

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Capitular Freemasonry in England 451
 Consecration of the Whitwell Lodge, No. 1390 452
 Consecration of the Morning Star Lodge, No. 1396 452
 Freemasonry in Canada 453
 Freemasonry in West Australia 454
 Masonic Notes and Queries 454
 Masonic Tidings 455
 Aids to Study..... 456
 Grand Lodge of Mark Masters..... 457
 CRAFT MASONRY:—
 Provincial 457
 MARK MASONRY:—
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset..... 459
 RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE:—
 Provincial 460
 ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE:—
 Gibraltar 460
 Metropolitan 460
 CORRESPONDENCE:—
 The Prince of Wales 461
 Ancient Grand Lodge of York 460
 Reunion of Knights Templar in Scotland..... 462
 Poetry..... 462
 OBITUARY:—
 Bro. J. M. Martin..... 462
 Masonic Meetings for next week... 463
 Advertisements..... 449, 450, 463, 464

CAPITULAR FREEMASONRY IN ENGLAND.

In the "proceedings" of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania (U.S.), for 1871, which have lately been published, there is a lengthy notice of Capitular Freemasonry in this country, by our Bro. W. J. Hughan, representative from that Grand Chapter.

The subject is learnedly and ably introduced by M. E. Comp. Charles Eugene Meyer, the Grand High Priest, and although the progress of the Mark Degree has been so rapid of late that in some respects the account of that degree in particular is not now strictly accurate, we feel certain that Bro Hughan's answers to the questions propounded by the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania will be read with much interest by all British Freemasons.

At Page 26 we read as follows:—

"The early history of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, is no doubt intimately connected with a chapter or chapters, worked by officers of the British Army, stationed in Philadelphia, about the middle of the last century. It will be found by reference to the reprint of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, that Lodge No. 3 claims the honour of having, as far as known, the oldest records of the Royal Arch Degree in this country, its records dating back as far as 1767. In 1795, the great innovator, Thomas Smith Webb, and a few others from the New England States, made strenuous efforts to form a Grand Chapter in Pennsylvania; owing, however, to the influence of many members of Grand Lodge, they were not successful, and the very object they tried to accomplish was carried out by the Royal Arch Masons of that State, in forming a Grand Chapter, subordinate, however, to the Grand Lodge. A few years after this, in 1797, a Grand Chapter for the Northern States of America was formed by Webb and his coadjutors. The General Grand Chapter of the United States was not formed until 1806.

On the 17th day of December, 1824, the Grand Chapter (of Pennsylvania) became independent

(i.e. of the Grand Lodge), and from that time, Royal Arch Masonry has flourished in this jurisdiction.

At the November Grand Communication the Grand Chapter unanimously recognised the Mark Grand Lodge of England and Wales as a legitimate grand body, and it gives me great pleasure at this time, to extend a hearty welcome and to express the wishes of this Grand Chapter for its future prosperity. The Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales was established in June, 1856, and now numbers over one hundred and thirty lodges. It is prosperous and harmonious, and when the question of jurisdiction is settled between it and the Grand Chapter of Scotland, will increase wonderfully.

During the past year, in order that I might be able to lay before the Grand Chapter as much information as possible on the subject of Capitular Masonry in Great Britain and Ireland, I entered into correspondence with that distinguished Masonic historian, Companion William James Hughan, of Truro, Cornwall, England, who has kindly furnished me with answers to the following questions, together with a short history of the Mark Degree in the countries above named, which will be found in the "Appendix" [reprinted in the "Freemason"].

MARK MASTER MASON.

QUESTION.—Is the Mark Degree, as worked in England, the Mark Man, or the Mark Master Mason?

ANSWER.—The *Mark Man* and the *Mark Master* are both worked in England; the first as preparatory to the latter; but, generally speaking, only the *Mark Master*. The "Ark, Mark, and Link or Wrestle" are now obsolete. The Mark Man (or Mason) was given to *Fellow Crafts* on January 7th, 1778, at Banff, Scotland; but the Mark Master, at the same time, and at the same meeting, was restricted to Master Masons. This is important, as the latter has been so given to Master Masons only in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Q.—Is it recognised by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of England?

A.—The Mark is not recognised by either of these two bodies. It is however recognised (i.e. the Mark Master's Degree) by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Scotland, and by the Grand Chapter of Ireland. (The Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Scotland declare that "all Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland are strictly prohibited and discharged from holding any other meeting than those of the three orders, viz., Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, denominated St. John's Masonry, the Mark forming part of the Second Degree, though only to be conferred on Master Masons." The Mark in England is under a separate jurisdiction, called the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, numbering over one hundred lodges, established in June, 1856. It is prosperous. A few lodges are granted for England by the Grand Chapter of Scotland, *pro tempore*. The Grand Lodge of Mark Masters is recognised by the Grand Chapter of Ireland, and the Grand Chapter of Canada.*

Q.—What are the requirements of an appli-

cant? Must he be a Fellow Craft or Master Mason, and must he "pass the chair," or be an "Installed Master" before applying?

A.—Simply to be a Master Mason, no matter of how short a period.

Q.—How many candidates can be "marked," at one and the same time? or is there no limit as to number?

A.—No limit whatever.

Q.—What are its Officers?

A.—The officers are Worshipful Masters Senior and Junior Wardens, three Overseers, Treasurer, Chaplain, Secretary, two Deacons, Director of Ceremonies, Assistant ditto, Registrar of Marks, Inner Guard or Time-keeper, Stewards, and Tyler. The W.M. with the Wardens and Overseers are members *officially* of Prov. Grand Lodge and Grand Lodge. The W.M. must have been W.M. of a Craft Lodge, and been a Warden of a Mark Lodge for one year.

Q.—Is the Mark degree as worked in England the same as that worked in Ireland and Scotland?

A.—Yes, (virtually).

Q.—Are Lodges of Mark Masters separately constituted and consecrated, and what degree is it numerically?

A.—Mark Lodges are generally consecrated and constituted. No regular ceremony is universally worked or authorized. *Numerically* in Scotland and Ireland it is the *fourth* degree. In England there is no actual numeration whatever. It is however considered to be, numerically, as intermediate to the third degree and Royal Arch.

PAST MASTER.

Q.—Is the the "Past Master" a ceremonial of "Passing the Chair," or "Installed Master" recognized by the Grand Lodge and G. Chapter of England?

A.—In England, the P.M. means one who has served twelve months as W.M. of a lodge. No *merely* honorary degree is allowed at all for such a title, and it is under the control of the Grand Lodge only, though it is not termed a separate degree. In Scotland it is the fifth in rank under Grand Chapter, and is preparatory to the Arch, as is also the Mark (fourth) and most Excellent (sixth).

Bro. Lawrence Dermott, Grand Secretary of the "Ancients" (and subsequently Deputy Grand Master), was installed Master of No. 26, Dublin, Ireland, 24th June, 1746. The constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, 1723, speaks of the installation of the Master, as "certain significant ceremonies and ancient usages." The ceremony, however, was observed in the presence of *even the apprentices*.

Dr. Dassigny, of A.D. 1744, mentions brethren as having "passed the chair." I think the Installed Master was originated about 1738, when the Royal Arch was instituted, and by the "Ancients."

I notice in an edition of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, A.D. 1738, the 47th problem of Euclid is inserted, without note or comment, at the end of the volume.

* Since this article was written, several Grand Chapters in the United States have granted recognition and representation,

MOST EXCELLENT MASON.

Q.—Have you such a degree? If so, where and by what and whose authority is it conferred? If conferred, is it recognized by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter? Have they such a degree in Ireland and Scotland?

A.—Worked in England in connection with the Mark Grand Lodge; in Scotland, sixth degree, as before mentioned.

ROYAL ARCH MASON.

Q.—Under what and whose authority is the Royal Arch conferred?

A.—By Grand Chapters, in England, *recognised* by Grand Lodge; in Scotland *not* recognized by Grand Lodge; in Ireland *virtually* recognized by Grand Lodge.

Q.—Is the Grand Chapter a separate organization, (that is, independent,) and are subordinate Chapters distinct organizations, and do they work under Chapter Warrants?

A.—Grand Chapters are separate organizations.

Q.—What are the qualifications of candidates for the degree?

A.—In England, twelve months a Master Mason, unless by dispensation. Any number, even one, may be exalted the same evening. We never neither have (or have had) any rule requiring *three* candidates to be exalted at one time, whether more or less, (proxies or otherwise) in this country, as it is in the United States.

Q.—Who are its officers?

A.—(Z.) Zerrubabel, or First Principal; (H.) Haggai, or Second Principal; (J.) Jeshua, or Third Principal; Chaplain; Treasurer; Scribe E., (Ezra); Scribe N., (Nehemiah); Principal Sojourner; Assistant Senior and Junior ditto. Director of Ceremonies, Sword Bearer, Stewards, Banner Bearer and Janitor. All are elected by the members, but the Assistant Sojourners, who are chosen by the Principal Sojourner, (P.S.) The three Principals must be actually Past Masters of Craft Lodges, and they must be taken *serialim* annually. We may mention that the Three Sojourners are mentioned in the constitutions of the Royal Arch, 1778 and 1782, and so in all editions since, under the "Moderns" (so called, but really "Ancients.") The quotation from the earliest laws of the Society under the Moderns we must give respecting these officers, &c. 1. "That according to ancient custom, a complete Chapter of the Supreme Degree of Masonry, consists of three Principals, who when in Chapter assembled, are to be considered conjointly as the Master, and each severally as a Master; two Scribes, three Sojourners, and seventy-two others, as council; and that no regular Chapter of this exalted degree can consist of more; but that any number may be exalted and received as companions, though not to hold the staff of office, or be considered as councillors, when more than that number are present."

Q.—Have you such a degree or order as High Priesthood?

A.—High Priesthood not recognized. Separate ceremonials, however, at installation of each of the Principals, and at opening only Past or Present Principals are present.

Q.—Is there any difference in the work of England from that of Ireland, Scotland, and the

United States, and have any changes been made of late years?

A.—None of much importance, excepting in Ireland, where the officers are more after the American style. No change made of late years.

Q.—Is the degree, as worked now in England, that of the Ancients or Moderns—Anderson or Dermott?

A.—A union of both in 1817.

Q.—Do you use the words "Holy Royal Arch?"

A.—"Holy Royal Arch" never occurs in our Regulations, and is never used by Grand Chapter. The degree is often so called in our Chapters, and so designated in our Summonses. The term arose under the "Ancients," but in their "Alhiman Rezon" for 1756, the degree is called *Royal Arch*. In 1807 it has the prefix *Holy* under the same Body.

The Grand High Priest concludes by saying, "Companion Hughan has promised to be the English correspondent for this Grand Chapter, and will furnish hereafter sketches of the Past Master, Most Excellent, and Royal Arch. Although comparatively a young man, the works he has already presented to the Masonic Fraternity bear the marks of a deep research into the records of the past, and he has brought to light much valuable information relating to the early history of Freemasonry."

The Grand High Priest finally concludes his own excellent address as follows. "Thus beginning a New Year, it becomes us, as Royal Arch Masons, upon whose frontlets is inscribed *Holiness to the Lord*, to invoke the presence, aid, and protection of the Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent Jehovah, that he may be with us at our beginning, middle, and ending, that all our doings may tend to His Glory and the salvation of our Souls. Relying implicitly upon Him, we need fear no danger."

CONSECRATION OF THE WHITWELL LODGE, No. 1390.

In the unavoidable absence of the Earl of Bective, the Prov. G.M., and Bro. Whitwell, *M.P.*, D.Prov. G.M., the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. Busher, Past Grand Sword Bearer of England, Prov. G.S. Cumberland and Westmoreland, assisted by Captain Mott, *R.N.R.*, P.Prov. G.D. West Lancashire, and Bro. Morten, P.Prov. G.S.W. of Cumberland and Westmoreland; Bro. Mott acted as Chaplain.

The business of the day was successfully accomplished and the impressive manner in which the proceedings were conducted will not soon be forgotten by those whose privilege it was to be present.

The three P.M.'s who bore the corn, wine, and oil, were Bros. Case, Barber, and T. Dodgson, of Lodge of Furness, No. 995.

The ceremony of installation of the W.M. designate, Bro. Roger Dodgson, 86, S.W. 995, was very ably and impressively rendered by the S.W. designate, Bro. T. Dodgson, P.M. 995, assisted by Bro. Mott.

The lodge is held in a private room, and is very beautifully furnished, all the appointments

of the place being in excellent taste, making it charmingly attractive. The furniture, jewels, &c., were supplied by Bro. Kenning, of London and Liverpool, and nothing is wanting to make the lodge perfectly adapted for proper working.

A gratifying fact was the presentation, on the occasion, of a beautiful large Bible for the lodge, by Bro. Whitwell, D.P.G.M., suitably inscribed; a box of working tools of the best workmanship by Bro. Busher, Prov. G.S.B.; a case containing handsome square and compasses, by Bro. R. Pearson, W.M. 995; a perfect ashlar and windlass by the W.M., a pair of globes by the J.W., Bro. Mills, and a ballot box in polished oak, by the S.W.

The W.M., who appeared well versed in his duties, appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. T. Dodgson, S.W.; Mills, J.W. and Treas.; Meredith, Sec.; Dodd, S.D.; Hudson, J.D.; J. Postlethwaite, I.G.

A pleasing incident was the proposition of a large number of joining members, as well as a good list of very eligible candidates for initiation. The W.M. proposed the following distinguished brethren, as honorary members:—Bros. Whitwell, Busher, Mott, and Barber, a compliment feelingly and warmly acknowledged by those of the brethren who were present. Bro. Busher remarked with agreeable surprise, that it was the first time in the course of his long Masonic career that such an honour had been conferred upon him, and he gratefully accepted it.

After the lodge was finally closed the brethren adjourned to an excellent dinner at the Station Hotel, presided over by the W.M. with great ability.

The well known cordiality and affability of the Prov. Grand Officers made the after-dinner proceedings every thing that could be desired, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

The very favourable auspices under which this lodge has been started augurs well for its future success, and the officers appointed are a guarantee for its full and proper working.

CONSECRATION OF THE MORNING STAR LODGE, NEWTON ABBOT.

A special meeting of the Masonic Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon was held at Newton Abbot. The business was the constitution and consecration of a new lodge, to be known as the Morning Star Lodge, No. 1396, and to be held in that town. The brethren assembled at noon at the lodge rooms at the Queen's Hotel.

Amongst those present were R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M., the Rev. Jno. Huyshe, *M.A.*, P.G. Chap. of England; V.W. Bros. the Rev. C. R. N. Lyne, *M.A.*, P.G. Chap.; W. G. Rogers, P.G. Sec.; J. Harris, P. Prov. Reg.; the Rev. Dr. W. L. Pope, P. Prov. G. Chap.; H. Miller, Prov. G.D.C.; H. Bartlett, P. Prov. G.A.D.C.; T. Lidstone, P. Prov. G.S.O.W.; J. Austin, P. Prov. G.O.; J. M. Hifley, E. Aitken Davies, and H. W. Hooper, Prov. G. Stewards; W. Bros. W. Dodd, P.M. 1194; Capt. J. W. Keyworth, W.M. 164; Capt. Webb Elphinstone, W.M. 372; J. N. Blake, P.M. 230; P. B. Clemens, P.M. 954; H. M. Bartlett, P.M. 303; J. J. Drake, W.M. elect 1396; Bros. W. L. Yates, 328; J. C. Curtis Pillar, J.W. 1358; J.

Evans, D.C. 797; J. L. Chabrol 105; J. Chapman, S.D. 328; B. H. Pescott, S.W. 797; W. N. Taylor, H. Moffatt.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in ancient form. R.W. Bro. the Rev. John Huyshe presided. R.W. Bro. L. P. Metham, P.G. J.D., the D. Prov. G.M., was prevented from attending through the recent death of a relative. V.W. Bro. W. G. Rogers acted as D. Prov. G.M., and the following officers were also appointed *pro tem.*:—V.W. Bros. J. Harris, Prov. G.S.W.; Dr. W. L. Pope, Prov. G.J.W.; J. N. Blake, Prov. G. Sec.; E. Aitken Davies, P.G. Purst.

The Prov. G. Sec. announced the desire of the brethren to form the new lodge, and read the warrant that had been obtained from the M.W. the G.M. of England.

The brethren of the new lodge expressed their acceptance of the officers named in the warrant. viz.:—Bros. J. J. Drake as W.M.; W. E. Lambie, S.W.; Dr. Pope, J.W.

An oration, by way of the usual charge to the new brethren, was delivered by Bro. Dr. Pope.

The ceremony of the constitution of the new lodge was then proceeded with.

At the close of this ceremony, on the announcement that the lodge was a regular and duly constituted lodge, the ceremony of its consecration was proceeded with by the R.W. the Prov. G.M., assisted by the D. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G. Wardens, and the Prov. G. Chap.

At the close of the consecration, the W.M. nominate, Bro. J. J. Drake, was duly installed in ancient form. The Wardens nominate were placed in their chairs, and the W.M. appointed the following brethren as his officers:—

William Lambie, I.P.M.; W. R. King, S.D.; H. Stoke, J.D.; Dr. Pope, Treasurer; H. Moffatt, Secretary and I.G.; J. Weeks, Tyler.

This closing the business, Lodge Morning Star and the Provincial Grand Lodge were closed with prayer.

The following lodges were represented:—Nos. 1358, 1138, 1099, 1091, 954, 792, 372, 282, 230, 223, 189, 164.

From the lodge rooms the brethren moved in procession, with regalia displayed, to St. Paul's Church, where an excellent sermon was preached to them by Bro. the Rev. C. R. N. Lyne. The text was Matthew, fifth chapter, 7th verse, from which the reverend brother urged the merits of a merciful charity that thinketh no guile of others, over the mere rendering of eleemosynary aid.

At the close an offertory was made for the poor of the town. The brethren then returned in procession to the Queen's Hotel, where a large party dined together in the evening.

The next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge is expected to be at Torquay about August 20th.

FREEMASONRY IN CANADA.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, AT WASHAGO.

On the Queen's birthday, at an early hour, the streets of Washago assumed a gay appearance from the number of uniforms that were seen hastening to an fro. At about half-past nine the Masons moved from their hall, and proceeded down Mississaga-street to the "Ida Burton" wharf. The brethren all appeared in blue lodge clothing, and were preceded by the band; "The Merry Nine" B.B. Club, in their artistic dress; the "Sporting Nine," in their gay apparel; and the Odd Fellows, in full regalia. The procession was under the charge of Bro. Robert Ramsay, who was appointed by the Acting Grand Master as Grand Director of Ceremonies. On arriving at the wharf the brethren and their friends opened out and the Acting Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. J. K. Kerr, 32°, D.D.G.M. of the Toronto District, passed through, with his Grand Wardens, Wor. Bros. T. S. Atkinson and Robert Ring, followed by other Grand Officers.

In a few minutes the "Ida" left the wharf, freighted with as happy a crowd as it has been our good fortune to meet for some time past. The boat was chartered by the Sons of Temperance, but as there had been some misunderstanding regarding the same, they very generously gave up the profits towards the erection of St. Paul's Church.

On arriving at Washago the procession reformed, and the band struck up the Masonic March; a few minutes' rest was taken at "Mine Host," Ormsby's Hotel, after which they advanced with a large number of visitors to the site of the proposed building. Here the interesting ceremony took place, of which the following is a brief outline:—

The R.W. Acting Grand Master, with his Deputy and Wardens, the Reeve, and others, advanced to the platform, and the brethren formed a circle round the stone. The band having ceased, the R.W. Acting Grand Master stepped forward, and after giving the following usual introductory remarks, delivered an eloquent peroration upon our noble Fraternity:—"Men, women, and children, assembled here to behold this ceremony, know all of you that we are lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and professing to fear God, who is the Great Architect of the Universe; to honour the Queen; to confer benefits upon our brethren, and to practice universal benevolence to all mankind. We have amongst us, concealed from the eyes of all other men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but those secrets are lawful and honourable, and are placed in the custody of Masons, who alone have the keeping of them to the end of time."

The Rev. R. H. Harris, Acting G. Chaplain, then delivered a beautiful prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe, closing with the supplication that the Author of Life and Light, the great source of love and happiness, would grant that this building, the foundation-stone of which was to be laid to-day, might hereafter prove useful, and be blessed for the all-important purposes for which it was intended, and for the promotion of His glory.

Brethren—so mote it be!
W. Bro. Robert Ramsay, Acting D.G.M., then read the following scroll:—

"By the favour of the Great Architect of the Universe, on the 24th day of May, 1872, of the Era of Freemasonry, 5872, and in the 34th year of the Reign of our beloved Queen Victoria of Great Britain and Ireland and numerous Colonial Dependencies. (Whom may God preserve.) The Right Hon. Sir John Young, Baron Lisgar, in the Peerage of Great Britain and Ireland, and Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, John Regan, Esq., J.P., Reeve, of the United Townships of Orillia and Matchedash, the Rev. R. H. Harris, B.A., Incumbent of St. Paul's, and W. Bro. T. S. Atkinson, W. Master, Orillia Lodge, No. 192, Most Worshipful Brother James Seymour, Grand Master of Grand Lodge of Canada. The foundation-stone of this St. Paul's Church of Washago was laid by Right Worshipful Brother J. R. Kerr, 32°.

Acting Grand Master, attended and assisted by a Special Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in presence of a large concourse of respectable people, which may God prosper.

"Committee of Management:—Bros. T. S. Atkinson, R. H. Cuzzens, W. Bingham, C. McKenzie, and R. Ramsay."

The scroll was subsequently deposited in the cavity of the stone, together with By-Laws of Orillia Lodge No. 192, some silver coins, the *Pioneer*, *Northern Light*, and other county papers. This interesting part of the ceremony being concluded, John Regan, Esq., J.P., Reeve of the United Townships of Orillia and Matchedash, stepped forward and presented Rt. Wor. Bro. J. K. Kerr with a beautiful silver trowel, on which was the following inscription:—

"Presented to Rt. Wor. Bro. J. Kerr 32°, Acting Grand Master, upon laying the Foundation Stone of St. Paul's Church, Washago, May 24th, 1872."

The Reeve, in presenting, said that he cordially welcomed the Grand Master of Masons of Canada, and felt gratified to think that a Fraternity so generally respected, and a Brother so highly honoured, had seen fit to visit his municipality for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the first edifice ever erected in Washago to the service of God.

Rt. Wor. Bro. J. K. Kerr briefly responded, and after returning thanks for the present, assured the Reeve of the satisfaction it had given him to be present; and also alluded in complimentary terms to the rapid progress of this section of country, and expressed the hope that as his municipality had the largest acreage in Ontario, so it might on some future day have a population in proportion.

The stone having been lowered, the band playing solemn music during the time, the Acting Grand Master spread the cement, after which, turning to the A. G. Junior Warden, he asked:—

"Bro. G. Jun. Warden, what is the proper jewel for your office?"

G.J.W. "The Plumb Rule." "Have you applied the Plumb Rule to the edges of the stone?"

G.J.W. "I have Most Worshipful Sir, and the Craftsmen have done their duty."

The same question regarding the "level" and "square" were asked, and similar responses given respectively by the G.S.W. and D.G.M.

The Grand Master said:—"Brethren, having full confidence in your skill in our Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish our work. Here he gave three knocks with the gavel, and added:—Well made, well proved, truly laid, true and trusty. And may this undertaking be conducted and completed by the Craftsmen according to the grand plan; in Peace, Harmony, and Brotherly Love."

Corn, Wine, and Oil, were then handed the Grand Master, by the Deputy, who poured each upon the stone, and said:—"I strew corn upon the stone as the emblem of Plenty; I pour wine on it as the emblem of Cheerfulness, and I anoint it with oil as the emblem of Comfort and Consolation."

The Grand Master then pronounced the following benediction:—"May Corn, Wine, and Oil, and all the necessaries of life, abound among men throughout the world; and may the blessing of the Supreme Architect of the Universe be upon this edifice and all connected with it."

General response—"So mote it be."

The Grand Master then inspected the plans, which were presented to him by the Churchwarden, Bro. R. H. Cuzzens, and expressed himself duly satisfied.

The Rev. Bro. Harris then addressed the assemblage, assuring them that although he belonged to the Church of England, he trusted that in Washago, all classes, creeds, and denominations would attend, and he would use his best exertions, with the blessing of God, to inculcate the truths of the Gospel on that broad and universal basis, that would, he trusted, prove the sincerity of his work, so happily commenced here to-day.

Cheers were then given for the Queen and the acting Grand Master, R.W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, after which the procession reformed, and re-

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."

paired to Mr. Ormsby's, where a capital collation awaited them.

One or two hours soon passed pleasantly by, and after the band had serenaded Mr. and Mrs. Cozzens, who had exerted themselves so much towards the enjoyment of the day, the party again left for Orillia.

Bro. Kerr, on leaving at the new wharf, was heartily cheered, and the brethren, on arriving at Orillia, repaired to their hall, and after some very kind and fraternal remarks from Bro. Harris, the Grand Lodge was closed.

We might add that during the day some seventy dollars were collected for the benefit of the church. The brethren concluded their ceremonies by accepting of the hospitality of Bro. Robert Ross, where they partook of an excellent luncheon.

FREEMASONRY IN WEST AUSTRALIA.

FREMANTLE LODGE (No. 1033).—On Thursday the 7th of May, the brethren of the above lodge met at their lodge room, for the purpose of presenting a Past Master's Jewel to Bro. J. F. Stone, P.M., together with other work mentioned in the summonses.

There were present Bros. D. R. Congdon, W.M.; G. B. Humble, S.W.; G. Pearce, J.W.; L. Henderson, S.D.; S. Duffield, J.D.; J. H. White, Sec.; M. Samson, Treas.; T. Wardle, I.G.; H. Jarvis, O.G.; J. F. Stone, I.P.M.; Jose, P.M., and about twenty-five of the brethren of the lodge.

After the lodge had been opened in due form, the minutes read and passed, the W.M. informed the brethren that so long ago as last June, it was resolved, that in recognition of the services of Bro. J. F. Stone, I.P.M., that a suitable jewel should be procured from England, and presented to him, but owing to the loss of the "Rangoon," the first jewel was lost, hence the apparent delay. In presenting the gift, the Worshipful Master remarked that he had a task to perform which gave him a great deal of pleasure, especially as he knew that the brethren assembled would agree with him in testifying to the kindness, cordiality, and ability ever evinced by their worthy and esteemed Bro. J. F. Stone, P.M., and it is in this shape—the presentation of a Past Master's Jewel—that the brethren have determined upon to show their just appreciation of his services. In delegating him to present this beautiful jewel, he said, that he regretted his want of eloquence; but that eloquence was not wanted to enhance the gift that was obtained, as in the present instance, by the unanimous and hearty good wishes of the brethren. After mentioning at some length, and in very praiseworthy terms, the services rendered to the lodge by Bro. Stone, the W.M. continued:—*Bro. John Frederick Stone, in the name and in the presence of the brethren of the Fremantle Lodge, here assembled, I have much pleasure in presenting you with this Past Master's Jewel as a token of your kindness in, and services rendered to this lodge, during your two years of office as W.M., and our united prayer is that T. G. A. O. T. U. may spare you long to wear it. The W.M. here invested our brother with the jewel.*

Bro. Stone, in replying, remarked he felt he could not adequately express in words to the brethren the thanks and gratitude he felt at their handsome gift. He was sure that if God should spare his life, in after years he would be enabled to look upon that Jewel with which he had been invested with great pride and pleasure, as it would recall to him the many pleasant hours he had spent in the lodge, in company with his brethren, and more especially would he be enabled to think with pleasure and satisfaction on the meeting there assembled. He said the W.M. had spoken of him in flattering terms, he was sure that what he did for the lodge, it was done with a willing heart, for the love he had for Masonry, and for the benefit of their own lodge in particular; that, unfortunately, for various reasons he had not been so regularly amongst them, since he had ceased to preside over the lodge, yet still he had the best interests of the lodge at heart, and would be always ready to render what assistance he might have in his power. He said he could not refrain from making reference to the

past history of the Fremantle Lodge, although it was but a short history, only some five or six years, yet he felt certain that no member could think of the present state of the lodge, as compared to the time to which he alluded, but with feelings of deep satisfaction and congratulation; then, it would be remembered by many, they had not an officer able even to work the lodge, but were entirely dependent upon aid from Perth; and well he remembered his visits in company with Mr. Barber and other members of the Perth Lodge, to the old Stag's Head Inn, where the first lodge was held; but what was their state now. At present they had a very neat and well furnished lodge, and officers who, in the discharge of their duties, he felt proud to say, would compare very favourably with old and long-established lodges in England. In their present W.M., he continued, they had one, who by his perseverance and attention, was enabled to work the various degrees, so that they were now for the first time, since their existence as a lodge, entirely independent. This he felt sure was a source of gratification to all the brethren, and he paid high and well merited encomiums on Bro. Congdon, the W.M., for the work he had performed during his present term of office. Bro. Stone also reviewed the state of the lodge financially, which although in not quite so flourishing a state as it might be, yet it was going on steadily, and its funds were in a sound and healthy condition. Having thus reviewed at some length the history, state, and condition of the lodge, he concluded by again thanking the brethren for their kindness, in presenting him with the handsome token of their good will. It was well, he remarked, to have the good will of our fellow creatures, and it was a great source of gratification to know that the gift with which he had been presented, was the unanimous expression of good will from all the brethren. He hoped the lodge would still continue to prosper, that the officers would still continue to act in their praiseworthy manner, and work together with that love and harmony which should characterize all good masons.

The brethren then saluted Bro. Stone with lodge honours.

After the brethren had returned into lodge from refreshment, the W.M. proceeded with the ceremony of raising Bros. J. Logur and C. Leede to the sublime degree of Master Masons. The ceremony being concluded, the W.M. closed the lodge, with all the rites and forms, in peace and harmony.

The jewel, a neat, chaste, and elegant gold appendage was obtained from Bro. Geo. Kenning, 2, 3, and 4 Little Britain, London, and bore the following inscription, neatly engraved by Mr. Miller, of Perth.

"Presented to Bro. John Fk. Stone by the brethren of the Fremantle Lodge, No. 1033. W. A."

Mittum in Parbo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

THE WARDS OF THE LODGE.

The "New York Dispatch" gives the following account of a ceremony, little practised in that country, which recently took place in the Council Chamber of the Masonic Hall, District of Columbia, by the brethren of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, their wives and daughters:

This adoptive ceremony has by some been termed a baptism, but more properly should be considered as preliminary to adoption. It consists, in its immersive form, of the dipping of the hand in water, in token of the purity of the intention, and as a token of innocence consecrated.

The ceremony in this instance was conducted by the Ill. Albert Pike, 33°, Grand Commander of the Southern Supreme Council, who also occupied the same position in 1865 in this city, when over one dozen children were presented for the prayers and protection of the brethren and the blessing of the celebrant.

On other occasions this same service has been performed in our midst in years now gone, and children grown to-day wear the emblems and symbols at those times presented.

As it may be of interest to our readers, we give a synopsis of the ceremonial. The children were an infant son of Dr. Jos. W. Nairn, 32°, and a son of Mr. E. B. MacGrotty, 18°, Mithras Lodge of Perfection, A. and A. Rite. The rite was performed by Thrice Ill. Albert Pike, assisted by Ill. J. O. Sinclair, S.G.W.; J. H. Pike, J.G.W.; C. W. Bennett, Grand Orator; Rev. Mr. Harris, Chaplain. The ceremony has always been celebrated in the Ancient and Accepted order. It has been censured by many as an irreverent imitation of the Christian rite of baptism, but well informed Masons know that purification by washing was used in all the mysteries, thousands of years before our era.

After the assembly had been seated, Grand Master Pike gave a short history of the ceremony, saying that it taught neither hatred, intolerance, nor revenge.

After a voluntary on the organ by Bro. Ser-voss, a rap was heard at the door, and information given that two children with their parents, desired admission, when the Master directed the Master of Ceremonies and his aids to bring the children, their parents and sponsors, into the lodge. Soon after the Master of Ceremonies returned, followed by one of his assistants bearing a candlestick with three lighted candles—one white, one black, and one red—forming a triangle. Following were two assistants, one carrying the child of Doctor Nairn, Robert Bruce Nairn, upon a cushion covered with light blue silk, the other leading the child of Mr. MacGrotty, Edward Albert MacGrotty; and behind these came the parents of the children and the sponsors. The sponsors for the son of Dr. Nairn were Dr. L. B. Gibbs, 32°, and Caroline E. Davis; for Master MacGrotty, Jerome C. Davis, 32°, and Mrs. M. Walker. After the third circuit of the room the procession halted, the candlestick was placed before the altar, and the children returned to their mothers, who, with the sponsors, took seats in the middle of the room. The Masonic choir then sang

"My soul doth magnify the Lord."

After an oration by the Master, in which he explained the duties and responsibilities which the lodge was about to assume in conferring the rite, he then asked, the fathers:

"Are you willing that we should accept these duties?"

An affirmative response being given, the Master called upon the Chaplain to invoke the favour and assistance of God, which was done, the brethren all kneeling. The choir then sang the ode:

"Rejoice, rejoice fond mothers."

The sponsors then took seats near the parents, when the Master addressed them in relation to the duties they were taking upon themselves.

After an invocation to the Deity, and music, the children, parents, and sponsors were then conducted forward to the altar, on which water, oil, and salt were placed.—The Master then called the lodge up, descended from his throne, and after a few words to the group, lighted the incense on the altar. After a chant by the choir, the Master took the children severally in his arms, dipped their left hands in a basin of perfumed water, and said:

"By this symbol I devote thee—in each case—to the service of virtue and truth. May our Father, who is in Heaven, keep the innocent and pure of heart all the days of thy life."

During this ceremony, the choir sang an appropriate ode. The Master then took the vessel of perfumed oil, dipped the little finger of his right hand therein, and marked it with a delta on the forehead of each child, saying:

"I set upon thy forehead the symbol of wisdom, power and love of God. May he perfect and guide thee in right courses all the days of thy life." The choir singing meanwhile the chant:

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way."

The Master then replaced the vessel on the altar, and stretching out his hands toward the children, invoked a blessing upon them. The

godmothers then placed them at the altar of obligation; the brethren present formed in a circle around them, each with his left hand on his heart and his right hand raised toward heaven; all then kneeled and repeated after the Master the solemn vow to protect the children from all danger and temptation till their arrival at maturity. After rising, the Master, taking the vessel of salt in his hand, repeated the Arab vow which sanctifies the enemy with whom he has tasted salt, and placing a portion of the salt on his tongue, said:

"With this salt I seal my vow."

The kersel was then passed to each brother, who in turn repeated the vow. The children were then invested with lambskin aprons.

A GOOD RESOLVE, AND GOOD LAW.

The Grand Lodge of New York recently "Resolved, That while each lodge has a right to select its own material, it is asserted to be un-masonic, unlawful, and a breach of Masonic courtesy, for a lodge to initiate, pass, or raise a candidate, after having been advised by a sister lodge, or by brethren in good standing, that such candidate is unworthy or unfit to be made a Mason."

TOMB OF HIRAM.

From a work entitled "Sinai and Palestine," we extract the following: "The plains of Phœnicia are strewn with distinct fragments of antiquity. One of these is called the tomb of Hiram, and stands inland among wild rocky hills, about three miles from Tyre. It is a single sarcophagus, hollowed out so as just to admit a body. A large oblong stone is placed over it so as completely to cover it, the only entrance being an aperture at its eastern extremity. The whole rests upon a rude pedestal of upright hewn stones."

Masonic Tidings.

BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL.

AMERICA.

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey is said to have permitted Alpha Lodge to resume the making of colored Masons. The St. Louis *Freemason* thinks the Grand Lodge of New Jersey may find itself cut off from Masonic intercourse with other States on that account. The Grand Master had arrested the charter of this lodge, but it was restored at the recent session of the Grand Lodge, by a close vote.

Scottish Rite Masonry, is said to be making considerable progress on the Pacific coast. During the months of March and April fifteen lodges representing that branch of Masonry were organized in Puget Sound.

FRANCE.

By a decree, dated 11th May, 1872, the Grand Orient of Paris extends fraternal recognition to the Grand Lodge of Canada, and has named W. Bro. Thomas White, Deputy Grand Master of Canada, as its representative near that Grand Lodge. A similar recognition has been extended to the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, near which Grand Lodge Bro. Benjamin Currier, Grand Secretary, has been appointed representative.

A revival of Freemasonry seems to have commenced in France. The Grand Orient has recently granted warrants to the following new lodges, which have been duly consecrated and dedicated:—

- "La Reveil du Parfait Silence," Orient of Sisterton;
- "L'Union de Belleville," Orient of Paris.
- "La Sagesse," Orient of Barcelona (Spain);
- "Zur Arbeit," Orient of Pesth (Hungary); and
- "Egalite," Orient of Bucharest (Roumania).

The *Bulletin Officiel* of the Grand Orient of France, publishes a list of lodges which have contributed to the Fund for the Liberation of the French Territory. Forty-six lodges contribute 35,476 francs, and three lodges subscribe con-

ditionally the sum of 55,615 francs, making a total of 91,093 francs.

A comedy, called "Les Franc-Maçons," has been produced at Nice. It is the production of Bros. Ch. and Aug. Beaumont. The *Journal de Nice* describes it as an elegant defence of an order which is condemned by those who are ignorant of its principles, and states that the public has done full justice to the false and malevolent misrepresentations of which Freemasonry is so frequently the object. The brethren have not forgotten that Bros. Beaumont have produced a work unique of its kind. It has just been played at Nice with great success, thanks, mainly, to the zeal of the principal actor, Bro. Bouyer, who is equally an excellent dramatic artist and a good Freemason.

SPAIN.

The Supreme Council of the 33° Grand Orient of Spain, has summoned a Congress of all the Spanish Masonic bodies, at Madrid, on the 6th of July, to have read, and if approved, to promulgate the new constitutions which are to rule the Spanish Freemasons, under only one authority, as agreed beforehand. We will note the action of the great Masonic body of Freemasons governed by the Supreme Council of the 33° grade of Spain, on the important subject of the new constitutions, and advise our readers in due time thereof.

TURKEY.

At a meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Turkey, held June 16th, the V.W. Bro. Thompson, D. Dist. G.M., presiding, it was agreed that the name of Halim Pasha of Egypt should be recommended to the Grand Master of England as District Grand Master, in succession to the deceased R.W. Bro. J. P. Brown. An amendment for postponing the choice, in the hope that an English-speaking brother of suitably high position might be found for the office, was lost by a majority of 9 to 7. The appointment rests entirely in the hands of the Grand Master of the Order, the Marquis of Ripon; but in the case of remote provinces it is usual to consult the wishes of the brethren respecting the filling up of so exalted and important an office in the craft. Halim Pasha is already District Grand Master for Egypt, but has not discharged any duties for some years past owing to his absence from that country.—*Levant Times*.

HONOLULU.

Our Masonic brethren of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, at the request of His Hawaiian Majesty's government, lately laid the corner stone of the new government building, designed for a Legislative Hall and for government offices. The Hawaiian government recognizing the ancient and time-honoured custom of calling upon the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons to perform the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of a public edifice, extending that invitation to the Lodges of Honolulu, which invitation was accepted, and performed with all the imposing ceremonies of the ancient Craft. The Mechanics' Union, Good Templars, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows joined in the procession. There were deposited in the casket, with other articles, the list of members of the lately organized Commandery of K. T., by-laws and lists of members of Honolulu Chapter, R.A.M.; by-laws and lists of members of Le Progres Lodge, No. 24, and Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, F. and A.M.; constitution, regulations and proceedings of 1871, of the Grand Lodge of California. Everything was conducted with success, and the occasion was enjoyed as a grand holiday by the people generally.

"I had been laid up several days in Birmingham with diarrhoea, accompanied by intense pain, when a fellow-traveller recommended to me so urgently to use your Vegetable Pain Killer for it that I tried it, and got almost instant and permanent relief, and I can now recommend it as strongly to any so afflicted.—Hy. J. ROBERT (Clement & Co.), Euston-on-Trent, Nov., 1868.—To Perry, D.D., & Son."

THE GOOD TEMPLARS.

The Independent Order of Good Templars was instituted in the state of New York in the year 1851. It is a temperance society, carefully and completely organized, and is not intended to rival or supplant any existing temperance organisation, but is the willing assistant of them all. This order was introduced into England on the 8th of September, 1868, having now a Grand Lodge, and more than 1,000 subordinate lodges, numbering upwards of 80,000 members. On the 13th August, 1869, the first lodge was formed in Scotland, where over 700 lodges have been opened, numbering more than 70,000 members. In October, 1870, the order was established in Ireland, and is making rapid progress there; and in Wales thousands have been enrolled. The policy of the order is:—1. No licence in any form to sell intoxicating liquor as a beverage. 2. Absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation, and sale of such liquor, to be used as a beverage. Prohibition by the will of the people, expressed in due form of law, with the necessary penalties for such a crime. 3. Active dissemination of temperance truth in all modes known to enlightened philanthropy. 4. Election of good, honest men to make and administer the laws. 5. Persistent efforts to save individuals and the communities from the scourge of drunkenness, against all forms of opposition and difficulties, until success is complete and universal. The object of Good Templarism is to reclaim the fallen, save the young and sober from falling into the snares laid around them, and to increase, strengthen, and improve, by all judicious means, the moral and social tastes and habits of the members. The order is open to males and females of every creed, country, or colour, if they believe in Almighty God, and will abstain from all intoxicants. In America and the British Colonies the order numbers 500,000; in England, Ireland, and Scotland, between 160,000 and 170,000, and is said to be increasing daily.

SALMON FISHING.—A careful cast over the likely spot—no rise. Another and another, and still nothing stirring. Another—ha! a silvery gleam in the water, and a plunge as, either from your nervous haste or his own excess of eagerness, the salmon missed your fly. Back from the river bank and out with your fly-book, to select a fly of the same make as that at which he rose, only a size smaller. Ten minutes' time passed by your watch, and now for a throw over him again. A cast—no rise; a second—splash, whir-r-r; he has it; and he is a "bouncer!" One rush to the bottom; a dash to the opposite bank; another to the bank next you. Back quick! or he will slack your line. Another rush to the opposite bank, and up into the air, a somersault of five feet high. Hold him gently, or you are done for. Steady, and perhaps the hook, if resting on a bone, will fix itself firmer. Splash, plunge, whir-r! down he goes to the bottom, and you may be sure he is now well hooked that he has only shortened his lease of life five minutes by his extra activity. Steady now, for he is gathering his strength for a rush. There he goes; give him line up stream, down stream, across stream. He is tiring fast. There! he showed his side on the top of the water; reel on him gently, and show him the butt. Bring the gaff. Now you have him on the bank a real beauty, and twelve pounds if he is an ounce.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS—Exercise most wonderful power in promoting appetite, improving digestion, regulating the bowels, and removing nervousness and debility. The weakest will take no harm from the use of this alterative and tonic medicine, but will gradually regain their health. The strongest will preserve themselves from many of the mishaps, their boasted strength and fearlessness of results often betray them. Long suffering invalids may look toward this rectifying and revivifying medicine, with the certain hope of having their maladies mitigated if not removed by their means. In short, for all ages, circumstances, and conditions, Holloway points out the treatment which is competent to check the progress of disorders in, and extract its seeds from the human frame.

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The Freemason,

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AIDS TO STUDY.

BY BRO. WM. CARPENTER P.M. & P.Z. 717.

XI.

Of what is called the Old Assyrian Empire, we know, as I have already suggested, absolutely nothing. Fables we have, but these will not satisfy the enquiring mind. The accounts handed down to us by Diodorus, Tragus, Justin, Castor, Eusebius, and others, are so absurd and contradictory, that we cannot possibly give them our assent. This is easily accounted for, as the whole of their information is known to have been derived from Ctesias, who was noted as an arrant fabulist. Who can believe that soon after the flood Ninus led to battle millions of men, that Semiramis, at the age of twenty, performed the exploits he ascribes to her; could employ two millions of men in building cities, and could procure three hundred thousand skins of black oxen, to dress her camels in the form of elephants?

But these were mere trifles, for, as Strabo says, nearly every great work in every part of Asia was ascribed to her; her edifices found their limit only at the bounds of the habitable world, on the frontiers of Scythia, and there it is said that Alexander saw her own record of her deeds: "Nature gave me the form of a woman, but my deeds have equalled those of the bravest of men. I ruled the empire of Ninus, which, on the east,

touches the river *Hinaman* (Indus), on the south, the land of frankincense and myrrh (Arabia Felix), on the north, the Sacæ and the Sogdians. Before me no Assyrian beheld the seas. I looked upon four so remote that none had reached them. I formed rivers to run where I wished, and I only wished it in places where they were useful. I made the barren soil fruitful, by watering it with my rivers. I raised impregnable fortresses. I pierced roads with iron across impracticable rocks. My chariots have rolled in roads where the wild beasts had formed no path. And in the midst of all my labours I found time for pleasure and for love."

After having achieved all these wonders, and resigned the crown to her son Ninyas, she disappeared in the form of a dove, and was worshipped as a goddess. She thus maintained her place in the Babylonian mythology; for she was the daughter of the great goddess of Ascalon, Dercete, and became the wife of Oannes, who was the fish-god noticed in a former paper.

But apart from these absurd legends, the boundaries which Ctesias assigns to the Assyrian empire are incompatible with the extent of other nations at that period. In the time of Abraham we find Chedolaomer and his three allies possessing distinct kingdoms on the frontiers of Assyria, without the least indication of dependence on that empire (Gen. xiv. 1), when, according to Ctesias, his country must have formed a part of it. In the days of the Judges we hear of a powerful kingdom in Mesopotamia, on the west of Assyria (Judges iii. 8—11).

It has to be added, that, so late as the time of David, the Hebrew monarchy extended its conquests over a great part of the country on the side of the Euphrates, and that Benhadad and Hazarel governed Syria as an independent State. As Sir Isaac Newton has observed ("Chron. of Anc. Kingdoms," ch. iii.) the kingdom formed by Nimrod, which was probably extended into Assyria, was but of small extent, being only within the fertile plains of Chaldea, Chalontis, and Assyria, watered by the Tigris and the Euphrates. After the days of Nimrod, we hear no more of the Assyrian Empire till the days of Pul (B.C. 790). The four kings who invaded the southern coast of Canaan came from the countries where Nimrod had reigned, and were probably some of his posterity, who had shared his conquests.

The Kingdoms of Israel, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Philistia, Zidon, Damascus, and Hamath the Great, continued, subject to other lords than the Assyrians, till the days of Pul and his successors; and so did the house of Eden (Amos i. 5; 2 Ki. xix. 12), and Havan (Gen. xii. 2; 2 Ki. xix. 12), and Sepharvaim in Mesopotamia, and Calneh, near Bagdad (Gen. x. 10; Isa. x. 9; 2 Ki. xvii. 31).

While thus adverting to the early history of Assyria and Babylon, and the myths and fables in which such writers as Ctesias have indulged, I cannot help feeling the incomparable value of the sacred writings, as a record of history, independently of their containing a revelation of Divine truth. As a record of historical facts, they purport to notice foreign states only so far as they are connected in any way with the history of the chosen people; but these incidental

notices, even the briefest of them, are of infinite value to the student. They furnish a clue to many facts which could not have been understood without their assistance. They serve to correct other historians, and in every instance in which the sacred writings and general history come into contact, they are to it what the chronometer is to the common watch—they measure the same period, but with superior precision; they relate the same events, but with greater accuracy. Still further, as the floating traditions of the heathen would bear upon the facts recorded in the Scriptures; so, by a reaction, sacred history develops the hidden import of many an ancient institution, the intention of which was not comprehended by those who lived under it, and which could not be otherwise understood. And it gives consistency and reality to the traditions of antiquity. It brings distant occurrences to bear upon each other; it discloses political interests, jarring among themselves, all tending to the harmony of the universe, and the amelioration of the human race. It supplies, in short, to time what gravity is to space—the principle which holds and draws all things together.

The proper home of the early Assyrians, then, as Smith observes, is marked by the four cities which are connected with the name of Asshur, in the Book of Genesis—Nineveh, Rehoboth, Calah, and the "Great City" of Resen, between Nineveh and Calah." (Gen. x. 11, 12.)

Of these, Rehoboth is unknown, and is thought by some to have been, not a city, but as in the margin of our Bible, the "streets of the city," i.e., of Nineveh. Calah is very probably identified with the large ruins of Nimrod, and Resen with those at Seamiyer; but the certain identification of Nineveh with the mounds opposite Mosul is enough to indicate the region, which, down to the latest period of ancient history, preserved the name of Aturia; the interchange of *t* with *sh* being very common in those regions. Conversely, *Tyrus* is now *Sur*.

Sir Isaac Newton and many others, who take the Scripture History as the only authentic one of these early times, ascribe the foundation of the great monarchy of Assyria to Pul or Phul, about twenty-four years before the æra of Nabonassar, 1579 years after the flood, and, according to Blair, 709, or according to Newton, 790.

Menahem having taken forcible possession of the throne of Israel, by the murder of Shallum, (2. Ki. xv. 10.), was attacked by Pul, but prevented the hostilities meditated against him by presenting the invader with a thousand talents of silver. Pul, thus gratified, took the Kingdom of Israel under his protection, returned to his own country, after having received voluntary homage from several nations in his march, as he had done from Israel, and became the founder of the great empire.

As it was in the days of Pul that the Assyrians began to attack the inhabitants of Palestine. (2. Ki. xi. 9, 1. Chron. v. 26), this was the time, according to Sir Isaac Newton, when the great Assyrian empire arose. Thus he interprets the words, "since the time of the Kings of Assyria" (Neh. ix. 32); that is, since the time of the Kingdom of Assyria; or since the rise of the empire.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

The annual festival, in aid of the Benevolent Fund attached to the Mark degree, was celebrated at the Talbot Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday last, great encomiums being expressed upon the manner with which the proprietor of the hotel had prepared a most *recherché* banquet.

The tables were decorated with the choicest flowers, the wines and dessert were of first class merit, and reflected great credit upon the caterer. The meeting altogether presented a favourable appearance, being graced with the presence of the sisterhood.

Bro. Col. Burdett presided over the meeting, and there were also present, Bros. F. Binckes, G.S. and P.C.J.W.; Captain Burgess, G. Reg.; Rev. B. W. Church, G.C.; Lieut. Col. Birchall, P.G.J.W.; G. Neale, G. Sup. Works; J. H. Wynne, Esq., P.G.I.G.; J. Read, G. Reg.; A. Williams, 104, G.S.; S. Funkenztein, 22, G.S.; H. W. Binckes, G.S.; H. Massey, P.G.S.; W. Roebuck, &c., Kent; T. Forshaw, 113.

The musical engagements were under the direction of Bro. John Read, P.G.Org., and who was ably assisted by Madame Wells, (Soprano); Bros. De Lacey, of St. Paul's Cathedral; Hodges, Gent. of the Chapel Royal; C. S. Jekyll, of Westminster Abbey. The following were among the several vocal renderings, Grace, "Deum Laudate," "The Queen," "Esmeralda," "Will o' the Wisp," past song, "How merrily welive," "Sing, sweet Bird," charmingly sung by Madame Wells, "The Lass o' Richmond Hill," the popular "Mynheer Van Dunk," "Sally Sally," by Mr. Hodges, with other selections.

After the first toast "The Queen," which was received with its accustomed pleasure and loyalty, the presiding brother said that the next toast was that of the "Prince and Princess of Wales." It was evident that throughout the English nation he was beloved, even a recent demonstration exhibited much loyalty and feeling towards his Royal Highness, who, in God's providence had been preserved through a great and serious illness, and he doubted not but that the toast would be drunk with fervour and enthusiasm. (Cheers.)

The toast of the "Grand Officers" was coupled with the names of Bros. Col. Birchall, Binckes, sen., Binckes, jun., Rosenthal, Church, and Burgess, who although standing high in social life had not neglected their duties.

Regret was expressed at the absence of Lord Limerick, all being aware of the manner in which he attended to the duties of Mark Masonry.

Bro. Col. Birchall acknowledged with feeling the allusion made to himself and Bros., and unaffectedly thanked the brethren, and regretted the absence of the noble earl who was at the head of the toast. It was not a proper occasion to enlarge upon the merits of the charities connected with Mark Masonry, as "clarity vaunteth not itself."

Bro. Rosenthal made humorous allusions to the chairman coming "over from Ireland," but now in Masonic business you might see him everywhere; he was the right man in the right place, and could never have secured the various honours he had, if they had not been merited. He had no desire for flattering any brother, but was pleased to propose the health of Bro. Col. Burdett.

The presiding brother stated that unaccustomed

as he was to speak, it was a great happiness to be supported on either side by one of the fairer sex, but he regretted the P.G.M. designate of Devonshire was incapacitated attending, owing to the severe weather. As to the present meeting it was for the consideration of the funds for the "Aged and Distressed Mark Masons, the Boys', Girls', and other Institutions." After speaking upon their individual merits, he was glad to add that a good fund already existed. These charities were not only for Mark Masters, but for the benefit of their wives and families, and who are, through this, united in one bond. He should therefore propose "Success to the funds of Benevolence in connection with the Mark Masters' Degree."

The Grand Sec., Bro. Binckes, made some allusion to the charities in connection with this special degree, he was pleased to state the liberality of Lord and Bro. Bective, who had liberally subscribed, through letter to him, for the Benevolent fund the handsome sum of £50, which together with other liberal donations, was now a total of £163 7s.

Great regret was manifested at the unavoidable absence of Rev. Bro. J. R. Portal, P.G.M., who always evinced every feeling of kindness.

Thanks were expressed to the singers.

The toast of "The Press" was acknowledged by Bro. Henry Massey, *Eru* and Bro. E. T. Barling, *Freemason*.

The toast of "The Ladies," terminated a most agreeable meeting.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

DORSETSHIRE.

SHERBORNE.—*Lodge of Benevolence* (No. 1168).—The installation of the W.M., Bro. the Rev. George Thompson, *M.A.*, took place on Monday last. The ceremony was performed by Bro. F. H. Woodforde, Esq., *M.D.*, P.M. Lodge 261, and P.P.G.S.W. Somerset, after which the W.M. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. W. S. Gibbard, P.M.; R. G. Long, S.W.; John Cole, J.W.; Rev. E. W. Gooden, Chaplain; S. W. Woodward, Treas.; George F. Stokes, Sec.; J. Rumsey, Org.; C. E. Benthall, Dir. of Cers.; T. D. Davis, S.D.; B. King, J.D.; T. W. Robinson, I.G.; S. G. Smith, W. Croad, Stewards; J. Himbury, Tyler. The brethren afterwards attended a banquet at the Digby Hotel, which was served up in excellent style by the manager, Mr. A. W. B. Clarke, and was presided over by the respected W.M., who was supported by the principal officers of the lodge, and several visiting brethren from the Yeovil, Shaftesbury, Blandford, and other lodges. Some excellent songs were sung by Bros. Stokes, Lang, Robinson, and Cross, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

DURHAM.

ANNUAL PIC-NIC OF THE FREEMASONS OF SUNDERLAND.—The Freemasons of Sunderland had their fifth annual pic-nic on Thursday the 18th, the place this year being Duncombe Park, Helmsley, in the North Riding of Yorkshire. A special train containing nearly 300 passengers left Sunderland at half-past six o'clock in the morning, and arrived at Helmsley shortly after ten o'clock. After leaving the main line of the North Eastern Railway at Pilmoor Junction the line traverses some of the finest scenery in England. On leaving the railway station at Helmsley the tower of the old castle, surrounded by hanging woods, is the first object that attracts

attention. Ryedale, in which the little market-town of Helmsley is situated, is a pretty and well-wooded valley, and the town itself seems almost buried amongst trees. Small though Helmsley is, it can boast of a handsome monument erected to the memory of the late Earl of Feversham, a spacious market-place, and a beautiful church. Two miles distant are the ruins of Ricvaux Abbey. Running due north and south, and overlooking the ruins at an elevation of some hundred feet, is a fine natural terrace half a mile in length, with a temple at each end, the one at the northern extremity having a finely painted ceiling. From this terrace seven valleys can be counted, all converging at the foot in the valley in which the abbey stands. Descending the hill by a circuitous route we reach the abbey, the ruins of which are extensive and in a good state of preservation. Wending our way along a romantic valley towards Helmsley, we pass through the park, and near the residence of the Earl of Feversham. From the "Home Terrace," in front of the mansion, some lovely bits of sylvan scenery open out to the eye. The park extends to the town, and just within the entrance are the ruins of Helmsley castle, once the residence of the famous Duke of Buckingham, who played such a conspicuous part at the court of the Second Charles. At mid-day the whole party sat down to a very excellent and substantial lunch (provided by the genial host of the Black Swan, at Helmsley, Mr. Wright), in a tent within the ruins of the old castle. The chair was occupied by the Chairman of the Pic-nic Committee, Bro. J. H. Coates, W.M. of the Williamson Lodge, No. 941, and the vice-chairs by Bros. J. J. Clay, W.M. 97, J. Wilson, W.M. 80, and G. Wandless, W.M. 949. Very little time was spent in toast giving, all being anxious to see more of the beauties of nature, or trip the light fantastic toe on the green sward. Dancing was led off by the ever courteous M.C., Bro. W. H. Crookes, Prov. G. Sec. (Durham), and Mrs. Coates, and was kept up with great spirit until it was time to make a move homewards. A very enjoyable day was spent by every one. The Earl of Feversham handsomely threw open his grounds, and his agent, Bro. Maclaughlin, did everything he could to gratify the visitors. The luncheon and tea provided by Mr. Wright, of the Black Swan, Hotel-street, Helmsley, were both excellent and substantial, and deserve great praise; and now that the locomotive has opened out this charming spot to general visitors, doubtless large numbers will, as its beauties become more known, visit this romantic little place. We are certain every one will find themselves amply repaid for turning out of the beaten track into the pleasant little valley of the Rye.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

LIVERPOOL.—*Summer Fête of the Neptune Lodge* (No. 1264).—On Wednesday, the 17th inst., the brethren of the Neptune Lodge, No. 1264, with their fair friends, held their annual summer festival, which proved in every respect a truly social gathering. The morning looked black and thundery, but gloomy looks did not prevent a large contingent of the party from starting from Lime-street station about ten o'clock for the Victoria Gardens, Thatto Heath, where they were met by the band of the Engineer Corps, St. Helen's, which furnished the whole of the music during the day. A second portion of the pic-nickers started shortly before one o'clock, and they, in turn, were also met on their arrival by the band, and marched to the scene of the day's festivities amidst the general wonderment of the natives, who turned out in great force. The village was *en fête*, and the gardens gay with flags of all sorts and sizes, numbering upwards of 100, including a full set of Marryatt's signals, kindly lent by Bros. Captains P. S. Wilson, 1264; and E. T. Jones, of the Dublin Steam Packet Company. The scene was of the liveliest description, and as the W.M., P.M.'s, officers, and brethren of the Neptune spared no effort to make every one happy, and acted with the greatest courtesy and disinterested kindness towards every one, there was nothing whatever to detract from the full enjoyment of the

"out." Even the weather threw off its gloomy morning look, and smiled pleasantly on the "happy family." The lodge has only been about three years in existence, but its infancy has been so manly and sturdy that it already numbers about 160 brethren of good standing. An evidence of the Neptune's prosperity was given by the presence of no fewer than 150 ladies and brethren at the picnic, being even more than that which was expected by the principals, but for whom ample provision and accommodation were found. The officers of the lodge present were Bros. P. Berriman Gee, W.M.; J. Taylor, I.P.M.; J. Healing, P.M., Treas.; J. Pemberton, Sec.; H. Williams, P.M.; A. Davies, S.W.; J. S. Dixon, J.W.; T. Singleton, S.D.; Captain Roberts, J.D.; A. Gray, I.C.; G. Leighton, Org.; T. Josephs, M.C.; and Cotter and Royle, Stewards. Amongst the visitors were Bros. G. Morgan, W.M. 1035; H. Pearson, P.M. 249; Fozzard, P.M. 1035; C. Leedham, P.M. 220; Larson, P.M. 594; W. Nash, I.G. 823; J. Wood, Treas. 1094; Jos. Ball, Sec. 673, &c. As a pleasant preliminary to the day's proceedings, a number of excellent photographs of the party—one of the general company another of the officers of the lodge, &c., were taken by Bro. Burrows, I.G. No. 673. The whole company sat down to an excellent dinner provided by "the Mayor of Thatto Heath" (Mr. C. Wittle) in the large permanent marquee attached to the grounds. After the repast, the W.M. proposed the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Ladies" in eloquent terms. The latter toast was responded to in a happy manner by Bro. P.M. Healing, who said he had always thought that the fair sex should partake more largely of these Masonic social entertainments. They had frequently to sit till a late hour for their husbands coming home from the duties of the lodge, and the least that could be done was to invite them to social gatherings like that, so that they might enjoy themselves. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Taylor, I.P.M., in proposing the health of "The Worshipful Master," referred to the zeal and courtesy which had marked the career of Bro. Gee in the different offices which he had filled. The W.M. thanked the brethren and ladies for the cordial manner in which the toast had been responded to, and assured them he had always striven to perform whatever duties he was called upon to do to the best of his ability. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren," proposed in the happiest terms by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. J. B. MacKenzie. The "P.M.'s and officers of the Neptune Lodge" given by the W.M., was acknowledged by Bro. Davies, S.W. Tea was subsequently provided for the ladies, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent by the "outers" in the usual picnic fashion. Bro. J. Abrahams contributed in a large degree to the hilarity of the company by his "Waxwork" and other contributions. The company returned to town at a comparatively early hour, the station at the return start being a scene of the greatest excitement amongst the villagers, who gave their visitors a hearty parting cheer.

LIVERPOOL.—*Pic-nic of the Prince of Wales's Lodge* (No. 1035).—The annual run into the country taken by the brethren of this lodge has hitherto been highly enjoyable and successful, but this year's excursion, which took place on Tuesday, the 16th inst., will certainly be reckoned the most pleasant of the series. The place chosen was Thatto Heath, one of the charming stations on the new line to St. Helen's, and is but a half hour's journey from Lime-street, Liverpool, from whence a merry lot of Masons, with their wives, daughters, and sweethearts, started shortly before one o'clock. The weather was as favourable as the most exacting could have desired, the heat of the bright sunshine being tempered by a genial breeze; and as true Masonic courtesy and friendship marked the whole of the day's proceedings, there was not a single hitch during the whole of the long summer afternoon. The arrangements were principally made by Bro. Fozzard, P.M. of the Prince of Wales, and as these were admirable and complete, he deserves particular mention and praise. The party numbered about 100, and on their arrival at Thatto Heath they proceeded at once to the Victoria Gardens, where all set about finding congenial amusement

until the banquetting hour. Some roamed about the charming grounds, at present in their full summer beauty—some engaged in the merry dance, to the strains of Mr. Moore's quadrille band, while a number of the "lords" played a friendly game of bowls. The officers of the lodge present during the day were—Bros. G. Morgan, W.M.; Turley, I.P.M.; Fozzard, Newall, and Williams, P.M.'s.; Bunting, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Bilsborough, J.W.; R. W. Crosby, D.; J. Salmon, I.G.; and amongst the invited were Bros. P. B. Gee, W.M. 1264; S. E. Ibbs, P.M. 1356; J. Hocken, P.M.; J. Healing, P.M. 1264; J. Pemberton, P.M.; H. Nelson, P.M. 673; H. Scott, J.W. 86; G. Walmsley, 292, besides a number of brethren connected with other lodges. An excellent dinner was served by Mr. C. Wittle, landlord of the gardens, and after full justice had been done to the creature comforts, the W.M., in brief but pointed terms, gave the toasts of "The Queen" and "The Ladies," that of "The Worshipful Master" being proposed by Bro. Fozzard, P.M. As the day was bright and inviting, little time was spent over the dinner table, but the whole party made tracks for a large field in the immediate neighbourhood, where a variety of amusements were carried on. Racing, football, croquet, dancing, &c., were amongst the pleasant afternoon sports, after which the party returned to the gardens for tea. Dancing, bowls, and other games filled up the time until the hour of departure, when the whole party started for town, arriving shortly before eleven o'clock.

LIVERPOOL.—*Everton Lodge* (No. 823).—The brethren of this strong and influential lodge met for the performance of their masonic duties on Wednesday evening, the 17th inst., at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, there being no less than 120 brethren present. The principal business was the installation of Bro. Joseph Holland, W.M. elect, and the large attendance of visiting brethren showed the esteem in which he is held by all ranks of the masonic brotherhood in and around Liverpool. The lodge was duly opened at half-past five o'clock by Bro. T. D. Pearce, W.M., supported by the following officers:—Bros. S. Haynes, I.P.M.; G. Turner, P.M.; J. Jackson, P.M.; J. Holland, S.W.; W. Boulton, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; J. Sharpe, Sec.; W. Cottrell, S.D.; T. Shaw, J.D.; T. Ashmore, P.M., D.C.; W. Wilson, I.G.; A. T. Lowe, S.S.; and W. H. Ball, T. Amongst the members of the lodge present were Bros. R. Roberts, J. Duncan, jun.; H. Ashmore, D. Service, E. Morgan, J. Brooksbank, J. Marshall, W. T. Johnson, E. H. J. Benedict, G. Lowe, C. Tyrer, H. M. Molyneux, S. Millikin, G. Farmer, J. Boyle, H. Hall, L. Bagwell, R. Warriner, W. Oldham, W. G. Veale, F. Tuft, G. W. Oglesby, E. Kelly, W. Davies, J. Hamer, P.P.G. Treas.; J. Houlding, C. Chester, E. Jones, F. J. Bell, J. Goodman, S. Campbell, D. Callow, J. Bishop, R. Casson, J. Garratt, W. Atherton, W. Houlding, T. Webster, W. H. Allan, J. Banning, P.M.; T. Bloomfield, J. White, J. S. Cuthbert, W. Summers, R. Corlett, A. Pennell, T. Evans, A. Strother, W. H. Cooper, J. Marsh, J. Podmore, R. Cox, C. C. Medcalf, S. R. Wilde, W. S. Edmunds, E. H. Bryson, J. R. Dixon, J. Davies, I. W. Robinson, W. H. Clemmey, J. W. Coates, J. B. Jeffrey, S. K. Jones, J. W. C. Brown-Cave, &c. There was also a large and highly distinguished attendance of visitors, amongst whom were Bros. A. C. Mott, P.M., P.P.G.D.; T. Armstrong, P.M., P.G. Treas.; J. Skeaf, P.M. 220., P.G.O.; G. Broadbridge, P.G.D.C.; Edwin Hughes, W.M. 249; J. T. Callow, W.M. 673; C. H. Hill, P.M. 724; J. Busfield, Org. 1299; W. Wilson, 203; T. Dilcock, 594; H. Ridehalgh, 249; T. Yateman, 667; J. Robinson, 667; J. Macmurdrew, J.W. 1269; A. Bentley, I. Honeywood, 249; J. W. Kellert, 721; R. H. D. Johnson, P.M. 249, 1094; G. Fowler, 216; F. G. Barker, 241; T. Evans, 1023; T. J. Hughes, 216; H. Nelson, P.M. 673; Thos. Jones, 241; and J. Stevenson. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Bro. Holland was presented for installation by Bros. Pierce and A. C. Mott, and the ceremony was performed by Bro. S. Haynes, P.M., in a manner which elicited the admiration and attention of the whole assem-

bled body of Masons. A board of Installed Masters was subsequently held, and after the brethren had been re-admitted and the usual three-degrees' salutations given to the newly chaired W.M., the following brethren were invested:—Bros. T. D. Pierce, I.P.M.; W. Boulton, S.W.; J. Sharpe, J.W.; W. J. Lunt, P.M., Treas.; W. Cottrell, Sec.; T. Shaw, S.D.; W. Wilson, J.D.; A. T. Lowe, I.G.; J. Houlding, H. Ashmore and J. Goodman, Stewards; T. Ashmore, P.M., D.C.; and W. G. Veale, Org. Bro. W. H. Ball was unanimously re-elected Tyler of the lodge. The musical portion of the ceremony was rendered in a highly effective style by Bros. Hughes, Evans, Busfield, and Yateman, Bro. Skeaf presiding at the organ, and the introduction of the fine anthem, "Behold how Good," adding considerably to the solemnity of the ceremony. Two candidates were subsequently initiated by the newly installed W.M. in a manner which shows he is an efficient Mason, and likely to be a valuable Master of the Everton. Bro. Haynes announced the commencement of the building of the new Masonic Hall, and stated that the Everton Lodge stood second in the province in the amount of their contributions to the building fund, having given £20 beyond the £200 which was promised. Bro. W. J. Lunt, after a long and exhaustive speech, in the course of which he referred to the valuable services rendered by Bro. Pierce, I.P.M., during his year of office, presented him with a valuable time-piece and jewel, in acknowledgment of the good work he had done. After Bro. Pierce had replied in suitable terms, the lodge was duly closed, and upwards of 100 brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, at which the usual loyal, masonic, and complimentary toasts were proposed and cordially responded to. Pleasant harmony was contributed by Bros. Veale, Hughes, Yateman, Wilson, &c., Bro. Skeaf presiding at the organ. On the following (Thursday) morning upwards of 200 ladies and brethren left the landing stage, crossed the river, and proceeded by railway to Frodsham. Upon arriving there (by the kind permission of the rector), the large party entered and inspected the ancient parish church, and sung the Hundredth Psalm, after which they wended their way up the hill to the grounds of Mr. Rigby, Bellefont, where a most substantial lunch had been provided, to which the party sat down and did ample justice. An admirable photograph of the whole company was taken by Bro. Burrows, of Islington, Liverpool; after which a large number betook themselves to the merry dance, and equally merry games which were provided for them, while others rambled over the hill and headlands to view the lovely scenery of the neighbourhood. The wanderers, gamblers, and dancers afterwards returned to tea, which was laid out in splendid style by Mrs. Rigby. The remainder of the evening was spent in various amusements, and the party left Frodsham at a quarter past eight o'clock, arriving in Liverpool at ten o'clock, highly delighted with the day's pleasure.

LIVERPOOL.—*Fermor-Hesketh Lodge* (No. 1350).—The installation of the W.M. elect of this excellent lodge (Bro. Dr. James Ridley), took place on Friday evening last, at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, the meeting being attended by a large and influential gathering of the Craft. Bro. J. Higson Johnston presided at the opening, and after the transaction of some formal business, he presented the W.M. elect for installation to Bro. T. K. Hughes, who performed the ceremony in a most impressive and efficient manner. The W.M. subsequently invested the following officers:—Bros. Dr. Samuels, S.W.; T. A. Collinson, J.W.; Francis Day, S.D.; J. Makin, J.D.; Dr. Morris, I.G.; Dr. Crawford, P.M., D.C.; Rev. S. Topham, Chaplain; E. Harbord, P.M., Treas. (by proxy in consequence of illness); and M. Browne, Sec. A very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented by the brethren to Bro. J. H. Johnston, I.P.M., the founder and first W.M. of the lodge, as a mark of their respect and high personal esteem, and as a token of their appreciation of the manner in which he had performed his duties. The brethren subsequently adjourned to banquet, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The visitors were numerous, and of good standing.

MIDDLESEX.

HAMPTON.—*Lebanon Lodge* (No. 1326).—On Thursday, 18th inst., at the Red Lion Hotel, Lion-square, Thames-street, Hampton, the installation meeting of this flourishing and prosperous lodge was held. The lodge was opened by Bro. S. Wickens, W.M. There were present Bros. E. Hopwood, W.M., as S.W.; D. D. Beck, J.W.; J. T. Moss, P.G.S.D., Middlesex, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; H. A. Dubois, S.D.; W. Hammond, P.M., J.D.; J. Catchpole, D.C.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; R. Lawrence, E. H. Thiellay, C. S. Simpson, F. Holmes, J. W. Richardson, F. Moon, E. Fielding, G. E. Wood, T. Pallet, G. Montgomery, C. Bremerkamp, H. Gloster, S. Marketis, F. Bouts, J. T. H. Moss, J. W. Baldwin, H. Moore, and others. There were present, amongst a large number of visitors, Bros. Col. F. Burdett, Prov. G.M., Middlesex; W. Mann, W.M. 144; B. Harris, 177; G. S. Haines, 184; S. Smith, Org., 742; T. Price, 946, &c. At one o'clock p.m., the lodge was opened. The minutes of the last regular lodge meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots, taken separately, were unanimous in favour of the admission of the joining members and candidates for initiation. The W.M. commenced the heavy programme of work by raising Bros. J. Craven, G. Reynolds, G. E. Wood, H. Gloster, S. Marketis, C. Bremerkamp, and H. Moore, to the third degree. Bro. W. Hammond, P.M. 201, J.D., took the chair, and acted as W.M. for the purpose of initiating his nephew, Mr. G. Lawrence, the landlord, which he did in his usual able manner; afterwards initiating Mr. F. Moon and Mr. J. W. Richardson, into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. F. Walters, P.M. and Sec., in an able manner, installed Bro. John Thomas Moss, Prov. G.S.D., Middlesex, W.M. elect, as Worshipful Master, who appointed and invested as his officers for the ensuing year Bros. D. D. Beck, S.W.; H. G. Dubois, J.W.; S. Wickens, P.M., Treas.; F. Walters, P.M., Sec.; W. Hammond, P.M., S.D.; J. Catchpole, J.D.; J. W. Jackson, I.G.; W. H. Scott, D.C.; H. Potter, P.M., W.S.; G. Montgomery, C.S.; J. Bavin, P.M., Tyler. The W.M., in the name of the lodge, presented Bro. S. Wickens, I.P.M., Treasurer, with a massive gold five guinea Past Master's jewel, which had been voted to him from the lodge funds, and a ten guinea diamond ring (which had been subscribed for by the members) for his wife, as he had chosen the testimonial to take that form. Bro. S. Wickens, in an eloquent speech, thanked the brethren for their generous presents. The Secretary, for his untiring exertions, had a ten guinea testimonial voted to him. Several gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and as several were left on the list, it was arranged to have an emergency meeting on Monday, July 29th. The usual splendid banquet and dessert followed. Bros. H. Potter, F. Walters, and G. Montgomery, had exerted themselves in making arrangements to please every one. Some hours having been spent agreeably, the brethren returned to town, well pleased with their happy reunion.

Mark Masonry.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Mark Lodge of Science, No. 128, Wincanton, held its meeting on the 1st inst., at eleven o'clock, a.m. The minutes of the former meeting having been read and confirmed, the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. S. Gillard, P.G.J.D. who was at the last meeting unanimously re-elected as W.M. for the present year, proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. A. W. Butter, S.W.; Benjamin Atwell, J.W.; the Rev. R. H. Wingfield, Chaplain; the Rev. W. E. J. Percy, M.O.; Ernest Baker, S.O.; John Fry, J.O.; Benjamin Atwell, Treasurer; W. H. Hammen, Secretary; C. R. Sheppard, Registrar of Marks; Gabriel Williams, D.C.; James Stay, S.D.; R. S. Chant, J.D.; John Rumsey, Organist; T. Sherring, R.G.; James Senior, Steward; James Young, Tyler; the W.M. then proceeded to advance Bro. W. Ball Biggs, of Bristol.

At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master of Somerset, Bro. Capt. F. G. Irwin, was announced, with his Officers, and received with the usual honours; the Vy. W.D. Prov.G.M. stated that he had to express the regret of the R.W.Prov.G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, who could not attend on account of his health, which was received by the brethren with much regret.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, congratulated the Wincanton brethren on having secured such a comfortable lodge room. The D.Prov.G.M. called on Bro. Cox, Prov.G. Sec., to read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, also the balance sheet, as Bro. E. T. Payne, Treasurer, was unavoidably absent; the minutes and accounts were respectively confirmed and adopted. Bro. E. T. Payne, Bath, was then re-elected Treasurer, and the Vy. W.D.Prov.G.M. proceeded, on behalf of the R.W. the P.G.M., to invest the following brethren as Provincial Grand Officers, for the ensuing year:—

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| F. Vizard | Prov. G.S.W. |
| W. S. Gillard | Prov. G.J.W. |
| R. C. Else | Prov. G.M.O. |
| W. Thompson | Prov. G.S.O. |
| W. H. Davies | Prov. G.J.O. |
| The Rev. W. E. J. Percy | } Prov. G. Chaplains. |
| The Rev. R. H. Wingfield Digby | |
| Edward Turner Payne ... | Prov. G. Treas. |
| L. H. Ricketts | Prov. G. Reg. |
| Benjamin Cox | Prov. G. Sec. |
| Ernest Baker | Prov. G. Ast. Sec. |
| A. W. Butter | Prov. G.S.D. |
| S. Jones | Prov. G.J.D. |
| T. E. Kelly | Prov. G.D. of Cers. |
| W. H. Hammen | Prov. G. As.D. of C. |
| General Doherty | Prov. G. Insp. of Wks. |
| Benjamin Atwell | Prov. G.Swd.B. |
| Captain Benthall | Prov. G.St.I.B. |
| John Rumsey | Prov. G.Org. |
| John H. Harley | Prov. G.Purst. |
| John Fry | Prov. G.Steward. |
| J. Mantell | " " |
| Gabriel Williams | " " |
| T. Coles | Prov. G. Tyler. |
| Richard Skinner | Prov. G.Asst.Tyler. |

The appointments were received by the assembled brethren with hearty applause.

The Bye Laws for the Provincial Grand Lodge were received and approved.

Bro. James Bunter Colthurst, was received in due form and advanced to the honourable degree of Mark Master, by the D.Prov.G. M. in his usual impressive manner.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been closed according to ancient custom, about thirty of the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall for the banquet, which was served in first rate style by Bro. James Stay, who had provided every delicacy in season.

Among the visitors we noticed Bro. the Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, Grand Chaplain of England; Bros. C. W. Wyndham, R. G. Long, John Hine, T. E. Kelley, F. Mantell, and W. J. Male.

After the Banquet, which was presided over by the W.D.G.M., the usual Masonic toasts were given and masonically honoured.

Bro. W. S. Gillard, D.G.J.W., in feeling terms, proposed the health of the Vy. W.D.Prov.G.M., Bro. Capt. Irwin, and thanked him in the name of the "Science" Lodge for his visit to Wincanton. This toast was received with rounds of applause, which were again and again repeated. Bro. Capt. Irwin returned thanks for the manner in which his health had been proposed and also for the hearty way his name had been received by the brethren, he also gave the brethren some good advice as to the future, and concluded a very instructive address by proposing the health of the W.M. of the Lodge Bro. W. S. Gillard. This toast, with others, including the Grand Chaplain of England, Bro. Heath, were all well received and responded to. Bro. Heath advocated the Benevolent Fund in connection with the Mark degree; the brethren responded to his appeal by subscribing the sum of £5 gs. which sum has been handed to the Rev. J. H. Newnham, who will represent the province of Dorset and a part of Somerset at the annual festival, held in London on the 23rd of July.

The Vy. W.D.Prov.G.M. said he could not leave the Town Hall without expressing his ad-

miration of the decorations, and expressed a desire to know who had superintended the same. On being informed that it was Bro. R. Skinner, of Sturminster Newton, who had carried out the whole affair, and that he was in the room, the D.Prov.G.M. called Bro Skinner to him and highly complimented him on his Masonic taste and ability.

The brethren having passed a delightful evening separated at 9 o'clock. This visit of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge will long be remembered by the Wincanton brethren for the very pleasant and agreeable manner all the proceedings were carried out.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

Liverpool Conclave (No. 55).—After a year's existence of the most prosperous and harmonious character, the Sir Knights Companions of the Liverpool Conclave, No. 55, of the Masonic Order of the Knights of Rome, and of the Red Cross of Constantine, held their regular assembly at the Adelphi Hotel, Lime-street, on Friday, the 19th inst., when there was a good attendance of the members of the Order. Amongst those present were Ill. Sir Knight Captain Turner, Int. Gen. for West Lancashire; Em. Sir Knight, Dr. J. K. Smith, M.P.S., K.G.C.; Em. Sir Knight J. R. Gospel, V.E.; Sir Knights H. M. Molyneux, J.G.; R. Washington, H.P.; J. Wood, Treas.; H. James, Rec.; T. Clark, P.; J. Skeaf, Org.; M. Mawson, D.C.; P. Ball, S.; T. Ashmore, M.P.S. 77; I. W. Robinson, R. Pearson, R. Brown, J. T. Parkinson, J. E. Jackson, W. Doyle, J. Lloyd, G. H. Turner, W. Cron, W. H. Lee, S. Hague, H. Nelson, V.E. 77; E. M. Sheldon, E. Hughes, &c.; the visitors being Ill. Sir Knight C. Fitzgerald Matier, V.E. 50, D.I.G., East Lancashire; and J. T. Callow, J.G. 77. At the opening, the chair of C. was occupied by Em. Sir Knight Smith, M.P.S., who proceeded with the work of the conclave in a highly efficient manner. The principal business was the enthronement of Em. Sir Knight, J. R. Gospel as M.P.S., and the consecration of the viceroy elect, Em. Sir Knight Molyneux, the ceremony being performed by Em. Sir Knight Smith, assisted by Ill. Sir Knights Turner and Matier. The investiture of the following officers took place:—Sir Knights H. James, S.G.; T. Clark, J.G.; R. Washington, H.P.; W. Doyle, Rec.; J. Wood, Treas. (re-invested); Winstanley, Prefect; J. E. Jackson, J. Prefect; W. Crane, S.B.; S. Hague, Orator; J. B. MacKenzie, Herald; J. Lloyd, Almoner; J. Skief, Org.; M. Mawson, Steward; R. Young, 2nd Steward. After the muster roll had been called and several candidates proposed for installation, the conclave was closed in peace and harmony, the knights adjourned to an excellent banquet set out in the large hall of the hotel. The M.P.S. subsequently gave, "The Queen and the Christian Orders of Masonry." The toast of "The Earl of Bective and the Illustrious Officers of the Supreme Grand Conclave" (given by Ill. Sir Knight Matier) was responded to by Ill. Sir Knight Smith. The M.P.S. next gave, "Ill. Sir Knight Turner, Int. Gen. for W.L.," who, in reply, alluded to the great success which had attended the Liverpool Conclave, much of the credit being due to Sir Knight Smith. The P.S. then gave the "M.P.S.," who, in reply, thanked the Knights for the honour conferred upon him, and assured them that he would endeavour to perform his duties to the best of his ability. In giving the health of Ill. Sir Knight Smith, the Int. Gen. said that as a mark of the value he placed upon his services, he had resolved to appoint the subject of the toast Deputy Int. Gen. for West Lancashire. Ill. Sir Knight Smith, D.I.G., returned thanks in feeling terms. A variety of other toasts were proposed during the evening, and excellent harmony was contributed by Sir Knights Brown, Nelson, Pearson, Sheldon, Matier, &c., the accompaniments being played by Sir Knight Skeaf, Organist.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT CALVARY ROSE CROIX CHAPTER.—

On Saturday, July 13th, 1872, the members of the Mount Calvary Rose Croix Chapter, held their annual meeting at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden Square, when Bro. William Dewar was admitted into the order, by his brother Donald Dewar, who presided and conducted the ceremony. Bro. Donald Dewar then requested Bro. Hyde Pullen to assume the chair of the Chapter in order to install the M.W.S. Elect, Bro. F. Binckes, who having been duly presented, undertook the duties of the chapter, and was regularly installed in ancient form and saluted accordingly. The M.W.S. then appointed his officers, and the ceremony being completed, the chapter was closed in regular form. Among the Brethren who attended, were Ill. Bro. Capt. N. G. Phillips, 33°; Lt. G. Com. S. C.; Ill. Bro. Hyde Pullen, 33°; Bro. Binckes, 30°; Bro. D. M. Dewar, 18°; Bro. E. Kimber, 18°; Bro. W. Roebuck, 30°; Bro. J. Stohwasser, 18°; Bro. J. Read, 30°; Bro. W. Dewar, 18°; and others.

The Annual Festival of this Chapter was held on the following Monday, on which occasion the brethren were accompanied by their wives and daughters, and a most agreeable and delightful afternoon was spent in the beautiful grounds of Hampton Court Palace, and afterwards, at the festive board. This arrangement might very properly be imitated by other chapters and lodges. The party separated, with mutual congratulations and expressions of pleasure and satisfaction.

GIBRALTAR.

EUROPA CHAPTER ROSE CROIX.—Notwithstanding the tropical heat which has environed the Rock for the last fortnight, the energetic M. W. S. convened a meeting of the Princes of the Chapter on the 5th of July, for the purpose of admitting to the mysteries of the A. A. R. Bro. Matthews, Colonel in the American Army and Minister for the American Government at the Court of Morocco; and Bro. Richard Hepper of Gibraltar. Although since the last communication many changes have taken place in this garrison and several very illustrious brethren have left this station with their regiments, it afforded us very great pleasure to see so numerous a gathering of the members assembled to support the M.W.S. Amongst those present, we noticed P.M.W.S. Price, Ill. Bros. Cornwell, Dantez-Trener, Marin, Weir, Wortmann, Wall, Haynes, Morgan, Relle, Thornton, and others. Ill. Bro. P.M.W.S. Alton, at an early period of the evening had personally come to explain to the M.W.S. that important public engagements precluded his entering the Council Chamber. Ill. Bro. McLoughlin, of the Royal Naval Chapter, was present as a visitor. The ceremony of exaltation was conducted by the M.W.S., Ill. Bros. Wall and Haynes performing the duties of Grand Marshal and Raphael, respectively, with great ability and excellent judgment. At the conclusion of the second point, the M.W.S., Ill. Bro. Balfour Cockburn, having directed Ill. Bro. Cornwell, the Senior Prince present, to marshal P.M.W.S. Price to the altar, presented to him a very beautiful 30° star, pre-facing the act of placing the same on Ill. Bro. Price's breast, with a few appropriate remarks. P.M.W.S. Price expressed himself so taken by surprise at this unexpected proceeding that he felt quite unable to express to the princes assembled how very highly he appreciated the honour that had been conferred upon him—he would indeed treasure the valuable star that had that evening been given to him as a jewel above all price—not alone for its intrinsic value, but for the happy association with which it was connected and for the gratifying manner in which it had been presented. The star bore the following inscription:—"Presented by the M.W.S., Officers, and Princes of the Europa Chapter to Ill. Bro. T. C. Price, P.M.W.S., in recognition of his energetic exertions and zealous services in behalf of the Chapter," Gibraltar, 1872. At the conclusion of the third point the Princes retired to the banqueting hall where a cold collation awaited them.

ANCIENT GRAND LODGE OF YORK.

The following is by a Correspondent of the *New York Dispatch* :—

I distinctly recollect the strange impression it made on my mind when, for the first time, I visited a lodge in the United States, in 1842, and for the first time heard in a lodge the phrase, "Ancient York Masonry." Be it remembered that I was then regarded as a well-posted Mason; I was perfect in the English ritual, had read Anderson's "Constitution," also Preston's "Illustrations," also a book by the Rev. Bro. Ash. I have also made an attempt to read Dr. Oliver's "Antiquities," the last, however, acted on my mind the same as an emetic would on my stomach,—"I could not go it nohow." I had some idea that there was then a great many other Masonic books to learn from; but yet I found, both in Europe and here, among my associates in Masonry, very few who even pretended to know more of Masonic history than I did. I knew that a body of Masons at one time called themselves "Ancients," or "Ancient York Masons," and that they united with the Grand Lodge of England in 1813. This I have not only read about, but I conversed with several brethren who were Masons at the time of the union in 1813. Some belonged to the "Ancients" and some to the "Moderns," but I thought since the said union had taken place, the brethren had everywhere ceased to talk in a lodge about "Ancient York." I was therefore surprised to hear the phrase of "Ancient York" so emphasized in American lodges. But what surprised me still more was, that very few, both in Boston and New York, had ever heard of a union ever taking place between the York and London Masons; and even as late as 1851, a prominent active member of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts looked thunderstruck when I assured him that no such a thing as a Grand Lodge of York exists, or has existed since 1813.

It will readily be perceived that at that time I imagined that the "Ancients" were really a branch of the old Grand Lodge of York, or in some way or other derived its authority from that body. Nor is that superstition yet extinct, for in the March number of one of our Masonic periodicals I find an able writer still censuring the London Grand Lodge of 1717 for its secession from the Grand Lodge of York of 1536. An examination, however, of the state of England prior to 1717, must at once dispel the error of such an organisation as a Grand Lodge of York exercising jurisdiction over all the Masons in England, not only as a probability, but even as a possibility. Be it remembered that every Master Mason—which means every employer—was in olden time obliged, by his obligation, to attend annually, or tri-annually, to the Masonic assembly; from this he was not exempt, unless prevented by sickness. Halliwell's poem says:

"That every mayster that is a Mason
Must ben at the generale congregacyon.
So that he hyt reasonably y-tolde
Where that the semble schal be holde,
And to that the semble he must nede gou,
But he have a reasonabul skusacyon (excuse)."

The excuse refers to sickness; otherwise he was obliged to attend. I have already stated in a former communication that the word "York" is not mentioned in Halliwell's poem. The lines in the above extract,

"So that he hyt reasonably y-tolde
Where that the semble schal be holde,"

make it evident that the annual assembly was not always held in York; for, if it was so, there could have been no necessity to notify anyone where it shall be held. But I imagine that somebody may argue, "What of it? Suppose they do not assemble in York? May they not at that time have such an organization like our Scotch Rite have here in America, or like our Chapter or Knights Templar organization, who meet periodically in different parts of the country?" But the question is, "Could they, in those days, have such an organization? If so, now, somebody proposed that a lodge shall be held every year, or once in three years, in London, to which every Master of a lodge in the United States shall be obliged to attend.

The Masters from California will have rather a long journey to perform. It will take them seventeen or eighteen days travel from the Pacific coast to the metropolis of England. Now, if such a proposition was made, would not everybody laugh at it? We would immediately ask ourselves, "Will it pay?" Of what use is it to waste so much time, to undergo so much hardship, to run so much risk, and to waste so much substance? Now the distance, or rather the time necessary for travel in those days from a remote part of England to York, or even from London to York, was fully equal to the time necessary now to make a journey from California to London. I remember reading somewhere, that it took a month travelling from London to Edinburgh, and, consequently, it must have taken seventeen or eighteen days to reach York. And as to dangers and hardships of travelling, the hardships, etc., of travelling six thousand miles by rail and steamboat is no comparison to the hardships of travelling a distance of two hundred miles in the days of Charles II. How much worse travelling in England must have been in the time of Elizabeth—how much worse still it must have been previous to the conquest, let the reader judge for himself. Macaulay, in the third chapter of his History of England, furnishes a very graphic description of the dangers and hardships of locomotion two hundred years ago. Beside being liable to be attacked, plundered, or even murdered by robbers, the mere hardships undergone in those days in moving from place to place, not of the poorer or middle classes, but of the rich and noble, must convince anyone that an annual or triannual assembly at York of the operative master builders was simply absurd—even more absurd than the supposed proposition to make all the Masters of lodges in the United States travel to England periodically. And now let us read something from Macaulay:—

"On the best lines of communication the ruts were deep, the descents were precipitous, and the way often such as it was hardly possible to distinguish in the dark from uninclined heath and fen, which lay on both sides. Ralph Thorsby, the antiquary, was in danger of losing his way on the north road between Barnley Moor and Tuxford, and actually lost his way between Doncaster and York. Pepys and his wife, travelling in their own coach, lost their way between Newbury and Reading. In the course of the same tour they lost their way near Salisbury, and were in danger of having to pass the night on the plain. It was only in fine weather that the whole breadth of the road was available for wheeled vehicles. Often the mud lay deep on the right and left, and only a narrow track of firm land rose above the quagmire. At such times obstructions and quarrels were frequent, and the path was sometimes blocked up during a long time by carriers, neither of whom would break the way. It happened almost every day that coaches stuck fast, until a team of cattle could be procured from some neighbouring farm to tug them out of the slough. But in hard seasons the traveller had to encounter inconveniences still more serious. Thorsby, who was in the habit of travelling between Leeds and the capital, has recorded in his diary such a series of perils and disasters as might suffice for a journey to the frozen ocean or the desert of Sahara. On one occasion he learned that the floods were out between Ware and London, that passengers had to swim for their lives, and that a nigger had perished in the attempt to cross. In consequence of these tidings he turned out of the high road, and was conducted across some meadows, where it was necessary for him to ride to the saddle-skirts in water. In the course of another journey he narrowly escaped being swept away by an inundation of the Trent. He was afterwards detained at Stamford four days on account of the state of the roads, and then ventured to proceed only because fourteen members of the House of Commons, who were going up in a body to Parliament, accompanied him, and their attendants, took him and his company. On the roads of Derbyshire the travellers were in constant fear for their necks, and were frequently compelled to alight and lead the beasts. The route from Wales to Holyhead was in such a state that into in 1685 a viceroy,

going to Ireland, was five hours in travelling from St. Asaph to Conway. Between Conway and Beaumarische he was forced to walk great part of the way, and his lady was carried in a litter. His coach was, with great difficulty, and by the help of many hands, brought after him entire. In general, carriages were taken in pieces to Conway, and borne on the shoulders of stout Welsh peasants to Menai Straits. In some parts of Kent and Sussex, none but the strongest horses could in winter get through the bog, in which, at every step, they sunk deep. . . . When Prince George of Denmark (husband of Queen Anne) visited the stately mansion of Petworth, in wet weather, he was six hours in going nine miles, and it was necessary that a body of sturdy hinds should be on each side of his coach to prop it. Of the carriages which conveyed his retinue, several were upset and injured. A letter from one of his gentlemen-in-waiting has been preserved, in which the unfortunate courtier complains that during fourteen hours he never once alighted, except when his coach was overturned, or stuck fast in the mud."

"On the best highways heavy articles were, in the time of Charles the Second, generally conveyed from place to place by stage waggons. In the straw of those vehicles nestled a crowd of passengers, who could not afford to travel by coach or on horseback, and who were prevented by their infirmity or by the weight of their luggage from going on foot." The price per mile for conveyance in these waggons is not stated, we may, however, judge from the charges for transmitting heavy goods, that passengers then were mulct of much more money per mile than they are now. Thus, "from London to Birmingham the charge was seven pounds per ton, and from London to Exeter twelve pounds per ton. This was fifteen pence a ton per mile—more by a third than was afterwards charged on turnpike roads, and fifteen times as much as now demanded by railway companies." We may, therefore, rationally conclude that passage money for those wretched conveyances bore a similar ratio to the price then charged for transporting of heavy goods, namely, fifteen times as much as we pay to-day for travelling by rail.

And let us now look at the question from another point of view, viz., the comparative amount of wages given and received to, and by the different artisans in those days. I have stated in a former communication that the government used to legislate what amount of wages each handicraft was to receive; there was, however, then, as now, an undercurrent at work, which the government could not effect by legislation, viz., the relative value of the precious metals with each other, and with all other commodities. The laws of supply and demand were in those days unknown, hence we find wages were constantly advancing; the riots of Wat Tyler and Jack Cade; the act of Parliament in Henry the Sixth reign, making it a penal offence for carpenters and masons to assemble in their respective lodges, plainly shows the discontent of the working people. Nor was the discontent confined to the working people alone. In Stafford's dialogue, published in 1585, the squire addressing the farmer, says, "Can you not remember that within these thirty years I could in this town buy the best pig or goose for 4d., which now cost 12d.; a capon for 3d. or 4d.; a chicken for 1d.; a hen for 2d., which now costeth me double and treble. . . . I have seen a cap for 13d., as good as I can get now for 2s. 6d., etc., etc." "Such of us," says the same authority, "as do abide in the country, cannot with two hundred a year keep that house that we might have done with two hundred marks, but sixteen years past; a mark was 6s. 8d." It is evident then, that in spite of legislation, prices of products and of labour advanced; but the question is, did the price of the masons' labour advance in the same ratio? From Sir Frederick's tables, it appears that in 1530 the wages per day for masons was 8d. In 1575, a master mason, a tyler, a plumber, a house painter, received 1s per day, a common labourer only 8d. In 1601, a mason or tyler received 1s. 2d., a common labourer 10d. per day. In 1610, in the busiest time of the year, viz., before Michael-

mas (September 29th), "for a Freemason which can draw his plot and set accordingly, having charge over others, 1s. 2d." (for a master carpenter, the same). "In Warwickshire, in 1865, the justices directed that throughout the county wages should be as follows:—A Freemason, a master brick mason, a master carpenter, his servant or journeyman if above eighteen, a plow-wright, a cartwright, a master bricklayer, tyler, plasterer, shingler, master thatcher, mower and reaper, at 6d. per day." Assuming that, in addition to the 6d. a day, he was furnished also with board, which may have cost another 6d. per day, then the masons in Warwickshire, in 1685, received less payment than the same classes received in some other part of the country in 1610 (Knight's Pictorial History of England, vol. ii., p. 903-4). We thus see how the Government persevered in keeping the price of labour down as low as possible; but it possessed no power to keep down correspondingly the price of provisions, &c. We have seen that while certain commodities doubled and trebled in value, in the course of more than thirty years, during the sixteenth century, the price of labour, especially of the Masons, never doubled between 1500 and 1685. We also learn from the above that the status of the best working Freemason, as indicated by the wages he received, was not higher than those of artisans of many trades. It, therefore, not only dispels the absurdity of the supposed higher respectability of the mason's trade; it not only demolishes Bro. Woodbury's new-fangled idea that the masons had an esoteric and exoteric philosophy unknown to their equals, but it also makes it appear truly ridiculous that with such scanty means as their wages afforded, the masons, and masons only, could afford to keep up such an organization as the Grand Lodge of York, with all the attendant expenses, waste of time, dangers, hardships, and other sacrifices necessary to make an annual pilgrimage to the city of York. And now let us resume the investigation of our MSS.

I have so far alluded only to Halliwell's poem; but the same injunction to attend at the assembly is also found in some other MSS. In the rituals the said law is somewhat modified; thus it says: "And also that every Maister and Fellow shall come to the assembly, and if it bee within fifty myles about him, if he have any writinge. And if yee have trespassed against the science, for to abide the award of Maisters and Fellows, and to make them accorder if they may, and if they may not accord them, to go to common law." Now, if there is any meaning in the above quotation, it is simply this: that if two or more have a dispute, the case should be referred to assembly, who shall "accord" or make peace between the contending parties; but if that could not be effected, then the aggrieved might bring a lawsuit. The same idea may also be gleaned from the older MSS., but with this difference, viz.: in olden time the sheriff had the power of seizing the chattels of the offending party; but in more modern times, when Government ceased to appoint supervisors over the assemblies of the guilds, and when the attendance of the sheriff fell into disuetude, all the assembly could then do, in case of a dispute, was simply to endeavour to arbitrate between the contending elements, and thus prevent lawsuits among the brotherhood. But it will be seen that the party summoned to appear before the assembly was limited, "if it bee within fifty myles." In one of the rituals in Bro. Hughan's history of the Grand Lodge of York, it limits the distance to only five miles; but whether fifty or five, it is evident that there was no such a thing as supreme jurisdiction over a certain area—it precludes the supposition that there was a jurisdiction, for instance, over a county, and hence we may come to the conclusion that Masons, like other operative bodies, held only local, independent, annual assemblies. And in accordance with their local regulations, members were obliged to attend those meetings unless they were absent from home a distance of fifty or less miles, as provided for in their respective codes. To impress these facts more clearly, I must once more recall to mind the main object of these assemblies, and these were, first, to make arrangement with the local justice or mayor about the price

of labour; second, to grant permission to members to take apprentices; third, to settle the squabbles among themselves, so as to prevent law suits; and fourth, to admit into membership those who have served out their seven years' apprenticeship, and also, now and then, to admit a gentleman as an honorary member or fellow. For such purposes, which was, indeed, common to all other guilds, it was no more necessary for masons than any other trade to tax themselves with the expense of keeping up a Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over all England, compelling them to lose so much time, to undergo so many hardships, to risk so many dangers which the annual pilgrimages to York must have subjected those who lived at a distance. In short, we find that the wages of about a dozen different kinds of mechanics were the same; we find that the laws of nearly all these associations were pretty much alike; we can see that with the small wages the masons received it was absolutely impossible for them to keep up an organisation such as Grand Lodge of all England. I am, therefore, satisfied that the same kind of government and the same kind of local, independent, annual assemblies which then sufficed for the wants of all other guilds, must also have sufficed for the wants of the Masonic fraternity in those days.

And that is not all, for we must bear in mind that the fiction of localizing the Athelstan Assembly to the city of York was unknown until the sixteenth or seventeenth century, for the word "York" is not mentioned in the Halliwells', MS. And the date, viz., 926. was unknown to all the writers and copyists previous to 1721.

I have in previous communications also shown how Masonic history was manufactured, for instance, the writer of Halliwell's MS. was ignorant of the Masonry of Solomon, the Hiram, St. Alban, etc. The authors of the operative rituals, knew nothing of Hiramship's Masonry—that name is first mentioned in Desaguliers' Constitution of 1721. I have also shown that the Masonry and Grand Mastership of the St. Johns were unknown even to Anderson and Desaguliers.

We thus see how successive additions were piled up by successive Masonic authors, each pretending to know historical facts unknown to his predecessors, though they lived nearer to the period he was writing of. And last, though not least, the explosion by Bro. Findel of the fiction—circulated by Dr. Oliver and his satellites—of the existence in the archives at York of the original Athelstan charter or constitution.

Taking, therefore, all these facts together, I must come to the conclusion that it is high time to cease making ourselves ridiculous by talking of York Rite, York Masonry, York Constitutions, or of "the Ancient Grand Lodge of York."

JACOB NORTON.

Original Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

What was my surprise on recently taking up the "North British Daily Mail," to find the enclosed statement.

"His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales attended on Monday afternoon, at the great hall in the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, for the purpose of being installed a brother of the "Faith and Fidelity" Lodge of Good Templars. The public by some means became aware of the intended visit, and a large number of persons assembled to witness the arrival of the Prince, who was loudly cheered as he drove up in a private carriage."

I presume the Editor meant Knights Templar of good old memory, instead of "Good Templars," a body of teetotallers, of whose merits time will tell, without discussing them at the present time.

I remain, yours fraternally,

CHAS. G. FORSYTH.
H. No. 50. R.A.

REUNION OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN
SCOTLAND.

The Supreme Grand Priory of Scotland, of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple, though ostensibly the head of Knight Templarism in that country, has hitherto only possessed a nominal power, and for some time past there have been only two priories working under its jurisdiction, the third, in Glasgow, having become dormant some years ago. There are five or six other encampments, however, in existence, and working under their own Charters, but having only an individual existence, the governing body, formerly under the command of H.R.H. the Duke of Kent and Strathern, having also become dormant. The largest and most influential of these independent bodies, the Glasgow Girvan Encampment, numbering over 100 Sir Knights, were not satisfied with this anomalous state of things, and accordingly put themselves into communication with Sir Thos. Whyte-Melville, the Grand Commander, and Major Hamilton Ramsay, the Grand Recorder, with a view to effecting an amalgamation, which, after some negotiation, has now been happily effected, and on Tuesday, July 23, the preliminary arrangements were settled by the officials of the Supreme Grand Priory, and a deputation from Glasgow. The deputation consisted of Sir Knights Robert Bell, M.N.C. of No. 32; J. C. Spier, C.G.; D. Butler, J.C.; G. W. Wheeler, Sec., and the following members:—J. Tweed, R. Mitchel, J. Mathisen, T. Scott, Dr. Neilson, W. F. Shaw, J. A. Ferguson, T. Barclay, and J. Dunbar.

After the business was concluded, the Edinburgh Knights invited their Glasgow fraters to a banquet, at which Sir Knight Major Hamilton Ramsay, Grand Recorder, and also Prior of the Lothian's Priory, presided; Sir Knight Stewart acting as croupier.

Major Ramsay said, that as it was early in the day, he did not intend to introduce any formal toasts, but he thought they ought not to separate without drinking the health of the numerous and influential deputation from Glasgow, who had honoured them that day by coming there, to effect a union which was "a consummation most devoutly to be wished," and that he trusted would prove beneficial. He hoped that the ties that now, for the first time, bound them together, would be strengthened and tightened, but not so tight as ever to be in the slightest degree irksome. He would couple this with the name of Sir Knight R. Bell, whom the Glasgow Encampment might be proud to acknowledge as their Commander. He had heard of him, and also of the encampment, from one of the American Knights Templar who were over here last summer. If it was for no other reason than this, to acknowledge the noble way in which the Girvan Encampment met and entertained their American Fraters, they would deserve the thanks of all Knight Templars.

Sir Knight Bell in responding expressed the thanks of himself and the rest of the deputation to their honourable chairman, not only for the way in which they had received the toasts, but for their conduct that day. Sir Knight Spiers in a brief speech proposed the health of "The chairman and those members of the Grand Priory, who had met and received them so kindly." Major Ramsay briefly responded. Sir Knight Wheeler said that having opened these negotiations he was most happy to be present at their termination, and to witness the kind way the Grand Priory had come forward to meet them, and hoped that it was only an augury of more such reunions; he could assure the Chairman and the Grand Priory, that the Girvan Encampment would go with them heart and hand to effect that object, and he would now give them a toast which both deputations could drink, "The speedy union of all Knights Templar in Scotland under one banner." This toast having been done full justice to, this happy meeting was ended, each agreeing that a brighter prospect for the interests of the Order was dawning on them.

THE OUTWARD MASONIC LIFE.

A life that does not quadrate with principles professed, always results in damage to the institution of which the moral defaulter is a member, and from which he claims to derive the inspiration of his conduct. Imperfect Masonic living is the greatest bane of our society. Masonry purposes no principle but what is perfectly practicable, and a failure to illustrate in the outward life is evidence of the lack of heart fealty to the ethics of the institution. So long as Masonry tolerates gross violations of the cardinal virtues upon which its fabric rests, so long will it fail to impress the profane world with either its beauty or its utility. When it is known that a profane, obscene, drunken, adulterous man is admitted to our retreats, and meets with no rebuke from the constituted authorities, the inference drawn by a discriminating public will be that either Masonic morals are a sham, or that the discipline of the Order is impotent to the reproof or correction of the vices of its adherents.

The only way in which Masonry can exert a powerful magnetism upon the outer world, to draw the good to its altars, is by inviolable fidelity to the lofty requirements which we claim to lay upon our neophytes.

Let us live in such a way that others may see the light of principle in our carriage and conduct, and spirits seeking association with the good will knock at our doors, and ask to be admitted to congenial companionship.

By the same law that induces these noble souls to apply for admission to our secret fellowships, the vicious will be repelled, and our lodge rooms be truly the retreats of virtue.

Is there a brother among us openly trampling the jewels of our order under unhallowed feet, recklessly disregarding his vows and the solemn lesson of instruction imparted to him in the lodge room, let him reflect upon the fearful responsibility he assumes in giving such a forbidding expression of the value of Masonry to the world. His wanton conduct may furnish the apology to thousands to refrain from application for our mystic rites, and afford argument to those who would blot us from existence. One profane, intemperate, and licentious Mason, can do more harm to our order than all the Masonic agitators in Christendom. A good life is an irresistible answer to all evils.

Our Junior Wardens use charity for a very bad end when they tolerate shameless vice in the craftsmen. Let him scrutinize the conduct of those over whom he is set to watch, and be prompt to admonish the erring, and to arrest and bring to trial those who obstinately resist his warnings.—*Kentucky Freemason.*

An amusing story, and one said to be true, is told of a certain United States Treasury clerk, who, when he was over here on some Government business, managed to lunch with the Prince of Wales. One day in the streets of London he met the Marquis of Ripon, late Earl de Grey, chief of the High Joins, and at once rushed into his arms, so to speak. "Delighted to meet your lordship," he exclaimed effusively. "Don't you remember me? I showed your lordship through the Treasury at Washington." "Ah," said the Marquis, "charmed, I'm sure. Ah, much obliged." "Not at all, not at all," the syndicator hastened to reply. "No trouble. So glad to meet you again. Where does your lordship live?" Here the Prince of Wales interposed, and, thinking to "blunt" the enthusiastic American, said to the Marquis of Ripon, "Let's go to lunch." Before the Marquis could reply, the syndicator hastened to accept the invitation for himself, and followed the two, Prince and Marquis, into a fashionable club, and actually lunched with the Heir to the British Throne. Whether the said Heir particularly enjoyed the lunch does not appear in the tale; but the recipient of this honour never fails to make delicate allusions to the day when he "had that delicious lunch with Wales and Ripon."

Poetry.

FREEMASONRY.

What is Masonry—A Temple
Rais'd by mystic arts sublime;
Mighty fabric whose foundations
Lie beneath the sands of Time.

Countless ages have its structure
Slowly, silently uprear'd,
Heav'nward tow'r's its architecture
From antiquity rever'd.

Truth and Friendship flank its portals
Virtue paves its sacred length
Wisdom spans its spreading arches
Its foundations are in Strength.

Peace the air that fills its precincts,
Unity its grand design,
Faith and Hope its lofty pillars,
Charity its height sublime

There the Sacred Volume lights us
On our path from earth to heaven;
Square and Compass, Rule and Level,
For our moral teaching giv'n.

So when Death at length shall bid us
Take our last sublime degree
May we trusting, hoping, loving,
Enter on eternity.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN M. MARTIN.

DIED suddenly at the Police Office, San Fernando, on Monday the 18th ult., whilst in attendance there as interpreter, Bro. John Martial Martin, aged 59 years.

Bro. John M. Martin, a native of that Island, filled in the private paths of life, several important situations, in all of which he bore an upright and desirable reputation: a friend and brother in the moment of sorrow and affliction, his sympathies will be long remembered by many a grateful friend.

Bro. Martin was also closely connected with the history of Freemasonry in this Island, as we find his name figuring on the Charters of Lodges Royal Trinity 572, San Fernando, and the Eastern Star, 368, Port-of-Spain, and was, at the time of his death, one of the very few survivors of those whose names are recorded as Founders

ST. JAMES'S GREAT HALL.—Mr. Bullock's popular Royal Marionettes and Fantoccini Entertainment, now being held at this Hall, is worthy of our special mention.

A private invitation performance was given on Monday last, followed by public performances, which have been continued during the week to good audiences, who are continuous in their expressions of approbation. The programme varied in its character, is carried out with strict integrity as advertised. Among the numerous celebrities exhibited are those of the Claimant "Tichbourne," "Blondin," "Tommy and Sarah," &c. together with a diversity of character and amusement, that at once stamps the performance of first class merit. The Transformation Scene excites much admiration, the scenic effects following in rapid succession amid various changes, and which are agreeably and artistically arranged. The Automaton characters are life like and well rendered, being sustained with a good chorus, further enhanced with a sufficient orchestra, which increases the attraction of a thoroughly good entertainment. The necessary mechanism to put this performance before an audience is very perfect, and we doubt not but that Mr. Bullock, the proprietor, will be rewarded with a successful London career. The figures are well made up, and when on the stage have life like appearance, so much so, that a lady near our correspondent was under the delusion they were life in reality. All the several manipulations are most carefully studied by Mr. Bullock's artistes and we have no hesitation in expressing our opinion that the entertainment, being so good and attractive, its popularity will be secured by the London audiences.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, August 3, 1872.

The Editor will be glad to have notice from Secretaries of Lodges and Chapters of any change in place or time of meeting.

SATURDAY, JULY 27.

Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. S. Dilley, Preceptor.
Sphinx Lodge of Instruction (1329), Castle Tavern, Camberwell-road, at 7.30; Bros. Thomas and Worthington, Preceptors.
Mount Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, at 8; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction, Yorkshire Grey, London Street, Fitzroy-square, at 8; Bro. Ash, P.M., Preceptor.

MONDAY, JULY 22.

Lodge 831, British Oak, Beaumont Hall, Beaumont-square, Mile-end.
Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 8; Bro. James Terry, Preceptor.
Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Adelaide Tavern, Haverstock-hill, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gotheil, Preceptor.
British Oak Lodge of Instruction, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile End, at 7 for 8.
St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, (opposite the Pantheon), Oxford-street, at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.
Wellington Lodge of Instruction, White Swan Tavern, Deptford, at 8; Bro. C. G. Willey, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.
St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction (1306), Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping, at 7; Bro. T. Mortlock, Preceptor.
West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

TUESDAY, JULY 30.

Metropolitan Chapter of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor.
Domestic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tav., Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8; Bro. John Thomas, Preceptor.
Faith Lodge of Instruction, Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel) at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Knights of St. John Tavern, St. John's Wood; Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30. Bro. J. Saunders, Preceptor.
Florence Nightingale Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich, at 7.30.
Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, Gladstone Tavern, Bishops-gate-st. Within, at 7.30; Bro. Bolton, (W.M. 1227), Preceptor.
St. Marylebone Lodge of Instruction (1305), British Stores Tavern, New-street, St. John's Wood, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31.

Lodge 898, Temperance in the East, 6, Newby-place, Poplar.
Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's Road, Kentish Town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
Confidence Lodge of Instruction, Railway Tav., London-street, City, at 7.30.
Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom Tavern, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8. Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.
Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.
Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerly, at 7.30. p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.

THURSDAY, AUG. 8.

Lodge 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
" 822, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1155, Excelsior, Sydney Arms, Lewisham-road.
" 1351, St. Clement Danes, 265, Strand.
The R.A. Chapter of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Comp. Brett, Preceptor. Ceremony, explanation of R.A. Jewel and Solids, part sections.
Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30; Bro. John Thomas, Preceptor.
Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. Lewis Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor.

Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst Hill, at 7.30.
Doric Chapter of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, Bethnalgreen, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.

FRIDAY, AUG. 2.

Lodge 742, Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.
Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tav., Victoria road, Deptford, at 8.
Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria-park, at 8; Bro. Geo. W. Verry, Preceptor.
Clapton Lodge of Instruction, White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. John Saunders, Preceptor.
Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), The Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. R. Lee, (P.M. 193, W.M. 1298,) Preceptor.
Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (No. 79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-road, at 8; Comp. W. West Smith, Preceptor.
Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733) Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.
Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street, at 7; Bro. Brett, Preceptor.
Belgrave Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Wellington Hotel, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. Isaac Saqui, Preceptor.
Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8; Bro. W. Watson, Preceptor.

Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8.
St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Gladstone Tavern, Brompton-road, S.W.
United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Duke of Edinburgh, Shepherd's-lane, Brixton, at 7; Bro. J. Thomas, P.M., Preceptor.
Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Br. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
St. James's Lodge of Instruction, Gregorian Arms Tavern, Jamaica-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.

Advertisements.

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