williams, a candidate for initiation, and declared to be clear. Subsequently the candidate was initiated by the W.M. into the mysteries of Freemasonry. Bro. Thomas Butcher stated that it was the custom of most of the Lodges to present a P.M.'s jewel to a retiring Master, but that it had not been the custom with the Brecknock Lodge, and he proposed that it now be instituted, for a more fitting opportunity could not probably be obtained than existed at the present time, as their W.M. (Bro. Richard Webb) was about to vacate the chair, which for two years he had filled not only with credit to himself, but with honour to the Lodge over which he had presided with such faithfulness and care. He therefore proposed that a P.M.'s jewel be presented to Bro. Richard Webb, the retiring W.M. Bro. H. O. Aveline Maybery, in seconding the proposition, cheerfully endorsed all that Bro. Butcher had said in favour of their W.M., and would willingly testify to the goodwill and esteem which he had earned from the brethren generally. The resolution having been put, it was cordially and unanimously passed. The W.M. stated that as the W. Grand Master the Prince of Wales was about to visit Maesllwch Castle, a few miles from Brecon, he had written to the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Geo. Elliott, suggesting that H.R.H.'s first visit to Wales would be an excellent opportunity for Masons in Wales to assist in any demonstration which might be got up in his honour, and that it would reflect credit upon the division over which Sir George presided were it to take the initiative. Sir George being abroad, the letter was referred to his Deputy (Bro. Marmaduke Tennant), who, with characteristic promptness, at once put himself into communication with the Secretary of the Prince of Wales, who in acknowledging receipt of the communication stated, that he had been directed by His Royal Highness to express his regret that his visit would not be prolonged sufficiently to enable him to attend a Provincial Grand Lodge at Brecon, but that he should be happy to receive an address at Maesllwch Castle. On receipt of this communication the D.P.G.M. called a Provincial Committee meeting to carry out the necessary detail. At the close of the Lodge the W.M. in a few appropriate words presented handsome emblematical jewels to two of the brethren. The jewels bear the following inscriptions:—

"Presented to Bro. John Alfred Whittle, by the Loyal Brecknock Lodge, No. 651, for energetic services as Secretary. December 1878."

"Presented to Bro. Adam Orlapp, by the Loyal Brecknock Lodge, No. 651, for faithful services. December 1878."

The recipients having acknowledged the gifts, the Lodge was closed in ancient form, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

The High Cross Lodge of Instruction, No. 754.—The 6th Anniversary Festival of this Lodge was held at the Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, on Wednesday, 4th December, under the Presidency of Bro. H. Stephens, the Worshipful Master of the High Cross Lodge, from which this Lodge of Instruction emanates, Bro. Waller, the Treas. being Vice President. Forty brethren and their friends sat down to the excellent dinner provided by Bro. Mattock. After the usual loyal toasts, the President proposed success to the High Cross Lodge of Instruction, and informed those gentleman who were not Masons that Lodges of Instruction were for the purpose of perfecting the members in the duties of the Craft, and it had given him great pleasure whenever he visited the Lodge to see the manner in which those duties had been done, he called upon Bro. Oliver the W. Master for the time being to respond. Bro. Oliver thanked the President and gentlemen for the honour they had done him; he felt great pride in working up to the position, and had acquired a great amount of Masonic knowledge by attending this Lodge of Instruction, and invited brethren to come any Thursday evening and judge for themselves how the work was carried on. The Vice President gave the health of the President, thanking him for coming to preside over them that evening; he felt sure all those who had the pleasure of being acquainted with Bro. Stephens, and had the opportunity of witnessing the manner in which he conducted the

business of his regular Lodge, would feel the same amount of pleasure in drinking his health as he did, and all would agree with him that the more they saw of Bro. Stephens the better they would like him. Bro. Stephens thanked the Vice President for the flattering terms in which he had proposed his health, and also for the hearty manner in which the company present responded; he had always endeavoured to conduct the business of the Lodge over which he had the honour to preside during the present year to the best of his ability, and felt grateful for the kindly expressions he had received from its members since the time he first occupied the chair; he also experienced much pleasure in coming here to-night, and was pleased to see so many of the Past Masters and other friends around him. The President next gave the Vice President the high esteem with which he was regarded by the brethren, and the willingness he at all times evinced in prosecuting anything for the benefit of Freemasonry made him so popular amongst them that he would not go into the history of his many good qualities, but would ask the brethren to unite with him in drinking his good health. Bro. P.M. Maller was grateful for the kind expressions he had received from the brethren that night, he took great interest in the Lodge of Instruction, of the funds of which he was the custodian, and had much pleasure in stating, after sending a goodly amount up to the Charities, he had still a balance in hand. It would always be his study to promote the welfare of the Lodge. Bro. J. H. Thompson P.M. then rose and said he had permission from the President to propose the next toast, it was the health of Bro. Driscoll the late Sec. It afforded him a double pleasure on that occasion, inasmuch as he had, in addition to proposing his health, another pleasing duty to perform. The members he was sure would all regret the retirement of Bro. Driscoll from his post, which he had filled from the formation of the Lodge; as for himself all the Masonic knowledge he possessed was obtained under the able tuition of Bro. Driscoll, and he had now the pleasure to present him with a slight testimonial as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren of the Lodge of Instruction. Addressing Bro. Driscoll, he presented him with a handsome eight day clock, subscribed for by the brethren, and trusted he might live many years to be occasionally amongst them. Bro. Driscoll, after thanking Bro. Thompson and the brethren for the handsome present they had made him, which would always be regarded by him far above its intrinsic value, said he was one of the founders of the Lodge, and up to the present had acted in the dual capacity of Preceptor and Secretary, and had certainly taken great pains to impart that knowledge to young members which is so calculated to make them good Masons, and his exertions had not been in vain; in fact, he felt almost diffident in preceptoring now in their presence, for some of them knew as much or even more than he did; he had pupils in whom he felt justly proud, and in retiring from his post, which he did through pressure of business, it gave him great pleasure to see that two of his pupils would fill the offices he had just vacated, Bros. Thompson and Garrod having been respectively appointed Preceptor and Secretary. The President then gave the Masonic Charities, coupling the name of Bro. Garrod the Secretary to the Second Tottenham, Edmonton and Enfield Charitable Association. Bro. Garrod was happy to say that the Charities were a great feature in Freemasonry, and after explaining the objects of these Associations, said the one in which he was particularly interested was a great success, for it numbered upwards of seventy members, and in the short space of eight months he had collected £130. He thanked the brethren for the support they had given. The health of the visitors having been proposed and responded to by Mr. Fuller and Dr. Hall—the latter gentleman stating he was particularly acquainted with one of the Institutions mentioned by the Secretary, he meant the Boys School, which was in their immediate neighbourhood; he had had occasion to visit it ever since it had been founded, and could safely say not only was it an honour to Freemasonry, but a credit to a nation. Thus terminated a very pleasant evening.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—On 6th December, at the Star and Garter, Kew. In the temporary absence of Bro. Costelow, Bro. Roe took the chair, supported by the following officers:—Bros. Goss I.P.M. 780 S.W., Gomm J.W., Blasby S.D., Botley (who received a cordial greeting upon his recovery after a serious illness) J.D., Gunner I.G. There were also present Bros. Tucker, Skinner, Beckett, McGee 154 I.C., and (later on) Bro. Costelow. Lodge was regularly opened and advanced to the third degree, when Bro. Roe impressively rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Beckett being the candidate. The brethren were called to refreshment; upon the resumption of labour the dues were collected, and Bro. Goss was elected W.M. for next meeting. Lodge was closed with due observance of ancient custom, and adjourned till 13th inst., at 7.30 p.m.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction No. 860.—On Tuesday evening last, at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, Bros. Carr W.M., Brasted S.W., J. Lorkin J.W., Wardell S.D., Christian J.D., McClean I.G., Dallas Sec., Smyth Treas., P.M. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Webb, Smyth, Forss, Polak and others. The W.M. worked the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Polak candidate. Bro. Webb answered the questions; the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Bro. Webb worked the first section of the Lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was opened in the third degree, and regularly closed to the first. Bro. Giller of Lodge 1607, and Bro. Edell of Lodge 860, were elected members. Proposed by Bro. Wallington, seconded by Bro. Dallas, that the sum of £1 1s be voted from the funds of the Lodge for the "Old Folks" Christmas festival. Carried unanimously. Bro. Brasted will preside next Tuesday.

Whittington Lodge of Instruction, No. 862.—On Wednesday, 11th December, at Bro. Hyde's, Red Lion, Poppins-

court, Fleet-street, Bro. Tate, of the Mother Lodge, as W.M., supported by Pro. Knill Abell S.W., Vizzard J.W., Brown S.D., Abell I.G., Long P.M. and Preceptor, and others. After the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Thompson offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was duly entrusted. The Lodge was then opened in the second degree, and the ceremony ably performed by the W.M. The whole of the lecture was worked by the brethren. On the resumption of the Lodge to the first degree, Bro. Jones, of Lodge 862, was admitted a member, and Bro. Knill Abell was elected W.M. for ensuing week, when he will rehearse the ceremony of raising.

Wandsworth Lodge of Instruction, No. 1044.—A meeting was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on Wednesday, the 11th inst., when Bros. F. Reed presided as W.M., J. Frost as S.W., and J. J. Holland as J.W. There was only a small attendance of brethren, many members being present at a Committee meeting formed for the purpose of giving a gratuitous dinner to 200 poor women and children on Christmas Day.

Hartington Lodge, No. 1085, Derby.—The December meeting of this Lodge was held on the 4th, at the Derbyshire Masonic Hall. Present—Bro. G. Pipes Prov. Grand Organist W.M., W. Heathcote P.P. D of C. I.P.M., J. O. Manton Hon. Sec. as S.W., W. B. Hextall J.W., M. H. Bobart P.M. P.P.S.G.W. Treas., W. Butterfield as S.D., J. Russell J.D., C. D. Hart as I.G., F. Iliffe P.M. P.P.J.G.W., W. Naylor P.M. Prov. G. Sec. P.P.S.G.W., S. Pipes W.M. P.P.S.G.D., and a large number of other members, also numerous visitors, among whom were Bros. T. Cox P.M. P.P.S.G.W., and Present Prov. G. Treas., W. Boden W.M. 353, J. Brown I.P.M. 731 Prov. J.G.D., and B. Cooper P.M. 787. Mr. Chas. Osborne received the benefit of initiation. Bro. Bellfield was advanced to the third degree. The W.M. stated that he presented the annual return of the Lodge to the Prov. G. Lodge held on the 26th ult., and that the R.W. P.G.M. had been pleased to invest him as the Prov. Grand Organist for the ensuing year. Several matters relating to the R.M.B.I., and other charities, received attention, one result being the appointment as Charity Steward of Bro. W. W. Popplewell to represent the Lodge at the next Festival of the R.M.B.I. There were two nominations of candidates, and there was an unusual amount of other business disposed of, affecting, more particularly, the internal affairs of the Lodge, the most noticeable question being an increase in the annual subscription. The brethren after their labours adjourned to the banquet room, there to enjoy a spread, provided in excellent style by Bro. Steele. Bros. Dodd and Hindson contributed some exquisite music to the harmony of the evening.

Lord Warden Lodge, No. 1096.—A meeting was held on Friday, the 6th inst., at the Lodge-room, St. George's Hall, Deal, at half-past seven o'clock. Present—Bros. Edward Kirby W.M., John Laggett S.W., H. R. L. Botting J.W., T. J. Usher Secretary, Stephen Hinds Treasurer, J. Carpenter S.D., W. Carterfield J.D., J. Westaway Organist, S. Willey I.G., S. Holgate Tyler; P.M.'s Bros. T. J. Usher P.P.G.R., T. Aylin; P.G.D.C.; Bros. G. Thomson, D. Fraser, H. E. Webb, Geo. Rivers, H. Abram. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A candidate for Freemasonry having been regularly proposed and seconded at the previous Lodge meeting, was balloted for, and the ballot being found to be unanimous, he was duly initiated, after which the charge was ably delivered by Bro. S.W. A petition from the widow of the late Bro. J. Cressy Hall (who was initiated in this Lodge in 1868, and afterwards joined the Oak Lodge, No. 190, and the Caveac Chapter, No. 176), to the Lodge of Benevolence for some assistance, as she was in great distress, was read and signed by all the brethren present. Bro. Hall was in practice in London as a solicitor at the time of his death. Bro. Secretary announced that the Lodge of Benevolence had granted the sum of £40 to Bro. Trollope, to assist him in repairing the loss and damage he had sustained by the hurricane in October last; and Past Master Ayling stated he had seen Bro. Trollope, who was getting better, and on his behalf desired to thank Grand Lodge for their very seasonable assistance, and to the brethren of this Lodge for having recommended the prayer of his petition. The Lodge was then duly closed; the meeting adjourned until the third Friday in the present month, and the brethren afterwards spent a social hour together, separating about eleven o'clock.

Upton Lodge of Instruction, No. 1227.—At Bro. Bolton's, Norton Folgate, on Thursday, 5th December. Present—Bros. R. W. Pearcey W.M., Richmond S.W., Kent J.W., Fenner Preceptor, Townsend Sec., Clark S.D., Hine J.D., Westfield I.G., also Bros. Crouch, Bolton, Peacock, &c. The ceremony of installation was rehearsed by the W.M., Bro. Bolton candidate. Bro. Fenner worked the second section of the lecture, assisted by the brethren; and the third, assisted by the W.M. Bro. Richmond was unanimously elected W.M. for next meeting.

Gilbert Greenall Lodge, No. 1250.—A meeting was held on the second Tuesday in December, at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, Warrington, Lancashire. Present—Bros. D. W. Finney P.M. Prov. G. Steward W.M., R. Brierley as S.W., Thomas Sutton J.W., Spencer Wallhead Sec., J. G. Galloway Treas., T. Hutchinson J.D., James Hannah I.G., T. Domville Tyler; Past Masters Bros. Woods, Hawkins, Richardson, J. Harding, Edelsten. Bros. Farrington, Cropper, A. F. G. Potter, A. Potter, W. Taylor, T. P. Taylor, Webster, H. Houghton, &c. Visitors—Bros. W. C. Cooper Prov. G.S.B., J. R. Young W.M. elect 148. After the minutes were read and confirmed, the W.M. introduced the subject of a new Masonic Hall. A long discussion ensued, after which a committee was appointed to go into the question, and report at a future meeting.

The next item brought before the Lodge was the desirability of sending a Steward to one of our great London Charities, and it is hoped a brother will be forthcoming to represent the Lodge in that capacity. The brethren next proceeded to elect a Ball Committee, to act with and support the General Committee. No further business being on the programme, the Lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, after which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The brethren separated in harmony.

Marquis of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489.—A regular meeting took place on Friday, 6th inst., at the Hall of the Metropolitan Societies Asylum, Balls Pond-road, Dalston. Present—Bros. Dr. J. Symonds W.M., John High S.W., J. Glaskin acting J.W., Wm. Stephens Treasurer, W. J. Murlis Secretary, C. Smith I.G., Gilchrist Tyler. There was no business on the agenda but the balloting for a joining member. This being the last meeting in the year, Bro. Stephens made a special appeal on behalf of the Institution in whose Hall they met, and where they had been so comfortably located since the consecration of the Lodge. Nearly fifty years ago the Metropolitan Societies Asylum was established for the reception of aged persons of both sexes, members of any Benevolent Institution, who are provided with a free residence, coals, gas, medical attendance, and a weekly allowance towards maintenance. Her Majesty the Queen is Patron, but the Institution is but scantily endowed,—it is usual at Christmas time to entertain these old folks with a dinner, he therefore urged the brethren who had so nobly given to the Masonic Charities

to do something for the inmates of an institution so worthy of their support. Bro. H. Patient the Secretary, a member of this Lodge, then prepared a list, and a sum of upwards of ten guineas was collected. For this he most feelingly thanked the donors. At the closing of Lodge a plain supper took place, and the usual toasts were proposed and honoured. Bro. Walford C.C. I.P.M. responded for the P.M.'s, Bro. Murlis for the Treasurer and Secretary, Bro. R. Wright P.P.G.D.C. Herts for the Visitors, Bro. John High for the Officers, Bro. W. Stephens for the Charities, and the Tyler's toast ended a most pleasant evening, most ably presided over by the Wor. Master, Dr. Symonds.

Saint Leonard Lodge, No. 1766.—The December meeting of this Lodge was held on 4th inst., at the Town Hall, Shoreditch. Bro. L. Stean W.M. presided, supported by Bros. G. T. Barr S.W., C. F. Barham J.W., C. Stevens Treas., E. Benjamin S.D., J. A. Jones J.D., A. A. Clement I.G., H. J. F. Gale D.C., R. Marshall S., G. C. Young Organist, and the Secretary. The Lodge was opened in ancient form. Messrs. John Tidball, H. J. Thrower, and R. Drysdale were initiated into the mysteries of the Order in a most impressive manner. Bros. Funstone, Henderson, Waynforth, King, and Matthews were passed. Bros. E. T. Henman 1243, R. S. Mendey 177, and Dr. W. Holt 928 were elected joining members of the Lodge. Various matters of business were transacted, and the proceedings were marked with much cordiality throughout. It appears that this new Lodge is progressing in a very satisfactory manner.

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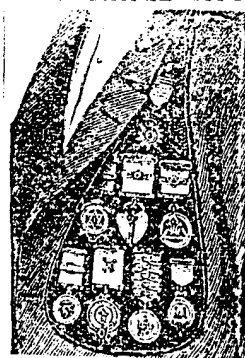
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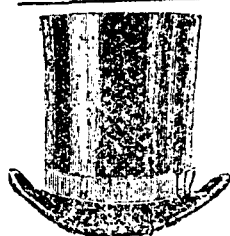
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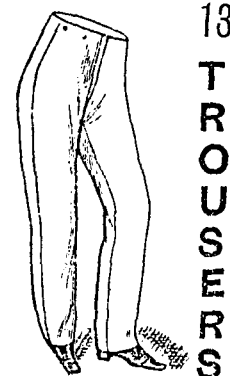
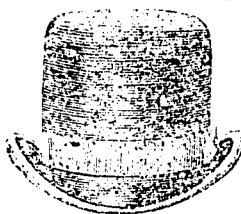
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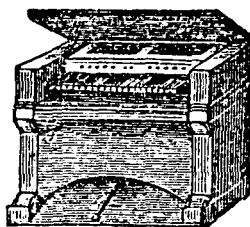
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