

T H E  
**F R E E M A S O N,**

A WEEKLY JOURNAL OF

*Freemasonry, Literature, Science, and Art.*

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**VOL. II.**

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PUBLISHED WITH THE SANCTION OF

**THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ZETLAND, K.T.,**

*Most Worshipful Grand Master of England.*

AND THE

**RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE, K.T., G.C.B.,**

*Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland.*

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**London:**

PUBLISHED BY BRO. GEORGE KENNING, LITTLE BRITAIN, E.C.

1869.

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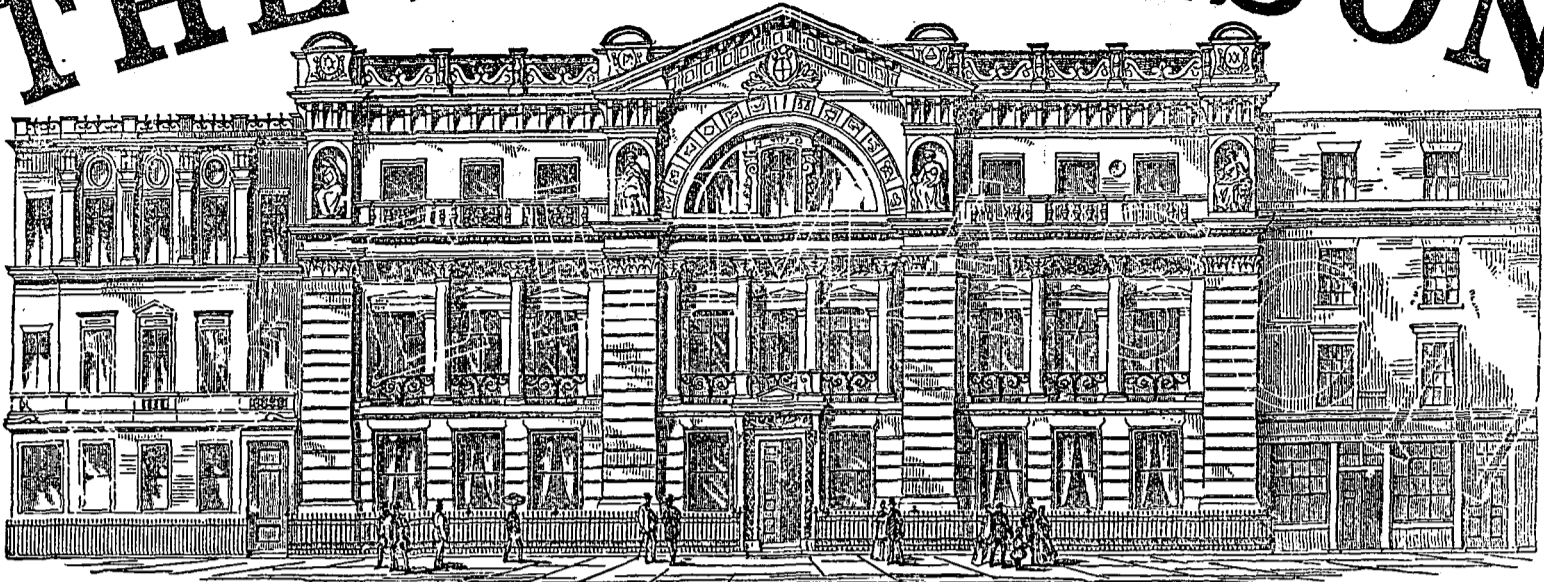
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# THE FREEMASON



Grand Lodge Reports are published with the sanction of the Right Honorable the EARL of ZETLAND, K.T., Most Worshipful Grand Master of England.

Vol. 2, No. 17.]

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1869.

REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

[PRICE 2D.

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## ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

By THE SON OF SALATHIEL.

(Continued.)

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We have selected such portion of Savary's account as appeared most calculated to elucidate this mysterious hieroglyphic. The preceding extracts abound with interesting information, and display a considerable degree of learning and research, but the principal object for which they were quoted, was to endeavour, if possible, to ascertain its true origin. A learned commentator states his opinion upon this point. We submit it to the judgment of our readers, whether the term Triple Tau, may not be

derived from Thoth Trismegistus, or Taut, three times great: and also, whether, in its primary signification, it does not more immediately refer to the infancy, progress, and perfection of human knowledge, to which subjects, the Egyptian symbol of the three Thothes or Tauts evidently allude. If assent be given to this theory, which (according to our judgment) appears plausible, then we arrive at the true derivation, which as we have before stated, originates from the Three Tauts or Mercuries, for as the Tau (as it is called), the Cross T or Crux Ansata, was among the Egyptians a symbol of Mercury, so the Triple Tau being a combination of three such crosses, evidently alludes to the Three Tauts, or to speak without the assistance of allegory, to the three periods of the infancy, progress, and perfection of human learning; we may suppose at least, that this was the meaning attached to it by the ancient Egyptians. This derivation does not alter its literal import as being the Symbol of Letters, nor does the circumstance of its being the symbol of the Three Tauts affect its name or sound as the Triple Tau which its form indicates, the letter Tau being of the same name and form in the Ethiopic, Coptic, and probably the Ancient Samaritan languages; so, that the propriety of calling it the Triple Tau, as being formed of three Tau's, or three T's, still cannot be questioned, especially as among the ancient Jews, the Tau was considered as a character peculiarly sacred, and which, as we shall presently see, was used by them upon several remarkable occasions.

It has been supposed, that this emblem alluded to the disgusting Ihallic worship so prevalent in the heathen world, but as we find traces of its existence among the Jews, we cannot suppose that it bore such a signification with them; indeed, we have sufficient proofs of the contrary from various parts of their sacred writings. That its symbolic meaning, might have been degraded to such a purpose among the heathen nations, we do not deny, but we think sufficient evidence has been adduced to prove that in its original intention, it imparted a far nobler meaning. We cannot for a moment suppose that the pure and Holy Being who is the only proper object of the worship of mankind, and who cannot look upon iniquity without abhorrence, would authorise such a mode of worship among his peculiar people. In order that our assertions

may not remain unsupported by evidence we may quote a passage from the Scripture, with a comment from the pen of the learned Doctor Lowth, the father of Bishop Lowth, as further illustrative of this subject:—

"And the Lord said unto him, go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof." (Ezekiel, ix, 4.) "Set a mark on their foreheads"—(compare Revelations, vii.31.) The expression alludes to the custom of the eastern nations to mark their servants in the forehead. (See Grotius upon that place of the Revelation.) The vulgar Latin renders the words, "Mark with the letter *Thau* the foreheads," and it is very probable the ancient reading in the LXX. was τὰν ἐπιμεῖον, though the present copies read τὸ ἐπιμεῖον, (see Huetius, Demonst. Evang. prop. 9.) It was the general opinion of the fathers that the ancient Samaritan letter, Thau, was made in the form of a cross; and St. Jerome (a very competent judge in this matter) does attest the same in his commentary on this place.

This opinion Scaliger rejects in his notes upon Eusebius's Chronicon, p. 109; but Bishop Walton defends it at large in his third Prolegomenon, n. 36, and the dissertation upon the Ancient Hebrew Sicles, in his apparatus to the Polyglot Bible, p. 36. The Ethiopic letter *Tawi* or *Tau*, still retains the form of a cross; and the learned Lado plus supposes that the Ethiopic letters were borrowed from the Samaritans. The Coptic letter of that sound is in the same form. The modern antiquaries do all agree, that the Samaritan Thau was in the form of a Greek X. But whether their authority be sufficient to outweigh that of St. Jerome, must be left to the learned to judge. It is observable that the High Priest was anointed upon the forehead in the form of an X, as Selden assures us, Lib. ii., de Success. in Pontif. cap. 9.

The words of the learned Montfaucon (Paleograph, Græc. Lib. ii., cap. 3) decide this controversy in favour of the Ancients. "In nummis Samaritanis, quæ in museis occurrunt, Thau forma crucis exaratum frequentissime visitur: in quos si incidisset Scaliger, Origenis et Hieronymi testimonio refragatus non esset." He tells us, "That in several Samaritan coins, to be found in the collections of medals, the letter Thau is engraven in the form of a cross, which, if Scaliger had seen he would not have contradicted the testimony of Origen and Jerome upon the subject."

He then proceeds to show that it was used by various other nations of the Ancient World, among some of whom, having lost its original import, it was regarded in the light of a magical sign, or as a mysterious and powerful amulet, possessed of virtues calculated to protect them against the influence of evil spirits; and this erroneous and superstitious idea pervaded the minds of many of the early christians, particularly those of the Roman Catholic Communion, which belief might have given rise to the superstitious reverence of this symbol, especially as connected with the event of our Saviour's

crucifixion. Had not this notion of it prevailed before the establishment of Christianity, it is probable that the cross, so far from being venerated as a sacred symbol, would have been held in detestation as the instrument of a most cruel and sanguinary punishment, and more particularly as it was unjustly inflicted on the Saviour of the World.

Having already proved that this emblem was known to the Egyptians and the Ancient Jews, we shall further demonstrate that traces of it are discoverable among the Brahmins of India for there was a mark used by the Brahmins nearly resembling the *Tau*, called the *Tiluk*, which was impressed on the foreheads of the Hindoo devotees before they entered their pagodas, or temples of religious worship. In regard to the *Tiluk*, Maurice in his learned work on Indian antiquities observes that, "it was the custom of very ancient date in Asia to mark their servants in the forehead. It is alluded to in Ezekiel, chap. 9., ver. 4, where the Almighty commands his Angel to go through the City, and set a mark on the foreheads of the men (his servants, the faithful), who sighed for the abominations committed in the midst thereof." The same idea again occurs in the Revelations, chap. 7, ver. 31, 'hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God' in their foreheads. We have no doubt that originally this was the mark of the Hermetic Cross, that celebrated symbol in all the Gentile world. Bishop Lowth in his commentary on the passage before cited in Ezekiel, observes that it originally stood in the Septuagint version, not *το σημειον*, a mark, but *ταυ σημειον*, the mark *Tau*, or great **T**."

Now, from the similarity of the *Tiluk* (in form and use) to the *Tau*, may we not conclude that they originally bore the same signification, which if granted, sufficiently proves the existence of this celebrated symbol in India.

This subject may be further illustrated by a reference to a discovery of certain very ancient Cinerary vases, made by two gentlemen of Albano (near Rome), viz., Signors Tomasotti, and Carnevali, on the 28th of January, 1817, which has brought to light a society possessed, apparently, of all the arts of ancient civilization, and existing before the arrival of *Aeneas* in Italy; a society which was buried in the convulsion that changed the volcano of Albano into a lake.

By the discovery of these vases we are enabled to prove the existence of this hieroglyphic not only among the Aborigines of Italy, but from the similarity of the figures depicted on them to certain Runic characters, we are also able to trace its existence, even among the northern nations.

*To be continued.*

#### ANNUAL PICNIC OF THE DUNEARN LODGE, No. 400, BURNTISLAND.

This happy gathering came off with great eclat on Wednesday, the 16th inst., when a large number of Masons, Masons' wives, and Masons' hairns proceeded to the beautiful grounds of Otterstone estate, the seat of Captain Mowbray, every one with the determination of enjoying themselves, and for the time being to throw off the cares and trammels of business.

On reaching the entrance to the grounds the brethren were arranged in order of procession, the ladies and children bringing up the rear, and, headed by the fine band of the 11th E. V. Artillery, were conducted through the gardens and grounds; after which they proceeded to the place pre-arranged for the picnic; a beautiful spot on the top of a hill, and through the trees with which it was surrounded could be seen glimpses of the swans, majestically skimming the smooth surface of the lake below, with Otterstone House in the back-ground.

After all had refreshed themselves to their hearts' content, dancing was commenced on the green, and was kept up with unabated vigour until the shades of evening warned the managing committee that it was time to give the word, "Home." Before leaving, the brethren marched to Otterstone House, when Bro. Hutchison, R.W.M., moved a cordial

vote of thanks to Captain Mowbray for his kindness and liberality in allowing them the use of the grounds for the day. J. C. Mowbray, jun., Esq., of Otterstone, in reply, stated that in the absence of his father, nothing had given him more pleasure than receiving so happy a company, and he should be glad to see them back on a future occasion.

After three hearty cheers had been given for Mr. Mowbray and the Misses Mowbray, the *cortege* wended their way homewards, one and all delighted with their day's excursion. We would recommend all lodges to follow the example of the Lodge Dunearn, as such excursions not only tend to cement true friendship among the brethren, but it is some recompense to the ladies for the absence of their liege lords while engaged with the workings of the Craft.

#### PAPERS ON MASONRY.

BY A LEWIS.

##### XIII.—MASONRY AND THE SLAVE.

"And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a slave of slaves shall he be unto his brethren.—*Genesis ix. 24, 25.*

"For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldst receive him for ever; not now as a slave, but above a slave, a brother beloved.—*Paul to Philemon 15, 16.*

In the sacred volume of the Law, the distinction of colour is nowhere stated as an argument for enforced slavery or servitude. It is a creation of later customs, and subject to modifications of many kinds. That a distinction of colour was early observed, as men pushed their geographical researches further into the desert wastes of the globe, is evident from well-known texts, and it was found to be an invariable fact among men. The original effect of Noah's curse was designed, it is easy to be seen, to take effect on the children of Ham, in so far as that imperfect division of the human race can be at this distance of time understood. It was practically applied by early nations to all those having skins, capacities, and understandings more obscured than others.

No doubt the declaration that Canaan should be a slave was the *ex-post facto* construction placed by the conquering Beni-Israel upon their acts in Canaanitish countries. The negro, from his universally despised and naturally arrested capacity, was assigned in antiquity to the lowest and meanest of duties. He was not sought to be raised, as has been attempted, with doubtful success, in later times. It was reserved for the mistaken philanthropy of the benevolent Las Casas to ental upon humanity the bane of slavery as understood in modern times. The Ethiopian eunuch met by Philip was of great authority under his Queen. Candace, "having charge of all her treasures," and upon his baptism and admission into the young Christian faith all modern arguments for equality of race practically depend. We are not certain of the colour of the skin of Onesimus, but we are certain he was, emphatically, a slave.

The Greek language, so rich in expression and in the shades of meaning applied to words, makes a clear distinction between slaves obtained by conquest, and slaves slaveborn. It employs the very word for a born slave in the passage at the head of this paper, in contradistinction to the word used for conquered slaves. It is the word *δοσλος* (*doulos*) a born slave, in opposition to *ανδραποδον* (*andrapodon*) a slave made in war and sold. A reference to the great standard lexicon of Leiddell and Scott shows this at a glance. The word is universal in the New Testament (Colossians iv. 1, for instance), and although Paul calls himself the slave (*doulos*) of Christ Jesus, this is in a religious sense of self-abasement, common in that writer, to express his utter unworthiness. Hence, instead of adopting the version of the authorised translators, I have, to mark this fact, substituted the word "slave," for "servant" in my quotations.

The word "doulos," then, means a slave *not born free*, and hence, if in the important question which has recently forced itself into prominence in relation to the African Lodge, originally formed under Prince Hall, it becomes of paramount importance. I do not propose to consider the question in its political sense; in other Masonic respects it is of great moment to arrive at some decision as to whether the coloured Freemasons of the United States, Siberia, and elsewhere can claim rights other than those of clandestine Masons. Practically, the matter will settle itself by lapse of time. The children of negroes, mulattoes, creoles and others "free-born and of good report," and possessing the other qualifications required by the declaration, could by no absolute principle of justice be denied entrance into the Fraternity. In Masonry, the universal principle of brotherhood and relief, as it should do, knows nothing of colour. Were such a distinction known it would mar the beauty of the whole system, and to the free black Freemasonry cannot refuse to open its portals. The white possessing no education, is as much excluded as the slave, or the negro not absolutely free born.

It would be, however, as unwise to remove the necessary prohibition against the admission of slave-born persons of any colour, as it would to do away with the qualification of education. Nor can it be

said that there is any great hardship or injustice on the broadest scale in this.

A person seized as prisoner of war and sold into slavery, if free-born, would, on the recovery of his liberty, unquestionably have a right to participate in the privileges of Masonry, upon due ballot and initiation; but in the case of born slaves, the plea is invalid, both from the direct wording of the declaration, and from the fact that it is but a disqualification of an evanescent character as regards the slave in general. I wish it to be understood that I apply this universally, and not especially to the negro—what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. Should, indeed, the almost incredible historical phenomenon ensue of the reduction of a white race to slavery—not an absolute impossibility *per se*—then the argument would run that the enslaved individuals themselves, having been *born free*, might claim a right to be initiated, but not so their children born during their slave condition. The latter, even if they recovered their freedom, would not be eligible, although the right would revive in the immediate descendants of these last—or the grandchildren of the white population so enslaved.

In this I am not splitting hairs for the mere sake of drawing fine distinctions, but pointing out technicalities worthy of grave consideration.

Nor do I ground any of these remarks upon the arguments, felt by so many to be evidently true, that the negro is of a different race and descent, from the beginning of time, to the white and other varieties of man. Unless it be competent for the Masonic body to change the declaration—I am aware of the action of Grand Lodge in this, in 1847—I do not see how this can ever be obviated. I should hardly imagine that such a document, signed by a candidate before initiation, can be regarded as a landmark; however, that is a matter for Masonic jurists to decide. That the persons who have attained to the knowledge of Masonic secrets, by virtue of the warrants said to have been granted to Prince Hall and others, are practically Masons, no one can doubt, although they must technically be regarded as clandestine Masons. Whether the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln, can, by any legal ingenuity, be so tortured as to admit of their being "healed," I know not, but, as in the case of the dying Scotch millionaire, who asked his spiritual adviser whether, if he left a thousand pounds to one kirk and a thousand pounds to another kirk it would aid him in his candidature for heaven, I should be tempted to reply, with the cautious Scottish minister, "I dinna ken; but its an exparamen' weel worth the tryin'."

While speaking of President Lincoln I should wish, *en passant*, to record an anecdote concerning that distinguished man, for the truth of which I can vouch, it having been related to me by President (and I believe, if negro Masonry be right, Bro.) Roberts, of Liberia, himself. On the visit of the latter to Washington during the war, for the purpose of obtaining from the United States Government permission to receive on board ship, at the sole cost of the Republic of Liberia, such "contrabands," as the fugitive slaves were technically called, as might choose to return to Africa, he had several interviews with the American President on the subject. All his endeavours, his offers to provide lands for the African emigrants in Liberia, were met by a sort of Republican *non possumus*. The President's reply was, in so many words, "We can't part with a man of them—they are the property of the state." But whether the arguments of that courteous and noble-spirited gentleman, President Roberts, had any further effect, I cannot say, the Emancipation Proclamation, however, made its appearance almost before President Roberts had time to reach Liverpool on his return.

That this somewhat vexed question should be set at rest is highly desirable, for I am sure a controversy in which the negroes, in my opinion and that of many others, have abstract right and justice on their side, should be sought to be terminated in a decorous and dignified manner by the Masonic authorities, and no doubt this wish animates their bosoms.

It is melancholy to see a section of the human race excluded from the benefits of a participation in Masonry by an hereditary wrong, which, however mitigated in its effects by benevolent treatment in the generality of instances, was a blot upon humanity in general, and, unfortunately, in a semi-barbarous age, received the support of Churchmen from motives of mistaken and shortsighted benevolence. It is impossible to consider that the transference of a cruelty from one section of the human family to another can be otherwise than a crying injustice, now, happily, terminated.

Therefore, while I consider that the limits of Noah's curse may be defined as applying solely to the Canaanitish tribes, and were construed into a Divine sanction for the conquest of the land afterwards to become the Holy land (and so it is argued by the excellent Jewish translator of the Old Testament, M. P. Cahew), I trust that Freemasons will now take to themselves the words of Paul to Philemon, and everywhere receive the unjustly enslaved, "for ever; not now as a slave, but above a slave, a brother beloved."

CRYPTONYMUS.



**INSTALLATION OF THE W. MASTER OF DE THURLAND LODGE, SHEERNESS.**

On Thursday, 24th June last, (St. John's Day), the members of the De Thurland Lodge, 1089, assembled at the Wesley Chapel, Blue Town, Sheerness, under a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master, Lord Holmesdale, M.P., for the purpose of installing the W.M.-elect for the ensuing year. The lodge was opened in due and ancient form at 2.30 p.m., by Bro. Layland, W.M., who informed the brethren that in consequence of severe family affliction, the respected D.P.G. Master, Bro. Dobson, was unable to attend, which was deeply regretted by the brethren.

The retiring W.M., (Bro. Layland), in a very eloquent manner informed the brethren he had a most pleasing duty to perform before vacating the chair of K.S., and that was to present Bro. Pannell, P.P.G.S., Sec., with a handsome jewel and gold pencil case, on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, in token of their appreciation of the exertions he had displayed for the benefit of the lodge.

Bro. PANNELL, in very suitable language, expressed his thanks to the brethren for the honour they had done him in recognising his efforts to do his duty as a Mason.

The W.M.-elect Bro. J. R. McDonald having been duly presented, and having signified assent to strictly conform to the ancient landmarks, was duly installed by Bro. C. B. Shrubsole, in a very able and impressive manner. After the newly-installed Master had been duly greeted, he proceeded to appoint the following brethren as his officers:—Bros. West, S.W.; Hancock, J.W.; Shrubsole, P.M., Treas.; Pannell, Sec.; Smith, S.D.; Randall, J.D.; Rees, I.G.; Easto, Steward; Parsons, Tyler. The lodge was then closed in solemn form with prayer, when the brethren, to the number of 41, repaired to the lodge-room at the Fountain Hotel, to a sumptuous and elegantly laid-out banquet, provided with the usual tact of the worthy host, Bro. A. W. Howe.

Among the brethren were noticed several Provincial and W.M.'s, viz., Bros. I. S. Keddell, P.M. 158, P.P.G.S.W., P.Z.; I. Townsend, P.M. 158, P.P.G.R., P.Z.; J. G. Green, P.M. 158, P.P.G.J.D., P.Z.; C. B. Shrubsole, P.M. 158, 1089, P.P.G.S. of W.Z.; A. Hodge, P.M. 158, P.P.G.S.D., P.H.; W. J. Blakey, P.M. 1174, P.P.G.J.D.; Sharp, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; N. Norman, P.M. 913; E. Wates, P.M. 91, P.G. Sec.; S. Hughes, P.M. 158, N.; Jones, P.M. Ara Lodge 348 Irish Const., and P.P.G.S.D., of province of New Zealand; Fleming, W.M. 158; W. Turtle, W.M. 184; E. Mackney, W.M. 299; A. Hall, J. Wootton, J. Nixon, and J. Finch, 158; J. Barnard and W. Bailey, 133; E. Lowman and R. Whitton, of Faucett Lodge, 661.

After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, and the cloth cleared, the P.G.S., Bro. Wates, in the absence of the D.P.G. Master, presided, and at once called upon the brethren to assist him in a toast which was never forgotten by Masons, viz., the Queen and the Craft, and informed the brethren, as His Royal Highness had intimated his intention of becoming an English Mason, he should include the name of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, which was enthusiastically responded to, as was also that of the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland; the D.G.M., Earl de Grey and Ripon, and rest of Grand officers; the P.G.M., Lord Holmesdale, M.P.; the D.P.G.M., Bro. Dobson, and the rest of the D.P.G. Officers, past and present.

Bro. KEDDELL, P.P.G.S.W., replied in very affecting and appropriate words, deeply deploring the calamity that prevented their excellent D.P.G. Master being present, who, he assured the brethren was there in spirit if not in person. Bro. Keddell then proposed the health of the worthy Brother then presiding, Bro. Wates, P.G.S., which was received with all honours.

Bro. WATES replied in his usual eloquent style, giving the brethren good information on the prosperous and flourishing state of Masonry in the Province of Kent. Bro. Wates proposed the health of the Worshipful Master, and congratulated the brethren upon the selection they had made, as he felt assured from the very responsible Government appointment he held in the town, and his thorough business qualities and zeal for Masonry, he was satisfied he would fulfil the duties of the chair creditably to his lodge and to himself, and would hand down to his successor that which this day had been committed to his charge pure and unsullied.

The W.M., Bro. McDONALD, thanked the P.G.S., Bro. Wates, for the kind manner he had proposed his health, and also the brethren for the hearty and cordial manner they responded to the same. He assured the brethren the kind words emanating from the P.G. Secretary he scarcely thought he deserved. He admitted he had very great zeal for Masonry, and studied it much, and had persevered to attain the proud position of Worshipful Master. He felt the position that the brethren of his lodge had conferred upon him a great honor, not from simple vanity, but from the unanimous manner they had elected him their master, and hoped while the G.A.O.T.U. preserved to him health, to be able to perform the duties of the office efficiently, and trusted that at the termination of his year of office

they would bear the same good feeling towards him as they had just expressed. He assured them he would do his utmost to deserve the good opinion of those friends he had found in Masonry.

The health of the P.M. of the lodge was next proposed, which was well responded to by Bro. LAYLAND, the I.P.M., as was also the healths of the Officers, by the S.W., Bro. West.

The meeting terminated at 9.30 p.m., and was expressed by numerous brethren to have been a truly happy Masonic gathering.

**VISIT OF GLASGOW ST. JOHN'S LODGE TO AYR AND KILWINNING.**

On Thursday, last week, the brethren of Glasgow St. John's Lodge, No. 3-bis celebrated the summer festival of their patron Saint by an excursion to the nursery of masonry in Scotland—Kilwinning—and to the land of Burns. It has become the custom of the members of St. John's thus to celebrate their Saint's day, and this year's trip was the seventh annual one.

By the first morning train for the West upwards of forty brethren left Glasgow. After breakfast the company broke up into small parties, some of whom visited the old Abbey and other objects of masonic and antiquarian interest; others went as far as the policies of Eglington Castle, where the annual games at bowls between the Eagleton Estate clubs was being played.

About noon they bade good-bye to the cell of St. Winning, and, accompanied by Bro. Wyllie, Secretary of Mother Kilwinning, proceeded to Ayr, where they made the King's Arms their rendezvous. The R.W.M. of St. John's, Bro. John Baird, architect, West Regent-street, Glasgow, is himself one of the "Merry lads of Ayr," and, under his direction, the party was divided into sections for the purpose of visiting the chief objects of interest in the town and neighbourhood. Bro. Baird having prepared a plan of the Fort as it existed prior to its being fenced and built upon, a large company was formed to visit it. Accompanied by Bro. McIlwraith they proceeded to the Citadel Stores, where they were made welcome by Captain Fullerton, to examine the portion of the wall there remaining entire. Here Bro. Baird showed upon the plan the position occupied by the stores on what was formerly the fosse guarding the works, and pointed out the Masons' marks upon the hewn stones of the wall. Through the kindness of Capt. Fullerton, the party were permitted to examine the locality minutely, and proceeded through his garden to the present entrance to the Fort. They then made a complete tour of it, noting the old entrance, the sally-port towards the sea, powder magazine, old well, and battions and curtains where these remain. About an hour was spent with interest and pleasure in the examination of Old Noll's Work. Afterwards several of the members, accompanied by Bro. D. M. Lyon, Ayr, proceeded to the Old Churchyard, where curious antique headstones and quaint carvings formed the subject of interesting conversation. Others proceeded to Burns' Cottage and the Banks of the Doon, and there spent a couple of hours very pleasantly, the day being one of the finest we have had this season.

At five o'clock the brethren re-assembled at the King's Arms Hotel, where a substantial dinner awaited them. R.W.M. Br. Baird presided, supported by Br. Wyllie, Secretary, Mother Kilwinning; Bros. D. M. Lyon, one of the Stewards of the Grand Lodge; Lieut. Hunter, St. John's; and Bro. McIlwraith, St. John's Thornhill. Bro. Jas. McMillan, S.W., officiated as Croupier, supported by Bros. Park, P.M.; Granger, St. Mary's, Patrick; Wagget, S.M.; and Samuels, Treasurer.—*Ayrshire Express.*

**RAILWAY CARRIAGES.**

The following letter appeared in the *Times* of Monday, June 28:—

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Having acted as foreman of the jury empanelled to enquire into the lamentable accident that happened at Bickley to the late Mr. Jennings on Wednesday, I beg your permission, on public grounds, to state that the jury, at my suggestion, appended to their verdict the following observations:—

"1. The jury are of opinion that the construction of the carriage used on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, whereby an extra seat is gained in the width, is in the highest degree objectionable, as it involves a material reduction in the clear space of the upper step available for the foot of a passenger who is alighting.

"2. They suggest that the upper step should be a continuous one, running the whole length of the carriage, as the 'footboard' does, and that it should be of wood, not iron, as less slippery.

"3. That the coroner be requested to forward a copy of these observations to the manager of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, and to the Railway Department of the Board of Trade."

It was proved by the evidence that had there been a continuous upper step the body of our lamented friend could not have been jammed in between the wheel and the platform in the way it was, and he

would probably have escaped without very serious injury.

As to the point raised in No. 1, we inspected informally a train of passenger carriages which happened to arrive, and we thoroughly satisfied ourselves that as the carriages are so unusually wide they overhang the step and reduce its available breadth to scarcely three inches. The insufficiency of this, and the consequent danger to alighting passengers, it needs not to point out.

The railway company were officially represented at the inquest, and their representative endeavoured to show that a continuous upper step would neither be practicable nor useful. The jury were, however, convinced of the very contrary.

Nothing that is calculated to conduce to the safety of railway travelling can be unworthy of notice in these travelling days, and I would strenuously urge railway managers to give more attention to this matter of access to carriages, and also to another matter, which, although it did not come directly before us to-day, pressing needs attention—the general absence from our railway carriages of a continuous handrail between door and door, and of a well-devised handle to catch hold of.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
GEORGE F. CHAMBERS.

1, Cloisters, Temple, June 25.

**Masonic Miscellanea.**

**THE BRETT TESTIMONIAL FUND.**

**SECOND LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

|                               | £  | s. | d.   |
|-------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Amount already subscribed ..  | 75 | 10 | 6    |
| Bro. G. Powell (142) ..       | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Merrick ..                  | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " C. Wilcox (177) ..          | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Grant ..                    | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Manton (177) ..             | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Gilchrist ..                | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Sprague ..                  | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " Tattershall ..              | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Anscombe (177) ..           | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Tyler ..                    | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Coles ..                    | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " McCullum ..                 | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Vinall ..                   | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " Griffin ..                  | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Swainston ..                | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Coram, P.M. (199, Dover) .. | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Philpott ..                 | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " Boyton, P.M. ..             | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Elms ..                     | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Major Dickson, M.P. ..      | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " T. Fox ..                   | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " W. J. Irons ..              | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " J. Harvey, P.M. ..          | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " A. Ayres, W.M. ..           | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " Wilson, S.D. ..             | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Gardner, P.M. ..            | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Fuhr ..                     | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " T. Briggs ..                | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " E. W. Fry ..                | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " G. N. Chadwick ..           | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " J. Owen, W.M.-elect ..      | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " S. Usherwood ..             | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " W. J. Adcock ..             | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Matthews ..                 | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Forster ..                  | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Marshall, J.W. ..           | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " Atherton ..                 | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Stilwell ..                 | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Perry ..                    | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Marley ..                   | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Little ..                   | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Cox, P.M. ..                | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Thurlow ..                  | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Hall ..                     | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " Treadwell (177) ..          | .. | 0  | 5 0  |
| " J. McKiernan ..             | .. | 0  | 10 0 |
| " Morley ..                   | .. | 0  | 2 6  |
| " G. A. Taylor ..             | .. | 0  | 10 6 |
| " R. Gurney ..                | .. | 0  | 5 0  |

£88 1 6

Brethren holding subscription cards for the above fund are requested to forward them either to Bro. H. G. Buss (Treasurer), 127, Oford-road, Islington, N., or to the Hon. Secretaries, Bros. R. W. Little, 7, Gilbert-road, Kennington, S.E., and R. Tanner, 18, North-street, Westminster, S.W.

THE forthcoming work by Bro. Wm. J. Hughan will contain:—1. An article on Masonic M.S.S., by Bro. Hughan. 2. A reprint of the Constitution of the Freemasons by the Grand Lodge of England, 1723, being the first edition (slightly abridged.) 3. A fac-simile lithographic reprint of Coles' copper-plate edition of the Constitutions, 1728, from transfers from the original in Bro. Hughan's possession. Seventy copies only are to be printed for sale, at 10s. 6d. each, and 30 copies for presentation. The work will be dedicated, by permission, to the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland. Subscriptions to be sent to the publisher, Bro. Wm. Lake, Truro, stating name in full and Masonic position.

## Reports of Masonic Meetings.

## THE CRAFT.

## METROPOLITAN.

*Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 706.*—The annual meeting of this Lodge was held on Friday, June 25th, at the Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, to install Bro. Prescott, Senior Warden, who was unanimously elected at the last meeting to that distinguished office. Bro. M. P. Ward, Worshipful Master, opened the Lodge, assisted by P.M. Colonel Clerk, as I.P.M. The officers in attendance were Bro. Prescott, S.W., Bro. Toms, J.W., Bro. E. Denton, P.M. and Secretary, Bro. H. Fieling, S.D., Bro. Stanton, J.D., and Bro. L. Fieling as I.G. The minutes of the preceding Lodge were read and unanimously approved. The Lodge was opened in the 2nd degree, and Bro. Prescott, W.M.-elect, was presented to the Worshipful Master, to receive from him the benefit of installation. That part of the ceremony belonging to the second degree being ended, the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and, the M.M.'s having retired, the Board of I.M.'s was formed, and Bro. Prescott was installed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, and saluted in the presence of a goodly number of Past Masters. The visitors were also in strong force, as the W.M.'s of the other Woolwich Lodges were honoured with invitations to attend, which proves the admirable, good fraternal feeling that exists amongst the Lodges in this town; and there also were some distinguished London and Provincial brethren present. He then invested his I.P.M., and the Board was duly closed. The M.M.'s were then admitted, and the W.M. was proclaimed and saluted. The working tools were also explained, and the Lodge was resumed. The Fellow Crafts were then admitted, and the W.M. was again proclaimed, saluted, &c. The Lodge was resumed in the first degree, and the E.A.'s were admitted, and the W.M. was, for the third time, proclaimed, saluted, &c. The W.M. then proceeded to appoint the following brethren officers for the ensuing year, viz., Bro. Toms, S.W., H. Fieling, J.W., P.M. Ward, Treasurer, P.M. Denton, Secretary, Bro. Farnfield, S.D., Bro. Stanford, J.D., and Bro. L. Fieling as I.G. The officers being invested, and having the duties of their respective offices explained to them by the installing Master, they were inducted in their proper positions. The usual addresses to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and the Lodge was then delivered by Bro. P.M. Ward in a very able and impressive manner, which closed the ceremony of installation. Bro. P.M. Ward was then presented with a very handsome P.M. Jewel, in token of the respect and esteem evinced towards him by the brethren, for the correct manner in which he performed his duty for the past year, which was received and acknowledged in very suitable terms. All Masonic business being ended, the Lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the Freemasons' Hotel and partook of an excellent banquet, provided by Bro. De Grey in his usual liberal manner. Amongst the visitors we noticed the W.M. of the Pattison Lodge, Bro. W. J. Palmer, Bro. P. M. Bickerstaff, Bro. May, S.W., and Bro. W. Graham, J.W. of the Nelson Lodge, 706, and several other Brothers. The cloth having been withdrawn, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and the evening enlivened by some very excellent harmony from the brethren present.

*Lodge Temperance in the East, No. 898.*—The members of this lodge met at their elegant and convenient Masonic Hall, No. 6, Newby-place, Poplar, on Wednesday, when the W.M., Bro. James Cannon, well supported by Past Masters Finch and Devison, and his officers in a most able manner initiated Mr. B. Carter, and conferred the degree of F.C. on Bros. Newell and Waller. This very useful lodge, as usual, was attended by numerous visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Berkley (P.M. 641), Vesper (P.M. 95, 180, 181, 538 and 574), Fritchley (S.W. 245), Long (186), and Mert (831).

*Cupper Lodge, No. 1076.*—This excellent working lodge held its usual summer banquet at the Royal Hotel, North Woolwich, on Thursday last, under the able direction of the W. Master Bro. S. Watkins, supported by Bro. Bossiter, S. Watden; and Bro. Sisley, J. Warden; and nearly 100 of the members. The banquet was provided by Bro. W. Holland in a very excellent and liberal manner, for which he received the thanks of the brethren. The W. Master was also congratulated for the admirable way in which he discharged the duties of the table, showing his proficiency in that department, as well as in wielding the gavel in open lodge. The banquet being ended, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, viz., the Queen, the Prince of Wales and Royal Family, the Earl of Zetland, were done honor to. Success to the Army, Navy and Volunteers was then given, and very ably responded to by Bro. Creagh for the Army, and by Bro. P. M. West for the Volunteers. The health of the W.M. was given, and responded to, in a very neat and appropriate

speech, and the evening was spent in a very agreeable manner, enlivened by a selection of songs, &c., by professionals, the whole under the excellent direction of Bro. W. Holland.

## PROVINCIAL.

*ESSEX.—Lodge of True Friendship, No. 160.*—The annual meeting of the Lodge of "True Friendship," No. 160, took place at the Lodge Room, Old Ship Hotel, Rochford, on the 24th June, when Bro. John Allen, jun., of Paglesham was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being very ably and impressively performed by W. Bro. William Pissey, P.M. No. 160, Provincial J.G.W. of Essex. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows, Bro. D. B. Grout, S.W.; Bro. Robert Grout, J.W.; Bro. H. Wood, P.M. and P.P.G.O. re-elected Treasurer; Bro. George Burgess, P.M. and P.P.J.G.D. re-appointed Secretary; Bro. Edward Judd, S.D.; Bro. A. Lucking, J.D.; Bro. Thomas King, I.G. Amongst the visitors, in compliment to the W.M. and the good old Lodge, were several Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers and Past Masters. The Provincial Grand Officers present were the Right Worshipful D.P.G. Master, Bro. A. Meggy; W. Bro. William Pissey, P.M. No. 160, Prov. J.G.W.; W. Bro. J. Myers, P.M. No. 276, Provincial Grand Registrar; W. Bro. J. Burton, P.M. No. 276, Provincial Grand Treasurer; Bro. J. W. Carr, Provincial Grand Secretary; W. Bro. H. Rowley, P.M. No. 1000, Provincial S.G.D.; Bros. Dr. Nicholls and T. Smee, No. 276, Provincial Grand Stewards, and also the following Past Provincial Grand Officers, Past Masters, &c., were present:—W. Bro. Frederick Wood, P.M. No. 1000, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Bro. Frederick Green, P.M. Nos. 276 and 1024, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Bro. G. F. Browning, P.M. No. 160, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Bro. H. Wood, P.M. No. 160, P.P.G.O.; Bro. Rev. F. B. Shepherd, W.M. No. 276, P.P.G. Chaplain; W. Bro. George Burgess, P.M. No. 160, P.P.J.G.D.; W. Bro. William S. Pavitt, I.P.M. No. 160; W. Bro. Garrington, P.M.; W. Bro. Peter Richmond, P.M.; W. Bro. Jones, P.M.; Bro. English, S.D. No. 1000; Bro. Abbott, No. 1000; Bro. Andrews, of St. Peters, No. 1024. At the close of the business the brethren, thirty in number, sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. H. D. Brown, of the Old Ship, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and after a few songs had been given the brethren separated, after enjoying a pleasant evening.

*BEDFORDSHIRE.—Lodge of St. John the Baptist, No. 475.*—This excellent working lodge met on Friday, the 25th June, at the Town Hall, Luton, Bro. E. O. Williams in the chair. The lodge being opened, and the minutes of the former meeting read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. H. Torrance, and on its being unanimous in his favour, he was duly initiated. Bro. the Rev. Henry Tite having answered the usual questions satisfactorily, was passed to the degree of a F.C., and Bro. R. Drew was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, all the above ceremonies being excellently worked. Bro. John Cumberland was then presented to the lodge for the purpose of installation, and that ceremony was beautifully rendered in a solemn and imposing manner, by Bro. F. Gotto (P.P.S.W. for Berks and Bucks.) He then invested his officers as follows: Bros. Scargill, S.W.; Cawdell, J.W.; E. F. Green, S.D.; J. Cotchin, J.D.; I. W. Green, I.G.; F. B. Kelly, Sec.; E. O. Williams, Treas. It was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be given to Bro. F. Gotto, for the excellent manner he performed the ceremony of Installation, to the satisfaction of every Bro. and visitor present. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, and there sat down to a very recherche banquet, the dinner and wines being of first-rate quality. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, the W.M., in proposing the various toasts, showed the excellent selection they had made of one so well calculated to fill that office. The visitors were Bros. F. Gotto (P.M. 591, 948, 1087 and P.P.S.W. Berks and Bucks), C. Mortimer (Organist 948), C. Marriott (357), McCubbin (S.W. 948), King (948), Hadley (S.D. 948), J. Merrifield (1087), Roberts (J.W. 192). Some very excellent singing emanated from several brethren, and after spending an agreeable evening, the brethren returned to town at an early hour.

*LEICESTER.—John of Gault Lodge, No. 523.*—The brethren of this lodge assembled to celebrate their annual festival on St. John's Day, at the Freemasons' Hall, when, from the great esteem in which the W.M., elect (Bro. George Toller, jun.) is held by the members of both the local lodges, the attendance was very numerous. All the officers of the lodge, except the Chaplain (who is absent from the kingdom), and the Treasurer (who was absent from illness), were in their places, and the following P.M.'s were present, viz.: Bros. Kelly (D.P.G.M. and W.M. No. 279), Goodyer, (P.P.S.G.W.), Major Brewin, (P.P.S.G.W. and P.G. Treas.), Sheppard (P.P.G. Reg.), C. Johnson (P.M. 491 and P.P.S.G.W. Jersey),

Org., and A.M.; Duff, W.M. and P.G.J.D., the Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D., and many members. Among the visitors were Bros. Rev. Chas. J. E. Smith (S.W., No. 502, and Pro. G. Chap., Warwickshire), S. P. Ekin (No. 279 and P.G.D.C. of Northampton and Hants), H. Douglas (S.W. No. 1130 and P.G.D. of C.), and Weare (P.M. and P.P.G.D.), Pettifor (P.M. and P.P.S.G.W.), S. A. Clarke (P.M. and P.G.S.D.), C. Stretton (J.W. and P.P.G. Reg.), Ride, McAllister, Atwood, Palmer, J. W. Smith, and other members of No. 279. The lodge having been opened by the W.M., Bro. Duff, and the minutes of the last meeting, including the unanimous election of Bro. Toller as W.M., read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. the Rev. Nathaniel Haycroft, D.D., of the Universal Lodge, No. 181, as a joining member, and for the Rev. Heaton Edward Von Stürmer, and Mr. George Fletcher, as candidates for initiation, which was unanimous, in their favour. Bro. J.J. Millar, having passed a very satisfactory examination in the first degree retired, and the lodge having been opened in the second degree he was passed in Fellow Craft. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and the W.M., proceeded to initiate the Rev. H. E. Von Stürmer and Mr. M. Fletcher into our mysteries, after which the D.P.G.M., gave the lecture on the tracing board. The lodge was resumed in the second degree, and the W.M., commenced the ceremony of installing his successor in the chair of K.S., after which a lodge of M.M.'s and a Board of Installed Masters were successively opened, and Bro. Toller was duly installed in the presence of eight P.M.'s. On the return of the brethren the W.M. was duly proclaimed, and saluted in the several degrees. The ceremony being concluded, the newly-installed W.M., moved a vote of thanks to his predecessor, Bro. Duff, for his efficient services in the chair, which was seconded by the D.P.G.M., and carried unanimously. Thanks were also voted to Bro. W. B. Smith, P.P.J.G.W., for his services as Treasurer (to which office he was re-elected), and to Bro. G. B. Atkins, for the discharge of the onerous duties of Steward. The W.M. then appointed and invested the officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—Bros. A. M. Duff, P.M.; T. H. Buzzard, S.W.; W. Sculthorpe, J.W.; Rev. John Spital, M.A., Chap.; Rev. N. Haycroft, D.D., S.D.; S. S. Partridge, J.D.; W. B. Smith, P.M., Treas.; F. J. Baines, Sec.; Chas. Johnson, P.M., Org.; G. B. Atkins, and A. Sargeant, Stewards; M. H. Lewin, I.G.; Chas. Bembridge, Tyler. A candidate having been proposed for admission at the next lodge, the brethren were called off for refreshment, and about 40 brethren sat down to the banquet. On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, those of the Rt. W.P.G.M., the Earl Howe, of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Kelly, and of the newly-installed W.M., being most warmly received. The D.P.G.M., in proposing the toast of "The Bishop of the diocese, and the ministers of religion of all denominations in the Province," (and which was responded to by the Revs. C. J. E. Smith, M.A., and N. Haycroft, D.D.) took occasion to announce the gratifying fact, that the new Bishop, (Dr. Magee), is a member of the Craft. During the evening some excellent songs were sung by Bros. C. Johnson, Atwood, Palmer, and others. The lodge was finally closed, and the brethren separated after a very pleasant reunion.

*ASHTON-DE-LA-ZOUCH.—Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779.*—The annual festival of this lodge took place on Tuesday, the 29th ult., the lodge being opened at the Town Hall, at 3 o'clock, by the W.M., the Rev. S. Pyemont, D.D., Prov. S.G.W., the following brethren also being present:—W. Kelly, D.P.G.M.; H. E. Smith, J.P., P.M., and P.P.J.G.W.; G. F. Brown, P.M., and P.P.J.G.W.; S. Love, P.M., and P.P.G.S.D.; E. F. Mammatt, S.W., and P.G. Reg., W.M. elect; Garner, Faulkner, Blood, Johnson, Canner, and other members of the lodge. Among the visitors were, Bros. J. C. Bingley and F. A. Jackson, (Abbey Lodge, 624); R. Warner, P.M. (Repose Lodge, 802); and Major Brewin, P.P.S.G.W.; Pettifor, P.P.S.G.W.; Stretton, P.P.G. Reg.; Duff, P.G.J.D.; Buzzard, P.G. Steward, and Atwood, of the Leicester Lodges. The lodge having been opened and some preliminary business transacted, Bro. E. F. Mammatt was presented for the benefit of installation, and the W.M. proceeded to address him according to usage, after which assent was given to the ancient charges, and the O.B. as regards the government of the lodge. After the lodge had been opened in the third degree, the D.P.G.M. assumed the gavel, and having declared a board of installed Masters duly constituted, he proceeded regularly to install Bro. Mammatt in the chair of the lodge, after which he was duly saluted by the P.M.'s present. The brethren having been called in, they were informed that the W.M. had been duly installed, and they were called upon to salute him; the address to the W.M. was then delivered, and subsequently the ceremony was completed in the second and first degrees. The W.M. appointed the following as the officers, and invested them (with the exception of Bro. Earl Ferrers, who was prevented being present by illness):—Dr. Pyemont, I.P.M.



Earl Ferrers, S.W.; Garner, J.W.; Faulkner, S.D.; Blood, J.D.; Johnson, I.G., Camner, Tyler. In delivering the final charge at the conclusion of the proceedings, the D.P.G.M. expressed the great pleasure it afforded him, having ten years ago on the formation of the lodge, installed its first W.M. in the person of the late worthy and universally respected Bro. Mammatt, in attending on this occasion to assist in the installation of his (Bro. Mammatt's) son in the chair which his father had so ably filled, and of whom he felt no doubt the present W.M. would be a worthy successor. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, at the Queen's Head Hotel, and which was served in Bro. Love's usual style of excellence.

**KENT.**—*Malling Abbey Lodge, 1063.*—Situating in one of the pleasantest parts of this delightful county, is Malling, a place of great historic interest, and rich in beautiful archaeological ruins, the most beautiful being the fine Old Abbey, the name of which was given to this lodge when consecrated, some four or five years since. On the 16th ult. we had the pleasure of being at the installation of Bro. J. Timins, as W.M. for the year, a brother who, although young in the Craft, yet is already widely known for his deep thought and research into the profoundly beautiful mysteries of Masonry, evidenced by his published "Expatiations on Masonry," as originally given at this lodge. The installation was impressively performed by Bro. T. F. Nettingham, of Gravesend, P.G.S.W. At the banquet the Deputy Grand Master for Kent, Bro. W. F. Dobson, presided, supported by Rev. Bro. Hill, Provincial Grand Chaplain; W. Hodgson, Provincial Grand Chaplain for Oxfordshire; Bro. E. H. Hilder, P.G.S.W.; T. F. Nettingham, P.G.S.W.; Pottinger, P.M., Gravesend; White, P.G.S.W. for Hampshire; Mackney, W.M.; Harvey, P.M.; Moore, P.M. Dartford; Bro. Drs. Williams and White; Bro. Busbridge, P.G.A.S.; Page, P.G.J.D.; Tolput, P.G.S.D.; Newsome, of Westerham, and several other brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to most warmly, and some excellent speeches were given, and the whole passed off in a manner that will always be pleasantly remembered.

**IRELAND.**

**DEDICATION OF THE NEW MASONIC HALL IN LIMERICK**  
**LIMERICK.**—*Eden Lodge, No. 73.*—St. John's Day was appropriately selected by the brethren of Eden Lodge, for the dedication of the splendid new Masonic Hall in Baker Place, near to the railway terminus, and immediately adjoining the Savings Bank. From the arrangements made by the local officers, versed in carrying out everything connected with the craft upon a scale of grandeur suited to the occasion in any emergency, and under all circumstances, the pageant of this day will stand as a record of their genius, and shed new laurels on their Order. From an early hour the ladies of the city commenced to congregate, and at eleven o'clock the body of the lower hall and upper gallery were conveniently filled, without overcrowding, by the elite of the city and county. The spacious hall was magnificently decorated for the occasion, the walls having been hung with flags of all nations, interspersed with Masonic emblems and appropriate inscriptions. The fine band of the 72nd Highlanders, by their musical performance, enhanced the general attractiveness of the scene. At noon the grand procession issued from the lodge-room, all the leading officers carrying the distinctive articles of their position, while the members generally were dressed in full Masonic costume. James Spaight, Esq., J.P., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence of Lord Dunboyne, Provincial Grand Master of North Munster, was selected to carry out the dedication. Representatives from lodges 13, 201 and 333 were present; Cork, Ennis, Nenagh, Kilrush, Mallow, and Newcastle West contributed their quota; and the officers of the garrison united in the *facte*. The Tyler, with drawn sword, led the procession, followed by the Deacons, behind whom marched the members of the lodges two-and-two; next came the Wardens and Masters of all the lodges present, the Provincial Grand Deacons, Past Masters (with cornucopia), Past Masters (with cups and vases), Past Provincial Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Secretary (with book of Constitution), the Master (carrying the Bible, accompanied by Stewards at each side), the Provincial Grand Chaplain (Rev. Mr. Fry, 201, Nenagh), District Chaplain (Rev. Mr. Massy, 13), Provincial Grand Treasurer, Provincial Grand Inner Guard, First Great Light, Junior Provincial Grand Warden and Column, Second Great Light, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, with Stewards on right and left; Second Tyler, with sword. When the procession, which had an imposing effect, reached the Provincial Grand Master's chair, in the East wing, the brethren opened to right and left, re-formed, and proceeded three times round the building, and returned again to the upper lodge-room, which is magnificently laid out. Here the three great lights were placed, and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master took the chair. The brethren took their places; corn, wine, and oil were placed on the altar;

the Bible was opened with square and compass, and laid on a pedestal; and upon another pedestal was laid the book of constitution. A suitable anthem was then sung, after which the lodge was tyled and opened in ample form, and, upon the application of the Worshipful Master of Lodge 73, the hall was dedicated with befitting ceremony to "Freemasonry," "Religion, virtue, and science;" also to "Universal Benevolence." The invocation by the Chaplain followed, and when the lodge broke up, the brethren numbering over two hundred, proceeded to partake of a sumptuous *dejeuner*, at which "The Health of the Queen," and other loyal toasts were drunk. To-night, the whole Masonic fraternity dine together in the new hall.—*Belfast News Letter*, June 25.

**BELFAST.**—*Hiram's Lodge, No. 97.*—The brethren of this Masonic Lodge met on Thursday evening, in the Lodge Rooms, Donegall Place Buildings, in order to celebrate the Festival of St. John. There was a good attendance of the brethren, and also a number of visitors present. The banquet, which was worthy the establishment of Bro. Fisher, who supplied it, having been partaken of, the usual after toasts were proposed and responded to with a felicity of expression rarely to be equalled. Bro. T. O. Simpson, W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. Wm. Harper, P.M.; Wm. White, J.W., and H. Shaw; Bro. Kerr, the vice-chair, supported by Bros. J. M'Kenna, P.M., and H. M'Cartney. Although this was the first time of the W.M.'s presiding since installation, the several duties devolving on him were performed in a manner which elicited the encomiums of all the brethren present, and it convinced them that Bro. Simpson must have spared no pains to so thoroughly qualify himself for the distinguished position he had attained to. The list of toasts was given and responded to as follows:—"The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Masters;" "The Health of our Royal Bro. the Prince of Wales," responded to by Bro. Nesbitt; "The Lord Lieutenant, and Prosperity to Ireland," responded to by Bro. William Harper; "Success to Masonry all over the World," responded to by Bro. Thomas Smyth (Waterford); "Prosperity to Lodge 97," proposed by Bro. Hunter Shaw, responded to by Bro. Freeman, P.M.; "The Press," responded to by Bro. Rainey; "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Simpson," was given in complimentary terms by the S.W., and received by the brethren with every manifestation of enthusiasm. Bro. Simpson, in responding, said he could not sufficiently thank them for the many marks of kindness received from the Lodge with which he was so long connected, and of which he now occupied the proud position of Worshipful Master. He had now been a Mason for upwards of twenty years, and he had never been able to look upon Masonry in the light of a mere frivolous or convivial institution. Besides being a benefit society of the highest order, it was an institution inculcating precepts the practice of which would make good citizens and good men. For himself, although he could not presume to be a good Mason, for that was equivalent to saying a good man, he would at least promise to endeavour to perform the duties of the office with which they had honored him, to the best of his humble abilities, and to emulate the brilliant examples he had set before him by those who preceded him in the honourable position of Worshipful Master of Lodge 97. "The health of the Senior P.M. present" was proposed by Bro. M'Kenna, and responded to by Bro. Freeman; "The Dinner Committee, Messrs. Nesbitt, Shaw, Ferguson, and Murphy," was acknowledged by Bro. Nesbitt. "All the poor and distressed Masons" was liberally responded to, and the Tyler's toast, given shortly after twelve o'clock, brought a most agreeable evening's enjoyment to a close. During the evening several of the brethren enlivened the proceedings with songs, readings, and recitations, Bro. Graham's recital of "Lord Ullin's Daughter" being highly appreciated.—*Belfast Northern Whig*, June 25.

**BELFAST.**—*Union Lodge, 106.*—The brethren of this lodge assembled on Thursday evening, June 24, in the Dining-rooms, Ulster Hall, to celebrate St. John's Day. There was a full attendance of the members, and several visiting brethren were present. The chair was occupied by Bro. Jas. Armstrong, W.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. Thos. Simpson, S.W. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were ably proposed and responded to, and the proceedings were enlivened at intervals by several songs and recitations, rendered in first-rate style, by Bros. W. M'Larnon, P.M.; S. Williams, J.W.; J. B. Porter, J.D.; J. Lyons, and J. Sloane. The health of the W.M., having been proposed by Bro. Murphy, and enthusiastically received, Bro. Armstrong responded in a neat speech, in which he referred to the past career and future prospects of the lodge, and thanked the brethren for their kindness in exalting him to the position he then occupied. The dinner, which was supplied by Bros. Fry and Aiery, of York-street, reflected great credit on their skill and enterprise. After spending a pleasant evening the brethren separated at an early hour.—*Belfast News Letter*, June 26.

**LISBURN.**—*Lodge 178.*—The anniversary of St. John was celebrated with more than usual eclat on Thursday evening by the brethren of Lodge 178. The Craft, which is gaining ground everywhere, is at present represented much better in Lisburn than it has been for many years. The lodge having been opened and closed in due form, the brethren retired from labour to refreshment. The dinner was supplied by Mrs. Lennon, of the Hertford Arms Hotel, in a most creditable manner. The guests comprised nearly all the brethren of No. 63, Hillsborough, together with Bros. J. D. Barbour, Esq., J.P., the Port; Thomas Wayte, Esq., Sprucefield; J. Millings, Esq., S.I., Lisburn, &c. The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Three Grand Masters of England, Ireland, and Scotland," "The Provincial Grand Master of North Down," "Freemasonry all over the Globe," &c., having been given by Bro. J. M'Bride, Worshipful Master, next came the toast of the evening, "The health and prosperity of the members of Lodge 66," coupled with their Worshipful Master, Bro. William Sands, who after thanking the brethren for their kind wishes and sumptuous entertainment, assured the brotherhood that nothing could be more conducive to the advancement of Freemasonry than such such happy reunions as he had witnessed that evening. Next followed the health of the other visiting brethren, whose several responses signified their individual respect and esteem for the ancient and honourable order of Freemasonry. The anniversary was altogether a happy and joyous one.—*Ibid*, June 28.

**Lodge 609.**—The members of this Lodge met together yesterday evening, at four o'clock, at Mr. Samuel Weir's, Divis Street, where they partook of a sumptuous dinner, provided by Mrs. Weir. When the dinner was concluded, the usual toasts were given and responded to—P.M. Brother James M'Cracken in the chair. After enjoying themselves very pleasantly, they separated at an early hour.—*Ibid*, June 25th.

**WEXFORD.**—*Lodge No. 935.*—On Thursday week the brethren of this lodge assembled at their lodge-rooms, Anne-street, Wexford, according to ancient custom, at high noon, to celebrate the festival of St. John, and to instal their officers. The usual formula having been gone through, the meeting adjourned till six in the evening, when about forty of the members dined together. The suite of rooms, which have been recently fitted up for the brethren, presented a most beautiful appearance. The dinner, which was supplied by Mr. David Robinson, caterer to the lodge, was of excellent quality, and was served up in a manner which gave general satisfaction. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed and responded to, a beautiful tea and coffee service was presented to Bro. Carroll in recognition of the zeal and efficiency with which for many years he has discharged the duties of the office. The brethren separated at an early hour, having passed a most agreeable evening—one characterised by that harmony and kindly feeling which usually prevail at the reunions of the brotherhood.

**CASTLEBLAYNEY.**—*The Harmony Lodge.*—Thursday being the festival of St. John, the members of the Harmony Lodge celebrated it in the customary manner. The brethren assembled in their lodge-room, in Bro. Byrne's Hotel, at an early hour in the evening, the chair being taken by the outgoing Worshipful Master, Bro. Jackson, the other officers present being Dr. Morton, S.W.; M. Edwards, J.W.; Whitbey, Secretary. The newly-elected officers were:—Dr. Morton, W.M.; Harry Brooke, S.W.; Loyde, J.W.; John Hall, S.D.; Thomas Harrison, J.D.; S. Jackson, P.M.; J. Cooney, Secretary. The Master elect having been installed in due and ancient form, the customary honours were given, after which the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed "The health of Bro. Jackson," with all the honours. The toast was very warmly received, and acknowledged by Bro. Jackson. "The present Officers" was then given and replied to, and various toasts followed. [The members of the Newbliss, Monaghan, and Clones Lodges also appropriately celebrated this leading Masonic festival.] *Belfast Northern Whig*, 28th June.

**ORDERS OF CHIVALRY.**

**RED CROSS OF ROME AND CONSTANTINE.**

**Roman Eagle Conclave, No. 6.**—An assembly of this conclave was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Saturday, the 26th of June. Sir Knt. H. C. Levander, M.A., M.P.S., presided, and was supported by Sir Knts. C. H. Rogers Harrison, M.D., S.G.; Rev. W. B. Church, M.A., J.G.; J. Read, H.P.; W. F. N. Quilty, P. Sov. and Treas.; A. A. Pendlebury, Recorder; W. H. Hubbard, R. W. Little, A. Perrot, W. Hurlstone, Haigh, Tyler, Weaver, and Adams. Bro. Charles J. Morgan, of the City of London Lodge, No. 901, was duly installed a Knight of the Order. The Auditor's report was read, and showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £13. The conclave was then closed, and the Sir Knights separated, there being no banquet upon this occasion.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

## BIRTH.

WILSON.—On the 23rd ult., at Great Berkhemstead, the wife of Bro. W. Wilson (S.W. 504), of a son.

## MARRIAGE.

TAVERNER—LEE.—On the 19th ultimo, at West Hackney Church, by the Rev. Thos. Holly, Captain T. G. Gardiner, son of the late W. F. Taverner, Esq., of Limerick, to Mary Rosina, daughter of Bro. Nelson Lee, of Shrubland-road, Dalston.

## DEATH.

SLAUGHTER.—On the 19th ult., at Rochdale, Brother John Slaughter, P.M. Lodge of Harmony, No. 298, Companion of Unity, and K.T. Albert Encampment, aged 55 years.

## NOTICE.

Owing to the rapidly-increasing circulation of  
The Freemason,  
its columns have now become valuable channels  
to all who Advertise.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN  
"THE FREEMASON."

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Per Column ... ..                               | £2 10 0 |
| „ Line, displayed ... ..                        | 0 0 8   |
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| Situations wanted, per 8 words ...              | 0 0 3   |
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P.O.O.'s on Chief Office, in favour of GEORGE KENNING.

## The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1869.

THE FREEMASON is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains.

The price of THE FREEMASON is Twopenny per week; quarterly subscription (including postage) 3s. 3d.

Annual Subscription, 12s. Subscriptions payable in advance. All communications, letters, &c., to be addressed to the Editor, 3 & 4, Little Britain, E.C.

The Editor will pay careful attention to all MSS. entrusted to him, but cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by postage stamps.

## LIGHT.

WHEN the foes of Freemasonry desire to aim what they conceive to be a deadly blow at the institution, they aver that it is based upon the sidereal worship of the ancients. The materialism which this charge implies is, however, of so refined, so æsthetic a nature, that, while we are tempted to smile at such an inane accusation being made in the nineteenth century, we are unwilling to demolish the theory in its entirety. For, has not God Himself, the Eternal Architect of the Creation, evolved from the wondrous elements of nature the celestial and all pervading essence known as Light? Are not the stars the ministers of His heavenly will, and the sun a symbol of His supreme glory? The picture of man, untutored man, kneeling before what he considered the mirror of the Divine Presence, is not so humiliating to an enlightened mind as the spectacle of our modern idolaters, who sacrifice freedom, principle, ay, even thought itself, at the shrine of a mortal man like themselves. The fetters which bound the sun-worshipper of old were impalpable compared to the weight of superstition's chains. The pilgrim from afar can catch a glimpse of the grandeur of the temple which is denied to the blind man who grovels at its porch. But materialism is no part of the creed, or, we should say, the philosophy, of Freemasonry. The symbols of the Order are figurative of moral truths, and the light to which we aspire is the radiance of Him who is the Light of the Universe.

The morning star—to which we look for guidance and peace—is the hope of the whole human race; and the illumination with which we seek to encompass the earth is derived from wisdom, sanctified by religion, and sustained by truth.

Light, therefore, as an essential attribute of Divinity, is viewed with reverence and veneration by every thoughtful Mason.

But, it is urged by our opponents, this devotion of the brethren to light, or knowledge, is an abstraction—it has no real influence over their lives and actions—it is but a parody of the ancient Oriental watching the rising of the sun and rejoicing in his faintest rays. Verily, the tree shall be judged by its fruits, and, although our worthy ultramontane and sacerdotal friends ignore all virtues but their own, the world at large—the *vox populi*—can bear witness that the deeds of Freemasonry are consonant with its high designs, and coincident with its exalted principles.

In the path of the weary, the forlorn, the forsaken, Freemasonry scatters more than grains of corn; her hand is not merely the hand of decent charity—it holds on high the lamp of hope, and sheds upon all the radiance of fraternal love. Like the Indian tree, its branches, perpetually seeking mother earth, create a shade and a rest for the way-worn pilgrims of life. Knowledge is the light of the mind, and, therefore, Freemasons are the friends of every movement which has for its object the extension of education or the advancement of learning. The sciences are paths leading to the hill of intellectual power, where truth and wisdom sit enthroned, and man is the traveller who climbs, by slow degrees, the difficult though not inaccessible steep.

To aid his progress is the mission of Freemasonry, and so we find that the instruction of youth is not forgotten by the Craft. The existence of two noble institutions for children of both sexes is a proof that the importance of education is appreciated by the Freemasons of England, and it is also well known that Ireland is not far behind when her resources are considered.

Our brethren in France have, for several years, devoted themselves to the same sublime duty; and we may say that in many other parts of the world similar efforts are being made to introduce light and knowledge where darkness and ignorance prevail.

In this sense, then, we acknowledge that Freemasons are lovers of light, and rejoice in the splendour of doing good to their fellow-creatures.

## FUNERAL OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRO. JENNINGS, P.G.W.

On Wednesday the remains of the much respected and lamented R.W. Bro. R. W. Jennings, P.G.W. and P.G.D.C., were conveyed to their last resting place in Norwood Cemetery.

The cortege consisting of a hearse and four, with three mourning coaches—conveying the eldest son and a grandson of the deceased, and other of his relatives and most intimate friends, including the V.W. Bro. Albert Woods, G.D.C.—left the family residence, at Bickley, at Twelve o'clock, and on arriving at the Cemetery the Vicar of Bickley, in an impressive manner performed the funeral service. At the grave we observed many friends who attended to mark their high esteem for departed worth.

## Original Correspondence.

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

## ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

(To the Editor of the Freemason.)

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—Referring to a letter addressed by me to you, and inserted in your number of the 29th of May, and having received a complaint from Mr. Gosden that he felt himself injured by such letter, I beg to say that I never had any ill-feeling against Mr. Gosden, and had no intention of doing him any injury whatever; indeed, I only considered him as manager of the Freemasons' Tavern Company Limited, and simply doing his best to make money for his employers. I however beg to say, that other tavern keepers and managers of companies, have had similar strictures made on their conduct, and have answered such charges in the most practical manner, either by a denial of the truth, or explanation; the Freemasons' Tavern Company might have adopted this course, if they thought proper. I have no doubt your paper will be open to any explanation, on their part.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

H. W. HEMSWORTH,

W.M. and Steward, Oak Lodge, No. 190.

June 29, 1869.

Mulum in Parbo, or Masonic  
Notes and Queries.

Bro. Yarker's History of the Jerusalem Encampment, Manchester.—In common with many Masonic students, I am delighted to hear that the Province of Lancashire (K.T.), has decided to print their transactions, together with the valuable history of the above Encampment, by Sir Kt. John Yarker. For a little extra expense, a copy of the work might be sent to every Encampment in England, and thus its merits would become generally known, and its information made of service for Knights Templar throughout the country. Sir Kt. R. Wood's excellent work on the Knights Templar, was I believe, issued thus, and the boon was duly and thankfully received by the members.—W. J. HUGHAN.

Bro. the Chevalier Ramsay, and the Chapter of Arras.—Is Bro. E. Rebold's authority respecting the Constitution of the Arras Chapter, April 15th 1767, M. Michael? I ask the question because a non-Masonic correspondent, some years ago, saw the Chevalier, whilst in London, personally, respecting this Charter, and I understood then that it was given to confirm their privileges as a Metropolitan Chapter. As Prince Charles was only constituted Chief of the High Grades in Britain in 1765, he could not have confirmed their privileges earlier, and the Chapter was possibly constituted at a time prior to the custom of granting charters. The Rose Croix jewel is identical with the standard used by James III., in 1715, when his General, Lord Mar, was G.M. of the Templars, as successor to Viscount Dundee, who wore the Grand Cross when he fell at Killiecrankie, in 1689. I should be glad to accept Bro. Hughan's views, did I not feel certain there are documents in existence (to which I have personally no access), to disprove them. I agree with Bro. Hughan so far as to think that the whole tale about Ramsay may be a fiction of the Moderns.—JOHN YARKER, Manchester.

There are few writers more qualified to speak authoritatively respecting the "high grades" than Bro. Yarker, yet I am constrained to believe that he is petting his favourite theory of the origin of the A. and A. rite, when he ignores the superior claims of the Templar and Red Cross degrees to the veneration of English Masons. There is something genuine, I readily admit, in the Rose Croix and Kadosh degrees, as illustrations of the York rite, but the system of 33 grades (I) is intolerable, obsolete, and absurd.—K. T.

ERRATA.—At page 7, of our last week's issue, in the third verse of "The Temple," for "triumph appear" read *triumph appear*, and for "glorious light" read *glorious height*; also, in second verse, for "on God surely" read *on God's surely*.

THE CHAIR DEGREE, ETC.—In THE FREEMASON of June 19th, third column of page 8, in reference to extant minutes of Aberdeen Lodge, for "from 1677" read "from 1670." This is important, as it alone proves the existence of the Aberdeen Lodge, No. 34, seven years before the Canongate Kilwinning No. 2 originated.—Leo.

**PRESENTATION TO THE W. BRO. W. FARNFIELD, PAST ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY, BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL LODGE, No. 55.**

The members of this lodge had their annual summer excursion on board the *Maria Wood*, the City Barge, on Wednesday last; the weather was everything that could be desired, and thereby the beauty of the scenery of the Thames between Kew and Twickenham, where the barge was anchored, was considerably enhanced; and under the auspices of the W.M., Bro. S. C. Hadley, a most enjoyable day was spent. There were present, Bros. R. P. Atkins, S.W.; G. Snow, J.W.; J. W. M. Dosell, Thos. Barford, J. Compton, J. Atherton, and W. Farnfield, P.M.'s; with Bros. Neville, Thompson, Stiles, and other brethren of the lodge, and the following visitors; E. H. Patten, P.G., and B.; F. Binckes, J. G. Chancellor, J. A. Farnfield, Roebuck, G. Painter, and others.

At the banquet, which was served in the saloon (under the direction of Mr. C. Ritter, of Hammersmith), after the usual loyal toasts, the W.M. in the name of the brethren, presented to Bro. W. Farnfield, P.M., the respected Hon. Sec., a silver salver (weighing nearly 100 ounces), in testimony of their appreciation of his long services. The salver bore the following inscription:—

“Presented to Bro. W. FARNFIELD, P.M., by the members of the Constitutional Lodge, 55, to mark their great regard and esteem for him, and for his unceasing attention to its interests as its Secretary for nearly forty years, June 23rd, 1869, S. C. HADLEY, W.M.”

Bro. Farnfield's health was very enthusiastically received, and in responding he stated, that it was at the summer banquet of that lodge in the year 1830, that he first met Miss Moss, the daughter of the Master of the lodge, and in due time he married her, and now had a family of ten children, and he trusted that this banquet might have an equal blessing in store for their bachelor W.M. He concluded by thanking the brethren.

Other toasts followed (“The Visitors,” responded to by Bro. E. H. Patten,) concluding with “The Ladies,” to which Bro. J. A. Farnfield replied, and stated that had the brethren churlishly come to Twickenham to enjoy their summer banquet without the ladies' society, they doubtless would have had dull weather; as it was, even the sun had shown its bright face in response to the bright eyes and smiles of the ladies. He would not say more, but begged them at once to ascend to the deck in order to fully appreciate the ladies' society in the merry dance.

This proposition appearing to meet the favour of the brethren, an immediate adjournment was made, and dancing was carried on with unflagging vigour, to the delightful strains of the band of the Honourable Artillery Company, until the barge had returned, to Kew, where the party separated after three hearty cheers for the W.M., who by his energy and courtesy had so materially contributed to the day's enjoyment.

The annual meeting of the Grand Provincial Lodge of Kent will be held on Wednesday, July 14, at Brompton, Lord Holmesdale, Provincial Grand Master presiding. Lodge to open at half-past 12, procession to church at half-past 1, and banquet at 3.

PHILADELPHIA, on the 15th of June was given up to the Order of Masonic Knights Templar, who celebrated the 50th anniversary of the foundation of St. John's Commandery in that city. There was a procession of about 2,500 in regalia, there being commanderies present from all parts of the country, and there were appropriate addresses and other ceremonies at several of the large halls. The streets generally wore a holyday aspect, little business being done.

**THE SOVEREIGN, MILITARY AND RELIGIOUS ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM, IN ANGLIA.**

The Annual Chapter General of this venerable Order was held at the Chancery, 8, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, on Thursday, the 24th June. The Knights assembled previously in the Savoy Chapel, kindly lent for the occasion by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and a solemn service was performed.

On referring to the annual report of the Secretary-General, the Chevalier Edmund A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., we find that the ancient practice of commencing the proceedings on St. John's Day by a religious service, was happily revived in 1867, when the Rev. Chaplain, Thomas Hugo, preached in St. Martin's church. This year, as above-stated, the religious ceremonial took place in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, and a large number of Knights attended the service.

The preacher was the Rev. Chevalier J. Bell Cox, Chaplain to the Provincial Commandery of Worcestershire and Hereford, which is held at Rhydd Court, the seat of Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart. The order of service was as follows:—

**HYMN.**

The great forerunner of the morn,  
The herald of the Word is born;  
And faithful hearts shall never fail,  
With thanks and praise his light to hail. &c.

**LITANY.**

**HYMN.**

We praise our God to-day,  
His constant mercy bless;  
Whose love has helped us on our way,  
And granted us success. &c.

**SERMON.**

The Rev. Chaplain selected as his text the 58th chapter of Isaiah, 10th and 12th verses, and preached extemporaneously a most eloquent sermon upon practical charity, illustrating his subject by learned references to the foundation of the Sovereign order of St. John upon a pious and charitable basis in days of old.

**THE OFFERTORY.**

Alms were then collected by the Almoners, and we are happy to say the sum received was large in amount, and afforded ample evidence of the charitable sentiments of the donors.

**HYMN.**

Holy offerings rich and rare,  
Offerings of praise and prayer;  
Purer life and purpose high,  
Clasped hands and lifted eye,  
Lowly acts of adoration,  
To the God of our Salvation. &c.

**THE BENEDICTION.**

A devoutly - invoked blessing closed the religious ceremonial, and the Knights then proceeded to the Chancery of the Order, where the Chapter General was opened in solemn form, and the members afterwards, with the “Dames Chevalières,” sat down to the Annual Festival of St. John the Baptist.

Believing that many of our readers would be interested in a detailed account of this distinguished Order, we directed our representative (who is a P.L. Commander K.T., and a Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine) to attend the service, and we are bound to acknowledge the great courtesy which he received from the Rev. Chaplain, the Chevalier Bell Cox, who afforded him every facility in his power. We regret being unable to do justice to the Chaplain's sermon, as it was delivered *extempore*, and our representative who attended is not a short-hand reporter.

The following are the Principal Officers of the Sixth or English Langue:—

**THE CAPITULAR BAILIFFS.**

Grand Prior of England: His Grace the Duke of Manchester, G.C.J.J.  
Grand Prior of Ireland: The Count de Salis, G.C.J.J., K.C.H., K.R.E., &c.  
Bailiff of Egle: The Right Honourable the Lord Leigh, G.C.J.J.

**OFFICERS.**

Preceptor of Torphichen in Scotland: The Right Honourable the Lord Torphichen, G.C.J.J.

President of the Chapter: Col. Burlington, G.C.J.J., C.B.

Chaplain-General: The Rev. W. Bentinck L. Hawkins, K.C.J.J., M.A., F.R.S.

Chancellor and Archivist: Major-General St. George, Roy. Art., K.C.J.J., C.B.

Secretary-General: Sir Edmund A. H. Lechmere, Bart., K.J.J., M.P.

Receiver-General: Lieutenant-Colonel Whitworth-Porter, Roy. Eng., K.C.J.J.

Registrar, Secretary, and Judge-of-Arms: Julius A. Pearson, K.J.J., F.S.A.

Genealogist and Librarian: The Rev. Thomas Hugo, M.A., F.S.A., Chaplain.

Almoner: Charles J. Burgess, K. of Grace.

**THE CHAPTER.**

The Grand-Prior, with the Bailiffs holding Office, the Offices of the Langue, and the following elected Members:—Colonel William Burlington, C.B. (President), Sir Edward Hoare, Bart., C. Pemberton Carter, John Furley, the Rev. W. Bentinck L. Hawkins, M.A., F.R.S., and H. B. Sheridan, W.P.

It will be seen that many of the above Eminent Knights are also members of the Masonic Order, and among others on the roll of Chevaliers we may mention General Sir J. C. Pennefather Major-General Ramsay, Lord Torphichen, Sir E. Hoare, Bart., Col. Sir J. E. Alexander, Sirs E. G. L. Perrott, Bart., Gen. C. R. O'Donnell, H. M. Vavasour, Bart., J. B. W. Mansel, Bart., and F. Shuckburgh, Bart.; Col. Le Couteur, Viscount of Jersey, H. Pownall, Chairman of Middlesex Sessions; Admiral Ramsay, H. B. Loch, C.B. The Rev. W. B. L. Hawkins is the Senior Chaplain (1865), R. L. De Pearsall, Senior Knight of Justice (1840), and Col. C. A. McAlester, K.H., (1848), the Senior Knight of Grace. Mrs. Ramsay, the wife of Major-General Ramsay, is the Senior “Dame Chevalière” (1862), Lady Leigh, being the President of the Ladies' Chapter. There are also several honorary members (chiefly foreigners of high social position) in the various Grades.

The deceased members are also commemorated in the report. On this necological roll are to be found the names of men never to be forgotten in story. Sir Home Popham, Sir Sidney Smith, of Acre, the Rev. Sir Robert Peat, by whose exertions the Order may be said to have been resuscitated in England; General Sir John M. Doyle, Dr. Maginn, Sir Lancelot Shadwell, Vice-Chancellor; Sir Jas. Burnes, F.R.S., Sir Alan MacNab, Sir Jas. Outram, Dr. Turnbull, of the State Paper Office, and many others scarcely less known to readers of history.

In our next week's issue we shall give extracts from the report, and also from an interesting work entitled, “Hospitalaria” written, we believe, by the late Sir R. Broun, Bart., (R.B.), then Secretary-General of the Order, in which the objects of this Ancient Chivalric Order are set forth at length.

**FUNERAL OF THE LATE BRO. JOHN SLAUGHTER, P.M., 298.**

On Friday the 25th of June, at the Heywood Cemetery, near Rochdale, a very interesting but solemn ceremony was performed by Bro. the Rev. John Leighton Figgins, P.P.G.C. of E. Lancashire, the occasion being the interment of the late Bro. Slaughter, a very worthy and highly-esteemed Past Master of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 298. He was also E. of the Unity Chapter, and 1st Expert of the Albert Encampment. The brethren met at the Masonic Rooms, Ann-street, Rochdale, and the arrangements for the interment were under the direction of two esteemed friends of the deceased, viz., Bros. W. H. Prince, P.M., and P.G.S.D. of E.L., and Wm. Ashworth, P.M. and Hon. Sec. of the said lodge.

The brethren having assembled at the lodge-room in obedience to the call of the W.M., Bro. James Holroyd, proceeded to the residence of the deceased brother's widow, where they were received by about 80 of deceased's work-people and a large circle of friends, who had assembled to do honour to the departed, and pay the last tribute of respect to one who had at all times been kind and generous towards those with whom he had to do.

The deceased Brother Slaughter, who had only been confined to his house three or four days, was a very honest and upright man, a good husband, a kind and indulgent father, and one much beloved. His loss is deeply lamented by all who knew him. He was 55 years of age.



## THE ROYAL ARCH.

THE LILY CHAPTER OF RICHMOND,  
No. 820.

A convocation of this excellent Chapter was held at the New Masonic Hall, recently built in connection with the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday the 30th ult., E. Comp. Joshua Nunn, Grand Director of Ceremonies and P.Z., presided as M.E.Z., and was supported by Comps. I. Cockburn, P.Z. as H.; W. V. Cooper, J.; T. Carless, S.E.; H. G. Lake, P.Z.; T. Giles, Treas.; W. Mann, (Z. 186) P.S.; H. Johnson, G. T. Noyce, Porter, Fenner, Finch, Koch, Miller, Collett, Kennedy, &c., and by the following visitors, Comps. Wm. Ough, (G. Purs. of G. Lodge), P.Z. 749; Henry Potter, P.Z., 19; R. Wentworth Little, M.E.Z., 177, and P.Z., 975; H. Collings, 507; W. Johnson, 749; T. Potter, 749; W. J. Crossfield, 715. The Chapter having been duly opened and the Companions admitted, the minutes were read, and the elections of the various officers for the ensuing year were then proceeded with, and resulted unanimously as follows: Comps. I. Nunn, P.Z. as M.E.Z.; W. V. Cooper, H.; T. Carless, J.; T. Giles, Treasurer; W. Mann, S.E.; W. Collett, S.N.; H. Johnson, P.S.; J. Gilbert, Janitor. Comps. H. Johnson, Finch, and Porter, were chosen as Auditors, and a P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. T. Mason the retiring Z.

The chapter was then closed with the usual formalities and the companions adjourned to the new and spacious Dining Hall, which adjoins the Masonic Hall, where a banquet, garnished with all the delicacies of the season, and served in the truly regal style which distinguishes Comp. Noyce's hotel arrangements, awaited the members of the chapter and their visitors.

The cloth having been removed, Comp. Nunn, who presided, gave "The Queen and R.A. Masonry," and "The Grand Z., the Earl of Zetland," toasts which were received with all the honors.

Comp. COCKBURN, P.Z., then proposed the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Grand H., the Rev. John Huiyshe, Grand J., and the rest of the Grand Officers, observing that the duty had devolved upon him inasmuch as the presiding Z., Comp. Nunn, had recently been created a Grand Officer, and as this was his first appearance in the chapter since that event, he (Comp. Cockburn) was sure the Companions desired to render honor where honor was strictly due. He congratulated the Lily Chapter upon owning such a member as Comp. Nunn, who he trusted would live long to enjoy the high position to which he had attained.

The toast was drunk with great applause.

The Acting M.E.Z., in responding, acknowledged the assistance he had received throughout his Masonic career from the members of the various Lodges and Chapters with which he was connected, without which he should not have obtained the high positions to which the Earl of Zetland had been pleased to appoint him, and in conclusion Comp. Nunn expressed his readiness at all times to assist his brother Masons in any and every capacity in which he might be placed.

The "Health of the Visitors," was then given from the chair in felicitous language, and the toast was coupled with the name of Comp. R. Wentworth Little. The toast was exceedingly well received, and Comp. Little, in returning thanks, observed that, although the only actual First Principal present, he could not arrogate to himself the privilege of acknowledging, on the part of the visitors, the kind reception of the toast, but he was sure he might speak for all in testifying to the unbounded hospitality they had experienced. For himself, he was never better pleased than to be amongst the "Companions of the Lily," the name itself was one of good omen, and as the lily was the acknowledged symbol of purity, so might its spotless hue be illustrated in the moral truth and purity of our lives and actions. Comp. Little concluded by offering his congratulations to the presiding M.E.Z. on his attainment of Grand Chapter honors, which were a fitting complement to those which Comp. Nunn had achieved in the Craft.

Comp. OUGH (Grand Pursuivant) said, after Comp. Little's remarks, he had little to say, but he must express his great gratification at the progress of the Lily Chapter, and he felt convinced that under such a M.E.Z. as Comp. Nunn, assisted by such efficient officers Comps. Cooper, Carless, and Mann, the Chapter would during the ensuing year even exceed its usual prosperity.

Comp. H. Potter, P.Z., followed in a humorous speech premising by pathetically lamenting that the wind had been taken out of his sails by the previous speakers, but evincing his determination to say a word or two of acknowledgement as a token of gratitude for the magnificent reception extended to the visitors.

The health of the M.E.Z. Comp. Mason, who was unavoidably absent, was then heartily given by the presiding officer, and most cordially received.

Comp. COCKBURN, P.Z. responded for the P.Z.'s, and

observed that all the principals were most anxious to promote the welfare of the Chapter.

The health of the popular Treasurer, Comp. Giles, was the next toast, and was drunk with manifestations of approval, eliciting a handsome response from the worthy Companion.

Comps. COOPER and CARLESS, H. and J. elect returned thanks for the principal officers, and

Comp. MANN, P.S., in reply to the eulogistic mention of his qualities, expressed his acknowledgments and promised his best endeavours for the future. The Janitor's toast concluded the most enjoyable meeting, which was agreeably diversified with songs by several Companions. All who wish a pleasant day's outing with the best of good cheer are reminded that the "Strawberry season" has set in with its usual severity, at Comp. Noyce's famous hostelry, the Greyhound, Richmond.

## MARK MASONRY.

WINCHESTER.—*Mark Masters' Lodge of Economy, No. 52.*—A regular meeting of this lodge took place on Friday evening, June 24, when the following brethren were present:—Bros. Sheppard, W.M.; Warner, D.C., as S.W.; Oakstat, J.W.; Penton, as M.O.; Whale, S.O.; Wooldridge, as J.O.; Sherry, Sec., as S.D.; Lumsden, J.D.; Priddis, I.G.; Bishop, Doswell, and Pottle, Tyler; Bros. J. R. Stebbing, W.M. 63, Grand Treasurer, and Alfred Rolls, Sec., 63. The minutes of the last lodge were read and confirmed. None of the candidates for advancement being present, the brethren worked the ceremony, with the exception of the lecture, for the purpose of instruction, Bro. Bishop acting as candidate. The brethren then discussed the bye-laws, which were adopted, after one or two alterations were made, and ordered to be printed. The W.M., read an application he had received from the Grand Secretary, Bro. Binckes, asking for a Steward from this lodge as a representative at the first Charity Festival to be held in July in support of the Benevolent Fund appertaining to the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters. It was proposed by Bro. Sherry, and seconded by Bro. Whale, "That the W.M. Bro. Sheppard, be requested to act as Steward from this lodge at the said Festival, moderate expenses necessary to be borne by the lodge." This proposition was put to the brethren and carried unanimously. Bro. Sheppard having kindly assented thereto, solicited the brethren to support him individually on the occasion. The lodge was then closed in form with solemn prayer at 10 o'clock.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF FREE-  
MASONS OF WORCESTERSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Worcestershire was held in the Town-hall, Stourport, on Tuesday, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Albert Hudson Roys, Esq., and supported by a number of Provincial Grand Officers and Brethren.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened at high noon in due form, and the usual ordinary preliminary business disposed of, the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. W. Bristow, P.P.S.G.W., read the report of the "Masonic Window Committee," which was to the effect that the Dean and Chapter of Worcester Cathedral had, since the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, approved of the design submitted to them for the large window at the north end of the transept in Worcester Cathedral, proposed to be filled with stained glass at a cost of £550, by the Provincial Grand Lodge, which window would be ready to be fixed by the end of the present month, and if the Dean and Chapter approved, would be in its place in time for the approaching Musical Festival.

The Lodge expressed a strong desire that the window should be fixed before the ensuing Festival.

The R. W. Prov. G.M. appointed the following brethren provincial grand officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. J. Barber; Prov. S.G.W., Bro. W. Holland; Prov. J.G.W., Bro. B. Brooks; Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. W. Masfield; Prov. Grand Registrar, Bro. S. Baldwin; Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. W. Bristow; Pro. Senior G. Deacon, Bro. A. T. Hancock; Prov. Junior G. Deacon, Bro. G. Baldwin; Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Bro. W. H. Westwood; Prov. G. Dir. of Ceremonies, Bro. F. Godson; Prov. Assistant ditto, Bro. L. H. Kendrick; Prov. G. Sword Bearer, Bro. A. J. Hancock; Prov. Grand Organist, Bro. T. Troman; Prov. Grand Pursuivant, Bro. F. Turner.

The P.G.M. then closed his Provincial Grand Lodge, and the brethren, to the number of about 100, walked in procession to the parish church of St. Michael, where an eloquent sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. W. S. Newton, A.P.G.C.

After the service a collection was made for charitable purposes. The brethren re-formed in procession and walked to the Swan Hotel, where they partook of a banquet under the presidency of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE  
GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK.

The most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York commenced its annual communication on Tuesday, the 1st June, at Apollo Hall, Broadway. Present M.W. James Gibson, of Salem, Grand Master; R.W. John H. Anthon, Deputy Grand Master, and all the Grand officers, and District Deputy Grand Masters.

After the Grand Lodge had been opened in due form the Grand Master's address was next in order. It is very lengthy, able, and full of interesting matter; a business document of great interest to the Craft at large, as the following brief summary of it will show:—

*Brethren of the M.W. Grand Lodge of the State of New York.*—In conformity with an ancient custom in our Israel, and ordained as a requirement by our Constitution, we have assembled in the eighty-sixth Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, to consider of the past and provide for the future. Let us be reverently thankful to the Giver of all good, that we are enabled to assemble in peace, love, and unity, with none to molest us or make us afraid, and thus to open and hold our convocation, with public notice, in open day, without the previous consent, and without the fear of any power, potentate, or sovereignty whatever, foreign or domestic, temporal or spiritual. That though a Pope and a Cardinal, a Synod and a Presbytery, have alike cursed and anathematized us, "we still live," and that by our fruits shall we be finally judged; and not by these tribunals of the earth, earthy, but by the high and holy One that inhabiteth eternity, whose justice, though we may and ought to fear, is yet tempered with mercy, which is everlasting, and by his love, which never faileth. . . . First in importance, and among the first in time, of difficult questions presented to me for examination and decision, after the closing of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, was that as to the policy to be pursued in granting dispensations for opening new lodges. No one who has carefully observed the signs of the present, indicating difficulties and dangers to the fraternity in the future, can have failed to be satisfied that the rapid multiplication of lodges is one of the greatest perils that Masonry, from its almost certain consequences, has to fear. It necessarily invites a great rush at the threshold, which the new lodge has neither the experience nor the nerve to resist. The knowledge they have not, for that is only obtained by age and observation; the nerve they rarely or never exercise, as they are compelled to meet large expenses necessarily arising from the opening of a new lodge, the construction or fitting up a hall, the procuring the insignia and the jewels, the payment of the Grand Lodge fee, and the thousand other items, often grossly extravagant, but thought to be necessary, to enable them to compete successfully with the established lodges in their vicinity. The new lodge is desirous of a large roll, of an elegant hall, of a full treasury, and is too forgetful that these good things, in themselves, may be obtained at the loss of the permanent welfare and prosperity of the craft. By the gratification of these desires they are prevented from exercising that just discrimination and careful scrutiny as to petitioners for the degrees, absolutely essential to the securing of suitable material for the Masonic temple, proposed to be constructed by the new lodge. The certain result is sure to follow, and the temple under construction is erected with rough stones, and put together with untempered mortar, the true work of Masonry lost sight of or neglected, and that temple which, had it been erected of good materials and in a proper manner, would have stood as an enduring monument of the faithful labors of its founders, is soon levelled with the dust of the earth, and the "place which once knew it shall know it no more for ever." There have already many such lodges been organized, worked in this manner, and they are struggling for life, or have died; enough to show plainly how dangerous is the path we have trodden; enough standing as grave-stones of Masonry—monuments marking the sloughs into which the craft have fallen from the errors of the past. In addition to these considerations, there is no necessity for so many new lodges. One of the chief arguments urged to me, in many cases, for dispensation was, that those who applied had now to go over five or ten miles to reach their lodge. If new lodges are instituted in the rest of this jurisdiction, as thickly as proposed by many of the petitioners I have received, we should have in the State over two thousand lodges. No such number, nor anything like it, can, with the slightest regard to the true interests of the institution, be established. "In the days of prosperity let us consider." It is the day of danger, for it is not in numbers that our true strength lies, but in the principles of the fraternity, thoroughly learned, and faithfully practised by the brethren. Masonry cannot be brought to every man's door, for with lavishness follows satiety; and that which is obtained with ease, and got without cost or labor, is soon deemed of little value. Its cheapness makes it to be despised. . . . The invasions by lodges, in this State, of the territorial and material jurisdictions of

each other, have been numerous. There is no subject on which the Grand Master has had more painful difficulty than that arising from the unlawful and, sometimes, shameful conduct of lodges in seizing any material within their reach, and making Masons, or called such after their hasty and ill-considered work is over, regardless alike of the material they are getting into their own temple, and that they are foistering on to other and sister jurisdictions, or on to the fraternity at large. The repression of this evil, and the necessary executive acts, in consequence of the commission of the offence, have required much time and labor, and, it is hoped, will prevent its frequency for the future. The landmark touching the physical qualifications required of a candidate in order to become a Mason, is so brief and explicit, and without either exception or circumlocution, that it would seem as though it could be readily understood and obeyed. By the Constitution it is required, "that men, to be made Masons, must be at least twenty-one years of age, free born, of good report, hale and sound; not deformed or dismembered, and no woman—no eunuch." The ancient Gothic Constitution was equally plain, and required him "to be without blemish, and to have the full and proper use of his limbs." The strict rule of the Holy Law is not only a landmark, but in this jurisdiction has the additional sanction, as we have seen, of a constitutional enactment. It seems to be supposed, however, that it can be evaded by collusion, fraud, or judicial blindness, or disregarded with impunity, or dispensed with by vote of a lodge, or by the edict of the Grand Master. Holding the principles I have stated as the rule and guide to my official action on the question of the external physical qualifications of one seeking to be a Mason, and knowing nothing but the line of duty, and trying to do it myself, and holding all others in authority to the same strict rule, I have excluded or stopped the candidates, as soon as reported officially, being disqualified within the rule. . . . The question has been distinctly presented, whether a lodge could be compelled to contribute to the relief of a distressed brother. The duty imposed on a lodge is one of charity and love, and it would seem to be one that no superior authority could compel its performance, or prescribe the extent of the relief to be granted. There is a great error prevailing quite generally, that lodges of Free and Accepted Masons are in some respects beneficial societies, and partake of their duties. Now this is totally erroneous. Our lodges are not founded for life, or health, or accident insurance purposes, nor for giving relief or funeral benefits. If any one wishes to secure these objects, there are many excellent organizations to which he can resort and accomplish his object, and be certain of a fixed and determinate sum, without any regard to the will, or the pleasure, or the feeling of the society which he has joined. But lodges of Free and Accepted Masons are not of that kind, and do not give, or profess to give, any such privileges or benefits. Their fees for initiation, and their charges for dues, are not based on any calculation of the duration of health, or the liability to disease of the petitioner. These are wholly foreign to the objects of our Fraternity. If a lodge should, however, arbitrarily refuse to grant, or should in a miserly way dole or stint, relief to a worthy and distressed brother in good standing, it having abundant means to give relief without injury to itself, and without materially impairing its ability to comply with other calls on its resources, on complaint being made to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge, and such facts appearing, no doubt such a total refusal to use the talent intrusted to their keeping would be remedied; for if none other existed, there might be a repetition in fact of the ancient parable of the unfaithful steward to whom one talent was given, and who, instead of using it to spread light and relief on the earth by the increase thereof, went and digged in the earth and hid his lord's money. And when his lord came to reckon with him for the use he had made thereof, finding him unfaithful, he took the talent which he had, and entrusted it to others who had done faithfully. In determining, as I have, that the Grand Master cannot, except in the exercise of extreme power over a wholly recusant or miserly lodge, compel the granting of relief to a distressed brother, I have no fear that our lodges will thereby feel themselves relieved from their full Masonic obligation towards brethren so situated. When we look over the record of their charitable work in Masonry, about which or of which they have never made proclamation or sounded any trumpet, and which, though noiseless has been efficient, we are reminded of what an ancient dramatist wrote of the good work of one in his own day, of whom he said—

"He showered his bounties on me like the Hours,  
That, open-handed, sit upon the clouds  
And press the liberality of Heaven  
Down to the laps of thankless men."

The powers, duties and prerogatives of the W. Master of a lodge have been the subject of many appeals to the Grand Master for direction and control. In general, these officers have been cautioned that, by their high positions they ought to be above envy of any one, and to decide all questions with strict impartiality. To be, of all things, patient with the brethren, remembering that there are many things that try the temper and quali-

fications of the W. Master, but he must be ever mindful to be master of himself, or he can never govern others fairly and faithfully; that strife and contention must never be permitted in the lodge, and that, if attempted, it must be cut off, and he must rule absolute and inflexible Master of his lodge, so far as should be necessary to work the lodge without confusion, and to enforce a due observance of the general rules and regulations of Grand Lodge. It is one of the plainest duties of the W.M. not only to preach peace, but to ensure or compel it. If confusion arise, he may lawfully repress it, and must do so, using his entire Masonic power; ordering any brother to his seat, terminating debate, and, if necessary and order cannot otherwise be restored, peremptorily closing his lodge. The W.M. has great power in a lodge; and when wisely, temperately, and firmly exercised, it is productive of great good. I have seen it still a tempest; and I am sorry to say, when improperly exercised, I have known it to increase and intensify the storm. . . . In July last I received an official communication from the M.W. Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Cuba, requesting my fraternal assistance to aid and relieve him in certain difficulties recited by him. On examining into the facts, as near as I could ascertain them, it appeared that in 1853 Cuba had two existing and legally constituted symbolic lodges, whose warrants were granted by the Grand Lodge of Spain.\* In May, 1859, the Grand Lodge of South of Carolina granted a dispensation for a third symbolic lodge, located at Santiago, and called San Andrews, and in November 1859 this lodge was duly warranted by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and on the fifth December, 1859, representatives from these three lodges assembled and organized the Grand Lodge of Cuba. This Grand Lodge subsequently united with the Grand Lodge of Perfection, Ancient and Accepted Rite, of that island, and formed the Grand Orient of Colon, or Cuba. That body was recognized as a regularly organized and legitimate Grand Body in 1860, by this Grand Lodge, by the reception of Bro. Andreas Cassard, as its representative near this Grand East, and at various times since has received a like recognition, and so remains now. Before making any change of the existing state of affairs, I required further light in the matter, and so informed the G.M., and received his letter in return, stating that renewed efforts were making to continue the Grand Orient. Hearing nothing further from him, I presume the Grand Orient has been revived or still continues as before. On this subject I have received very great and valuable information, at much loss of time and trouble to him, from Bro. A. G. Goodall, of the city of New York, who has spared no pains to give me all the information in his power, as well on this subject as on all connected with the several Grand Bodies in South America, the islands adjacent to and in the Gulf of Mexico, and in England, in all of which countries he has been an extensive visitor. It being his intention to visit the continent of Europe soon, I expressed to him my desire to accredit him as special representative of this Grand East, near the Grand East of such Grand Bodies of the Fraternity with which we are in correspondence, as he should be able to visit during the ensuing year. He accepted the appointment, and letters of credence have been issued accordingly.

The relations of this Grand Body with our sister Grand Bodies in the United States and in foreign countries, are peaceful and harmonious, except with the Grand Orient of France and with Hamburg. The difficulty with the former will be presented hereafter, while that with the latter has been of so long standing as to have become chronic. It is only necessary to state that no change has taken place in the apparent views of those controlling that Grand Body, and there will be no change in the attitude taken by this Grand Lodge on the subject, as it was the result of a firm determination on the part of all the Grand Lodges in the United States, that no interference would be allowed with symbolic lodges here by Grand Bodies located in Europe. In February last I received official notice from the M. W. Grand Master of Masons in the State of Louisiana, of the unlawful and clandestine establishment within that jurisdiction, of lodges professing to act under the authority of a so-called Grand Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, claiming the authority to and actually making Masons, and conferring the three first degrees of Masonry; and further stating that said pretended Grand Council and the lodges thus established, had been recognized as lawfully established by the Grand Orient of France, and furnishing a copy of the decree of that Grand body to that effect. On examining the case in the most searching manner, and ascertaining the facts to be as alleged, on the 27th of February, 1869, I addressed an official communication to Marshal-Mellinet, Grand Master of that Grand Orient, couched in kind and fraternal, but firm and decisive language, protesting against the establishment of these bodies as unlawful and for purposes foreign to Masonry, and their recognition by the Grand Orient as unfraternal, and certain to lead to the disruption of all friendly relations between that Grand Body and this, and also all the other Grand Lodges in the United States. That our Grand Lodges would

never consent that any organization whatever, whether lodge, council, or otherwise, shall be organized within the jurisdiction of an existing Grand Lodge, except by its authority, for the purpose of conferring those degrees, or any of them; and that on this question there was perfect and absolute unity in opinion, sentiment, and action. The Grand Master was for this and other reasons, requested to withdraw the decree of recognition and inform me of his decision prior to the opening of this annual communication. As ample time as elapsed for the Grand Orient of France to have, at least, courteously acknowledged the communication, and informed me of the decision thereon, or requested delay, we must assume that it is not intended to notice it, or comply with the request. I would therefore recommend that this Grand Body take such action in the matter as shall demonstrate to that Grand Orient, that, though we love peace, and would preserve harmony with them, if we could, yet, that harmony, valuable as it is in itself, costs too much when it can only be secured or preserved by sacrificing the priceless honor and self-respect of this Grand Body, or the permanence and stability of the Craft, or a fundamental principle of the Fraternity. As all these must be sacrificed by a submission to this act of recognition, I counsel this Grand Body to take such an attitude of dignified and determined resistance, as will cause the withdrawal of the recognition. [The subsequent debate on this subject, with its result—the suspension of all intercourse between the Grand Lodge of New York and the Grand Orient of France—appeared in THE FREEMASON of last week.] . . . In closing this address, if any apology is necessary for its great length, it will be found in the magnitude of this jurisdiction, the great number of lodges and members within it, the multifarious and important nature of the questions presented for discussion and decision, and the necessity of submitting them, and in some cases the reasons on which the determination was made, to this Grand Body, in order, if found correct, they might be established as safe precedents for future action. . . . Brethren, on entering on the performance of the duties of this distinguished position, I selected for my official seal the motto: *Firm, Cautious, and Faithful*, not only as a general guide to official action, but as assurance to the Craft of my intentions. If my brethren shall think that I have thus held the gavel and executed my duties, my labours will not have been in vain.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had received during the year from the various sources 67,947.64dols., which he had paid into the hands of Grand Treasurer. Twenty-seven new lodges had received warrants, and eight dispensations, since last communication. The number of lodges which paid dues last year was 618; the number now on the roll is 635.

One hundred and ten lodges have incorporated their trustees, and five have special charters by the Legislature.

The report of the Hall and Asylum fund showed the receipts to have been 267,517dols. 44c. which was expended in purchases of property, etc., and there is a balance due the Grand Secretary of 68dols. 25c. Among the purchases made was the piece of land opposite Booth's Theatre for 340,000dols., and 4,000dols. for the lease.

The Grand Treasurer reported that his receipts were 72,388dols. 83c.; expenses, 67,469dols. 99c.; balance, 4,868dols. 84c.

On Wednesday, the Grand Lodge was called to labour at 10 a.m. by the Grand Master, who has, we are pleased to say, generally held his own gavel during the session; a very significant fact in view of the past.

R.W. Bro. Frederick W. Herring, Secretary of the New York Board of Relief then submitted his annual report, showing that the receipts of that body were 6,584dols. 68c.; expenditure, 6,106dols. 53c.; balance on hand, 478dols. 15c. Foreigners and Masons from other States had been relieved, the following receiving the most; New York receiving 1,170dols.; England, 394dols. 13c.; Ireland, 235dols. 50c.; Scotland, 378dols.; Germany, 208dols.; France, 120dols.; Holland, 136dols.

A beautiful and appropriate address was delivered by R. W. Bro. the Rev. Fred. C. Ewer, Grand Chaplain.

On Thursday morning, the order of the day being the election of Grand Officers, the M.W. John L. Lewis assumed the gavel in the Grand East.

The M.W. Isaac Phillips recommended the re-election of the M.W. Grand Master James Gibson, and that most worshipful brother was unanimously re-elected.

The R.W. John H. Anthon was re-elected Deputy Grand Master; and the following Grand Officers received the unanimous vote of the Grand Lodge for re-election, viz., Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Christopher G. Fox, of Buffalo; Junior Grand Warden, R.W. Edmund L. Judson, of Albany; Grand Treasurer, M.W. John W. Simons, of New York; Grand Secretary, R.W. James M. Austin, M. D.; Grand Chaplains, R.W. Rev. R. L. Schoonmaker, and R.W. Rev. Fred. C. Ewer; R.W. Rev. John B. Webster, of Palmyra (elected to fill vacancy occasioned by the



death of the R.W. and Rev. Charles L. Platt, of Birmingham; Grand Pursuivant, W. Johnson Fountain, of New York; Grand Tyler, W. John Hoole (in place of the late Sewall Fisk).

For Grand Lecturer, four brethren were nominated, one of whom withdrew his name, and the election resulted in favour of the R.W. Brother George H. Raymond.

After several reports had been discussed and adopted, the installation of officers took place, the installing master being M.W. John L. Lewis. Previous to this, however, the Grand Master announced the following appointments, all of whom filled the offices last year:

Charles B. Foster, Grand Marshal; Cornelius Esselstyn, Grand Standard Bearer; R. H. Huntington, Grand Sword Bearer; John Boyd, Philip Merkie, Wm. Sinclair, and James M. Fuller, Grand Stewards; Cornelius A. Marvin, Senior Grand Deacon; Charles E. Young, Junior Grand Deacon.

Thus the staff remains as it stood during the past year, and we think the Grand Master has acted wisely in not making any change.

The Grand Officers were then installed in ample form, the Rev. and W. William Long, acting Grand Chaplain offering prayer before proceeding with the ceremonies.—Abridged from the *New York Dispatch* of June 6.

### THE SHEERNESS PUBLIC ROOMS COMPANY.

We have received the Prospectus of The Sheerness Public Rooms Company, Limited, in which the Directors invite subscriptions for a capital of £5,000 in 1,000 shares of £5 each, deposit 5s., allotment 15s. No call to exceed £1, and an interval of two months between calls. The Board is of a respectable local character. The chief features of the plan are:—A Restaurant, with every convenience for providing, on liberal terms, for the entertainment of large or small parties of visitors; a Billiard Room; Refreshment, Reading, Smoking, Conversation, Library, Retiring, and Waiting Rooms; fitted up with special regard to the comfort, freedom and convenience of the frequenters. Adjoining these will be a large Concert Hall, 100 feet by 50 feet, 35 feet in height, with gallery, stage, lobby, corridors, waiting, and cloak rooms, all on the most approved principles of construction, warming, and ventilating arrangements. The Victoria Hall will be, undoubtedly, the finest room in the County of Kent for Bazaars, Concerts, Balls, Promenades, Entertainments, and Assemblies of all kinds. The Building also includes a smaller Hall, to be used as a Masonic Lodge Room, to which Preparation and Ante-Rooms are attached.

### METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending July 10, 1869.

#### Monday, July 5.

Lodge No. 16, "Royal Alpha," St. James' Hall, Piccadilly.  
25, "Robert Burns," Freemasons' Hall.  
188, "Joppa," Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.  
R.A. Chap. 28, "Old King's Arms," Freemasons' Tavern.

#### Tuesday, July 6.

Colonial Board, at Freemasons' Hall, at 3.  
Audit Committee, Girls' School, at 2.30.  
Lodge No. 167, "St. John's," Holly Bush Tav., Hampstead.  
R.A. Chap. 169, "Temperance," White Swan Tav., Deptford.  
Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, George Hotel, Aldermanbury at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.  
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 7.30.  
Joppa Lodge of Instruction, Rose and Crown, Bishopsgate-street.

#### Wednesday, July 7.

Lodge No. 10, "Westminster and Keystone," Freemasons' Hall.  
217, "Stability," George Hotel, Aldermanbury.  
1044, "New Wandsworth," New Wandsworth.  
1216, "Macdonald," Head Quarters 1st S.R.V., Brunswick road, Camberwell.  
R.A. Chap. 753, "Prince Frederick William," Knights of St. John Hotel, Queen's-terrace, St. John's Wood.  
Mark Lodge, "Samson and Lion," No. 86, Freemasons' Tavern.

#### Thursday, July 8.

Quarterly Genl. Court Girl's School, Freemasons' Hall, at 12.  
Lodge No. 1076, "Capper," Marine Hotel, Victoria Dock, West Ham.  
1227, "Upton," Spotted Dog Tav., Upton, Essex.  
R.A. Chap. 73, "Mount Lebanon," Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.  
551, "Yarborough," Green Dragon, Stepney.

#### Friday, July 9.

[Nil.]

#### Saturday, July 10.

Lodge No. 176, "Caveac," Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars.  
Domestic Chapter of Instruction, Horns Tavern, Kennington, at 8; Comp. Little, P.Z., Preceptor.

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