

THE Freemason.

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The Most Honourable the MARQUESS OF RIPON, K.G., M.W. Grand Master of England; SIR ROBERT MICHAEL SHAW-STEWART Bart., M.W. Grand Master Mason of Scotland; the Right Hon. the EARL OF ROSSLYN, and the Right Hon. the EARL OF DALHOUSIE K.T., G.C.B., the M.W. Past Grand Masters for Scotland; and the Grand Masters of many Foreign Grand Lodges.

Vol. 7, No. 254.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1874.

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Compiled by JAS. H. COATES, 24, Holmside, Borough-road, Sunderland, W.M. Williamson Lodge, No. 949; P.S. Royal Arch Chapter of Strict Benevolence, No. 97; J.W. Union Lodge of Mark Masters, No. 124, E.C.; P.G.S.D. of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of Northumberland and Durham, &c., &c.

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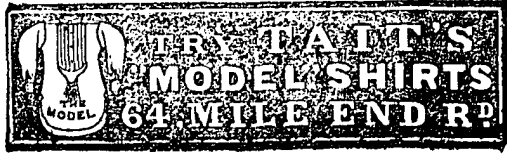


TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—
 Craft Masonry..... 31
 Mark Masonry..... 34
 Scotland 35
 Rosicrucian Society..... 35
 The Temple and Hospital 35
 Lord Skelmersdale at Home 35
 Masonic Ball at Prescott 35
 Rights of Visiting Brethren 36
 Honorary Members 36
 Weekly Summary of News..... 37
 Freemasonry in Ireland 37
 CORRESPONDENCE:—
 The Convivial Board 38
 Obituary 39
 Masonic Notes and Queries 40
 Poetry 41
 Lodge Meetings for next week..... 41
 Advertisements 29, 30, 36 42, 43, 44

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

CANTERBURY.—*Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity* (No. 20).—The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. Walter Downing, in the chair of K.S., took place at the Sun Hotel, Chatham, when a large gathering of the brethren assembled to witness the ceremony, which was most impressively performed by Bro. Coles, P.M. of the above lodge, Bro. Captain Watson, P.G.R., P.M., performed the duties of Director of Ceremonies in his usual efficient manner. After the installation about forty brethren sat down to the banquet, which was placed on the table with our host's usual liberality. On the toast of the Earl Carnarvon and the rest of the Grand Officers being proposed by the W.M. Bro. Binckes responded, and made a most touching appeal on behalf of the charities, to which during Bro. F. W. Edwards's, I.P.M. year of office this, the oldest lodge out of the London district, granted the sum of £50.

BOLTON.—*Anchor and Hope Lodge* (No. 37).—The installation meeting of this ancient lodge (established in 1731) was held in Freemasons' Hall, Church Institute, Bolton, on Monday, 5th January. There was a numerous attendance of the members, the lodge being also honoured for the first time by the presence of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, Col. Starkie. Amongst others present were Bros. James Pilkington, W.M.; Wm. Slater, S.W.; James Walker, J.W.; and the whole of the officers of the lodge, also Bros. John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; G. P. Brockbank, P. Prov. G. Deacon; J. H. Winder, P. Prov. G. Pursuivant; Reuben Mitchell, P. Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Samuel Isherwood, R. W. Knowles, Robert Harwood, Thomas Wilson, James Newton, and George Galloway, P.M.'s. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. Thomas Entwistle, P.M. 221, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Robert Whittaker, P.M. 678, Asst. Prov. G. Director of Ceremonies; William Hewitt, W.M. 221; John Harwood, W.M. 346; J. W. Taylor, P.M. 231; John Lamb, P.M. 178; William Hamer, P.M. 350, and others. The lodge being opened in the first degree, the minutes were read and confirmed, the lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the W.M. resigned the chair to Bro. John Tunnah, Prov. G. Sec.; who proceeded with the ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. William Slater. When all below the rank of Installed Masters had retired, the W.M. elect was duly installed into the chair of K.S., in the presence of no less than 22 brethren who had previously been installed as Masters of lodges. The brethren were then admitted, and after the usual salutations, the lodge was closed to the first degree, when the following officers were invested:—Bros. James Walker, S.W.; W. H. Horrocks, J.W.; Rev. F. Brindley, Chaplain; John Sharples, Treasurer; E. Ainsworth, Sec.; R. K. Freeman, S.D.; James Brown, J.D.; J. H. Winder, Master of Ceremonies; James Walch, Organist; Samuel Crowther, I.G. The charges to the W.M. Wardens and brethren, were delivered by Bro. Thomas Entwistle, Prov. G. Sup. of Works. After the transaction of some

formal business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. After the cloth was drawn the W.M. presided, supported by the R.W. Prov. G. Master, and the other brethren, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to, the proceedings being enlivened by the presence of a good glee party, consisting of Bros. Dumville, Bailey, Smith, and Lister.

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The annual meeting of this lodge took place on Monday, December 29th, at the Masonic rooms, Sankey-street, at three o'clock in the afternoon. The W.M., Bro. William Sharp, was supported on the occasion by Bros. Gilbert Greenall, P.M., Past Senior Grand Warden of England; W. Monop, P.M. S.W.; W. H. Robinson, J.D.; W. Woods, P.M., Treas.; J. Pickthall, D. Wilkins, John Laithwaite, Thomas Grime, T. M. Pattison, Thomas Tunstall, John Armstrong, Thomas B. Carter, John Harding, W.M. elect; John Pierpoint, Charles Crosier, J. Rymer Young, James Taylor, J. Bancroft, and James Hannah, Tyler. The visitors on the occasion were Bros. D. W. Finney, P.M. 1250; John N. Sharpe, 33; J. Whitlow, P.M. 941; C. B. Robinson, 145; George Bacon, Hon. Sec. 297; W. Pollett, W.M., 1250, and W. S. Hawkins, P.M. 1250. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meetings read and confirmed; the ballot was then taken for Bro. Gartside as a joining member. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the W.M. called upon Bro. Mossop, P.M., in the absence through illness of W. Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland, to undertake the duty of Installing Master. Bro. John Harding, Past Senior Warden, and W.M. elect, was then duly presented for the benefit of installation and the ancient ceremony was rendered in an able manner. The following officers were appointed and invested—Bros. W. Sharp, I.P.M. and Treas.; John Pierpoint, S.W.; John Laithwaite, J.W.; Rev. H. P. Steadman, M.A., Chaplain; Thomas Tunstall, Hon. Sec.; W. H. Robinson, S.D.; D. Wilkins, J.D.; Thomas Mee Pattison, Org.; J. Pickthall, I.G.; and James Hannah, Tyler. Bro. Sharp, I.P.M., proposed, Bro. W. Wood, P.M. seconced, and R. W. Bro. Greenall, and others supported the following resolution, "that a vote of thanks and a gold P.M. jewel be presented to W. Bro. John Bowes for his services as Hon. Sec. for the past twelve years," which was carried unanimously. Bro. W. Sharp having intimated that he had undertaken the office of Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows, the lodge, unanimously voted five guineas to his list. There being no further business, the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren adjourned to the Patten Arms Hotel, for the banquet, which was of the most *recherche* character, and did the host, Bro. Jabez George Hughes, every credit. After the cloth was withdrawn a long list of toasts was gone through, and the speeches were relieved by some excellent glees and songs, under the direction of the Organist, Bro. Thos. Mee-Pattison, assisted by Bros. W. Wood, D. Wilkins, and Thos. Tunstall. R.W. Bro. Gilbert-Greenall, P.G.W. of England, in proposing the toast of the W.M., said he did so with much pleasure, inasmuch as he had known Bro. John Harding, long and intimately, and entertained the highest respect for him. The lodge had conferred upon Bro. Harding the highest honour it had to bestow, and he felt confident he would so discharge the duties as to merit their confidence and esteem. He wished every success to his mother lodge, and prosperity to the new W.M., and he called upon all present to drink Bro. Harding's good health with every sentiment of affection and esteem. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm. The W.M., in responding, said he must ask the indulgence of the brethren, because he felt that he could not adequately express his gratitude for the very kind manner in which the R.W. Bro. Greenall had introduced his name to the brethren, and the very cordial manner in which it had been received by all present. He assured the brethren that he felt proud to occupy the position of W.M. of the

Lodge of Lights, a position which his grandfather filled more than fifty years before. He hoped he rightly and fully appreciated his new responsibilities, and certainly he should do his utmost to discharge them so as to advantage the lodge. He again tendered his warmest thanks for the kindness shown him. The W.M. in proposing the next toast, "The P.M.'s and Officers of No. 148," said a W.M. was almost helpless in a lodge, unless he could command able support. It fell to his lot to be supported by a band of Past Masters "well skilled in our noble art and lovers of the Craft" and with reference to his officers he believed they would one and all do their best to promote the interest of the lodge, and at all times render him punctual, able, and willing assistance. He then proposed "The Past Masters and Officers of No. 148," which was received in a truly Masonic manner. The I.P.M., Bro. Sharp, and Bro. John Pierpoint, S.W., responded. The remaining toasts having been proposed and duly acknowledged, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close and the brethren separated in harmony.

NEWPORT (ISLE OF WIGHT).—*Albany Lodge* (No. 151).—The brethren of this lodge assembled on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Lugley-street, for the purpose of installing the W. M. elect, Bro. Edward Thomas Trew Hellyer, S. W. The ceremony of installation was preceded by passing a brother to the second degree, and the initiation of a gentleman, the scion of an old and much respected family in the island. At the conclusion of the above-named ceremonies, the Worshipful Master, Bro. George King, resigned his gavel to Bro. Past Master C. T. Allée, the Installing Master, who, as a skilled workman, performed the ancient ceremony in a most able manner, the musical part being effectively performed by the Organist, Bro. Thomas Kentfield, jun. After the ceremonial, the newly-installed W.M. proceeded to invest his officers, the Junior Warden being advanced to the senior chair, Bro. the Rev. E. W. Watts, M.A. (Master of the Grammar School), appointed to the office of Junior Warden, and Bro. the Rev. J. H. Hughes, M.A. (formerly of the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford), to the office of Chaplain, *pro tem.* At the close of the lodge business the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room (lately substantially repaired and re-decorated) to banquet, the viands having been provided and served in a most satisfactory manner by Bro. Past Master James Read, of the Wheatsheaf Inn. After grace from the Chaplain, the brethren retired for a few minutes to their lodge room, and on returning to the banqueting room found that the Stewards in the meantime had re-arranged the tables, on which Mrs. Read had placed the fruits of the season; a pianoforte had also been introduced. The W.M., on resuming his gavel, commenced his list of toasts by proposing "The Health of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen." Responded to with traditionary Masonic loyalty by the brethren, and afterwards, accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. Kentfield, the brethren sang a portion of the National Anthem. The second toast "The Grand Master of England, the Most Hon. the Marquess of Ripon, K.G.," was most loyally responded to, and the toast to "The Health of the Past Grand Master, Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," was welcomed with the same enthusiasm as that of Her Majesty, the brethren, led by Bros. E. Wyatt and S. Pring, accompanied on the piano by Bro. Kentfield, singing "God bless the Prince of Wales." "The Deputy G.M. of England, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Officers of Grand Lodge;" "The Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight;" "The estimable Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Esq., M.P.;" "The Deputy-Provincial Grand Master, the indefatigable and much respected Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing (late Mayor of Southampton);" and "The Provincial Grand Officers;" were toasts most loyally responded to; the next toast being of a more homely character, "Long life and every happiness to the Mayor of Newport, Bro. W. B. Mew, (initiated in the Albany Lodge in February, 1846, and continuing a subscribing

member from that date), one of three Mayors of Newport registered on the roll of this Lodge." This toast received that hearty fraternal response customary amongst Freemasons when expressing their regard for one whom they estimate so highly for unassuming usefulness to the community of which he is the chief magistrate, and whose kind heart is proverbial. By request the W.M. allowed the gavel to pass into other hands, when "The Health of the Worshipful Master of the Albany Lodge" was proposed, whose qualification for the honourable office to which he had this day been installed was well known to the brethren who had attended ceremonial practice, and the brethren have expressed their confidence by unanimously electing him to the chair, the duties of which have already evinced that their confidence had not been misplaced. The W.M., thanking the brethren, proposed "The Health of the Immediate Past Master," at the same time soliciting the kind assistance of his worthy predecessor, and the continuance of the Past Master's generous support during his year of office, and proposed "The Health of Past Master Bro. George King," in conjunction with the Past Masters. The I.P.M. felt that his humble services in the chair had fallen far short of that he proposed to himself when taking office, but he had, to the best of his ability, performed those duties. It was said for the Senior Past Masters of the lodge, Bros. G. Dashwood and Joseph Poore, both of whom were present, and had been subscribing members for upwards of forty years—the former having attended forty installations, and the latter more than forty—and they had not missed attendance of Lodge during that period of time, excepting when prevented by illness, which they were thankful did not prevent their being present to witness the ceremony that day. On giving "The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" the W.M. remarked that he should look for that assistance from them, without which a Master could not properly conduct the duties of the lodge, but he felt confidence in in those brethren he had that day invested to office, and that they would render him every assistance in their power. The toast of "The Visiting Brethren," was acknowledged by the Rev. Bro. J. H. Hughes, in a most feeling and fraternal spirit. Glees, recitations, sentiment, and song added much to the evening's entertainment, which terminated with the Tyler's toast.

SIDMOUTH.—Lodge Perseverance (No. 164). On Wednesday, the 7th inst., the annual festival of St. John was celebrated at the Masonic Hall, London Hotel, when the W.M. elect, Bro. William Hine Haycock, was installed by Bro. B. T. Hodge, 30, P.M., P.G.D.C., with his well-known ability. Amongst the brethren were J. Ingleby Mackenzie, P.M. 372, P.P.G.D.; S. Jones, P.M. 112, P.P.G.D.; H. B. Stark, P.M. 106 P.P.G.O.; W. E. Stone, P.M. 372, P.G.J.W.; J. March, P.M. 847; A. Freeman, P.M. 372; W. H. Banfield, J.W. 847; S. Warren 372; W. Pile, P.M.; J. Northcott, P.M.; Herbert Orchard, W.M. 164; W.M. Mitchell, J.W.; Henry Dawe, Sec.; W. Carter, J.D.; R. Perryman, I.G.; W. Prout, T.; Fras. Halse, S. Wheaton, S. Cummings, P. Evans, R. King, and W. J. Rogers. The W.M. elect, having been presented by Bro. Jones, and duly installed, Bro. Mackenzie presented the working tools. The W.M. then informed the brethren that he had a pleasing duty to perform, namely, that of presenting to his predecessor Bro., J. Albert Orchard a testimonial of regard and esteem, subscribed by the officers of the lodge, which he hoped that brother would be pleased to accept and thereupon placed on Bro. Orchard's breast a very handsome gold P.M.'s jewel. Bro. Orchard, who was taken by surprise at this unexpected presentation, was so much affected as to be able to say but very few words in acknowledgment. The W.M. then invested the following brethren as his officers. Bros. J. Albert Orchard, I.P.M.; Henry Dawe, S.W.; Wm. Mitchell, J.W.; G. Board, Sec.; John Barber, S.D.; Wm. Carter, J.D.; R. Perryman, I.G.; William Prout, Tyler, F. Halse and S. Sweaton, Stewards. Bro. B. T. Hodge was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the ball room, where a

sumptuous banquet was partaken of, the viands being of the choicest description, and the arrangements reflected great credit on the host, Bro. Rogers.

STONEHOUSE.—Lodge Sincerity (No. 189).—The annual banquet of Lodge Sincerity was held on Tuesday, 6th inst., and was attended by a very large number of the Masters of the various lodges in the Three Towns, to all of whom an invitation by the W.M. was extended—an exceptional feature in a gathering of the kind—as well as by a good number of the members of the lodge, and other brethren. The V.W. Bro. I. Latimer, W.M., P.P.G.S., presided, and he was supported on the right by the R.W. Bro. L.P. Metham, D.P.G.M., P.G.D. of England; and on the left by Bro. Col. Elliott, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., amongst the officers and others present being Bros. John Sadler, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; T. S. Bayly, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; J. E. Risk, P.P.G.C.; T. W. Lemon, P.G.C.; C. Leigh, P.M. 1205, P.G. Sec.; Josiah Austin, P.M. 1090, P.P.G.O.; Samuel Jew, P.M. 105, P.P.G.T.; J. B. Gover, P.M. 70, 1247, P. P. G. A. D. C.; C. J. Gibson, P.M., P. P. G. J. D.; R. H. Rae, Sec., 139, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; E. A. Davies, P.M. 1099, and P.P.G.S. Works; W. Bros. Schultze, E. Manley, W.M. 230; Dr. Thomas, I.P.M. 1247; J. Chapman, W.M. 1462; J. Bartlett, W.M. 159; D. Cross, W.M. 1205; W. H. Gillman, W.M. 1099; W. J. Austin, W.M. 1212; C. Watson, W.M. 954; J. R. Lord, W.M. 1247; Joseph Manning, W.M. 156; R. B. Twose, W.M. 105; J. Oxley Oxland, S.W. 1205; J. E. Moon, D.C. 189; W. T. Monkhouse, 189; W. Tester, 189; J. E. Curteis, J.W. 189; S. Jones, Secretary 1212; J. Lewis, 189; William Harries, J.D. 1205; T. Waldo How, J.D. 189; G. Jackson, I.G. 189; J. E. Scott, 189; R. B. Oram, 189; A. Latimer, S.D. 189; T. W. Hussey, 189; T. W. Hussey, 189; W. T. Escott, 1099; J. H. Taylor, 189; G. Croydon, 189; J. T. Fouracre, 189; and R. J. Laity, 189. The banquet was of the most excellent description, reflecting the highest credit on the *cuisine* of the "Duke of Cornwall," and the proceedings, which were of the most enjoyable character, were enlivened by the rendering of several songs, and the delivery of recitations by some of the brethren, and musical selections on the pianoforte by Bro. Moon, and accompaniments by Br. A. Latimer. After the usual loyal toasts had been duly noticed, the W.M. stated that he and the Secretary had received from the P.G.M., the Rev. J. Huyshe, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Captain Tanner Davy, and Bros. Coates and Rodd, letters expressive of regret at their inability to be present on the occasion. The health of the M.W. the G.M. of England, the Marquess of Ripon, was then proposed by the W.M., who in so doing, expressed the pleasure they felt as a body in having in their present G.M. so able a nobleman and so amiable and worthy a successor to such an eminent man as the late Earl of Zetland. The Grand Officers of England were next noticed, the W.M., in giving this toast, drawing attention to the fact that they had the pleasure of having amongst them that evening two brethren who had been Grand Officers. The V.W. Bro. Metham in responding to the toast, said in the Grand Lodge they at present had the very pick of Masonry, and he had never been in Lodge without admiring the way in which the work was there performed. The W.M. next proposed the healths of Bros. the Rev. J. Huyshe, P.G.M., and G. R. Metham, D.P.G.M. This toast, he said, would commend itself to every Mason in the province, for they all felt a warm affection towards their G.M., and regarded him as one of the best of Masters and the truest of friends. He regretted that the engagements of the G.M. prevented him from being amongst them, but the following letter which he (the W.M.) had received from him would explain the cause. The G.M. wrote:—"Believe me when I say that I am really very sorry that I am not able to accept your very flattering invitation for the 6th of January. During the whole of the week I shall have my house full of visitors staying with me, and I cannot with any pro-

priety, be absent for a whole night from my house, which, of course, I must be if I were present (as I should like to be), at your banquet. I am the more sorry to decline your hospitality, because such an entertainment is unique in the province; and I should have been exceedingly glad to have had the privilege of being present at such a gathering. Pray tell all my brethren who will assemble under your presidency the deep regret which I feel at not being with them on such an interesting occasion, and assure them that they have my heartiest good wishes for their prosperity here and their eternal welfare hereafter." With regard to Bro. Metham, he could only reiterate what he said the other night in the absence of that distinguished member of the Craft; of the many orations he had delivered, explaining in them, for the knowledge of the outer world, the benefits arising from Freemasonry, of the active part he had taken in raising the Province to a high degree amongst the Provinces of the country, for his sustentation of the great Masonic charities of the country, and of his continuous services, for each and all of which the W. Bro. was entitled to to their warmest thanks. Bro. Metham, in response, expressed regret at the absence of the R.W. Bro. Huyshe, but was glad to see he joined with them in the holding of such meetings as the present, which he himself was of opinion were most valuable to them as a body, and which he trusted would never be done away with. Although in their excess he saw a great deal of evil, yet, in their occasional occurrence he saw much good: He was gratified at being received as he had been by Lodge Sincerity, and at the same time he had to apologise to them for not coming amongst them so often as might be wished. His was a hard working life, and he found some little relaxation necessary to fit him for his every-day work. He hoped, however, it would not be thought, either by his fellow townsmen or his brother Masons, that he did anything, either in his position as a townsman, or as a Mason, that had not a tendency in some way to promote Masonic good feeling. He trusted he should always be found at work, and that whenever he did disappear from this earthly scene it would be found that he had been worn out, and that he had not rusted out. He would ask his brethren to follow him in the advice he had to give them, to his younger brethren especially. He would ask them in all their daily avocations to practise the principles of Freemasonry. It was so easy to practise them, because it was so very easy to do that which was a pleasing thing. He had found an infinite pleasure and relief from all the anxieties and troubles and difficulties which they all in common with himself had met in the course of their lives, in finding it so easy, as every Mason would, whatever his profession or avocation might be, to put his finger upon some society, some charity, and help it forward, and, in so doing, practising Freemasonry. He did not think it was truly Masonic for them to sit there or to go into their lodges without something like that at their backs. If they only did a little individually, when they made up the sum total they would find that Freemasonry had performed a great deal at the end of the year, and he would beg his brethren to look at this, and see how much they could advance Freemasonry by so acting. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the G.M. of Cornwall, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. His lordship was a distinguished and worthy member of the Craft, and had occupied the chair with pleasure to himself and to his lodge. It must have gratified them all to have seen him appointed to his present position, and it pleased him (the W.M.) to find that that appointment had given universal satisfaction in Cornwall. That province was now in a flourishing state, and at Hayle and two or three other places they were constructing lodges of the most beautiful description, superior to any he knew in the country. Bro. P.M. Col. Elliott responded. He was present when their noble brother was installed in his present office, and he experienced great pleasure at seeing the manner in which his lordship at once grasped the position in which he was placed, assumed the office, and performed its duties, shewing that he was the right man in

the right place. The Province of Cornwall, he thought, might well be proud of him who presided over it. Bro. Twose next gave the toast of the P.G. Officers. In so doing he expressed the gratification he experienced on finding that the W.M. had extended his invitations to the banquet to every Master of the Three Towns—and he only hoped that this recognition of the other lodges in the district as now inaugurated would be followed up on future occasions. Bro. Lemon responded. The W. Bro. Metham then said there was one honour that attached itself to a man in a position like that he held, and that was the privilege of claiming the right to propose the toast of "The Health of the W.M. of Lodge Sincerity for the time being." He was glad to see Bro. Latimer in the chair of Lodge Sincerity, knowing that he would do it honour. Men of considerable social standing had occupied the chair in times past; it was a lodge which out of all England had given most officers to the Grand Lodge, it had given more P. Officers, and there was no lodge in which there had been so many men, who were desirous of doing their duty in a just, honourable, and upright manner. He believed Bro. Latimer would pass through the chair fulfilling his duties in a similar way, and would give not only satisfaction to Lodge Sincerity, which was a minor consideration, but also to the Province, and, above all, to the principles of the order. The W.M., in responding, said he felt he had had a great honour conferred upon him, an honour, that was unsought for by him, and that had only been placed upon him through the kindness of his brethren. He felt extremely gratified at the kindness he had received on every hand. He thought that was a very great manifestation of the fraternal feeling which the Order inculcated in all its high moral teachings, and it was that feeling which had influenced him to bring about a re-union amongst the W. Masters of the three towns. In giving the "Visiting Brethren and Sister Lodges," the W.M. thanked the numerous visitors for their attendance, saying in extending his invitations, and thus giving the whole of the lodges, through their masters, who were for the time being the representatives of the lodges, a friendly recognition, he thought it was the best way of bringing about the re-union he desired, and he was glad to see that he had been so successful. Bro. Twose responded on behalf of the visitors by expressing the great gratification they all felt at the fraternal feeling thus exhibited. The Wardens, the P. Masters and assistant officers of Lodge Sincerity, responded to by Bros. Curteis, Rae, and Bayly, and our poor and distressed brethren having been duly noticed, the lodge was closed, and a most pleasant evening's proceedings brought to a termination.—*The Western Daily Mercury*.

WINDSOR.—*Etonian Lodge* (209). The annual festival of this flourishing lodge was held at the Royal Adelaide Hotel, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. J. Wilson, P.M., presided. The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. A. Pears was examined in the usual questions leading from the first to the second degree, which having been most satisfactorily answered, he retired to be prepared. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Pears re-admitted and duly passed to the degree of a fellow craft. Bro. G. W. Dixon, J.W., was then presented to the W.M., as the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. Bro. Dixon having pledged his submission to the ancient charges, the lodge was opened in the third degree, all brethren below the rank of an Installed Master, then retired, and a board of eleven P.M.'s formed. Bro. Dixon was then installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. L. Bryett, W.M. Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834. The brethren having been re-admitted, saluted the new W.M. in the three degrees. The following officers were invested by the W.M., Bros. J. H. S. Reid, I.P.M.; W. Bladen, S.W.; J. O. Carter, J.W.; J. Pullen, P.M., Treasurer; J. Strange, P.M., Secretary; G. Stacey, P.M., Organist; W. R. Denne, S.D.; J. Crowhurst, J.D.; J. Cauvin, O.G.; G. Cave, Tyler; C. D. Hume, D.C.; R. Roberts, S.; E. Schiemann, S. Bro. Wilson then delivered the usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens and

Brethren. The working of the installing officers, Bros. Wilson and L. Bryett, and also the investiture of officers by the new W.M., was to our thinking as nearly better perfect as possible, and they were highly complimented by numerous brethren present. Bro. Stacey, P.M., then proposed, and the W.M. seconded, that Bro. R. H. Gibbons, P.M., the retiring Secretary, be elected an honorary member of the lodge, in consideration of his past services, carried *nem. con.* Bro. J. O. Carter, J.W., then proposed and the W.M. seconded, that Bro. T. Hiscock, I.G. 866, be admitted as a joining member. The Auditors, Bros. I. O. Carter and C. D. Hume, then presented the balance-sheet for the past year. There being no other business before the lodge, it was closed by the W.M., and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual toasts having been duly honoured, the brethren separated at an early hour, after having held a most successful meeting. The following brethren were present—Bros. G. W. Dixon, Prov. G. Steward Berks and Bucks, W.M.; W. Bladen, S.W.; I. O. Carter, Prov. G. Steward Berks and Bucks, J.W.; J. Pullen, P. M., Treasurer; J. Strange, P. M., Secretary; G. Stacey, P. M., Organist; J. Crowhurst, J.D.; J. Cauvin, I.G.; C. D. Hume, D.C.; R. Roberts, Steward; E. Schiemann, Steward; J. H. S. Reid, I.P.M.; J. Wilson, P.M.; Hailey, P.M.; R. H. Gibbons, P.M.; L. Bryett, W.M. 834; J. McMillham, P.P.G. S.B. Middlesex, and P.M. 946; W. S. Nicholes; A. Pears; C. Barkshire; Duffield; Webster; Riches; H. Stollens; J. Pennicott and others. Visitors—Bros. Young, P.G.S., 60; G. Grisbrook, W.M. 771; W. H. Brigham, S.W., 771; G. Folley, P.M. 771; J. Berry, S.W. 866; W. Johnson, J.W. 865; J. Hiscock, J.G., 865; Maughan, S.D. 865; H. Craven, 257; J. W. Lyon, 865; Large, 771.

LIVERPOOL.—*Harmonic Lodge* (No. 216).—The installation of Bro. J. Ismay, W.M. elect of this lodge, which took place on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, was a most interesting meeting, and attended by a large and distinguished assembly of brethren. This was at once a well-earned compliment to the brother about to be entrusted with the reins of Masonic government for the coming year, and an evidence of the vitality and continued high character of the Harmonic. The lodge was opened according to ancient and solemn form, between four and five o'clock, by Bro. J. Beasley, W.M., who was supported by the following officers and brethren:—Bros. J. McKune, P.M.; J. Skeaf, P.M.; J. Jones, P.M.; T. Armstrong, P.M.; G. Rigby Smith, S.W.; J. Ismay, W. Laidlaw, P.M., Treas.; A. C. Moore, Sec.; G. Fowler, S.D.; W. Dwerryhouse, J.D.; W. H. Quirk, I.G.; D. S. Davies, S.; W. F. Naylor, O.; W. H. Ball, Tyler. Dr. Kisch, J. Busfield, W. Lennie, Cain, Councillor D. Campbell, Dr. E. N. Sheldon, and amongst the visitors were Bros. J. J. Rose, W.M. 249; and Hargraves. After the transaction of some business of the usual routine character, including the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, the chair of K.S. was taken by the installing Master, Bro. J. McKune, P.M., a position which he has previously filled with great credit to himself and satisfaction to the lodge, who proceeded in a masterly manner to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Ismay, presented by Bro. J. Beasley, I.P.M., and Bro. J. Jones, P.M. After the W.M. had been impressively and effectively "chaired" in accordance with ancient usage, the following officers were subsequently appointed and invested for the ensuing year:—Bros. A. C. Moore, S.W.; G. Fowler, J.W.; W. Laidlaw, Treas.; W. Dwerryhouse, Sec.; W. H. Quirk, S.D.; D. S. Davies, J.D.; E. Evans, I.G.; J. A. Jones, S.; Rev. J. R. Jenkins, Chaplain; W. F. Naylor, Org.; and W. H. Ball, Tyler. Mr. H. Simpson, a journalist of eminence, and very highly esteemed amongst his companions in literature, having been balloted for and declared duly elected, was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Order, by the newly-installed W.M., in an absolutely perfect and most impressive style, which elicited the admiration and approval of every one present, and augurs well for the

efficient working of the lodge for the ensuing year. The brethren then adjourned to the dining hall of the hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served in first-class style by Mr. Ludlow, the courteous and indefatigable manager. The "Harmonic" is peculiarly and particularly strong in its musical talent, and therefore the harmony furnished during the evening was far above the average. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to with the greatest enthusiasm.

SOUTH MOLTON.—*Loyal Lodge of Industry* (No. 421). The installation of W.M. and celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist took place at the Freemasons' Hall, South Molton, on Tuesday, the 6th January. The lodge was opened in due form and with prayer in the first degree, when the results of the last lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bro. H. W. Higgins, S.W., the W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Sanders, to receive the benefit of installation. The newly installed Master, having been proclaimed and saluted in the three degrees, appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. Snow, S.W.; L. Richard, J.W.; Ponsford, S.D.; F. Day, J.D.; G. Huxtable, I.G.; S. A. Kingdon, Treasurer; R. Paige, Secretary; J. Bickell, jun., Director of Ceremonies; R. Kingdon, Tyler. The lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned to the Unicorn Hotel, where a banquet was served at Bro. Cole's, P.M., P.G.P., at 4.30, in his usual sumptuous style. After the cloth was removed the usual loyal toasts were proposed and responded to. "The Queen and the Craft;" "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales;" "The Most Worshipful G.M. the Marquess of Ripon;" "The Prov. G.M. and Officers;" "The W.M.;" "The I.P.M.;" "The Newly-elected Officers;" "The Visitors" and the Tylers' toast. About 28 sat down, and a most agreeable evening was passed.

WIGTON.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 327).—On Monday, Dec. 29, the anniversary of this lodge was celebrated. The lodge was opened in due form at "high twelve," by Bro. James Porter, P.M., P.P.G.S.D., of the Wigton St. John's, and Lodge Concord, Preston, who, in the unavoidable absence of Dr. Shannon, W.M., P.G.A.D.C., officiated as W.M. of the lodge, and also as the Installing Master, which impressive ceremony he went through in his usual thoroughly finished and effective style. Bro. Bowman, S.W., was the brother who had been selected to fill the W.M.'s chair for 1874, and Bro. Porter duly installed him as such. The new W.M. then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as under:—Bros. McMechan, S.W.; W. H. Hoodless, J.W.; John Robinson, S.D.; T. Ross, J.D.; C. Y. Wright, I.G.; and Martin O.G. Bro. Richardson, Treasurer of the lodge for many years, was again elected the Treasurer for the ensuing year, and Bro. Lazonby was invested as Secretary. At about three o'clock the brethren sat down to the annual banquet, which is in the sixty-sixth held by the brethren of Wigton St. John's Lodge, when a repast was set out which reflected infinite credit on Mrs. Martin and Bro. Martin, the host and hostess of the Lion and Lamb, where the banquet was held. The chair was taken by Bro. Lemon, P.M., and the vice-chair by Bro. McMechan, S.W. Supporting the chairman were Bro. Bowman, W.M., and Bro. Shannon, P.M. Near to the vice-chairman sat Bro. Porter, P.M., and Bro. G. Carrick. Amongst the brethren present were: Bros. Halifax, P.M.; Bewes, P.M.; Gate, P.M.; J. Pearson, P.M.; Lazonby, Secretary; W. Carrick, P. H. Taylor, P.M.; Isaac Pattinson, J. Hall, John Robinson, S.D.; Wright, I.G.; and Martin, Tyler. On the removal of the cloth, the chairman proposed, "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," and "The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England, the Marquess of Ripon, and the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon," all of which were received with the usual loyal or Masonic honours. The Vice-Chairman proposed "The Right Worship-

ful the Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland, the Earl of Bective," which was warmly received. "The Worshipful Master of Lodge 327" was then given from the chair, the newly elected W.M. receiving high praise for his attention to his Masonic duties from the Chairman. Bro. Bowman, responded in suitable terms. "The Immediate Past Master of Lodge 327, Bro. Shannon," was then proposed by the chairman, to which Bro. Shannon replied at some length, pointing out what had been done in the lodge during his year of office. Bro. Lazonby, proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers, Past and Present," to which Bros. Lemon, Gate, and Porter, responded. Bro. Lemon, in the course of his remarks, said he had attended above forty St. John's Day anniversaries of the lodge. "The Installing Master, Bro. Porter," was proposed by the Chairman, who complimented Bro. Porter on the masterly manner in which he had gone through the ceremony. Bro. Porter having responded, the health of Bro. G. Carrick, was proposed and duly acknowledged, after which the toast of "The Grand Masters of Ireland and Scotland," was proposed and responded to by Bros. Shannon and Bowman. Bro. Lazonby proposed "The Masonic Charitable Institutions," and The Memory of Deceased Brethren," which closed the list of the toasts. The agreeableness of the evening's proceedings were much added to by the excellent singing of Bros. Lemon, Shannon, G. Carrick, Porter, and W. Carrick. The company broke up at 8 o'clock, after spending a most agreeable evening.

DARWEN.—*Harmony and Industry Lodge* (No. 381).—On Monday last the annual festival of St. John the Evangelist was held at the Lodge room, New Inn. Previous to the banquet the installation of W.M. and his officers was performed by Bro. P.M. Franklin Thomas, of Lodge 269, Blackburn. The following brethren were duly installed, William Almond, W.M.; John Wardley, S.W.; D. Ainsworth, J.W.; McGregor, S.D.; B. M. Cromack, J.D.; W. H. Hargreaves, I.G.; P. M. Hutchinson, O.G.; Geo. Martin, Treasurer. Law P.M.; Roberts, Sec.; Thos. Grime, P.M., I.P.M. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed the banquet, and the evening was spent in a most enjoyable and rational manner, the toast to the host, John Gregg, and the hostess, Mrs. Gregg, bringing up the rear of a long list.

YARBOROUGH LODGE (No. 554).—The installation meeting of this popular East-end lodge was held in the Lodge Room, at the Green Dragon Tavern, Stepney, on Thursday, 8th inst., Bro. H. Morrison presiding, supported by Bros. H. Coard, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Hood, J.W.; J. Berry, S.D.; H. Cotter, acting J.D., and I. Allen, I.G. There were also present the following Past Masters of the lodge; Bros. Vesper, Wynne, Kindred, Missleton, Stevens, Moseley, Roberts, Barnes, Chadwick, and Verry. The names of three candidates for initiation were submitted to the brethren and the ballot in each instance proved favourable to the intending neophytes, but the ceremony of initiation, as also other workings, was by arrangement postponed to prevent overtaxing the energies of the officers and to afford the members of the lodge ample opportunity for enjoyment after labour. The arrangements alluded to inadvertently left the Secretary, Bro. H. Moseley, to convene the meeting at a much earlier hour than the occasion necessitated, and when the W.M. proceeded with the ceremony of installation, a certain nervous hesitation, occasioned no doubt by the probable delay, characterised his remarks in opening. Progressing with his subject this temerity wore off, and his language in addressing the newly installed Master, Bro. H. Coard, and his Wardens, was distinguished by a firmness of style, and a sustained intensity of expression well in keeping with the theme of the words. We shall here observe that Bro. Coard, W.M., has appointed Bros. Hood and Berry, to aid him in his working in the respective positions of S. and J.W., with Bros. Cotter, S.D.; Allen, J.D., and Tait, I.G. In his position as W.M., Bro. Craig justified the expectations of the brethren, and his exertions were fully appreciated. At the conclusion of the installation ceremony, the

brethren adjourned to their new dining hall, where the host, Bro. Walters, had provided an entertainment, at once *recherché* and attractive. The cloth having been removed, and the usual loyal and other toasts responded to, the W.M. expressed the pleasure it afforded him at being deputed to present Bro. Morrison, the I.P.M., with a token of esteem from the brethren of the lodge, which assumed the tangible shape of a handsome gold jewel. Bro. Morrison acknowledged the gift in appropriate terms, and alluded to the very many happy hours he had spent with the brethren. The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was responded to by Bro. Stevens, with remarks upon the noble institutions of which our order boasts, and inviting the brethren to reflect on the many unforeseen causes that have reduced our distressed brothers, while he appealed for aid in the cause of our afflicted brother, whose cause he will espouse at the next ensuing election. In his rendering of the ballad, "The old year's gone," Bro. Graves evinced true and intrinsic merit with an earnest intensity necessary to portray the different phases of the song, while conjointly with Bro. H. Thorn, much taste and power was displayed in the duet "Laiboard Board," Bro. Vigars exhibited great power of voice in "Speed me on my bark" and the musical arrangements lacked nothing in the hands of the organist. The Tyler's toast was drunk about ten o'clock.

ULVERSTONE.—*Lodge of Furness* (No. 995).—This lodge celebrated the festival of St. John the Evangelist at the Masonic Temple, Ulverstone, December 29th, 1873. The brethren assembled at three p.m., when, in the absence of the W.M., the lodge was opened by the I.P.M., Bro. Pearson, P.G. Purs. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the lodge opened up, when Bro. T. Dodgson, P.M., P.G. Steward Cumberland and Westmoreland, ascended the throne, and proceeded with the installation of the W.M. Elect, Worshipful Bro. Roger Dodgson, P.M. 1390, P.P.G.S.B. Cumberland and Westmoreland, in which he was assisted by Bro. Pearson, P.G. Purs., and Bro. J. Case, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.J. During the installation the chairs of Senior and Junior Wardens were occupied by Worshipful Bros. H. Cook, P.P.G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland, and Thos. Wylie, P.P.G.J.W. The ceremony of installation was most impressively performed, and greatly admired by the large assemblage of brethren. After the usual proclamations, the W.M. invested the following officers for the ensuing year viz:—Bros. J. Postlethwaite, Sec. 1390, S.W. 1398, S.W.; Aymer Ainslie, J.P., J.W.; Rev. L. R. Ayle, Chaplain; J. H. Matthews, I.P.M.; G. Brocklebank, Treasurer; G. Hartley, Sec.; W. Whiteside, I.G. 1390, W.M. 1398, S.D.; F. Bell, J.D. 1398, J.D.; R. Pearson, P.M., P.G. Purs., D.C.; H. Gunson, I.G.; J. Harper, Organist; Sergeant Major Paxton, S.S.; J. Geldart, J.S.; J. Robinson, Tyler. The lodge was closed at 5 o'clock, and the brethren, to the number of 50, adjourned to the house of Bro. Smith, Sun Hotel, where a banquet worthy of the occasion, and in Mrs. Smith's well known style, was partaken of. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, the visitors remarking that they had never seen the ceremonies so ably worked. The musical arrangements were entrusted to Bro. Harper, Organist, assisted by Bros. Parker, Dr. Robinson, J. H. Matthews, P.M.; R. Casson, F. Bell, and others, all well known for their musical talents. Amongst the visitors present were Bros. Wylie, P. Prov. G. J.W.; H. Cooke, P. Prov. G. Reg. C. and W.; J. Mills, P.G.S.B. C. and W.; J. W. Turner, W.M. 1458; J. Tyson, Sec. 119; J. Meredith, J.W. 1390, and others.

LIVERPOOL.—*Prince of Wales Lodge* (No. 1035).—The annual meeting of the brethren of this lodge for installation and other purposes, which was held at the Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, on Thursday evening, the 8th inst., was eminently successful, being attended by an unusually large number of the "purpled" officers of West Lancashire and Cheshire. The lodge was opened according to accepted and approved form by Bro. G. Sculthorpe, W.M., who had the subjoined officers as his supporters in their several positions:—Bros. G. Morgan, P.M., Colin

McNab, S.W.; R. W. Crosby, J.W.; J. B. Bunting, P.M. Treas.; A. Willis, Sec.; J. Salmon, S.D.; W. Westbury, J.D.; T. Fozzard, P.M., D.C.; A. Salmon, I.G.; L. Peake, S.; and W. Crawford, Tyler. Amongst the brethren who were present were the following:—Bros. T. J. McWean, J. W. McWean, W. J. Rees, D. Davies, J. Salmon, H. Tyrer, W. Longcake, R. Williams, W. Harrington, J. Eaves, R. R. Yorshaw, J. W. Lynn, W. Smith, W. Fothergill, T. Askew, C. Peake, F. H. Cox, J. Marshall, E. Sephton, J. Richardson, J. Smith, S. E. Jones, R. Ingham, J. Donkin, M. Yeoman, T. P. Hayes, J. R. Gaunt, J. Laws, J. J. Byers, E. D. Peake, J. Davies, D. Robertson, S. Balmer, C. C. Simpson, S. Griffin, J. Kennedy, H. Balmer, J. Appleton, and J. Ramsted, and amongst the more distinguished visitors, were Bros. Captain Berry, S.W. 1393; G. de la Perelle, P.G.D.C.; C. H. Hill, P.G. Reg.; S. G. Ibbes, P. Prov. G.S.B.; J. Hamer, P. Prov. G. Treas.; E. Friend, P. Prov. J.G.D.; J. P. Platt, P. Prov. J.G.W.; J. Evans, S.W. 220; J. Healing, P.M. Treas. 1264; W. H. Charlesworth, 300; H. Burrows, 673; J. Skelly, 673; H. Horspool, 1094; J. L. Jones, 594; T. North, 216; R. Fairclough, 1356; T. A. Jackson, 1264; W. Vaughan, 724; J. Heyes, 220; and A. Woolrich, 241. A number of candidates were initiated with striking effect, by Bro. G. Sculthorpe, W.M., after which the chair was taken by Bro. T. Tozzard, P.M., who proceeded to instal Bro. John McNab, as the W.M. for the ensuing year, the whole of the impressive ceremony, as well as the investiture of officers, being performed in a most complete and careful manner. The following brethren were subsequently nominated by the W.M. as his staff of officers for the coming year:—Bros. R. Crosby, S.W.; J. Salmon, J.W.; J. B. Bunting, Treas.; J. Williams, Sec.; W. Westbury, S.D.; A. Salmon, J.D.; L. Peake, I.G.; and M. Crawford, Tyler. The lodge was afterwards called from labour to refreshment, when a capital banquet was served in one of the rooms upstairs, under the presidency of the W.M., who proposed the customary loyal and Masonic toasts with great felicity. The toast of "The Right Worshipful P.G.M., D.P.G.M., and Provincial Grand Officers of West Lancashire," was responded to by Bro. G. de la Perelle; and the same proposed with regard to the Cheshire Province by Bros. Platt and Friend. "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," was acknowledged by Bro. Captain Berry; and "The West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution" (given by Bro. Fozzard) by Bro. Gilbert G. Walmsley. A new toast, "The Hamer Old Men's Benevolent Fund," admirably submitted by Bro. P.M. Fozzard was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and after Bro. P.M. Morgan had made an eloquent and forcible reply, the sum of twenty guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge on behalf of the charity. The I.P.M., Bro. Sculthorpe, gave the "Health of the W.M.," who responded in pointed and effective terms. The other toasts were—"The Installing Master," given by Bro. Newell, and acknowledged by Bro. Fozzard; "The I.P.M.," by the W.M., and replied to by Bro. Sculthorpe; "The Past Masters," coupled with the name of P.M. Morgan; "The Officers," acknowledged by Bro. Crosby, S.W.; and "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Dr. Hughes. A very pleasant evening was spent, several capital songs being given.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—*Wear Valley Lodge* (No. 1121).—On Friday, 9th inst., the members of this lodge celebrated the annual festival of St. John, when the W.M. for the ensuing twelve months was installed. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. F. H. Rahn, P.M. No. 970 and 1230; Wm. Brignall, P.M. 124, (Marquis of Granby), and Prov. G. Reg. Durham; R. M. Cooke, P.M. 1230; Barnard, and others. The routine business of the lodge having been transacted, the W.M. elect, Bro. George Stilman, was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. F. H. Rahn, P.P.G.D. Durham, who performed the impressive ceremony in a very able manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bro. J. C. Hundy, I.P.M.; William Pawson, S.W.; William Hines, J.W.; William Crawford,

Sec.; Andrew Allan, S.D.; Thos. W. Kilburn, J.D.; George, I.G.; and John Dowson, Tyler. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner, at the Talbot Hotel, under the presidency of the newly installed Master. After dinner the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and heartily responded to. The new Master has served the offices of Secretary, Treasurer, and S.W., and has always given an unremitting attention to the interests of the lodge since its formation.

THE GREAT CITY LODGE (No. 1426).—The usual meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday evening, Jan. 13, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, and was numerously attended. Bro. James Stevens, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Weedon, S.W.; Townend, J.W.; the rest of the officers, brethren, and three visitors. The business was as usual very heavy, and occupied the lodge from three o'clock in the afternoon until nearly ten o'clock at night. The lodge having been opened in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the second and third degrees, and Bros. Lunners, Hannaford, Hugo, Hooker, and Browne were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The next business was to pass Bros. Robinson, Taylor, Dulan, and Carter to the second degree. The next business was a ballot for Messrs. Edward Cochran and Henry Gradon, which being unanimous in their favour, and they being in attendance, were regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, all the different ceremonies being most ably performed by the M.W. Master. Some other business was disposed of, and the brethren adjourned for light refreshment, when a number of toasts were drank and the evening was spent in complete harmony. The W.M. will represent the lodge as Steward at the coming Festival for aged Freemasons and their Widows, and it is believed that the list he will hand in will by no means damage the reputation of the Great City Lodge.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—This lodge met at Bro. Gosden's, Mason's Hall Tavern, Masons-avenue, City, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. Bro. George Kenning, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. Rev. W. B. Church, P.M., as S.W.; T. B. Yeomah, J.W.; Rev. P. H. Ernest Brette, D.D.; S.O.; H. C. Evander, P.M., Treas.; R. Wentworth Little, P.M., Sec.; T. Cubitt, I.P.M.; Charles Horsley, S.D.; E. H. Thiellay, J.D.; John Boyd, R. of M.; F. Walters, P.M.; H. A. Dubois, I.G.; Rev. J. M. Vaughan; W. E. Newton; G. Newman; and Bro. Brook-Smith, a visitor. Bro. the Rev. P. M. Holden, M.A., was advanced to the degree of Mark-Master, after which, the Ark, Link, and Wreath degrees were conferred upon several members, and the lodge was closed. An excellent repast followed the labours in lodge, and the W.M. during the course of the evening presented a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. T. Cubitt.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.—This body met on Thursday, 8th inst., in the Masonic Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, 42 out of the 25 lodges in the province, being represented. In the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Walter Montgomerie Neilson, of Queenshill, the chair was taken by Bro. F. A. Barrow, D.P.G.M., who informed them that the business to come before them on that occasion was the nomination of officers for the ensuing year. He had the commands of the Provincial Grand Master to re-nominate those officers whose appointment rested with him, and he was also pleased to be able to testify to the general ability and punctuality of the whole of the brethren who had, during the past year, filled the various posts of honour in the Grand Lodge. The nomination was then proceeded with, and in every case was unanimous. The

following were, therefore, declared to be duly elected for the next twelve months:—Walter Montgomerie Neilson, P.G.M.; Frederick A. Barrow, D.P.G.M.; James Steel, Substitute P.G.M.; John Baird, P.G.S.W.; David Kinghorn, P.G.J.W.; Rev. George Burns, D.D., Provincial Grand Chaplain; Dr. Penny, D.D., Junior Provincial Grand Chaplain; A. Mc Taggart, M.A., P.G. Sec.; J. B. Walker, P.G.T.; Thomas Halket, P.G.S.D.; G. Thallon, P.G.J.D.; J. Ritchie, P.G. Architect; R. Robb, P.G.M.; H. Allison, P.G.J.; Alexander Bain, P.G.B.B.; James Balfour, P.G.D.C.; Jno. Miller, P.G. Director of Music; James Gillies, P.G.S.B.; William Philips, P.G.I.G.; George Sinclair, Treasurer of Provincial Grand Benevolent Fund; and James Pollock, P.G. Tyler. The Acting P.G.M. announced that the installation would take place on the 27th, when he hoped the P.G.M. would be with them. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

GLASGOW.—Caledonian Railway Lodge (No. 354).—This lodge met on Wednesday, 7th inst., Bro. J. Shaw, R.W.M., presiding. After the transaction of some private lodge business, the R.W.M. conferred the second degree in so highly a creditable manner, that it elicited great applause, and augurs well for the year of office on which he has just entered. At his request, Bro. G. W. Wheeler raised Bro. A. Buchanan to the third degree. Bro. Dolman acted as J.W., and J. Stafford, J.W.

THE TEMPLE AND HOSPITAL.

The anniversary meeting of the Mount Calvary Preceptory or Early Grand Encampment of England was held at the London Tavern, on Friday, the 9th inst. Knt.-Comp. D. M. Dewar, the E.P., presided, and amongst those present were Past Preceptors (or E.C.s, to use the older and more euphonious word) F. Binckes, W. Paas, S. Rosenthal, and J. Stohwasser, also W. Roebuck, E.P. Elect, John Hervey, Major Barlow, Rev. W. J. Shepherd, G. Neal, and W. Forster, and visitors, Capt. J. Watson, United Preceptory, Manchester, and R. Wentworth Little, E.P. Designate Holy Palestine Preceptory, London. After the usual preliminaries, the worthy and esteemed E.P. Elect was installed, and invested his officers, after which the Preceptory was closed, and the Knight Companions sat down to a banquet, and enjoyed the evening in the old Knight Templar style.

THE ROSICRUCIAN SOCIETY.

The Metropolitan College of England met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the 8th inst. Frater R. W. Wentworth Little, P.M.G. and S.M. presided, and a large number of fratres were present. Bros. R. Berridge, Rev. Dr. Ernest Brette, Wm. Forster, E. S. Norris, and T. W. Coffin were admitted to the grade of Zelator. Several promotions were announced, after which the elections of officers for the ensuing year were held. Frater W. Carpenter was chosen as M.G.; J. Weaver, D.M.G., Rev. W. B. Church, E. Stanton Jones, T. Burdett Yeoman, T. W. White, S. Rosenthal, T. Cubitt, and Stephen Carey, Ancients; H. G. Buss, Treas.-Gen.; W. R. Woodman, M.D., Sec.-Gen.; K. R. H. Mackenzie, Assist. Sec.-Gen. There was a keen contest for the position of 7th Ancient which was awarded by a majority of two. A design for certificates was exhibited, and the reading of an interesting paper by Fra. Mackenzie terminated the business.

MASONIC BALL AT PRESCOT.

The sixth annual Masonic ball, carried out by the members of the ancient Lodge of Loyalty, No. 86, Prescott, was held on Thursday evening, the 8th inst., at the Assembly Rooms, Prescott, and as has been the case in all previous years, the proceeds will be given in aid of the funds of that most deserving charity, the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. The annual festive gathering of the brethren

and friends of the old Loyalty, is always of the most enjoyable character, a perfect spirit of good feeling and brotherly unity actuating every one, and the gathering of 1874, deserves a place beside those which have preceded it. Although the weather was of the most uninviting nature, being wet and thoroughly disagreeable, the ball was honoured by the principal Masonic and non-Masonic residents in and around Prescott, several also journeying from Liverpool, for the purpose of being present.

Bro. J. W. J. Fowler, P.M., P. Prov.G.A.D.C. again acted as the Honorary Treasurer, and Bro. Fowler, jun., as Honorary Secretary, both doing their duties most efficiently. The room was tastefully decorated, and as all the brethren appeared in full-dress Masonic clothing, with the jewels and insignia of their different orders, the gathering was exceedingly brilliant and attractive. Dancing was commenced shortly after nine o'clock, to the music of Mr. Martin's band, and was kept up with great spirit until an early hour.

The refreshments, supplied by Mrs. Lloyd, of the King's Arms, Prescott, were of the choicest and most satisfactory kind.

LORD SKELMERSDALE "AT HOME."

As landlord, neighbour, or head of an important province, no gentleman in his distinguished station enjoys more deserved popularity than Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.P.G.M. for West Lancashire; and the reason for this ultra-popular position is not difficult to find. Remembering that he occupies an honourable position, his conduct is invariably in keeping with the character of that position. Since his installation as P.G.M., less than a year ago, he has succeeded in not only confirming the high esteem felt for him by every brother in the province at his appointment by the M.W.G.M., but has greatly strengthened his popularity by the invariably courteous and friendly way in which he has conducted the affairs of the province. The changes introduced into the personnel of the Provincial Grand official list at the recent meeting at St. Helen's, were almost without a single exception, acceptable and satisfactory to the brethren generally, and the promises which his lordship has given to visit, at no distant date, every lodge within his province, augurs well for the future and continued favour of his Masonic reign.

As a landlord, he has given frequent proofs of liberality, and displayed more than once a generosity of disposition, which is too rarely to be met with in these days of money-making and money-keeping. More than one instance of his generosity in these "hard times" to tenants has come to our knowledge, all tending to show that his nobility of position has been quite in keeping with the nobility of his nature. As a friend and neighbour, ever since his return from America, he has also given sufficient proofs of friendliness and goodwill. Recently, at his lordship's country seat, near Ormskirk, he invited the principal townsfolk and tradesmen to a ball at Latham House, where mere ceremonial was utterly thrown aside, and where his lordship entered with as much zest into the evening's enjoyments as the youngest and least distinguished, Lady Skelmersdale vying with him as the hostess of the evening.

Again, as part of the Christmas festivities, he more recently entertained a large and notable circle of friends at Latham House, when private theatricals were given as the chief attraction, the two-act comedy of "Woodcock's Little Game" and the celebrated comediotta "Cut off with a Shilling" forming the programme, and his lordship playing a part in each with the greatest zest. The other characters were all supported by distinguished relatives of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, and both pieces were admirably represented. Between the first and second pieces the guests were entertained at a supper, of the most recherché description.

It is refreshing to find evidences of hospitality and friendliness such as these, which are sure to make Lord Skelmersdale's popularity even greater.

NOTICE.

The Subscription to THE FREEMASON is now 10s. per annum, post-free, payable in advance.

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THE FREEMASON is delivered free in any part of the United States for 12s. per annum, payable in advance. The Freemason is published on Saturday Mornings in time for the early trains. The price of the Freemason is Twopence per week; annual subscription, 10s. (payable in advance.) All communications, letters, &c., to be addressed to the Editor, 108, Fleet-street, E.C. The Editor will pay careful attention to all MSS. entrusted to him, but cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by postage stamps.

Answers to Correspondents.

The following stand over:—
Reports of Lodges 35, 73, 88, 597, 297, 180, 177, 175.
Letters from M. M., S. S. G., W. L. G.

NOTICE.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening.

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The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1874.

THE RIGHTS OF VISITING BRETHREN.

Since the question affecting Bro. Bigg's complaint, *in re* the Middlesex Lodge, has been under consideration, we have looked carefully into the Book of Constitutions, and think, that now we see the whole matter clearly and completely, and can place it before our readers in a satisfactory and convincing manner. First of all, what are the authoritative data and constitutional regulations on the subject?

Many of our readers will remember, that, by virtue of the "summary" of the "antient charges," read to every "Master-elect," as printed in the Book of Constitutions, the W.M. for the time being is bound to see, that, "no visitor shall be received" into his "lodge without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of his having been initiated in a regular lodge." Such is the undoubted duty of the W.M., on the one hand, and the undoubted antient and universal law of the Craft, on the other.

If there be some little ambiguity in the use of the word "vouchers," which may be interpreted to mean both printed and parole, and to include alike the Grand Lodge certificates, and the personal voucher of some member of the Lodge, yet, as a fact, we believe that the general rule of the order has been to require—due examination of a stranger, and the production of a Grand Lodge certificate.

There are three regulations, in the Book of Constitutions, bearing specifically on the subject of "Visitors," but we need only concern ourselves with No. 1.

That runs as follows: "No visitor shall be admitted into a Lodge, unless he be personally known, recommended, or well vouched for, after the examination by one of the present brethren, and during his continuance in the lodge, he must be subject to the bye-laws of the Lodge. The Master of the Lodge is bound to enforce these regulations."

It would almost seem, that, in the recent discussion this stringent constitutional regulation of our Craft has been somewhat overlooked, and we ourselves must even plead guilty to the "soft-impeachment." For this is a clear direct enactment, by which the W.M. of every lodge is bound to see, not only that the visiting brother is duly "examined by one of the present brethren," but is perfectly known, recommended, or "well vouched for" by one of those present.

Hence, then, it necessarily follows, that, the W.M. of the Middlesex Lodge was really "dans son droit" in all that he did, and that, after all, the usage of the Middlesex Lodge is in accordance with the Book of Constitutions.

The only mistake the W.M. seems to have made, and that may be more in appearance than reality, is, that, he rested his advice to Bro. Bigg on the bye-laws of the lodge, and not on the Book of Constitutions.

But having said this, we feel bound to observe, that, the general rule of our lodges has certainly been to relax somewhat the stringency of the regulation. Having often been present when visiting brethren have applied for admittance, the course pursued has been this, the custom, we make bold to say, of 99 out of every hundred lodges in the Order.

If the visitor has come with his Grand Lodge certificate, and can satisfy the examining Bro. or brethren, he is straightway admitted, even though he be not personally known to any brother present; and while on the one hand, we feel, that after all, practically, the W.M. of the Middlesex Lodge was right, if he did not know Bro. Bigg, we yet feel compelled to say, that the *lex inscripta* of the Order, which admits all duly registered Masons after due examination, has hitherto worked so well, we would fain hope, except in very peculiar cases, our lodges will

not fall back on the very stringent regulation of the Book of Constitutions on this "vexata quæstio."

HONORARY MEMBERS.

A good deal of correspondence has recently taken place in our columns relative to honorary members, their actual position and rights, their privileges, and voting powers, in our lodges.

Of honorary members our Book of Constitutions knows nothing, and makes no mention; consequently, there is, and can be, no authoritative law on the subject. There is undoubtedly a custom in the Craft in many lodges, though not in all, to admit honorary members, a custom somewhat questionable, and a right somewhat dubious, perhaps, according to the regulations of the Book of Constitutions which relate to the "admission of members." But still the custom exists, and has existed for some time, and no doubt, in some cases, the difficulty may arise as to what are the exact rights of honorary members.

Now it is clear to us, taking all the constituent regulations and prevalent system of our Order into account, that, the rights of honorary members represent what mathematicians call an "unknown quantity."

They are in fact, to use another familiar expression, "Vox et præterea nihil."

Honorary members are honorary members,—and nothing more and clearly have no right to vote on any question—affecting the lodge, to which they are not subscribing members.

All their privileges consist in attending the lodge, sharing in its festivities, and paying their own cost of expenditure whenever they join the banquet.

But as subscription to the lodges is the basis of all Masonic membership, and the guarantee of all individual privileges in the lodges, it is quite clear, that paying no subscription, honorary members stand on an entirely different footing to the paying members of the lodge.

It has been said, that, they can vote on all questions, except those on which money is involved.

But this proposition is erroneous, and involves a great fallacy.

It is quite clear, that, if they can vote at all, they can vote on all subjects, but if they cannot vote on money questions, they cannot vote on any matter at all.

Take for instance the election of W.M. Supposing, that, the numbers are nearly equal, does the brother who propounds the last-mentioned theory mean to contend, that the election could be decided by non-paying members?

Is it not patent to all, that, such a result must be reversed, on appeal to the Board of General Purposes?

Hence we fear, that, we must come to the conclusion, that as regards our lodges, honorary members have no rights at all, except such as are secured to them by the lodge bye-laws, and that, as regards the Craft at large, as governed by the wise provisions of our excellent Book of Constitutions, however excellent really in themselves, they are practically "nondescripts."

But a lodge, with the full consent of its members, can confer any rights upon them, which do

not militate with the the Book of Constitutions, and here we must leave the matter to-day.

WEEKLY SUMMARY.

Her Majesty is still at Osborne.

The Confirmation of H.R.H. Princess Beatrice, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, took place at Whippingham Church, on January 8, in the presence of the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Prince and Princess Christian, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote, Lord and Lady Suffield, Lieutenant-Colonel Teesdale, Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, Mr. F. Knollys, and Captain the Hon. Oliver Montagu, left Marlborough House on Saturday evening, en route for St. Petersburg.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Howard Elphinstone and Major Pickard, accompanied their Royal Highnesses.

H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh has safely arrived at St. Petersburg, where he has been most warmly received by the Emperor, the Imperial Family, and the Russian people.

H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge was assaulted in St. James's-street, by a Captain Charles Studdert Mansell, late of the 2nd Foot, on the 6th of January. It is only charitable to hope and to believe that the unfortunate man is insane. His Royal Highness appears to have shown the greatest dignity and forbearance towards his assailant.

The equestrian statue of the late lamented Prince Consort was unveiled in the presence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, the Lord Mayor of London, and other notabilities, at the western entrance of the Holborn Viaduct, on Friday the 9th. The statue is given by a donor, generally unknown, and executed very effectively by Mr. Charles Bacon. The speeches of the Lord Mayor and of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, were most interesting and well-received.

On the 8th, the coffin of Napoleon the Third was transferred to the sarcophagus in the little mortuary chapel at Chislehurst, with a short religious ceremony. The sarcophagus itself, is a gift of Her Majesty the Queen to the widowed Empress. That excellent and august lady, attended by her son, was present in the Mortuary Chapel, and a considerable number of distinguished adherents to the empire assembled to do loyal homage to the memory of their old master.

In general news we have little to record. Lord Ilchester has succeeded Lord Cowper as Captain of the Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, and Lord Monson has been appointed Treasurer of the Royal Household.

Mr. Dorington has been elected M.P. for Stroud in the place of Mr. Winterbotham; and Mr. Townley appointed Lord Lieutenant of Cambridge in the place of Lord Hardwicke.

The Castro trial continues, and its end seems still far off. Old fashioned people feel, that, twenty-one days in summing up a defence is a serious tax on patience and propriety. It is frightful to contemplate the amount of costs a "grateful country" will have to pay. A most extraordinary correspondence appears in the *Times*, as between Mr. Whalley, M.P., and Jean Luic.

Another claimant has started up in Scotland, for the Eglinton estates, and we fully expect to have now a succession of wonderful claimants, and still more startling claims, alike for public and private property.

The legal profession, as well as the public, lose a great deal by the retirement of Sir Samuel Martin. Those of this present, or rather, perhaps of an older generation, will long fondly remember his outspoken honesty, his unsullied integrity, and his increasing desire to be just, and to administer the law, both in the letter and in the spirit.

A curious case has been heard before that able judge, Mr. Justice Keating, an assessor for the Bishop of Exeter, at Exeter. It seems a pity that Mr. Chancellor Philpotts could not restrain his conscientious feelings, as it reminds us of what has been called in French, "une tempête dans un verre d'eau."

Abroad, the news is still not important. In Germany the Roman Catholic Church is very militant indeed, and Prince Bismark shews clearly that "there's life in the old dog yet," to use a very homely proverb. But a war of conscience, or what is taken to be conscience, is always a very difficult one to wage, and we doubt much the efficacy of penal enactments, in such matters.

The elections for the German Parliament are meanwhile quietly proceeding.

In France the Ministry have been placed in a minority, and have resigned, but having obtained a vote of confidence, have resumed their portfolios.

Marshal and Madame McMahon gave their first ball at the palace of the Elysée, on the 14th when the fair "Parisiennes" would think much more of agreeable partners, than of disagreeable votes of the "Chambres des Deputés."

In Spain the military pronunciamiento has so far succeeded, and is apparently quite approved of by Spaniards. Madrid tranquil, Carthagena bombarded, Moriones "in a fix," such seem to be just now the "Cosas de Espana."

The young King of Siam has abolished prostration on the "Kotoo," as it is called, and promises to be an enlightened ruler.

We have to announce the death of General Baron de Ros, of the Countess of Stanhope, of the Dowager Countess de Clifford, of General Sir James Chatterton, and of Mr. Henry Glassford Bell.

The *Times* also reports a very serious accident on the Great Northern Railway, at Barkstone Junction, by which two persons have been killed, and eight more or less seriously injured.

FREEMASONRY IN IRELAND.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONS. PROPOSED LAW No. 133.

As it is pretty generally understood that we shall soon be called on to re-discuss and re-decide the question of the retention or expurgation of the above most objectionable rule in our proposed new constitutions, I avail myself of the friendly columns of *The Freemason*, to bring before the Order in general, and our Irish brethren in particular, a few reasons why we should at the very earliest opportunity expunge a statute, which, as has very forcibly been put in a recent editorial of this paper, never should have been permitted to find a place among the laws of "Free and Accepted Masons."

It is hardly necessary to quote the law in extenso, as probably nearly all your readers who take any interest in the subject, are by this time tolerably familiar with it. Briefly, it proposes to compel the Grand Lodge of Craft Masonry to suspend, expel, or restore any brother, suspended, expelled, or restored, by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, the Great Priory of Knights Templar, the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, or the Supreme Council of the 33^d for Ireland, "without any further enquiry or investigation."

The principle attempted to be again forced on Grand Lodge for acceptance, is so utterly unmasonic, and so entirely subversive, not only of Masonic, but of general jurisprudence, that it seems almost a waste of time to argue the question, but as there is a compact, if not a very numerous, section of Irish members, who seem determined to enforce their particular views as being most for the advantage of the Order in general, I propose to notice a few points that naturally present themselves in examining the subject.

We are told by some, that the law referred to, is what is called a "Reciprocal Treaty," that the "Foreign Bodies," whose mandate we are called on, unquestioning, to obey, but ask us to do for them what they bind themselves to do for us, and we are threatened that if we do not pass this law, those other orders may possibly pay no attention to sentences of suspension or expulsion pronounced by Grand Lodge, and may retain Masons so suspended or expelled, in their community. Is this line of argument to be taken as serious? Is it not perfectly plain, as laid down

by Bro. Mackey in his "Jurisprudence, that suspension or expulsion from Craft Masonry necessarily involves suspension or expulsion from all the so called "higher degrees," of which the offending party may be a member, but that the converse, is not, and should not be the case. But assume for a moment that the implied threat be made a fact, and let us suppose that a brother who has been expelled from the Craft, retains his position as a member of the Royal Arch Order for example. It is unquestioned that suspension or expulsion, from Freemasonry is a punishment applied only to serious Masonic crimes, the latter punishment being admittedly irrevocable, and equivalent to Masonic death. Can the members of the Royal Arch Body, composed as it must be of Blue Masons, sit in chapter with one who has been cut off, for serious offences from the Craft? or if they even so far forget their duty, as Masons, as to contemplate so doing, why should their conduct in the matter disturb the serenity of Grand Lodge? The Craft being freed from the presence of an unworthy member, whose conduct called for such condign punishment, if so called "higher orders" choose to tolerate such characters in their ranks that is their own affair, and Grand Lodge has no occasion to trouble itself further in the matter.

But again, if the law be passed, Grand Lodge will stand in a very inferior position to the other grand bodies, whose dictates it must however unhesitatingly obey without inquiry, even when those bodies order Grand Lodge to cut off a member, whose Masonic career may appear to Blue Masons unblemished. The members of those orders referred to, being of necessity Craft Masons, can be perfectly acquainted with all the charges and evidences brought forward in Grand Lodge, against a member accused of any Masonic offence, but the members of Grand Lodge are not to ask, nor would they be informed if they did, of what it is a member of the other bodies has been accused, and on what evidence he has been convicted.

The idea of reciprocity, with this fact borne in mind, has a tinge of the comical about it. We are told indeed, that a member is never suspended or expelled from those other bodies, save for a strictly Masonic offence, and we are expected to jump to the conclusion, that no brother can be cut off from fellowship in those orders, except for a crime, that would, if he were tried in Craft Masonry, involve a similar sentence. If so why not try him for the crime in Grand Lodge? Let all Masonic offences be examined and adjudicated on by the Craft. If the offence be a special one, such as a deliberate breach by the member, of his obligations in the order he belongs to, Grand Lodge cannot of course ask as to what special point he has offended in, but it can, and it ought, to be told, that the member has been ostracised as a punishment for wilful crime, after a trial by his peers, and with that fact officially before it, Grand Lodge may safely be left to do its duty in the matter.

The term Masonic offence, is besides, a very vague one. For instance, resistance to the powers that be, would be regarded by those powers as a Masonic offence, and yet it is quite possible that circumstances may at some time arise in those other bodies that would render resistance a necessity and a duty, and is Grand Lodge to be bound hand and foot, to strengthen by its power the hands of those who in those higher bodies may, by their misgovernment and imprudence, provoke an opposition which they may be strong enough to put down summarily by the very simple argument of suspending or expelling their opponents? I trust not.

The proposed law is altogether unnecessary. We have already, in rule 30, protected the interests of those other orders, and have gone very much out of our way as Craft Masons to secure for them a monopoly of the privileges they enjoy. The High Grades in Ireland, if this rule had not been passed, would have been exposed to the risk of two dangers. A "foreign jurisdiction" might invade their territory, and confer on Irish members, certain degrees, the possession of which is supposed to make a brother Masonically happy, or there might be a secession from the ranks of some of those "ineffable" degrees, and the seceding parties might issue counter manifestoes, and show a culpable want of that delicate

appreciation of existing qualifications in candidates, for which the present orthodox grand bodies are so remarkable.

From those two dangers Grand Lodge has fully guarded the bodies referred to, by providing in rule 30 that all assemblies of Freemasons in Ireland, purporting to be Masonic, are unlawful and prohibited, unless held under a warrant or constitution from some of the grand bodies recognised by it, and as a consequence providing for the suspension or expulsion of any Irish Mason who may take part in, or join any such unlawful assembly held in Ireland.

Seeing then that proposed law 133, is, on the face of it, a serious interference with the liberty and independence of Grand Lodge, that the principle involved in its adoption would be completely opposed to Masonic jurisprudence and Masonic equity, and that it is quite unnecessary for the protection of the rights of the existing grand bodies, the question naturally arises, why is it sought to impose it on Grand Lodge?

There are two reasons which, whether admitted or denied, seem to me to be at the bottom of the strenuous efforts, undoubtedly being made, to get this rule adopted. One is, that if it continues to be part of our Constitutions, that the bodies popularly, though erroneously, supposed to be "high degrees" in Freemasonry, can by officially communicating their decrees on certain cases compel Grand Lodge, "without any further enquiry or investigation," to carry those decrees into effect against those under its jurisdiction, a tenable status is given to those bodies in Grand Lodge, and the holders of those decrees acquire in Grand Lodge a fictitious importance.

The other, and possibly the more important motive, appears to be, that such a rule would arm the governing bodies of those orders, not only with their legitimate authority over the members of those degrees, but with the obedient power, of Grand Lodge in addition, and when we bear in mind that as we advance upwards in Irish Masonry, the true Masonic element rapidly diminishes, and the unmasonic and anti-Masonic principles as rapidly develop, we cannot be too cautious how we give the rulers of those orders power to hold over the heads of their members "in terrorem," the authority of Grand Lodge, as an inducement to passive obedience in those degrees.

There are many Masons in those "Foreign Bodies" who might be disposed to take an independent position in what may be called their politics, if the greatest punishment to which they were liable for so doing, was the forfeiture of the privileges of that particular order, but who would think twice, before they would run the risk of a sentence which would, if this law be passed, send them out to the world branded as expelled Freemasons, without giving or allowing an explanation of the circumstances of the case. The members of the "High Grades" who retain Masonic independence, should for their own sakes be at their post in Grand Lodge when this law comes on for discussion, to help us to break at once and for ever, the power of the so-called "High Grades" over Craft Masons.

The tendency of all our recent legislation, and internal arrangements here, has been in the direction of drawing a distinct line of separation between Craft Masonry and its modern additions. It is not very long since the funds of the various bodies were separated. Previously the funds of the Royal Arch and Knight Templar orders were under the control of Grand Lodge. Now, the accounts of each grand body are distinct, and three of the other orders pay rent, as tenants to the Grand Lodge. With regard to the 4th grand body, the Supreme Council 33°, it is not a tenant of Grand Lodge, but by some mysterious process it has been made a tenant, for the use of rooms required in working the degrees under its control, to the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons, which as such pays a rent to Grand Lodge for apartments, gas, and attendance, the amount of which is simply absurd, and must I fancy, sooner or later, be at least doubled.

A still greater change came into operation on the 1st inst., by the removal of the office work of the new Templar Order from the general office to a special room, where in future, all Templar business is to be transacted, and as an arrangement is pending by which the office

routine of the Prince Masons and 33° are also to be transacted in the new department, the result will be to confine the regular business of the general office to that connected with the Craft and Royal Arch Orders.

If rule 133 be struck out, as I hope and believe it will be, but one more change appears to be necessary to complete the separation of the Craft from degrees which have little in common with it, and much opposed to its principles, and inimical to its welfare.

The change alluded to, is the appointment of a different Grand Master for each of the distinct grand bodies, thus assimilating them to the English practice. Of course no change of this kind would be sought for or desired while our present venerated Grand Master is spared by the Great Architect to rule over us. He has, himself, however, wisely initiated it by resigning the leadership of the Templar body in favour of the Prince of Wales. Another strong argument against Rule 133, is to be found in the fact that the body alluded to, "the Religious and Military" Orders of the Temple and Malta, is not a Masonic body at all, and must not, therefore, be tolerated if it attempts to interfere with the rights and privileges of Freemasons. It is true that it restricts its membership to members of the Masonic institution; but that does not constitute it, inherently, a Masonic order. It is, henceforth, to be a chivalric order, and seems disposed to try to carry out the aspirations of one of its apostles, who, some time since, proclaimed, with dignified enthusiasm, that if the idea wrought out by Freemasonry of "a brotherhood of men" was a grand one, the idea to be wrought out by the new Order of the Temple—namely, "a brotherhood of gentlemen"—is still grander. Possibly so, if practicable. Meanwhile, seeing that the two fundamental principles of universal Freemasonry are, the equality of its members, and their unquestionable right to worship God as their conscience dictates, there can be nothing in common between it and a system where social position is intended to be indispensable, and where every candidate must profess a particular religious faith. It is not necessary to wait and see the result of this chivalric experiment. The leaders of the new Order have themselves cut the cable that bound them to Freemasonry, and whether their venture be a splendid success or a ridiculous abortion, is beside the question. One thing, however, Craft Masons should bear in mind. Many of them are members also of the Templar body, and it is not only quite possible, but very probable, that ere long questions will be raised in that body which will compel them to take sides in a division that is almost certain, and I would impress on them the wisdom of preventing Grand Lodge being dragged into a quarrel which it does not understand, and about which it cannot get any proper information. Let the "High Grades" manage their own affairs as they please, but do not place at their disposal the power and executive authority of Grand Lodge to be exercised at their bidding without knowledge and without question.

Finally, let there be no compromise in this matter, (accept no amendment. The rule is a bad one, strike it out.)

It is just possible that some of the brethren who are so desirous of retaining rule 133 may endeavour to bring to bear an influence which has been recently applied in another case, and rewarded by a temporary success. The Grand Master, whom all parties sincerely respect, may be induced to give a personal opinion in favour of this rule, and may be persuaded that it is of vital importance to retain it. If this course should be taken, it will be necessary to remember that our most esteemed Grand Master, has to depend for his knowledge of what is going on among us, on reports conveyed to him by those with whom he is immediately brought in contact, and if from their standpoint, those who are striving to purify Freemasonry in Ireland from abuses which have unfortunately crept into it, appear rather as Revolutionists than Reformers, it is of course only natural that similar views should arise in the mind of the G.M. I would earnestly deprecate any such course being taken, but if it should be followed, and pushed too far, the blame is on the head of those who would

thus force us to make choice between our love for the individual and our loyalty to the principles of our institution.

I do hope that such a contingency may not arise, but that the question will be fairly and honestly fought out. I, for one, have little doubt as to the result.

JOSEPH H. WOODWORTH,
P.M. Commercial Lodge 245.
Dublin, 5th January, 1874.

Original Correspondence.

THE CONVIVIAL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

The extract from the *New York Dispatch*, on the subject of the Convivial Board (given in yours of the 10th) is sufficient to fill every right-minded brother with disgust; the allegations and deductions therein made are unwarrantable, untrue, and unworthy the pen of a true Mason. It is almost futile to go into a defence of the assertions Bro. Kilpatrick has thought fit to advance, for every English Mason knows that the charges are unfounded and only the emanations of a versatile brain, and bearing the impress of claptrap and falsehood.

The volubility of Mrs. Caudle, was, I presume intended by Douglas Jerrold to show the ignorance of the lower order of women, and why Bro. Kilpatrick should have introduced such a simile cannot be conceived, but may possibly have some slight application to brethren north of the Tweed.

I repudiate the assertion that the key note of charity (for this is really what is meant) was sounded in the Great City Lodge. Let those who desire to know where the key note of charity has been sounded apply to the records of our institutions and there will be found a ringing and deafening reply to the writer's insinuations. Most lodges are in the habit, when circumstances require it, and when an act of benevolence has to be achieved, to forego a banquet or two during the year, but it is not usual with them to have it cried from the house-tops, so that the nations of the earth may know how virtuous they are, and what an amount of self denial they are capable of practising.

As to the assertion that the lodge spoken of numbers many of the nobility and millionaires of the modern Babilon, it is simply ridiculous, and as "to the most influential and disinterested lodge," it is another wild proclamation, and proves the weakness and ignorance of the writer. The lodge in question has not been in existence more than six months, and is not at present either Subscriber, Life Governor, Vice-President, or Patron of either of the Masonic Charities. The next time Bro. Kilpatrick wishes to promote brotherly love, and serve our charities, let him seek more honourable means than outraging principles of which he has exhibited his entire ignorance as well as deviated from the truth.

I am, fraternally yours,
JOHN CONSTABLE,
S.W., 185.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,

In the following remarks upon an article, by Bro. W. Kilpatrick, quoted from the *New York Dispatch* in your issue of January 10th, I much desire it to be understood that I am not by any means an advocate for indiscriminate carousing. Neither do I wish to be looked upon as an example of abstemiousness. I, however, frankly acknowledge a partiality, shared, I will venture to assert, by the vast majority of my English brethren, for the pleasant gatherings which take place when the lodge is closed, for there the rare opportunity occurs, to enjoy with those we esteem, a few hours of social intercourse, free from daily cares, without indulging, as is suggested, in habits indictative of the gourmand or sot.

I did fancy a long experience in English Freemasonry had enabled me to attain a general

knowledge of lodge business, the furniture thereof, and the duties of the various officers, but the news wafted to us from the other side of the Atlantic has dispelled the illusion. I was not aware that a very important part of lodge furniture consisted of utensils used at the convivial board, including all the etceteras necessary at a carouse, nor did I know that the office of Steward is considered of the highest importance, his duty being to keep the cupboard well stocked with the ardent and edibles. But we live and learn. The notion of holding up American Freemasons, as patterns worthy of initiation, is, to say the least, curious, since Bro. Kilpatrick himself informs us, that, (in order I presume to restrain brethren there and keep them decorous) it was deemed necessary to prohibit intoxicating liquors being brought into the lodge.

In England no such enactment is required, as, although an unwritten law, it is implicitly obeyed, and a brother would no more think of conveying intoxicating liquors into a lodge than dream of taking it into a place of worship.

The writer further informs the readers of the *Dispatch* of an event which occurred at the Great City Lodge in London, namely that the brethren agreed to do without one of the usual banquets and give the amount saved to the charity fund of the lodge.

From this fact he prognosticates that "the keynote sounded by the Great City Lodge consisting of Nobles and City Millionaires (?) is likely to be taken up in every lodge throughout the length and breadth of the land." For my part I do not think it at all likely. Englishmen generally will not content themselves to sup on bread, cheese, and beer, while they can well afford to enjoy such luxuries as venison, and champagne, I have no means of judging the feelings of American brethren upon this topic; it is, however, notorious that the average American brethren are dyspeptic and do not possess the Englishman's power of digestion. It is quite possible the American Freemason may prefer intellectual refreshment and cold water, to a more substantial repast, but then tastes differ. The correspondent of the *New York Dispatch* has evidently but a slight acquaintance with the position of the Craft in England when he avers that this "new departure" of the great City Lodge (which, by the way, is not necessarily new, other lodges may possibly have done a similar thing, without trumpeting it forth to the four quarters of the globe) will cause a revival in Freemasonry in Great Britain, the fact being that at no time of its history has the Order been more flourishing and prosperous. Why Bro. Kilpatrick should publish such random allegations as are contained in the article in question is hardly possible to conceive, unless we suppose him to have fashioned his diction and opinions to please the idiosyncrasies of the people he happens to visit.

But why this crusade against Masonic dinners? Why, of all people in the world, should a Freemason rest satisfied with coarse and meagre fare, when he is able and willing to pay for delicacies? Is it just and fair to denounce masonic banquets, while we find other societies, be their purpose social, political, civic, parochial, benevolent, and even religious, indulging in similar "indiscretions." Nearly every public event of importance is celebrated by some such festivities. Almost daily we find in the newspapers reports of parliamentary dinners, civic dinners, banquets innumerable, upon every possible occasion, numbers of them in aid of charitable institutions, even the ceremony of installation of the Lord Rector of a great University is supplemented by a great feast where I am certain the "edibles" and the "ardent" played no unimportant part. Then why is the Freemason alone to practise so a great amount of self-denial. Is it because he is niggard in his charitable contributions, Let the records of the Grand Lodge reply. It is an insult to question the generous liberality of the English Freemason. Is the giver to divest himself of all his superfluous wealth and deny himself every enjoyment, that the recipient might be pampered. From general experience it is just to infer that the abolition of refreshment after performing four, five, and sometimes six hours labour in the lodge will tend to diminish the attendance of our lodge meetings. A con-

summation certainly not to be wished. For Freemasonry to continue in its present successful course, it must be made as attractive as possible. Members of our honourable Craft are as a rule "true and trusty," and good citizens; but they are not likely to take the trouble of travelling many miles for the purpose of receiving lessons in moral conduct, when the same commodity, albeit in different form, can be obtained nearer home. But when, besides the moral advantages which are to be gained in the Lodge, there is a prospect of lively and brotherly intercourse a goodly muster of Brethren will invariably assemble.

Now, admitted, as Bro. Kilpatrick very properly points out, that Masonry inculcates every virtue under the Sun, and that it is the duty of every member of the Craft to promote in every way anything which conduces to brotherly love, peace, and goodwill among men. Nor can it be denied that as civilization advances, so does Freemasonry (by the way, presumably notwithstanding our banqueting propensities); granting also that American Freemasons are immaculate, and the members of the Great City Lodge virtuous, but why, oh why, should the rest of the brotherhood have no more "Cake and Ale."

Yours fraternally,
E. GÖTTHEIL,
P.M. and P.Z.

Obituary.

BRO. T. WORMALD, F.R.C.S., FORMERLY OF NO. 2, LODGE OF ANTIQUITY.

We extract the following from the *Times*—
"Mr. Thos. Wormald died suddenly at Gomersall, Yorkshire, the residence of his brother, on Sunday, December 28, in his 72nd year. He had filled most of the important offices and appointments open to the members of the profession. He commenced his professional studies under the celebrated John Abernethy, surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to whom he was apprenticed at the Royal College of Surgeons. Having completed his hospital studies, he presented himself for examination, and was admitted a member of the College of Surgeons on the 5th March, 1824. He had previously assisted as Demonstrator of Anatomy at his hospital, and, in conjunction with the late Mr. M'Whinnie, published some anatomical diagrams of great use to students. After this he visited the continental hospitals to see the surgical practice and treatment of cases. In due time, he became assistant-surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but, owing to the long tenure of the office of surgeon by his predecessor, was not appointed full surgeon until nearly the time for the compulsory resignation of the office, which he only held for a few years; he was, however, immediately appointed consulting surgeon to the hospital, holding the appointment until his death, and ever taking the deepest interest in the welfare of the hospital, its patients, and the large class of students, by whom he was much respected. In the Royal College of Surgeons he filled all the highest offices, having been elected in the first batch of Honorary Fellows of that institution on the 11th of December, 1843, and in 1849 he was elected, in conjunction with the late Messrs. Hodgson, Pilcher, and Bishop, a member of the Council. In 1857 he was appointed Hunterian Orator, when he delivered an admirable oration before a large audience; the discourse was published at the expressed desire of the Council, by whom he was elected the following year a member of the Court of Examiners. In 1865 he received the highest honour his colleagues could confer on him—the President's gown, and he performed the duties of this office to their entire satisfaction. He continued in office only a short time, and, in possession of an ample fortune, divided his time between Bedford-row, where he had practised many years, and his country residence—Bengeo, but latterly Epping House, near Hertford. Mr. Wormald leaves a widow, three daughters, and three sons. With the exception of the works already mentioned, and a few papers in the *Transactions* of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society and the *Medi-*

cal Times, he did not contribute anything to surgical literature, but he has left a collection of valuable notes and cases."

The remains of this lamented gentleman were interred in the Highgate Cemetery on Monday week. His funeral, attended only by his sons, sons-in-law, and other near relations, was, as became his own wishes and retiring disposition, of a simple and unostentatious character. The service was read by the Rector of Bengeo, in whose parish he had formerly resided with his family, for many years.

Bro. Wormald's removal has left a blank, which cannot be readily filled up. In his busiest days, when his connection with St. Bartholomew's Hospital made a daily visit to London essential, he still appointed a time in each week when the poor could consult him gratuitously, and upon these occasions it was not unusual to find his gates surrounded with patients all anxious to secure the benefit of his great surgical skill. This practice was continued in his retirement to Epping House, and hundreds can testify not only to the permanent benefits arising from his prescriptions and advice, but to the sympathy and kindness with which every real case of suffering was met.

Bro. Wormald died at Gommersall, in Yorkshire, in his 72nd year. The sickness of a brother, to whom he had been instrumental in imparting considerable relief, had taken him there about three weeks before the attack which ended in his own removal. Thus to the end of life was fulfilled his great desire to do good to others, by enabling them to profit by that profound medical and surgical knowledge which in the providence of God had been so bountifully dealt out to himself. Bro. Wormald's connection with St. Bartholomew's Hospital, of which he continued a consulting surgeon, had an existence of well nigh half a century.

BRO. JOHN HARRIS.

We regret to announce that Bro. John Harris, P.M. P.Z., Lithographic Artist, and Fac-similist, died in Croydon, on Dec. 28, 1873. He was initiated on the 10th February, 1818, in the Lodge Good Intent, No. 413, and served the various offices, (that of W.M. four years). He joined the St. James's Union Lodge, No. 186, subscribing to the same 15 years. He then joined the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7, acted as Secretary for 10 years; and afterwards joined the Albion, No. 9, having been a subscribing member for 40 years. In 1823, he designed the tracing boards, approved by the late M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, K.G., &c. In August, 1856, he became totally blind from paralysis, and in 1860 he became an inmate of the Royal Benevolent Institution, Croydon. He has left a widow in advanced years, who will now be a candidate for the annuity.

MASONIC BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Under the above heading in last number of *The Freemason*, Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford asks who was the author of a pamphlet, entitled "The principles of Freemasonry explained, etc.," published at Glasgow in 1768. The author was the Rev. Alexander Gillies, a member of the Lodge Montrose. He was the first recorded honorary member of Mother Kilwinning, and his admission is thus minuted—"Kilwinning, 20th Dec. 1766. Mr. Alexander Gillies, preacher of the gospel, formerly entered in another lodge, having this day preached before the brethren in the Church of Kilwinning, to their great edification, and with universal applause, the brethren, in consideration of the learning, sobriety, and sound divinity of the said Mr. Gillies, do unanimously receive and admit him as an honorary member of the Mother Lodge of Kilwinning, and he obliges himself to obey the rules of the lodge. Alexr. Gillies, Claud Thomson, Master." George Murdoch, to whom the sermon was afterwards dedicated, was then Lord Provost of Glasgow, and a Past Master of Glasgow Kilwinning. The circumstances under which he became "Grand Master of the Lodges in Glasgow" are referred to in my "Historical Notes on Scotch Lodges," in *The Freemason*, Nov. 1, 1873.—D. MURRAY LYON.

Masonic Tidings.

His Grace James, Duke of Abercorn, has been elected to and accepted the post of Senior Grand Warden, in Grand Lodge of Ireland, vice Lord Athlumney, deceased, the Grand Masters Lodge are making great preparations for a banquet to entertain their noble brother who was so popular as Viceroy under the last Government.

The fifteen Sections will be worked in the Star Lodge of Instruction, No. 1275, at the Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, on Saturday, the 24th of January, by Bro. David Rose. Lodge opened at 6.30 precisely.

The usually quiet town of Richmond was *en fête* on Thursday, 8th inst., the occasion being a double marriage. The bridegrooms were David Davidson, Esq., and Robert Alexander Houstoun, Esq. The brides being the daughters of Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex. An account of the interesting proceedings will appear in our next.

Mulum in Parbo, or Masonic Notes and Queries.

BRO. KINNERSLY'S HISTORY OF No. 84.

We were much interested in reading a capital sketch of Bro. Kinnersly's History of "Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship, Guernsey, which appeared in *The Freemason* on Nov. 8th."

We sent to a friend to procure us a copy but not having heard as yet, we shall assume the "Review" in question to be correct as to the following:—Warrant granted by the "Antients" for a lodge at Guernsey, 24th June, 1763, No. 116. We find this lodge was in existence at the "Union" of 1873, and was then numbered 141 "Orange Lodge Jersey."

We are told that the same Grand Lodge issued a warrant 9th March, 1784, No. 222 for the "Mariner's Lodge" which was "erected in the island, under the same name, though now bearing the number 168 ever since.

Bro. Kinnersley then informs us that the "Doyle's Lodge of Fellowship" was formed on the 22nd Sept. 1806, also by the "Antient" as No. 536.

How the latter can be true we are at a loss to imagine, for on turning to the list of the "Antient" lodges we find No. 336 was held at the "Buckingham Arms, Stonehouse, Plymouth."

There was also at that time in Guernsey, under the "Antients" (A.D. 1813), 334, "Lodge of Harmony," 337; "Lodge of Unity, Bro. Gilliard's," and 343, "The Fourth Garrison Battalion," all of which ceased to exist before the alteration of the numbers in 1832. We have examined into the apparent discrepancy, and offer the following explanation for the information of our good Bro. Kinnersley, and his zealous friends of the "mystic tie" at Guernsey.

"Doyle's Lodge of Friendship," when under the "Ancients" was neither 334, 336, 337, nor 343, but actually "No. 98," and owing to its position of the roll, was more likely to have been warranted about 1760 than so late as 1806.

We append the various numbers of the "Doyle's Lodge of Friendship," according to the various alterations, from its constitution to the present time:—

Under the "Antients" up to 1813.	No. 98.
At the "Union" of 1813.	No. 123.
	1832. No. 99.
	1863. No. 84.

It is a curious fact that the "Doyle's" Lodge of Fellowship accepted a warrant from the older Grand Lodge (the "Moderns") in 1810, as No. 615. We do not know whether Bro. Kinnersley alludes to it or not. Such "double-dealing," however, was not unique in the experience of lodges, for the able historian of the "Royal Gloucester Lodge," No. 130, Southampton, (W. Bro. J. Rankin Stebbing, P.G.D., and D. Prov. G.M.), affords intelligence of a similar act on the part of that distinguished lodge prior to the "Union," and it is probable others did not object to do likewise. The reviewer in speaking of Sir John Doyle being initiated, passed, raised, and had the Past Master's degree

conferred upon him on one and the same night, remarks, "This was allowed under the old constitutions, and is even now done in America." We should like to know where four degrees are given in one night in America. It certainly will be news to our brethren in the United States. It is probable only the P.M.'s degree is referred to, and if so, excepting, we think in Pennsylvania, "passing the chair" is not worked in any Craft Lodge in America.

W. J. HUGHAN.

ARK MARINERS' DEGREE.

In the "Statutes and regulations for the Government of Royal Ark Mariners" (London, 1871), we notice the following.

"During some part of the eighteenth century Royal Ark Masonry was much in favour and practised. It has been discovered that in the year 1772, a Grand Lodge was re-constituted, and a warrant is in the possession of the Supreme Grand Commander of the Order, together with several documents relating to Ark Masonry and the Excellent Master's degrees, which have always been allied with it." "In London it has been worked from the year 1772, and long previously to the present time. . . . this Grand Lodge has had a continuous working long before and since 1793.

We have been examining into the antecedents of the degrees in any way connected with the Mark and Royal Arch Degrees, and desire to draw the attention of Masonic students to the above. We do not know who the writer is that compiled the introduction to the Statutes of Ark Mariners, and we therefore venture to ask for information through the columns of *The Freemason*.

1. We are not aware of any evidence to prove the existence of a Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners before 1172, or even so early as that period.

2. No warrant that we have heard of as being in the possession of the S.G. Commander dates prior to the last decade of the eighteenth century.

3. We have never been able to discover any particulars respecting the "re-constitution," (or even the Constitution) of a Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in 1772.

4. We are not aware that the Excellent Masters' Degrees have always been allied with the Royal Ark Mariner, and having copies of minutes of the former dating before the latter can be traced, we think the statement made in the statutes must be an error. However, we suspend our final judgment until an opportunity has been afforded for the production of evidence.

4. What records are there of the Ark Mariner's Degree being worked in London in 1772?

5. What records are there of the foregoing degree being worked in London long before the year 1772? We shall be glad to have an answer to these queries, which are now written with the sole desire to receive "light," and if the extraordinary assertions in the interesting little Book of Regulations can be substantiated, then clearly the Royal Ark Mariner's degree has not yet been duly honoured. We believe our zeal and esteemed Brother Robert Wentworth Little is well informed respecting the Ark Mariner's Degree, and we solicit his reply, as also a similar favour from other competent public men.

W. J. HUGHAN.

The Great Fair at the Agricultural Hall is still visited by thousands of persons nightly, who seem to thoroughly enjoy the "Fun of the Fair." We advise all our readers who have not yet been to pay a visit at once. The splendid collection of wild beasts, including the lion cubs born on Christmas day, are alone worth the admission money, to say nothing of the Richardson's Show, marionettes, ghost shows, waxworks, merry-go-rounds, talking fishes, and the hundreds of other amusements.

ANOTHER ROYAL COURTSHIP.—The London correspondent of the *Irish Times* says:—"The cousin of Prince Louis of Hesse, is, if report can be relied upon, an aspirant for the hand of Princess Beatrice, the youngest daughter of her Majesty, and, what is more, is likely to be successful."

BRO. ABEL SMITH'S ANNUAL TREAT AT THE HERTFORD WORKHOUSE.

The somewhat monotonous existence of the inmates of the Hertford Union Workhouse was relieved on Tuesday, by two entertainments, which were given for their special recreation; and if cheerful countenances and hearty applause are to be regarded as evidences of pleasurable sensations, then there can be no doubt that both young and old thoroughly enjoyed themselves on Tuesday, and as thoroughly appreciated the efforts which were made for their amusement. At four o'clock in the afternoon a gigantic Christmas tree, some ten feet in height was lighted in the large dining hall, to the great delight of the juveniles. The tree was most profusely decorated with useful and ornamental presents, and being capably illuminated really presented an exceedingly pretty appearance. At the appointed time the tree was stripped of its fruit, which was distributed amongst the younger inmates of the house, who were pleased enough at receiving the numerous toys.

The hall was then cleared, and soon afterwards the inmates were seated at the tables enjoying a most liberal tea, which had been set before them, and to which they did full justice, each person being supplied with as much tea, cake, and bread and butter as he or she considered necessary for their bodily sustenance. The old women each were presented with a warm shawl, and comforters and mittens were distributed amongst the others inmates of the house. After tea the tables were cleared, and at seven o'clock the inmates reassembled in the dining hall to listen to an amateur musical entertainment, which had been specially got up for their enjoyment. In addition to the inmates of the house there was also a large company of visitors present.

The programme was most ably and efficiently gone through; the applause was very hearty, and all appeared delighted with the successful nature of the entertainment. We may here remark that the expense connected with the whole of the afternoon and evening proceedings was most kindly and liberally defrayed by Bro. Abel and Lady Susan Smith. At the close of the concert hearty votes of thanks were passed to Bro. Abel and Lady Susan Smith for their beneficence, to the performers for their services, and to the Master and Matron of the house for their efforts to promote the comfort of the inmates. We had almost forgotten to observe Mr. and Mrs. Stratford (the master and matron of the house) were each presented with a very handsome book by Bro. Abel and Lady Susan Smith. The efficient services of some of the other officials also received appropriate acknowledgment.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF REGENT-STREET.—Among the brilliant displays which adorn Regent-street, there are none which attract more attention than the establishment of Mr. Ahlborn, in the Quadrant. Mr. Ahlborn has added largely to his establishment by the purchase of the hotel adjoining Quadrant House, at a cost of no less than £20,000. These extensive premises will be the most complete in Regent-street, and will contain an assortment, the richest and most unique, of the latest novelties. Mr. Ahlborn has expended an enormous outlay on a collection from the first houses in France of the richest silks and satins, which may fairly be said to be unsurpassed by any other throughout the world.—*Morning Post*.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The daily increase of deaths from these causes is positively appalling. During the last few weeks, from the hot days and cold nights, many aged and delicate persons have died of bronchitis, inflammation of the lungs, and other chest complaints, perfectly remediable at their outset. Let no one afflicted in the chest hesitate for a moment to use Holloway's potent remedies. Properly used, they will mitigate each symptom, and avert those disastrous consequences grievously noted by the Registrar-General. Rub the ointment thoroughly over the chest at least three times a day, and take the pills exactly according to the printed instructions affixed to each box and pot. Immediate relief and permanent cure will result.—ADV'T.

Poetry.

WHY CHIME THE BELLS SO MERRILY?

Words by Mrs. Herbert Hodges.

Inscribed, by permission, to the Lady Susan Smith,

Why chime the bells so merrily
From yonder grey church tower,
And why do sounds of mirth awake
The solemn midnight air?

The Old Year's past, and thus they bid
Its joys and griefs farewell;
And welcome in the New Year Morn
As though 'twould care dispel.

Why chime the Bells so merrily
In midnight's lonesome hour?
They strike within my soul a chord
Of strange and solemn power,

Can I, too, bid the past farewell
Without a sigh or tear,
And welcome in the New Year's morn
Without a thought of fear.

Ah! yes, for though past sins arise
In hues of scarlet dye,
A Saviour's love hath banished them,
E'en as the year gone by.

Then let the Bells chime merrily,
And bid the New Year come:
For each one as it speedeth by
Leaves me but nearer home!

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the Week ending Friday, January 23, 1874.

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

Saturday, January 17.

- Lodge 715, Panmure, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 1329, Sphinx, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
- " 1364, Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Hackney.
- " 1425, Hyde Park, Westbourne Hotel, 1, Craven-road, W.
- Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-street, Fitzroy-square.
- Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.
- Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bro. C. G. Dilley, Preceptor.

Monday, January 19.

- Lodge 1, Grand Master's, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street.
- " 21, Emulation, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
- " 58, Felicity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 185, Tranquillity, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
- " 720, Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
- " 862, Whittington, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 901, City of London, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
- " 907, Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1201, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
- Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
- Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7. Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
- Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
- Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
- 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. Gottheil, 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. Dilley, P.M. 1155, Preceptor.
- St. John of Wapping Lodge of Instruction (1306), Gun Tavern, High-street, Wapping, at 8; 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.
- Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.

Tuesday, January 20.

- Board of General Purposes, at 3.
- Lodge 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.
- " 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 162, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 165, Honour and Generosity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 194, St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
- " 205, Israel, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
- " 435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 704, Camden, Bull and Gate Tavern, Kentish Town
- " 857, St. Mark's, Duke of Edinburgh Tavern, Brixton.
- " 1441, Ivy, Windsor Castle, Southwark Bridge-road.
- Yarborough Lodge of Instruction, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
- Domatic Lodge of Instruction, Palmerston Tavern, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, at 8.
- Faith Lodge of Instruction, Refreshment Rooms, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
- Prince Fredk. William Lodge of Instruction (753), Lord's Hotel, Lord's Cricket Ground, St. John's-wood, at 8. Bro. F. G. Baker, Preceptor.
- Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.
- Prosperity Lodge of Instruction, Gladstone Tavern, Bishopsgate-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.
- Constitutional Lodge of Instruction (55), Wheatsheaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. J. R. Stacey (P.M. 180), Preceptor.

Wednesday, January 21.

- General Communication, Grand Chapter, at 3.
- Grand Stewards' Lodge.
- Lodge of Benevolence, at 6.
- " 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
- " 190, Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 619, Beadon, Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich.
- " 700, Nelson, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich.
- " 969, Maybury, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle Hotel, New Wandsworth.
- " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
- " 1382, Corinthian, George Inn, Cubitt Town, E.
- Chap. 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 192, Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street.
- " 217, Stability, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 1269, Stanhope, Thicket Hotel, Anerley.
- 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.
- New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
- Confidence Lodge of Instruction, Railway Tavern, 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, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
- Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham Court-road, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
- Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, N., at 8; Bro. P. Dickinson, Acting Preceptor.

Thursday, January 22.

- House Committee, Girls' School, at 4.
- Lodge 34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 60, Peace and Harmony, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
- " 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street.
- " 66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 99, Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
- " 766, William Preston, Cannon-street Hotel.
- " 871, Royal Oak, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford.
- " 1421, Langthorne, Swan Hotel, Stratford.

- Chap. 5, St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 177, Domatic, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
- " 534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 834, Andrew, Royal Sussex Hotel, Hammersmith.
- 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.
- Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
- Ebury Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Palmer's, 12, Pensonby-st., Millbank.
- Union Club of Instruction, Windsor Castle, Victoria Station, at 8 p.m.; H. Ash, P.M., Instructor.
- Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.

Friday, January 23.

- House Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
- Lodge 197, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
- Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- St. George's Lodge of Instruction (140), Globe Tavern, Royal-hill, Greenwich.
- Robert Burns Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
- Belgrave Lodge of Instruction (749), Coach and Horses, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
- Stability Lodge of Instruction (217), Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.; Bro. H. Muggeridge, Preceptor.
- Panmure Lodge of Instruction (720), Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
- Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
- Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, 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. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.
- Royal Standard Lodge of Instruction (1298), the Castle Tavern, Holloway, at 8; Bro. W. F. Rogers, Preceptor.
- Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (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. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
- United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Antelope Tavern, Lorn-road, Brixton, at 7.
- St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Howes, P.M., Preceptor.
- Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
- Doric Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8.
- Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Preceptor.
- St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144) Rose Tavern, Fulham-road, S.W.
- Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
- High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach and Horses Tavern, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE,

For the Week ending Saturday, January 24, 1874.

Monday, January 19.

- Lodge 721, Independence, Barr's Hotel, Chester, at 6.
- Everton Lodge of Instruction (823), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 7.30.
- Chap. 33, Jerusalem, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5.
- " 995, Furness, Masonic Temple, Ulverstone.

Tuesday, January 20.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- " 1276, Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, at 6.
- " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.
- Merchants' Lodge of Instruction (241), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 7.

Wednesday, January 21.

- Lodge 537, Zetland, Masonic Chambers, 9, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead, at 5.
- " 823, Everton, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
- " 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, Coffee House, Wavertree, at 5.
- " 1086, Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.
- " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
- " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
- Chap. 580, Unity, Wheatsheaf Inn, Ormskirk, near Liverpool, at 4.
- Harmonic Lodge of Instruction (216), Mona Hotel, James-street, Liverpool, at 8.

Thursday, January 22.

Lodge 594, Downshire, 90, Duke-street, Liverpool, at 6.
 " 1325, Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool, at 6.
 Chap. 292, Liverpool, Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 6.
 " 1086, Walton, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.
 Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction (1182), 150, Park-lane, Liverpool, at 7.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW.

For the week ending Saturday, January 24, 1874.
 All the Meetings take place at 8 o'clock.

Monday, January 19.

Lodge 332, Union, 170, Buchanan-st.
 St. Mungo Encampment, K.T., 213, Buchanan-street.

Tuesday, January 20.

Lodge 33, St. John's, St. John's Hall, 213, Buchanan-st.
 " 73, Thistle and Rose, 170, Buchanan-st.
 " 87, Thistle, 213, Buchanan-st.
 " 437, Govandale, Portland Hall, Govan.

Wednesday, January 21.

Lodge 519, Maryhill, 167, Main-street, Maryhill.

Thursday, January 22.

Lodge 27, St. Mungo, 213, Buchanan-street.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH.

For the Week ending Saturday, January 24, 1874.

Monday, January 19.

Lodge 44, St. Luke's, Freemason's Hall, George-st., at 8.

Tuesday, January 20.

Lodge 36, St. David's, Ship Hotel, E. Register-street, at 8.
 " 405, Rifle, Freemasons' Hall, George-street, at 8.30.

Wednesday, January 21.

Lodge 160, Roman Eagle, Iona Hotel, Nelson-street, at 8.

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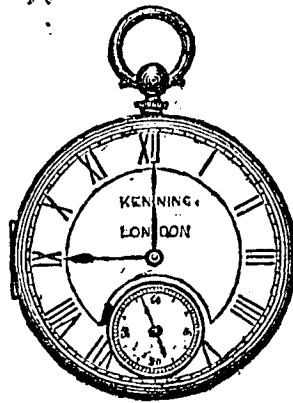
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