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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN.

PYTHAGOREAN LODGE (No. 79).—This lodge held its second meeting of the season at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Monday the 25th ult., and there were present Bros. Charles Munyard, W.M.; Roberts, P.M. as I.P.M.; Charles Nash, P.M. as Sec.; Shaw, S.W.; J. J. Hooper, Wilkins, J.W.; Dussek, S.D.; Thompson, J.D.; Partridge, I.G., and several other brethren. The minutes of the previous lodge were read and confirmed. A petition was then presented from a distressed brother, and on the motion of Bro. Wilkins, seconded by Bro. Dussek, a sum of three guineas was voted to him from the benevolent fund of the lodge, and it was also moved and seconded by the same brethren that a petition in his favour be signed for presentation to the Lodge of Benevolence, and the motion being unanimously carried, the petition was signed accordingly. The lodge was then closed and adjourned until the last Monday in the ensuing month.

ZETLAND LODGE (No. 511).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, at Anderton's Hotel. Bro. S. Pardoe, W.M., presided. Bros. Southron, Channon, Everett, and Woolf were raised, and Bros. Shute and Brown passed. Bro. G. Read, P.M. and Secretary, installed Bro. W. J. Russell as W.M., who appointed as his officers Bros. S. Pardoe, I.P.M.; Whittock, S.W.; Elborn, J.W.; A. Barfield, P.M., Treas.; G. Read, P.M., Sec.; Avery, S.D.; Wehln, J.D.; Ward, I.G.; Schofield, P.M., M.C.; and Cole, W.S. Bro. S. Pardoe was presented with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel. £20 was given to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and thirty guineas to the Girls' School. Nearly 120 brethren sat down to banquet. Bros. Hodges, Vaughan, and Channon responded for the initiates, and Bro. Dixon, P.G.D. Berks and Bucks, of whom there were twenty-eight present. Bro. Knight Smith having presided at the organ during the evening, and also favoured the company with some excellent singing, was also complimented with a special vote of thanks in a speech from the W.M.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—The regular meeting of this well established lodge was held at the White Swan Tavern, 217, High-street, Deptford, on Thursday, October 28th. Bro. S. O. Lewin, W.M., presided. There were present Bros. H. J. Tuson, J. J. Pakes, J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.P. Middlesex, P.M., and forty members. The visitors were Bros. C. Horsley, P.P.G.R. Middlesex, P.M. 33, &c.; H. P. Steil, 781; J. T. Adams, 1326; T. W. Crout, 1326; W. Bardman, I.G. 1531; J. Marking, 879; H. R. Harker, 79; J. Triptree, 13; H. W. Wieland, 1428; J. Topp, 913, and others whose names we were unable to ascertain. Bro. S. O. Lewin, W.M., opened the lodge in the several degrees. Bro. J. Andrews, I.P.M., in a perfect manner passed T. W. Crout, 1326, and H. W. Wieland, 1423, to the degree of a Fellow Craft Freemason. He raised Bros. J. McDonald, and J. T. Adams, 1326, to the Master Masons Degree. By a large majority being but four dissentients it was resolved that the lodge from its funds reimburse Bro. S. Andrews, P.M., the cost of the jewel worn by him as one who assisted as Steward at the Installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Bro. J. Baxter Langley, J.D., was elected as Steward to represent the lodge at the annual festival, to be held for the Royal Benevolent Institution Festival in 1876. All business being ended, the lodge was closed. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 25th. An important notice of motion was given by the Secretary, Bro. F. Walters, to revise the bye-laws. A good supper was served.

ASAPH LODGE (No. 1319).—On Monday last the annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, in the beautiful room which is adorned with Sir Godfrey Kneller's painting of Sir Christopher Wren, Master of the Old St. Paul's Lodge, (now Lodge of Antiquity), in 1685. This meeting of the Lodge of Asaph, is the only one in the year at which there is a banquet, all its other meetings, (and there are eight of them) being devoted to work only. At all the meetings there is a large attendance of brethren, the lodge, which was founded for the convenience of members of the theatrical

and musical professions, meeting in the day time, generally at two or three o'clock, and leaving the evenings open for the fulfilment of professional engagements. On the occasion of the installation the lodge meets at two o'clock, and in conformity with the usual custom this was the case last Monday. Immediately after two the lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Edwin Frewin, assisted by Bros. C. S. Jekyll, S.W.; W. A. Tinney, J.W.; E. Stanton Jones, P.M. Sec.; E. Terry, S.D.; George Buckland, J.D.; Henry J. Tinney, I.G.; Charles Coote, P.M.; James Weaver, P.M.; Edward Swanborough, D.C.; John Read, A. A. Pendlebury, H. Massey ("Freemason"), John Boatwright, George Tyler, W. F. Cremer, Steward; Henry Baker, Thomas W. Gough, Joseph Perry, George Horton, John M. Ball, Henry Snyders, Julian Egerton, John Strachan, William Graves, Joseph Horton, John Friskney Hutchins, Olaf Svendsen, Henry Lazarus, Gustavus R. Egerton, Frederick Kendall, William Lewis Barrett, James Greenhill, James Romberg Poulter, Arthur Thomas, Harry Cox, and several others. In the course of the afternoon several other members and visitors were present; among the former being Bros. Cox, C. H. Stephenson, A. Swanborough, Wellard, Henson, Soutar, Coles, Maclean, and Wand; and among the latter Bros. Charles Dickens, W.M. of the Maybury Lodge, 969; F. Binckes, P.G.S.; A. Kirsborn, St. Olaf's, Christiana; R. J. Spiers, P.M. 10; J. White, S.D. 360; J. Finch, P.M. 173; C. F. Hogard, P.M. 205; J. Poole, 1050; J. Sugg, S.W. 862; J. Strachan, P.P.G.W. 24; J. Barnett, S.W. 185; V. Tussaud, 231; Carter, 382; Thomas Lawler, 92; J. Goucher, 1017; H. Mackintosh, 4; W. Hilton, P.M. 780 and 1351; J. Large, 771; and H. Buckland, 9. The minutes, which had been very carefully prepared by Bro. E. Stanton Jones, were read by him and confirmed; and the statement of accounts shewed a balance of nearly £60 in the treasurer's hands. The accounts of the Benevolent Fund attached to the lodge (Bro. E. S. Jones, President) exhibited the total sum of £143 invested, a result which was hailed with great applause on its being announced. The work of installation of a new Master was thus inaugurated under most cheering circumstances, and at the request of the W.M., Bro. Frewin, Bro. James Weaver, I.P.M., took the chair, and opened the lodge in the Second Degree. Bro. Frewin then presented to Bro. Weaver Bro. C. S. Jekyll, S.W. and W.M. elect, and with all due formalities Bro. Jekyll was installed W.W. of the Asaph Lodge. Bro. Frewin was invested as I.P.M., and the offices of the lodge were distributed among the following brethren:—Bros. W. A. Tinney, S.W.; E. Terry, J.W.; Charles Coote, jun., Treas.; E. Stanton Jones, P.M., Sec.; George Buckland, S.D.; Edward Swanborough, J.D.; C. Wellard, I.G.; Cox, D.C.; C. H. Stephenson, W.S.; Gustavus R. Egerton, Organist; and Gilbert, Tyler. After the delivery of the addresses, Bro. E. Terry, J.W., proposed, and Bro. Weaver, P.M., seconded the transmission of a letter of condolence, in the name of the brethren of the lodge, to Bro. Frederick Burgess, on the loss of his son. The motion was unanimously adopted; and a similar motion on the sudden death of Bro. Ambrose Austin's wife, was proposed by Bro. Charles Coote, P.M., seconded by Bro. Frewin, I.P.M., and also adopted nem. con. Lodge was then closed, and the whole party adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern, where a splendid banquet was prepared for them by Bro. C. E. Francatelli. On the removal of the cloth the toasts were proposed. There being no Grand or Past Grand Officer present, Bro. Binckes responded for the "The Grand Officers," and explained that in the absence of Grand Officers he had high authority in the Order for saying that a Grand or Past Grand Steward was the proper brother to reply to the toast. He thought that in such an assembly he would have their indulgence, because he might be looked upon in a managerial point of view as a general utility man, who, when a star of some brilliancy had been engaged and had disappointed the manager, was called on to fill his place. Speaking as a general utility man, in the absence of Lord Skelmersdale, he would say of that nobleman that he had youth, zeal, energy, and ability on his side to occupy such an exalted position with. Masons hailed the advent of such Grand Officers to rank and dignity with delight, and it was on behalf of such brethren that he returned sincere thanks to this lodge for having remembered them. The W.M. next proposed "Prosperity to the Benevolent Fund of the Asaph Lodge." At these annual banquets the W.M. appealed to the members of the lodge to support this fund. It was not much in want of means, but the brethren must remember that the subscriptions to the lodge were small, and as it was only once a year the W.M. asked for support of the fund, he hoped they would not forget that which was the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart, and as liberally as they could support the Benevolent Fund. Bro. E. Stanton Jones said he felt it a high honour to have his name associated again with this toast, not that he could do justice to it, but because it gave him an opportunity to bring the fund again before their notice, and to ask them to support it. He wished he had Bro. Binckes's power of speech or his ability, as he would then be able to show the brethren better how they should subscribe. But they were all acquainted with the object for which the fund was started, and in a lodge like that, comprising the professors of the sister arts of the drama and music, it would only be necessary to mention the word charity to obtain from them the means of devoting a sum of money on behalf of an object of distress, not only a brother in distress, but his wife or family. To those who were in affluent means, or so considered themselves, he would say "Give to the fund, I am sure you will not regret supporting it." To those who might not be so well off he would say "give." If it was only from a selfish motive he would say "give," for the proper time to give was now. When adversity met a man and he asked for assistance from this fund, the committee

received the application, and certainly did justice to the fund itself by distributing it according to the manner in which each brother had contributed towards that fund. He hoped the fund would now have a very liberal addition. The brethren were to be congratulated on the very steady manner in which the fund, though small, was progressing. This was due to the prosperity of the members of the lodge, and he sincerely wished that that prosperity might ever continue. But if they went on at the present rate it would take twenty-eight years to place the fund on what he might consider a stable basis. He would therefore ask the brethren now to give to the utmost of their ability. The W.M. then rose to present a Past Master's jewel, value ten guineas, to Bro. Frewin, I.P.M., and said that those brethren who had been present in lodge were aware of the very satisfactory manner in which Bro. Frewin had discharged the duties of the chair. The lodge had therefore been pleased to vote him a small recognition of his services in the shape of a jewel. On it was the superscription,— "Presented to Bro. Edwin Frewin, Past Master of the Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, in recognition of his very efficient services as W.M., and one of the founders of the lodge, 1874-5." He (the W.M.) sincerely trusted that Bro. Frewin might be spared for many years to come to the lodge and take his seat as a P.M. Bro. Frewin said that as it had always been a rule in the Asaph Lodge not to make long speeches he would not break that rule, but he might say that he felt a little bit proud that night—as a distinguished statesman of the present day would say—for three especial reasons, 1st, because the jewel belonged to Freemasonry; 2nd, because it was an emblem of the lodge; and 3rd, because of the lodge from whence it came. 1st. Ever since he had the honour and pleasure of becoming a Mason he had used his best endeavours to act really and truly as a Mason. 2ndly. If it had not been for the peculiarity of the Asaph Lodge—meeting in the daytime—it would have been impossible to have ever obtained the honourable position he held that night. Lastly, he was proud of the jewel, because the brethren of this lodge had given it him. Many of the brethren he had known ever since they were boys. He and they had been boys together; they had grown together in their professional duties, and now they had presented him with this jewel. On this account, too, he was proud of it; it was a mark of their respect and esteem for him, and a little memento that the brethren had been satisfied with his endeavours to do his duty during the year. He had now a much more pleasing task than to return thanks for himself—to propose "The Health of the W.M." They had known him in the lodge in the various offices which he had filled in a style that warranted their selection of him as their W.M. His year of office would be a prosperous one for the lodge, even more so than previous years. It was pleasing to have to remark that they never had one word of contention in the lodge, and they expected to be as happy under Bro. Jekyll. The W.M. responded. It was a proud thing to be Master of the Asaph Lodge, and he thanked the brethren for electing him to that office. He would endeavour to carry out his duties in an able way. The Asaph Lodge was purely a working lodge. The brethren met during the year purely for the objects of Masonry, and they were satisfied with one banquet during the year. He hoped that that would always be their rule, and he also trusted that the way in which he performed his duties would meet with the approbation of the brethren. Bro. E. Stanton Jones here announced that the contributions that evening to the Benevolent Fund amounted to £20 6s. 6d. Bro. Charles Dickens, in reply to the toast of "The Visitors," said,—It is, I confess, with feelings of no little disappointment that I rise to return thanks for my brother visitors on this occasion—not with a feeling that comes of being disappointed in the expectation of a pleasant evening, because that, I think, I can speak for them—certainly I can speak for myself—we have enjoyed to the full, not only in those material blessings for which the Freemasons' Tavern is, we will say, more or less distinguished, but also for those sweeter pleasures for which this lodge has been so long held in so honourable a reputation, a reputation which I am sure we can go away and confirm by our own experience. But my disappointment is a personal matter, notwithstanding. I was certainly in hopes when I took my seat at this hospitable board and saw so distinguished a Mason present as our Bro. Binckes, that at all events there was no chance of my being called upon to make any sort of speech at all; but that Bro. Binckes would, if he would allow me to say so, be selected as the scapegoat on this occasion, and would carry our thanks and compliments to you into a species of oratorical wilderness, in which he is so much at home. But, W.M. and brethren, a cold shudder came over me when I suddenly reflected that my Bro. Binckes was so high and distinguished in the Craft that he would be selected to respond for "The Grand Officers," and when I heard him "perorating" in that manner I wished that I had the art of doing it. I felt at least that I should have very possibly to say something to you, and I have been endeavouring to frame some little formula of thanks which would convey to you a portion of what I, and I am sure what my brethren around me feel, for your kindness to us this evening. My Brother Spiers and I have taken counsel together on this point, and we have come to the conclusion that the heartiest thanks we can give you will be summed up in the words, "We thank you most sincerely." We claim your indulgence when I say there is a peculiar fitness in the scheme which produces the Master of the Maybury Lodge as the representative of the visitors to your lodge, our two lodges not only bind brethren together by those ties of brotherhood by which all Freemasons are united, but ours are what we may call sister lodges. We have, besides our Masonic affinity, a greater affinity still—we are fellows and kindred in art. The Maybury Lodge, as you are doubtless all aware, was founded by the most esteemed, I may go so far as to say most distinguished, actor of our

time—Benjamin Webster. It consists at this moment, and among its ranks are to be found many of the most distinguished exponents of the drama. Therefore, as representing them, I can assure you it is a particular pleasure to me, and one which I shall not fail to report to them, that I have had the honour of sitting at the board, where I have had the honour of seeing so many well known faces around me. I can say again I thank you for the visitors for the great kindness you have shown to us to-day, and in the name of the brethren of the Maybury Lodge "I greet you well." Bro. Charles Coote, P.M., replying for the "P.M.'s," said that as each succeeding Master took possession of the chair he felt he was getting somewhat older, and lower down in the lodge. He had the honour of being a very old P.M.; he did not mean in years, because a man of thirty might be an old P.M.; but he would like to begin again being the Master of the lodge, and go on and come back again. In all his Masonic career he had never felt anything equal to the pleasure he had had in being one of the founders of the lodge. It was a body which brought men together who were associated in their professional duties. He could endorse what the W.M. had said that there had been no contention among the brethren. They were doing their work as well as any lodge in existence. The brethren enjoyed themselves whenever they had a banquet, which was once a year, and they devoted their money to what he would call the essence of Freemasonry, the institutions. He did not like the use of the word "charity;" it ought not to be introduced. Freemasons subscribed to that which might be of some use to them in adversity. This lodge showed how much pleasure brethren who did not indulge in banquets had in the fruits of their abstinence. They ought to meet for truly Masonic purposes; but still he would be very sorry to see the day come when they could not meet for social enjoyment, as they had that evening. Bro. Jones and Bro. Weaver also replied, and Bros. W. A. Tinney, S.W., and C. Coote, jun., Treas., responded to the toast of "The Officers." The brethren then separated. In the course of the evening some beautiful vocal and instrumental music was performed, in which Bros. Buckland, Lawler, E. S. Jones, W. J. Ward, George Tyler, H. J. and W. A. Tinney, John Read, and several others took part.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—The regular meeting of this lodge addition to the muster roll of lodges was held on Wednesday evening last at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark (Bro. Spencer's), but from unavoidable causes the two principal officers were absent. Bro. T. J. Sabine, the W.M., as Grand Sec. to the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Sussex, was, in virtue of his office, obliged to attend the business of his Provincial Grand Master at Hastings, while Bro. Catley Mason was prevented from assuming the Senior Warden's chair in consequence of the death of his father, whose funeral was to take place on the following day. The lodge was called for six o'clock, but Bro. F. Walters, the Sec., who had been appointed by the W.M. to preside, did not attend until ten minutes to seven. This worthy and veteran brother had no doubt good reasons for being so late, but he did not state what they were, although he apologized to the lodge. Naturally the brethren were impatient at this long delay, and we sincerely hope that such a hitch will not again occur. However, everything in this sublunary abode must come to an end, and as we have said, Bro. Walters formally opened the lodge at ten minutes to seven. There were present Bro. J. J. Hooper Wilkins, acting as I.P.M. and Sec.; the Senior and Junior Deacons and the Inner Guard. There were five candidates for passing, viz., Bros. E. Emanuel, J. Emanuel, Worster, Willats, and Crosbie, and the acting W.M. performed the ceremony in his usual clear and impressive style. In the absence of the W.M. the bye-laws of the lodge were left over for further consideration. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren shortly afterwards separated.

PROVINCIAL.

ROCHDALE.—Probitry and Freedom Lodge (No. 367).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, Smallbridge, Rochdale, on Oct. 21st. The lodge was opened in due form at 7.15 p.m. by Bro. J. J. Ashworth, W.M. The minutes of last meeting were read and declared correctly recorded. The lodge was opened to the Second Degree, when Bro. Henry Ashworth was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by Bro. Jones, P.M. The lodge was then opened to the Third Degree, and Bro. Swift was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason by Bro. T. Baker Ashworth, P.M. The lodge was closed in peace and harmony at 9.15 p.m. by the W.M. The brethren and visitors afterwards sat down to banquet.

ORMSKIRK.—West Lancashire Lodge (No. 1403).—On Wednesday week the brethren of the West Lancashire Lodge, No. 1403, celebrated the festival of St. John, at the Commercial Hotel, Ormskirk, when the installation of P.M. Bro. John Datty Lambert, P.P.G.S.D., East Lancashire, the W.M. elect, took place. The career of the lodge, which was consecrated three years ago, has been of the most satisfactory character, and on the present occasion the brethren of the "mystic tie" mustered in good force to do honour to the pleasing event. The lodge was opened according to ancient custom by Bro. Philip B. Forshaw, W.M., who was supported by Bros. John Prescott, P.P.G.J.W.; J. Baxendale, P.P.G.J.W.; S. Wylde, P.M.; W. C. Edge, P.M.; G. Gould, J.W.; H. Ashmore, W.M. 1325, S.W.; J. B. Forshaw, Treas.; P. Draper, Sec.; R. Chamberlain, S.D.; J. Winstanley, J.D.; J. B. Lambert, P.M., D.C.; and W. G. Watts, Tyler. Amongst the visiting brethren were Bro. E. Ashton, W.M. 201, S.W.; J. Fogg, 580; J. Taylor, B. Haden; Geo. Barton, St. Helen's, &c. The minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. P. B. Forshaw, being in the chair, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when the W.M. elect, Bro. J. B. Lambert, made the necessary declaration as prescribed previous to

his installation as W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree. After the prescribed exits, Bro. P. B. Forshaw proceeded to install Bro. J. B. Lambert as the W.M. of the lodge, the ceremony being performed by him in a most masterly and effective manner, characterised by great taste and impressiveness. The ceremony of installation being completed, the newly-installed W.M. invested the following brethren as his officers: Bros. P. B. Forshaw, I.P.M.; Geo. Gould, S.W.; P. H. Ryder, J.W.; J. B. Forshaw, Treas.; P. Draper, Sec.; J. Winstanley, S.D.; W. G. Watts, J.D.; J. Grundy, I.G.; J. J. Nunncrley, Tyler; and Joseph Robinson and James Hiram Taylor, Stewards; and S. Wylde, P.M., D. of C. The lodge was then closed down to the First Degree, and a candidate was initiated by the newly-installed W.M. After the lodge ceremonies had been brought to a successful issue, Bro. J. Prescott presented the lodge with a portrait of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in his official costume as M.W.G.M., in a beautiful gilt frame, and on the motion of Bro. P.M. P. B. Forshaw, seconded by Bro. P. M. Wylde, a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Prescott for his handsome present. After the lodge had been finally closed the brethren sat down to a sumptuous banquet, which had been provided by Bro. H. Brown, of the Commercial Hotel. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. B. Lambert, W.M., who gave the usual toasts in a very pleasing and talented manner. During the evening a very handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. P. B. Forshaw, I.P.M., to whom the W.M. paid a very high compliment, not only for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the lodge during the past year, but for the able manner in which he had discharged the difficult duties of Installing Officer, and which was attended with the very unusual incident of the Installing Officer having to install a brother as W.M. who had himself had the pleasing duty of raising the Installing Officer into the mysteries of the Craft. The evening's proceedings were interspersed with songs, &c., which were ably given by Bros. G. Barton, J. Holt, G. Gould, J. Fogg, and Taylor, who were accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. J. H. Watts, Organist.

HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).—The installation meeting of this young lodge took place at the lodge-room, Lion Hotel, Hampton, Province of Middlesex, on Thursday, the 21st Oct., when Bro. E. Hopwood, P.M. 141, &c., W.M. elect, was duly installed into the chair of King Solomon by the First Master of the Hemming Lodge, Bro. W. Hammond, P.M. 201 and 1326, P.G.J.D. Middlesex, W.M. The officers present were, in addition to the W.M. and the W.M. elect, Bros. S. Hill, P.M., J.W.; J. Hurst, S.D.; T. W. Ockenden, acting J.D.; T. Wheeler, I.G.; D. B. Raw, P.M., Treas.; J. Hammond, P.M., Sec.; B. Gutteridge, D.C. The lay members were Bros. Jessett, Taggs, Phillips, T. W. Kent, Hiscox, Hunt, and, later in the evening, T. C. Walls. The visitors were Bros. J. Wilson, P.M. 209; W. Platt, P.M. 144 and 176; W. Snowden, W.M., and J. W. Mitchell, S.D. of the Duke of Connaught Lodge, 1558; A. Nuthall, 889; and Steven Fane, 1158. Previously to the installation of the W.M. elect, and immediately after the routine work presented by the agenda, the W.M. initiated Mr. Benjamin Richard Aston into the mysteries of the Order, and passed Bros. Hunt and Hiscox to the Second Degree. Bro. John Bond, S.W. 889, was also duly balloted for and unanimously elected a member of the Hemming Lodge, and during the ceremonies formally entered upon his position in the lodge. The W.M. now appointed his Wardens for the installation ceremony, viz.: Bros. Samuel Hill, being a W.M., to retain his post as J.W.; and W. Platt, to replace the W.M. elect in the chair of the S.W. He added that the office of D.C., although a very important one on many occasions, was generally filled by a junior member, or at all events by an aspirant only for a junior office; he should therefore ask Bro. Past Master Wilson to act in that position pro tem., as it must be occupied by a P.M. for the installation. The D.C. thus appointed then presented Bro. Edward Hopwood, P.M. 141, S.W. 1512, and W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation by his predecessor, the better to fit him for the high duties of that important trust, remarking at length upon his adaptability for the discharge of those duties, not only as evidenced by the unanimous election by the Master, Wardens, and fellows in open lodge assembled, but by the able assistance he had rendered the W.M. in successfully launching this lodge on the smooth water of prosperity, and in the conduct of the onerous duties of the first year of its existence—that his amiability of temperament, firmness of purpose, and career in a similar position already achieved, commended him particularly to an installing officer, more especially to the W.M., than whom no one was better able to appreciate these services. Bro. Hammond made a suitable reference to the qualifications as enumerated by the D.C., and addressed the lodge Masonically upon the essential qualifications of candidates for the Master's chair, and Bro. Hopwood in particular, in whom they had already so patiently shone. Having completed the usual lodge portion of the ceremony, the Installing Master requested the usual retirement of members below the degree of Installed Master, and constituted the Board, when, to use the words of the W.M., "our esteemed Bro. Hopwood" was installed into the chair of King Solomon in ancient form, and the members of the Board invited to encircle him for the purpose of salutation. The admission of members in the prescribed form, with the ceremonials of each degree, was then proceeded with under the proper arrangements by the D.C., and the officers were installed according to form in the following order:—Bros. Saul Hill, P.M., S.W.; J. Hurst, J.W.; D. B. Raw, P.M. 282, Treas.; John Hammond, P.M. 201, Sec.; T. Wheeler, S.D.; C. W. Fox, J. D.; J. C. Jessett, I.G.; T. W. Ockenden, D.C.; B. Gutteridge, Steward; J. Gilbert, Prov. G. Tyler, Tyler; leaving the office of Assistant Steward to be subsequently filled, the first step in the honourable road to office. The addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren were very effectively and eloquently

rendered by Bro. Wilson. The W.M., before rising for propositions, stated that he had a very pleasing duty to perform—that of presenting the first Master of the lodge with a P.M.'s jewel. This he did with extra pleasure because it was so well earned. The manner in which the arduous duties of the first W.M. had been carried out had commanded the esteem and admiration of the entire members. The chaste rendering of the ceremonies during his year of office was really depicted in the neat and elegant jewel, which had been designed as a model for the future jewels of the lodge for similar services, and which he now placed upon the breast of the I.P.M. The jewel consists of the coat of arms of the late Dr. Hemming, engraven in solid gold in the centre of the blue ribbon of the Order, with Euclid's forty-seventh proposition pendent thereto, also in solid gold. The following is the inscription on the back thereof:—"Presented by the members of the Hemming Lodge, No. 1512, to Bro. William Hammond, P.M. 201 and 1326, and P.G.J.D. Middlesex, the founder of the lodge, as a token of esteem for the zeal, ability, and courtesy displayed by him while presiding over the lodge as first W.M. October, 1875." Past Master Hammond rose and said,—Worshipful Sir, brother Wardens, and brethren,—I esteem it a very great honour to have been intrusted by our M.W. G.M. with the guidance and direction of this new lodge during the first year of its existence; but there is a still greater satisfaction arising from this substantial indication of your unanimous approbation at the manner in which the duties of that high and responsible office have been carried out. While I thank you most heartily for this token of your regard, I must, without for one moment disparaging the motives which influenced and brought forth this kind expression of gratification, revert to the circumstances attending the first announcement in the lodge. I then stated that it would personally have given me much greater delight to have had the satisfaction of handing over the cost of this splendid piece of workmanship to one of the Masonic charities, as I had done the five guineas after my year's labours in the Jordan Lodge, and the ten guineas after my two years' similar services in the Lebanon. You, brethren, overruled that desire, and I was bound to submit to the general wish of the lodge. I now trust the effect which you anticipated will be most fully realised, that this honour I now so gratefully receive will form a wholesome stimulus for perseverance in the younger members of the lodge to emulate the exertions and secure the reward of those who have travelled before them. I thank you most sincerely. The lodge next unanimously resolved that the late Treasurer, Bro. H. Jepson, become an honorary member of the Hemming Lodge, and the Secretary was instructed to convey to the worthy brother the deep fraternal respect entertained for him by the members, and the satisfaction it would afford them to meet him as frequently in lodge as his professional duties would admit. Dr. Jepson was initiated in the lodge room in which the brethren were now assembled, and by Dr. Hemming himself, whose name the lodge has taken. The report of the Permanent Committee on the audit of the accounts for the first year was of a very satisfactory nature, and was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The ordinary business of the lodge having been resumed, several propositions were recorded for the ensuing meeting, the third Thursday in November, and the W.M., the work having absorbed about three hours' time, called upon the brethren to assist him to close the lodge. At 6.30 the members and visitors sat down to an excellent banquet provided by Bro. Hiscox, after which the rest of the evening was spent in that Masonic decorum and interchange of thought which ever characterise gatherings of the fraternity. The W.M. dilated upon the advantages likely to arise to both the mother country and to India by the visit of our M.W.G.M., His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, a matter which specially interested the W.M., he having been born in India, and having spent his early boyhood among the hills and dales and the enchantingly varied scenes of that extensive portion of our empire. Bros. Wilson, Snowden, and Mitchell responded to the toast of "The Visitors," the first making a happy reference to the graceful manner in which the W.M. had acknowledged the kind services rendered by Bro. Wilson during the ceremonies, and Bro. Snowden assuring the brethren that however fully they might participate in the sanguine anticipations of the W.M. as to the efficient working of the Hemming Lodge, metaphorically they would ere long see the Duke of Connaught, No. 1558, quietly stemming the current up the Thames in close proximity with 1512. A most enjoyable evening was spent, which was further enhanced by the vocal abilities of many of the brethren, interspersed by Masonic recitations of other s.

Royal Arch.

MOUNT LEBANON CHAPTER (No. 73) held its regular meeting on Thursday, 14th of October, 1875, at the Bridge House Hotel, Borough High Street, Southwark. There were present Comps. Edward Harris, M.E.Z.; Frederick Walters, P.Z., as H.; James William Baldwin, J.; Frederick Walters, S.E.; Benjamin Isaacs, P.S.; and many others. The visitors were Comps. H. Potter, P.Z. 11; E. Gilbert, P.S. 1326; J. B. Shackleton, 1326, and others. The chapter was opened by the M.E.Z., F. Walters, P.Z., as H.; J. W. W. Baldwin, J.; and others. The minutes were read and unanimously confirmed. The ballots for exaltations were unanimous in favour of all the candidates. Apologies were received from all the candidates excusing and regretting non-attendance. Propositions were received for candidates for exaltation at next meeting. The chapter was closed until Thursday, November 11th, at half-past six o'clock. The usual banquet followed.

BARNSTAPLE.—Chapter of Loyalty and Virtue (No. 251).—This old chapter held its usual

quarterly meeting on Wednesday last. Present—Comps. C. Whilshire, Z.; Elsworth, H.; W. Britton, J.; J. T. Shapland, P.S.; H. Hancock, Assist. S.; List, Treas.; Oliver, Sec.; Nicklin, Org.; together with a large number of other companions, some of the chapter, and others visitors. This chapter is vastly improving in every respect. Bro. Day was exalted, and five other brethren were proposed for exaltation. It will very shortly become one of the largest and best working chapters in the neighbourhood.

Mark Masonry.

ST. MARK'S LODGE (No. 1).—A meeting of the above lodge was held at Bro. Gosden's, Masons' Hall, on Tuesday last. Present—Bros. Rev. E. J. Brette, D.D., W.M.; Charles Horsley, S.W.; E. H. Thiellay, J.W.; H. Dubois, M.O.; George Newman, S.O.; W. T. Howe, J.O.; H. C. Levander, Treas.; R. W. Little, Sec.; T. Burdett Yeoman, I.P.M.; George Kenning, P.M.; John Boyd, Frederick Walters, and others. Two candidates were advanced to the Degree of Mark Master. Bro. T. B. Yeoman was presented with a valuable jewel, in recognition of his services as Worshipful Master for the past year. Several names having been proposed for advancement at the next meeting, the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren afterwards dined together, the usual toasts being ably proposed by the Worshipful Master and duly acknowledged.

MANCHESTER.—St. Andrew's Lodge (No. 34).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, 28th October, and was largely attended by the members, who had invited many visitors to assist them in receiving the Deputy G.M. Master of England, Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P., Prov. G.M.M. Lancashire. The lodge was punctually opened at 6 o'clock by the W.M., Bro. Rome, Prov. G. Reg., assisted by his officers, Bros. W. C. Gilles, S.W.; Arensburg, J.W.; Milligan, Bennett, Richardson, Miller, &c., and Bro. Sallon, Treas., and Green, Sec. The minutes were read and confirmed, and the usual routine business transacted, after which several candidates were elected. The announcement was then made that the D.G.M.M. of England was in the ante-room and desired admission. The W.M. requested the Deacons, Overseers, Wardens, and two Past Masters to conduct the D.G.M.M. to the lodge. This was accordingly done, and the procession entered in the following order:—Bros. W. O. Walker, P.G.D.; J. R. Goepe, P.G.O.; G. P. Brockbank, P.G.W.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W.; Thomas Entwisle, P. Prov. G.M.M.; W. Romaine Callender, D.G.M.M. On arriving at the East the procession halted, and the chair was assumed by the D.G.M., who was saluted by the brethren, under the direction of Bro. W. H. Hopkins, Prov. G.M.O., as D.C. The gavel was then restored to the W.M., Bro. Rome, and the following brethren were admitted to the degree of Mark Mason, and afterwards to that of Mark Master—Bros. Harvey, Middleton, and Weddle. We have seldom seen the ritual more accurately rendered than on this occasion by the W.M. and the officers, all of whom were, without exception, perfect in the ceremony, the impressiveness of which was much increased by the chants and music, presided over by Bro. H. T. Robberds, P.M. The D.G.M., then rose and said that since his entrance into the lodge he had been requested to undertake a very pleasing duty, that of presenting, in the name of the lodge, a massive gold P.M.'s jewel to their first Worshipful Master, Bro. C. F. Matier, whose services in the cause, not only of Mark Masonry, but of every other degree, he had much pleasure in recognising. Bro. Callender then gave a most interesting account of the rise and progress of the degree in Lancashire, especially as connected with the St. Andrew's Lodge, and their founder, Bro. Matier, and concluded by affixing the jewel to his breast, with the hearty wish that he might long have the honour and pleasure of wearing it among the brethren of the lodge. Bro. Matier was then saluted as a P.G.W. of England by the brethren, and thanked them for the great honour conferred on him in a few brief remarks. The business being concluded, the procession retired in the same order as it entered, and the lodge was closed according to ancient custom. The brethren then proceeded to supper, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Rome, who was supported by the distinguished brethren already mentioned, and the following visitors and Prov. Grand Officers. Bros. Richard Dewhouse, Prov. G. Sec. Cheshire and North Wales; J. L. Hine, P.P.G.S.W.; J. W. Petty, P.P.G.S.D.; Alex. Andrews, Dublin Mark Lodge; Benj. Smith, W.M. elect, Union M.L.; and many others whose names we had not the opportunity of learning. The toasts of "The Queen and Mark Masonry," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," and "The M.W.G.M., the Earl of Limerick," were proposed by the W.M. Bro. Matier then asked the brethren to drink the toast of the evening, and said that in many cases where the health of the chief rulers of the Order was proposed it seemed to the brethren words and nothing besides, but in the province of Lancashire they were highly honoured by having in one and the same person the D.G. M.M. of England, and their own well-beloved and esteemed Prov. G.M. The name of Bro. Callender was in Lancashire a tower of strength and a household word, and he begged to congratulate the St. Andrew's Lodge that they were the first lodge who were thus honoured by Bro. Callender since his elevation to the dignity of Deputy Grand Mark Master of England. He begged to assure Bro. Callender, in the name of the lodge, of the high appreciation they placed on his visit, and trusted they would again be honoured on some future occasion. The health was drunk with great enthusiasm and loud cheers from the brethren, which were repeated when the D.G.M. arose to reply, which he did in some brief and well chosen sentences, apologising for not making a long speech on the ground of the Prov. Grand meeting at Liverpool taking place the following day. The

next toast, "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," was responded to by Bro. Entwisle, P. Prov. G.M.M. of Lancashire; and "Lord Skelmersdale, D.P.G.M.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers of Lancashire," by Bro. Goepe, P.G.O. The remaining toasts were "The W.M.," proposed by Bro. Callender; "The P.M.'s," by Bro. Brockbank, and responded to Bro. Robberds; "The Visitors," by Bro. Hopkins, P.M., and replied to by Bro. Petty, as representing England, and Bro. Andrews, from Ireland. "The Candidates" was proposed by the S.W., Bro. Gilles, P.Prov.G.D.; "The Masonic Charities," by Bro. Matier, and replied to by Bro. Hine, Chairman of the Charity Committee. The Tyler's toast brought a delightful evening to an end, and the brethren separated at an early hour.

PLYMOUTH.—Sincerity Lodge (No. 35).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at St. George's Hall, Plymouth, on the 1st inst. Bro. J. G. Shanks, R.M., F.R.G.S., Captain Royal Marines Light Infantry, was duly installed as W.M. The beautiful ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Elliott, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Devon, in a most impressive manner. Bro. Shanks then appointed the following officers:—Bros. Curteis, I.P.M.; Tester, S.W.; A. Latimer, J.W.; Rev. — Bellamy, Chaplain; Rac, P.M., Sec.; Bayly, P.M., Treas.; Col. Fitzgerald, M.O.; Rev. T. Lemon, S.O.; Croydon, J.O.; Evans, S.D.; Dr. Griffiths, J.D.; Horton, I.G.

Red Cross of Constantine.

LIVERPOOL.—Liverpool Conclave (No. 55).—The usual meeting of this Conclave was held on Thursday week at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. Gen. Sir Knight J. E. Jackson, M.P.S., occupied the post of honour, and the other Knights of the conclave present were Sir Knights G. H. Turner, V.E.; J. Capell, J.G.; R. Washington, H.P.; J. Wood, Treas.; H. Burrows, Prefect; H. James, St. B.; P. Armstrong, Orator; T. McWean, Herald; P. Thomson, I. W. Robinson, J. W. McWean, T. Roberts, and W. Doyle, P.S. Sir Knight H. Nelson, P.S. 77, was the only visitor present. Bros. Cook and Archdeacon were installed Knights of the Order. It was resolved to have the meetings of the conclave every two months, instead of quarterly, at the Masonic Hall, this being the first meeting there.

CAMBRIDGE.—The University Conclave (No. 128).—The above named conclave was consecrated on Wednesday, 27th ult., by Sir Knight Robert Wentworth Little, assisted by Sir Knights Colonel Burdett, Colonel Peters, Rev. P.M. Holden, John Boyd, H. C. Levander, Thomas Cubitt, A. B. Cook, J. L. Thomas, Dr. E. Brette, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, W. E. Gumbleton, and others from London. Sir Knight Edward Amphlett was installed the First Sovereign.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLASGOW.

The quarterly meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held in St. Mark's Masonic Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, Glasgow, on Thursday, evening 28th October, 1875, Bro. Frederick A. Barrow, Deputy P.G. Master, in the chair; Bro. Wm. Bell, R.W.M. St. John's, 34, acting P.G.S.W.; George McDonald, R.W.M., Thistle and Rose Lodge, 73, acting P.G.J.W. There were also present Bros. A. McTaggart, P.G. Sec.; J. B. Walker, P.G. Treas.; George Sinclair, P.G. Treas. and Convener of Benevolent Fund; J. Gillies, P.G.S.D.; R. Robb, P. G. Marshal, J. Fraser, Assistant P.G. Marshal; J. Balfour, P.G. Director of Ceremonies; Wm. Phillips, P.G. Sword Bearer; J. W. Burns, R.W.M., Thistle Lodge, 87, acting P.G. Inner Guard. There were present, among other Masters and Past Masters, Bros. John Campbell, R.W.M., St. John's Shettleston 128; James S. Scott, R.W.M. Neptune Lodge 419; David Reid, R.W.M., St. Andrew's Lodge, 465; John McNaught, D.M. Clydesdale Lodge, 556; David Peacock, S.W. St. Mary's Lodge, Partick, 117; John Horn, Sec. Shamrock and Thistle, 275, with a very large number of brethren from the province. The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened on the E. A. Degree, and Bro. McTaggart, P.G. Sec., read the minutes of previous meetings, which were confirmed. Bro. George Sinclair, Treas. and Convener of Benevolent Fund, also read minutes of Benevolent Committee (which showed that a large number of sums, varying from £1 to £5 had been paid during the last quarter, towards charitable purposes), which were also approved of. The D.P.G.M. intimated to the brethren that in consequence of the Edinburgh Sacrament falling on Sunday, immediately preceding the first Monday of November, the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland would not be held until Monday, 8th November. A good deal of business was then gone through, and after a number of questions had been asked, and answered satisfactorily from the chair, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form by the D.P.G.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. John (No. 34).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on the 26th ult. Bro. Wm. Bell, R.W.M., took the chair, supported by the following office-bearers: F. Fletcher, I.P.M.; D. Horn, J.W.; P. Brownlee, S.D.; Robt. Dalgleish, Treas.; John Dink, Sec., &c. The meeting was well attended. It was expected that the business would have commenced with initiation, but that was postponed through the unavoidable absence of the candidates. The lodge was therefore passed from E.A. to that of P.C., when Bro. John Davidson (gas manager), A. M. Morrison (writer), Thos. H. Kirk (writer), Robert McNab (traveller), and James Orr (mariner), received that degree. The lodge was then raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., when the same brethren were intrusted with that degree, after which the lodge was called to refreshment, when a pleasant and profitable hour was spent. Being again called to labour, they closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge St. Mungo (No. 102).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on the 25th ult., in their hall, 213, Buchanan-street. The meeting was well attended, and the business was excellently gone through. Bro. James F. Mitchell, R.W.M., presided, supported by his Wardens. Among others present were Bros. A. C. Lindsay Gray, D.M.; D. A. Miller, P.M.; T. Halkit, P.M.; W. Bell, R.W.M. 34; John Smith, Sec.; A. C. Paterson, Treas.; D. J. Forsyth, Director of Music, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and an application read from Mr. John C. Shand, craving admittance into Freemasonry. He passed the ballot clear, and received the E.A. degree, the R.W.M. officiating. The lodge was then raised to the F.C. Degree, when Bro. Neill Campbell and David Macrae received that degree, the R.W.M. again officiating with his accustomed ability. There being no further business before the lodge, it was accordingly closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Union and Crown (No. 103).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 25th ult., in the Masonic Hall, 170, Buchanan-street. The meeting was exceedingly large, probably owing to the nomination of office-bearers having to take place that night. The chair was occupied by Bro. Alexander Bain, P.M., who was supported by the following able brethren:—G. Muir, D.M.; D. Murray, S.M.; W. Thomas, S.W.; R. Munro, J.W.; James Gilles, P.M. and Sec.; Neill Cameron, Treas.; W. Anderson, S.D.; J. W. Pollock, J.D.; also W. Bell, R.W.M. 34; J. Campbell, R.W.M. 128, and many other distinguished brethren. The lodge being opened for the dispatch of business, the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting. They were pronounced correct, and were confirmed. The nomination of office-bearers for the next year was then proceeded with. The whole of the members seemed to take a deep interest in the matter, and the competition for the various offices was very keen. The result was the nomination of the following:—For R.W.M., Bros. George Muir and David Murray; for S.M., Bros. D. Murray and W. Gibson; for S.W., Bro. W. Thomas; for J.W., Bro. W. Forsyth; for Treasurer, Bro. Neill Cameron; for Secretary, Bro. J. Gilles (P.M.); for Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. J. C. Stewart; for S.D., Bro. J. W. Pollock and William Anderson; for J.D., Bros. Archd. Gray and J. W. Pollock; for B.B., Bro. Peter Cullen; for Jeweller, Bro. James Cameron; for S.S., Bro. John Derry; for J.S., Bro. George McLuckie; for Standard-bearer, Bro. James Kennedy; for P.G.S., Bro. Colin Robertson; for I.G., Bro. James Gray; for O.G., Bro. Robert Boyd. The lodge was then passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, when Bros. George Waters and Joseph Ferguson were intrusted with that degree, Bro. G. Muir, D.M., officiating. From this the lodge was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, when the following brethren were raised to that degree by Bro. Bain, P.M., in his own able and clear style of working the various degrees of Masonry. This brought a heavy night's work to a harmonious termination, and the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

POLLOKSHAW.—Lodge Royal Arch (No. 153).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their new lodge room, Cogan-street, on the 29th ult. The meeting was exceedingly well attended. Bro. John Peters, R.W.M., took the chair, and was supported by Bros. Wm. McGeorge Adam, D.M.; W. M. Paton, S.W.; James Black, J.W.; Wm. Johnston, Sec.; D. Allan, Treas.; J. M. Oliver, S.W. 360; G. B. Adams, Mother Kilwinning (No. 0). The Secretary was called upon by the R.W.M. to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. A communication was then read from St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 347), Rutherglen, asking a deputation from the Lodge Royal Arch, Pollokshaws, to be present at the consecration of their new hall, which will take place on Friday, 12th November, at 7 p.m. A deputation was made up, and the invitation accepted. A circular from Bro. G. Kenning was also read, asking for a return of the number of copies of the new "Scottish Masonic Calendar for 1876," that would be required by the Lodge Royal Arch (No. 153). On the fly leaf of the circular is a form to be filled up, and returned to 9, Howard-street, Glasgow. In the form there is space for the names of the newly-elected office-bearers; and each lodge taking 100 copies of the "Calendar," at 3d. each, will have a full page for the names of their office-bearers. The matter was left over till after the election of office-bearers. The R.W.M. then said they were all aware that the nomination of office-bearers must take place that night, and they would now proceed with that duty. The result was the nomination of the following:—R.W.M., Bro. John Peters, D.M.; W.M. Paxton and Lem, S.M., James Peters; S.W., James Black; J.W., James Hart; R.C., Lynas; S.D., D. McNaught; J.D., Alexr. Magee and James Hart; S.S., Bradford; J.S., Tommie; Std. B., Wood; (Marshal), Baird; Director of Music, Wm. M. G. Adam; B.B., James Hart; I.G., Campbell; O.G., no change; Jeweller, Macrae; Sec., Baird and Johnston; Treas., Allan; Auditors., John McFarlane and R. C. Lynas. This finished the business before the lodge, and it was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Star (No. 219).—The regular bi-monthly meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, No. 12, Trongate, Glasgow, on the 25th ult., Bro. J. Morgan, R.W.M., presiding, supported by Bros. J. Garth, S.W.; Jas. Horn, J.W.; B. Smart, Treas.; J. Crawford, Sec.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. The lodge was opened by Bro. John Morgan, R.W.M., and the minutes of previous meetings read and confirmed. The names of three candidates for admission into the Order of Freemasonry were then submitted to the brethren for their approval, and if no objection be raised before or at next regular meeting they will be admitted and receive the E.A. Degree. The lodge was then raised to the degree of M.M., when Bros. Colin McNiven, Peter Kennedy, and Wm. McNicoll received this Sublime Degree, Bro. John Morgan,

R.W.M., officiating in a very suitable manner. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in due form.

RUTHERGLEN.—St. John's Operative Lodge (No. 347).—The regular monthly meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in their new Masonic hall, Rutherglen, on Friday evening, 29th Oct. Bro. John Cunningham, R.W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bros. Samuel Abbot, D.M.; David Smart, S.M.; John Murdoch, S.W.; Thomas Alston, J.W.; Alexander Warnock, Sec.; William Gardner, P.M.; Thomas Brodie, S.D.; John McCallum, S.S., with the other office-bearers in their respective places, and a large number of members and visiting brethren present, numbering in all about sixty. Among the visiting brethren were Bros. David Reid, R.W.M. St. Andrew's Lodge; William Phillips, R.W.M. Clydesdale Lodge; William Fergusson, 543; James Scott, 116; Findlay Sinclair, 108; William Galbraith, 557; John Sharp, 413; Alex. Lockhart, 176; John Templeton, 180; J. Bairnsfather, 7; Robert McLellan, 128; George Cunningham, Dugald Ritchie, and Hugh McFarlane. The lodge was opened in the first, or E.A. Degree. Bro. Warnock, Sec., read minutes of the last regular and two special meetings, which were approved of. Bro. Smart, S.M., then brought forward a motion he made at last regular meeting, to have their annual festival in the month of February in the new hall, which was unanimously agreed to, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Two applications for admission into the Order were then read and favourably received. The candidates being forward, were admitted, and received the E.A. Degree at the hands of the R.W.M. in a careful and impressive manner, viz., Messrs. William Morrison and Thomas Simpson. The R.W.M. then intimated to the brethren that the next business before the lodge was the nomination of office-bearers for the ensuing year, and in the course of a few remarks he thanked the office-bearers and members of the lodge for the hearty support they gave him during his term of office, being now R.W.M. of the lodge four years in succession. The nomination of office-bearers was then proceeded with, after which the lodge was closed in due and ancient form by the R.W.M.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Commercial (No. 360).—A special meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, 39, Hope-street, Glasgow, on Thursday evening, 28th inst. Bro. J. M. Oliver, S.W., occupied the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. J. Munro, R.W.M.; Wm. Findlay, acting S.W.; T. Graham, acting J.W.; with the other office-bearers and a number of brethren present. The lodge was opened on the E.A. Degree. Applications were read from two gentlemen, viz., Messrs. John Mitchell and John Clark, and the same having been formally balloted for, were admitted and initiated into the First Degree of Freemasonry by Bro. J. M. Oliver, the acting R.W.M. No further business being brought forward, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

GLASGOW.—Lodge Athol (No. 413).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in St. Mark's Hall, 213, Buchanan-street, on the 26th ult. The meeting was well attended, and a goodly number of visiting brethren were present. Bro. J. Wallace, R.W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Colin McKenzie, S.W.; J. Louttit, acting J.W.; J. W. Stevenson, Sec.; P. Agnew, Treas., and others. On the lodge being opened the minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Sec., and confirmed. The case of a brother who had been shipwrecked was then brought up, with a view to assist him a little in his present difficulties. The brother, it appeared, was a member of Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge, No. 4. A sum of money was at once granted him to relieve his immediate wants. An application was read from Mr. David Jameson for initiation into Freemasonry. He was proposed and seconded by Bros. Robert Jameson and Robert Barr, both members of the lodge. On the ballot being found clear in his favour, he was prepared and received the E.A. Degree, the R.W.M. officiating. The lodge was then passed to that of F.C., when Bros. Geo. Strathern, David Jameson, Duncan McPherson, and Chas. Melver received that degree, Bro. Louttit officiating. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

MARYHILL.—Lodge Maryhill (No. 510).—The brethren of this lodge held their regular fortnightly meeting in the Masonic Hall, 167, Main-street, Maryhill, on Wednesday evening, 27th ult. Bro. John McKay, D.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. John Lockhart, R.W.M., occupied the chair. Bros. M. Carey, S.W.; D. McLachlan, J.W.; with the other office-bearers and a large number of brethren present. The lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree, and the minutes of last meeting, which showed that 15 Fellow Craft were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, were read and adopted. Two candidates who were proposed and seconded at last meeting were then balloted for, admitted, and received the E.A. Degree at the hands of Bro. J. McKay, D.M., in a careful manner, viz., Messrs. John Fisher and Andrew Lithgow. There being no further business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

CROSSHILL.—Lodge Marie Stuart (No. 541).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in their hall, in Prince of Wales Terrace, Crosshill, on Monday evening, 25th ult. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. Julius Brodè, R.W.M., the chair was occupied by Bro. J. Munro, R.W.M., Commercial Lodge, No. 360, Glasgow, supported by Bros. W. Mc G. Mason, S.W.; Samuel Findlator, J.W.; and the other office-bearers in their respective places. The lodge was opened in the E.A. Degree, and the Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were adopted. The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz., Bros. W. Mc G. Mason, R.W.M.; Julius Brodè, I.P.M.; William Gillies, D.M.; Samuel Findlator, S.M.; John Fraser, S.W.; Andrew Hilleot, J.W.; R. A. Buchanan, Treas.; Robert Walker, jun., Sec.;

Robert Walker, sen., Chaplain; James Murray, S.D.; Charles Rutteray, J.D.; John Thomson, I.G.; and James Mimmoch, Tyler. There being no other business, the lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

DALMUIR.—Lodge St. John (No. 543).—The fortnightly meeting of this lodge was held in their new Masonic Hall, at Dalmuir, on Tuesday evening, 26th ult. Bro. Wm. Ferguson, R.W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. T. T. Johnstone, D.M.; John Crawford, S.M.; James Barrie, S.W.; Robert Struthers, J.W.; Thomas Scott, Treas.; Samuel Leckie, Sec.; and the other office-bearers in their places, with a large number of brethren present. The Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were confirmed. Bro. A. McDougall, E.A., then presented himself to be passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and after having passed that degree was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., he having to leave this country in a few days, the R.W.M. officiating in his usual careful manner. The lodge was then reduced to the E.A. Degree, and after the usual routine business, was closed in due and proper form. The brethren then retired to refreshment, when the usual loyal, Masonic, and patriotic toasts were given and responded to, and after spending a short time in song and sentiment the brethren separated, happy to meet, sorry to part, and happy to meet again.

GLASGOW.—Cathedral Chapter (No. 67).—The regular monthly meeting of this chapter was held in the chapter-room, situated at 22, Struthers-street, on the 26th ult. Comp. J. Duthie, P.Z., presided, and was supported by Comps. Rirdie, P.H.; Ronald, P.J.; the office-bearers, with three exceptions, being all present, together with a large number of companions. A lodge of Mark Masters was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. An application from Bro. May, M.M. of Lodge 441, for admittance into the Holy Royal Arch. There being no objection to him, he was admitted, and received the degree of Mark Master. The lodge was then raised to that of Excellent Master, and the aforementioned brother was advanced to that degree. The lodge was now closed, and a chapter of Royal Arch Masonry was constituted, when Bro. May was exalted to the R.A. degrees, and accepted as a companion of the chapter on the R.A. Degree. The companions now prepared to receive a visit from a deputation of the Prov. Supreme G.R.A. Chapter for Lanarkshire, which was headed by F. A. Barrow, P.G. Superintendent. The deputation, after carefully going over the accounts and books of the chapter, Comp. A. McTaggart, P.G.S.E., read their report to the companions, in which the Chapter "Cathedral" was highly complimented for the correct manner in which everything had been transacted during the past year, and congratulated the P.Z. and companions of the chapter on their prosperity. The M.E.Z., in most graceful terms, returned thanks for the visit and the kind way in which they had been pleased to speak of them. He said he was glad to inform them that the chapter had neither debts nor creditors, but a fair balance in their favour on hand. The chapter was then closed in due and ancient form.

[Masonic Demonstration at Perth; and Reports of Chapters 73, and 117 will appear next week.]

DEDICATION OF A MASONIC HALL AT BIDEFORD.

Greatly to the credit of the people of Bideford, they can now boast of the most commodious and finest public rooms in North Devon, and a building, also, which should arouse a feeling of jealousy on the part of the sister town of Barnstaple. Some years ago, seeing that Bideford was neglected in the matter of public entertainments, and believing also that, if better accommodation were provided, a superior class of entertainment would occasionally be given, some gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood decided to form a company for the purpose of erecting a suitable building, which would also include other wants. This has now been accomplished, with the exception of a part of the interior and frontage. The rooms, which are situated in Bridgeland-street, comprise several compartments of different sizes, lodgings for the curator, and cloak and retiring rooms, with large double entrance-doors. One of the extra rooms has been selected by the Lodge of Benevolence of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (No. 489, Bideford) as their Masonic Hall. It is situated in the front of the building, and is nicely and comfortably furnished. On the entablature of the centre window, facing the street, are the carved square and compasses, to show the purposes for which the room is used. The architects for the building are Messrs. R. D. Gould and Son, of Barnstaple, the contractor being Mr. Hookway, of Bideford, and their work has been executed in a very creditable manner. In addition to the present accommodation, it is probable that a waste spot of ground at the back of the building will be utilised for the purposes of a billiard-room. The ceremony of the dedication of the Masonic Hall took place on Wednesday at one o'clock by the Rt. Worshipful Brother, the Rev. J. Huyshe, P.G.C., Provincial Grand Master of Devon. The ceremony commenced by the Right Worshipful the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, entering in procession. The P.G.M. and his Wardens took their chairs, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in the First Degree by the W.M. of the Lodge of Benevolence. The W.M. of the Lodge of Benevolence requested the P.G.M. to dedicate the Masonic Hall agreeably to ancient form, and the P.G.M. signified his assent, and directed the P.G. Chaplain to commence the ceremony proper by reading 1st Kings, viii. 22 to 30 inclusive. After that the anthem commencing "Hail! Universal Lord!" was sung. A procession was then formed, the P.G.M. proceeding round the room, the D.P.G.M. and the P.G. Wardens following and bearing the elements of dedication. Solemn music was played at intervals; and the P.G.M., having returned to the east, the

D.P.G.M. presented him with the vessel containing corn—which he scattered over the lodge—the P.G. Chaplain reading, at the same time, Psalm lxxvii. 16. The first prayer having been pronounced by the P.G.M., and the hall solemnly dedicated to Masonry, the brethren chanted "Glory be to Thee, Most High God," &c. The second circuit was then formed, and the Provincial Senior Grand Warden presented the vessel containing wine. The P.G.M. poured it upon the lodge, while the P.G. Chaplain read Numbers xv. 7. The second prayer having been pronounced by the P.G.M., the hall was then solemnly dedicated to "Virtue." The brethren again chanted, and the third circuit was made; and the vessel containing oil was presented, and poured by the P.G.M. upon the lodge, while the P.G. Chaplain read Exodus xxx. 25 and 26. The third prayer was then pronounced, and the hall was dedicated to "Benevolence and Charity." The brethren again chanted, and the P.G. Chaplain offered up the dedication prayer, the brethren all standing. The remaining part of the ceremony having been gone through, the grand honours concluded the ceremony. Bro. J. Edwards, P.P. Grand Organist, presided at the harmonium. Amongst those present at the ceremony were:—The Right Worshipful John Huyshe, P.G.C., P.G.M. of Devon; and Bros. L. P. Metham, D.P.G.M. Devon; J. Davey, P.P.S.G.W. Devon; Rev. Thomas Russell, J.G.W. Devon; P.P.G.C. Oxon, W.M.; C. Smale, 489, P.M. and Org.; T. Elsworth, 251, P.M.; W. E. Stone, P.P.G.W.; W. G. Rogers, 112, P.G.S.; W. Haynes, 106, P.M. and P.Z.; W. Cole, 421, P.M., P.P.G.P.; J. T. Shapland, 421, P.M.; J. Hill, 251, P.M.; W. Parker, 847, P.G.R.; T. Hancock, 1135, W.M.; W. C. Oliver, 251, S.W.; W. Britton, 251, P.M.; Joseph Harper (Mayor of Barnstaple), 251, P.M., P.G.S.; W. Hync Haycock, 251, I.P.M., P.G.S.D.; T. Higgs, 106, W.M.; H. Woodgate, 847, W.M.; J. Mills, 1125, P.P.G.O., P.M.; W. Cocks, 106; J. Hancock, P.M., P.P.Z.; W. Wilmott, P.M., P.P.Z.; B. Wills, 1135, J.D.; J. Atwood, 1135, P.G.P.; J. Chadwick, 444, P.M.; Thos. Wadham, P. D. Michelmore, 1138, P.M., P.G. Steward; W. H. Anthony, 105, P.M.; J. R. Chanter, P.P.S.G.; H. Storke, 1396, S.W.; F. J. Pratt, 1396, W.M.; J. Heywood, 1136; Charles Willshire, 251, P.P.G.D.C., P.M.; Samuel Jones, 112, P.M., &c.; W. Vellacott, P.G.M.; and P. S. Blanchard, 444, acting as Grand Tyler. At the dedication ceremony the W.M. (Rev. Thomas Russell) delivered a vigorous oration on the defence of Freemasonry, principally with reference to the objections urged against it on the points of secrecy and its position with regard to religious faith. At half-past three o'clock a grand banquet was held in the large room, at which about a hundred sat down. The table and room were prettily decorated with flowers, &c., a profusion of banners hanging from the ceiling. The dinner was provided by Bro. Ascott, of the New Inn, Bideford. In the evening a Masonic soiree and conversation were held, the programme comprising vocal and instrumental music, readings, and recitations, exhibitions of microscopes, dissolving views, and curiosities and objects of general interest, the latter of which were so plentiful and unique as to give the room the appearance of a museum. Tea and coffee were served at 9.30, and at 10 o'clock a special train ran to Barnstaple with the contingent from that town, and at 10.45 a similar train ran to Torrington.

CONSECRATION OF THE ARCHITECT CHAPTER, No. 1375, AT DIDSBURY.

The consecration and first convocation of this chapter was held at the Didsbury Hotel, Didsbury, on Wednesday, Oct. 13th, at two p.m.

The ceremony of consecration was conducted by the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Second Grand Principal of England, and Provincial Grand Superintendent of West Lancashire, assisted by the Provincial Grand Officers.

A chapter was opened by Lord Skelmersdale, as Z.; Comp. A. Stephens, P.G.H., as H.; and Comp. J. McKune, as J. There were also present Comps. H. S. Alpass, P.G. S.E.; R. Wylie, P. Prov. G.D.C.; T. Armstrong, P.G.T.; T. Buxton, P.G.A.S.; J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; P. Ball, P.G.J.; J. A. Birch, P.G.J. of East Lancashire, and P. Prov. G.J. of Cheshire; J. Hall, P.G.P.S. East Lancashire; C. T. Sergeant, Z. 203; D. Jones, P.Z. 216; C. E. Austin, Z. 152; and several others.

The imposing ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, Comp. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., performing the appropriate music.

The installation of Comps. George Davenport Pochin, as Z.; Carl Gütz, as H.; and Joseph Mackie, as J., was performed by Comps. Wylie and McKune.

After the ceremony the companions below this rank were again admitted to the chapter.

The following companions were then proposed and duly elected:—Comps. E. B. Harding, as Treas.; J. A. Elliott, E.; J. Gilman, N.; T. J. Broome, as P.S.

The M.E.Z. proposed eleven brethren for exaltation.

The chapter was then closed in due form, and the companions adjourned to dinner, which took place at 5 o'clock, and did the utmost credit to Bro. Lugton and his good lady, everything giving the greatest satisfaction.

After dinner the M.E.Z. proposed "The Queen," which was heartily responded to. He afterwards gave "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, First Grand Principal, and the rest of the Grand Officers," expressing the pleasure they all felt at the presence of the Second Grand Principal among them that day.

The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale returned thanks. It gave him great pleasure in assisting at the consecration of the chapter, and he thought from the admirable manner everything had been arranged that day that it augured well for its success. Before sitting down he begged to propose a toast, although not on the programme, which was "Health and Prosperity to the Three Principals of the Architect Chapter."

The M.E.Z. first returned thanks, saying he had great faith in the prosperity of the chapter, and would use his utmost endeavours to make the working second to none in this or any other province, and felt certain that the other Principals and officers of the chapter would support him.

Comp. Götz, H., also responded.
Comp. Mackie, J., had but little to add to what had been already said, except to return his sincere thanks for the very kind way in which his name had been received, and to assure them, as the W.M. of the lodge, he would do all in his power to assist the chapter.

"The Principals of Chapters in the adjoining Provinces" was then proposed by Comp. Mackie, and responded to by Comp. J. A. Birch, P.G.J. of East Lancashire.

"The Visitors" was responded to by Comp. J. Brooks, and "The Ladies" by Comp. T. J. Broome.

Many of the toasts were necessarily brief, as his lordship and the Provincial Grand Officers had to leave by train. Altogether a most agreeable afternoon and evening were spent.

CONSECRATION OF THE ROSSLYN LODGE, NO. 1543, AT DUNMOW.

An addition has been made to the Essex Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons by the consecration on Wednesday, the 27th ult., under the most favourable auspices, of a new lodge at Dunmow.

The brethren, who included twenty P.M.'s, and several Grand Officers, assembled in the Town Hall, where the ceremony was ably and impressively performed by the V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain, assisted by V.W. Bro. the Rev. Spencer R. Wigram, Grand Chaplain, and by special permission of the Earl of Rosslyn, P.G.M. Scotland, and representative of G.L. England, the lodge was designated the "Rosslyn Lodge," numbered 1543 on the Registry of the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. the Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.P.G.C. and P.P.S.G.W., P.M. and P.Z. 276, was installed as the first W.M.; and he appointed as his Wardens Bro. G. D. Clapham and Bro. F. J. Snell. At the conclusion of the ceremony, about forty brethren adjourned to the Saracen's Head, and partook of a sumptuous and well-served banquet, which was followed by the usual Masonic toasts. Among those present during the day were—Bros. Matthew E. Clark, Deputy Provincial Grand Master; John Wright Carr, P.G. Secretary; Joseph Burton, P.G. Treas.; Andrew Durrant, P.G.S.G.W.; James Nicholl, S.P.G.J.W.; Frank Whitmore, W.M. 276; Harold E. Stidolph, 276; P.P.G.O.; Alfred F. Ginn, 276; D.M.B. Wheeler, 276; W. Johnson, 1312; W. Cook, 1312; E. Shed, 276; Percy W. Taylor, P.M. 409; John S. Taylor, S.D. 409; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.M. 1224, P.G.C.; W. D. Merritt, 1000; Thos. Smee, P.M. 276, P.G.S.D.; A. C. Veley, P.M. 276, P.P.G.J.W.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, 1000, G.C.; Alfred Jones, W.M. 1280, P.J.G.W.; Percy Leith, 1118, P.S.G.D.; C. A. Harker, 1280; John Gilling, I.G. 1280; William Spicer, 1280; Joseph Bell, P.M. 1280, P.P.G.J.W.; Arthur Goodchild, P.M. 276, P.P.G.J.D.; Matthew H. Winder, 1280; Joseph Hills, 1224, P.P.G.J.W. (Suffolk); H. C. Bocking, 34; Fred. Wheeler, P.M. 1224; George H. Grimwood, W.M. 1224; and the following members of the new Rosslyn Lodge:—Rev. F. B. Shepherd, P.M. 276; George Dixon Clapham, Fred. J. Snell, H. J. Burt, George F. Skill, J. H. Beaman, John B. Frankham, and Joseph F. Bott, P.M. 276.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LANCASHIRE.

By command of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Mark Master, Bro. Wm. Romaine Callender, M.P., a Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons belonging to the County Palatine of Lancaster was held at the new Masonic Hall, Liverpool, on Friday, the 29th ult.

There was a good attendance of brethren. A Mark Masters' Lodge was opened at half-past two o'clock by Bro. H. Nelson, as W.M.; Bro. W. Shortis, S.W.; Bro. Henry Jackson, J.W.; assisted by other officers.

A procession was then formed, and Bro. W. Romaine Callender, Prov. G.M.M., entered, and took the chair, accompanied by Bro. H. S. Alpess, acting D.P.G.M.M.; Bro. W. H. Prince, P.G.S.W.; Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.G.J.W.; Bro. John Chadwick, P.G.S.; and others.

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.P.G.M.M., was in the building, but did not enter the lodge-room, as he had a most important engagement to fulfil.

The roll of lodges was called over, and letters of apology were read from absent Prov. Grand Officers.

The minutes of the previous Prov. Grand Mark Lodge meeting at Oldham, on the 30th Nov., 1874, were read and unanimously confirmed.

The sum of ten guineas was voted from the funds on behalf of the Royal Masonic Educational Institution for Boys.

Bro. W. Romaine Callender, R.W.P.G.M.M., subsequently appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:—

- Lord Skelmersdale..... D. Prov. G.M.M.
- W. O. Walker..... Prov. G.S.W.
- Dr. J. Kellett Smith..... Prov. G.J.W.
- H. F. Hopkins..... Prov. G.M.O.
- J. C. Lunt..... Prov. G.S.O.
- J. W. Kenyon..... Prov. G.J.O.
- Rev. C. R. Hyde, LL.D..... Prov. G. Chaplain.
- Rev. John Dunning..... Prov. G.A. Chap.
- J. B. Champion..... Prov. G. Reg.
- J. Duffield..... Prov. G. Treas.
- John Chadwick..... Prov. G. Sec.
- J. Crompton Lee..... Prov. G.S.D.
- W. J. Sly..... Prov. G.J.D.
- W. Shortis..... Prov. G.S. of W.

- Amos Stott..... Prov. G.D.C.
- A. B. Roberts..... Prov. G.A.D.C.
- J. Bell..... Prov. G.S.W.D.B.
- Joseph Wood..... Prov. G. Std. B.
- B. Briggs..... Prov. G. Org.
- T. Bradshaw..... Prov. G. Purst.
- Henry Jackson..... Prov. G. Steward.
- Henry Burrows..... Prov. G. Steward.
- R. Cain..... Prov. G. Steward.
- J. Sly..... Prov. G. Tyler.

After the transaction of some formal business the lodge was closed, and the majority of the brethren sat down to banquet, under the presidency of Bro. W. Romaine Callender, M.P. The catering of Bro. W. S. Vines was of the highest quality, and was the subject of universal commendation.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were briefly given and cordially responded to, and the brethren separated at an early hour, after having spent a pleasant evening.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

A Convent General of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta was holden at the City Terminus Hotel, on the 29th October, when Sir Knight the Earl of Limerick acted as Most Eminent Supreme Grand Master in place of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master. Among the other Sir Knights present were Sir Knt. S. Rawson, as First Superintendent; Sir Knt. Capt. Phillips, as Lieutenant Superintendent; Sir Knt. General Doherty, Aide-de-camp; Sir Knts. H. D. Sandeman, Sir Patrick Mac C. de Colquhoun, Chevalier Colquhoun, Goolden, A. H. Roysds, R. J. Spiers, Major Barlow, Chas. H. Gregory, Charles Horsley, Rev. Luke Rivington, Wilhelm Ganz, Malcolm O. Sim, Alex. Ridgway, George Lambert, Warden of Regalia; Joseph Starkey, W. Tinkler, Vice-Chancellor; Cruickshanks, the Rev. Dr. Ringlands, and Dr. J. F. Townshend, Arch-Chancellor.

After the formal opening of the convent, and the reading and confirmation of the minutes of former convents,

The Earl of Limerick reported that the Committee of the Council had recommended an address to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on his departure for the East.

Sir Knt. Colquhoun then brought the motion forward and read the address, the motion being that the address be embossed and illuminated on vellum and sent to Marlborough House, and a copy of the address be forwarded to H.R.H. in India.

The Grand Seneschal seconded the motion, which was put and carried.

The Earl of Limerick next withdrew the motion, notice of which stood in his name on the paper of business.

Sir Knt. Capt. Phillips afterwards withdrew the motion, notice of which stood in his name, referring to an Order of Merit, or Star, to be instituted in consequence of the abolition of Past Grand Rank.

Sir Knt. Dr. Townshend, Arch Chancellor, read a letter from an Irish Knight, requesting permission of Grand Council to withdraw his notice of motion also.

Upon this a discussion arose as to the competency of any Sir Knight to withdraw a motion of which he had given notice, on the ground that it prevented the due discussion of the subject of which the Sir Knights had had full notice, and in regard to which many might have travelled a considerable distance to attend Convent General. After several Sir Knights had spoken,

Sir Knt. Ridgway suggested that the matter was not one either of right or of courtesy, but a plain question of fact—the Knight was not there present to move the resolution of which he had given notice, and as a matter of fact it fell to the ground.

Sir Knt. Ridgway further suggested that if the question were to be raised at all it should be raised upon the withdrawal of the notice by Sir Knt. Phillips, who was there present in his place, and quite able to propose the motion, were it considered right and courteous to the Grand Convent General that it should be brought forward, for it appeared eminently inconvenient as a matter of principle that Convent General should be thus taken by surprise by the withdrawal of a notice which Sir Knights had come prepared to discuss.

The Earl of Limerick, however, ruled that it was competent to a Sir Knt. to withdraw his motion.

No further discussion, therefore, on the point took place.

Sir Knt. A. H. Roysds asked permission to introduce a motion, the effect of which was the abrogation of the recent laws relating to past rank.

After some discussion, it was ruled that as Sir Knt. Roysds had not given notice of this motion at the last Convent General the matter could only be received as a notice now, and must stand over to the next Convent General.

The Treasurer's accounts were then read.

Sir Knt. George Lambert thereupon rose, and in a few terse and stringent words reflected in the strongest manner upon the unsatisfactory character of those accounts, pointedly observing that when a public officer openly admitted in Convent General that his accounts were, to use his own words, in a muddle and a jumble, it was quite time that some other officer should be appointed in his place. He was happy to say that he did not know who was Grand Treasurer, and he desired not to know; but whoever he was, he moved that his name be not brought forward again for the appointment.

Sir Knt. Goolden, Grand Vice Treasurer, was then nominated as Grand Treasurer, whereupon the name of Viscount Newry was also proposed; but upon a show of hands being taken, Sir Knt. Goolden was elected by a large majority. Sir Knt. Goolden was then duly appointed Grand Treasurer.

Sir Knt. G. Lambert asked whether it would not be advisable for Convent General to appoint a paid auditor, but

Sir Knt. Goolden stated that he would immediately look into the accounts, and he felt that there would be no necessity for such an office.

Sir Knt. Colquhoun proposed Sir Knt. Ridgway as auditor, considering that as a man of business, and a banker of considerable Masonic experience, Sir Knt. Ridgway would be the right man in the right place.

Sir Knt. Ridgway intimated that he would accept the office if it was the wish of Convent General.

Sir Knt. de Burgh, representing Ireland, was proposed as a second auditor.

Sir Knt. Captain Phillips proposed Sir Knt. S. Rawson.

Sir Knt. S. Rawson declined, and the nominations were confirmed.

Sir Knt. the Rev. Dr. Ringlands proposed that power should be given to the Provincial Priors to dispense with the rule laid down regarding clothing and arms in the statutes, in consequence of some of the preceptories being held in proclaimed districts.

This resolution being seconded, after an amendment to it had been rejected, was duly passed, and some other business having been transacted, Convent General was closed, and the Sir Knights adjourned to banquet.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The Ellington Lodge, No. 1566, will be consecrated, and the Worshipful Master, Bro. Wm. Berry Farr, P.M. 825, P.G.S.W. Bengal, installed, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the lodge rooms, Maidenhead. The proceedings will commence at 2.30. R.W. Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, D.P.G.M. for Berks and Bucks, will work the ceremonies. It is expected that several officers of the Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge will be present.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., has been appointed Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Greece.

The new Masonic Hall at Bridlington will be dedicated and the officers of the Londesborough Lodge, No. 734, installed by the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, on Tuesday, the 7th proximo.

The Aldershot Camp Lodge and the Aldershot Chapter met on Thursday, but too late for a report in our impression of this week. A full report will appear in our next.

The installation meeting of the Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503, will take place on Wednesday next, at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham. Col. Wigginton, P.M. 902, and 1298, P.P.G.D.C., Worcestershire, will be re-installed as W.M. by Bro. R. Wentworth Little, Prov. G.S.W., Middlesex. It is requested that Provincial Grand Officers will appear in full dress to receive the R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

The St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction will in future be held at the Commercial Tavern, King's-road, Chelsea, every Friday evening, at seven o'clock, instead of 86, Fulham-road.

The Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire will be holden at Dewsbury, November 10th, when our distinguished Bro. Bentley-Shaw, J.P., and P.P.D.G.M. for West Yorkshire, will be installed P.G. Superintendent of West Yorkshire by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Scribe E.

DALHOUSIE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 860).—The Fifteen Sections were worked in this Lodge of Instruction by Bro. Marx Gross in a very satisfactory manner, assisted by the following brethren:—Bros. Brand, Ellis, Berry, Lowe, H. Lloyd, Pinder, Gilchrist, Cambridge, Musto, Austin, Lee, Wallington, Brown, and Perrin. There was a large attendance of brethren.

The Directors of the Briton Life Association announce that they will proceed with the allotment of shares on the 10th inst.

The Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560, will be solemnly constituted in due form on Tuesday, 9th inst., the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., in honour of whom the lodge has been named. R.W. Bro. Kelly, P. Prov. G.M., assisted by the Provincial Grand Officers, will perform the ceremony, and afterwards install the Provincial Grand Master, the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, P.M. 779, as W.M. The Rev. Canon Burfield, P. Prov. G. Chaplain West Yorkshire, will be the S.W., and Dr. Hunt, P. Prov. G.A.D.C., J.W.

The New York "Square" infers from the character of the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada, that Masonry in that jurisdiction is in a highly encouraging condition.

The Grand Lodge of Dakota Territory was duly constituted on the 21st July last, with the following Principal Grand Officers:—M.W. Bro. Thomas H. Brown, Grand Master; R.W. Bros. F. J. Dewitt, D.G.M.; C. G. Shaw, G.S.W.; H. H. Blair, G.J.W.; G. H. Hand, Grand Treas.; Mark W. Bailey Canton, Grand Sec.

The first meeting of the Owl Club at its new quarters was most successful. It will be noticed in our next.

DAYLIGHT reflected in dark rooms. Gas superseded in day time. Health, comfort, and economy promoted by adopting Chappuis' Patent Daylight Reflectors, — Manufactory, 69, Fleet-street, London.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., under the presidency of Bro. H. C. Okeover, Past Grand Warden of England, the Acting Provincial Grand Master of the Province. There was a large muster of the Craft, the more distant parts of the province being well represented.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at 1.30 in form, prayer being offered up by the P.P.G. Chaplain (the Rev. A. A. Bagshawe, M.A., vicar of Wormhill, Buxton, P.Prov. G.S.W.)

After the roll of officers had been called over, the minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Lodge were read and confirmed; the Worshipful Masters of Craft lodges presented their reports.

The reports of the Masonic Hall Committee and the Charity Committee were read and confirmed. The Acting P.G.M. appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year:—

W. H. Marsden.....	Prov. S.G.W.
H. E. Diamond.....	Prov. J.G.W.
Rev. W. J. M. Ellison.....	Prov. G. Chaplain.
Thomas Cox, P.P.S.G.W.....	Prov. G. Treas.
John Maxwell.....	Prov. G.R.
William Naylor, P.P.S.G.W.....	Prov. G. Sec.
G. E. Cox.....	Prov. S.G.D.
E. Grindrod.....	Prov. J.G.D.
John Howell.....	Prov. G.S. of W.
J. C. Merry.....	Prov. G.D. of C.
H. T. Bobart.....	Prov. G.A.D. of C.
W. Clark.....	Prov. G.S.B.
G. Marsden.....	Prov. G.O.
B. Cooper.....	Prov. G.P.
W. Lennox.....	Prov. G. St. B.
Thomas Slinn.....	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bros. W. C. Watson, F. J. Robinson, William Whitaker, Alex. Frazer, Joseph Shaw, and George Pipes were appointed Provincial Grand Stewards. After the lodge was closed the brethren, to the number of fifty, sat down to a sumptuous banquet, provided by Bro. Low, in the Lower Hall, and a very pleasant evening was spent, the A.P.G.M. occupying the chair.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

In addition to our last report, we have been requested to publish the following shorthand writer's notes of the proceedings and speeches, which we very readily do:—

At the outset a letter was read from Bro. Bentley Shaw, D.L. (late Deputy Prov. G.M. of the Province), regretting his inability to attend, and advising, in reference to the proposed discussion on the subject of the Royal Masonic Boys' School, that the form of the proposed resolution was objectionable, unconstitutional, and such as he thought rendered it impossible for it to be received. He therefore hoped it would not be put in the shape in which it stood, however desirable an enquiry might be.

Bro. Cawthorne, who had given notice of motion, was then called upon. In introducing the resolution he said he came there as no man's champion, but as a Mason who had for many years taken great interest in their noble charities. He felt that the circumstances which had recently arisen rendered it especially important, as well for the interests of the school itself as in the interests of justice, that an enquiry should be instituted. Without going into the merits of the various questions which had been raised, he therefore asked that the Prov. G. Lodge of W. Yorkshire should use its influence in bringing about such an enquiry as would be satisfactory to the brethren. If the results of the enquiry showed that the institution could be placed on a better footing, so as to render it more extensively useful, a great good would have been achieved by the agitation which had been raised; but if, on the other hand, the charges which had been made against the present management were groundless, it were surely better that this should be at once made clear, in order that the institution might not suffer from the imputations which had been made. For his own part, he could not think the committee of the institution would be against the enquiry; in fact, they would, he should suppose, court investigation, and he hoped if any such steps were decided upon the enquiry would be conducted with good feeling on both sides.

Bro. Cawthorne, however, is submitting the motion, obtained leave to omit the words after "benefits of the charity," so that it now contained no reference to Grand Lodge.

Bro. Isaac Booth, in seconding the motion, argued that apart from the questions which had been raised elsewhere, as to the disputes between the Secretary of the institution and the late Head Master, there was abundant reason for an enquiry, as there was evidently an extravagant expenditure, which demanded the serious attention of all supporters of the charity. He instanced the Crossley Orphanage, where the expenditure per head was £27 7s.; another well managed institution in Manchester, where the expenditure was £34 per head; and the London Orphan Asylum, where the cost per head was £34, as showing that something ought to be done to reduce what he considered the extravagant sum of £52 7s. per head, which was being spent on the boys in the Royal Masonic Institution, apart from any calculation as to amounts of interest on expended capital, &c., and this without any exceptional advantages to the boys themselves, as in one case he had mentioned even a better education was offered, besides providing well for the comfort of the boys. He thought the sooner an enquiry was made, the better it would be for the charity itself.

Bro. Moss asked whether the matter had yet been brought under the notice of the Charity Committee attached to Prov. Grand Lodge, and Bro. Hill, (the Chairman of the committee) replied that it had not.

Bro. Brittain, Prov. G. Warden, supported the motion for an enquiry, provided no unconstitutional measures were resorted to, as he thought the damaging statements which had been put forward, whether true or not, were such as could not be allowed to remain unnoticed, and the sooner the reproach could be removed the better it would be for all the charities.

Bro. Captain John Wordsworth (a member of the House Committee of the R.M.B.I.) said he believed the committee of the school would be only too glad of a strict investigation, though he felt sure the charges which had been made would be proved utterly groundless. He did not believe in niggardliness, and would never support such a policy, but he denied that there was any undue extravagance.

The resolution, as amended, was carried with only one dissident.

Bro. Chalmers, P. Prov. G. Chaplain, then proposed and Bro. Drury, P. Prov. G. Warden, seconded a resolution to the effect, that a committee be appointed to take steps for instituting an enquiry, such committee to consist of six members to be nominated by Prov. Grand Lodge, and six members to be nominated by the Charity Committee.

Bro. Moss proposed that the appointment of the committee be left in the hands of the Charity Committee. This was seconded by Bro. Cawthorne, and supported by several other brethren.

Bro. Ridal supported the appointment of a committee of enquiry, but protested against the idea of £52 a head per year being considered too extravagant.

On being put to the vote, Bro. Chalmers' resolution was carried.

The nomination of the six members on behalf of the Prov. Grand Lodge was left in the hands of the Prov. G. Master (Sir Henry Edwards).

GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening in the Zetland Room, Freemasons' Hall. Notwithstanding there was so little business before Grand Chapter, there was a large attendance of companions. Comp. S. Rawson presided as Z.; Comp. Sandeman as H.; and Comp. Capt. Platt as J.; Comp. John Hervey, S.E.; Comp. Major Creaton was S.N.; Comp. Rucker, P.S.; Comp. W. Speed, 1st Asst. S.; Comp. Grey, 2nd Asst. S.; Comp. T. Fenn, Sword Bearer; Comp. A. J. McIntyre, Q.C., G.R.; Comp. Joseph Smith, as D.C. Other P.G. Officers: Benj. Head, N. Bradford, A. Holman, Joshua Nunn, H. J. P. Dumas, H. Muggeridge, Jas. Glaisher, J. Percy Leith, F. A. Philbrick, G.C.; Robt. Hollom, and Hyde Pullen.

There were also present Comps. W. S. Gover, H. Massey (Freemason), John Boyd, J. M. Case, G. Newman, Thomas W. White, Chas. F. Hogard, G. Lemann, W. Stephens, Herbert Dicketts, W. Hammond, W. F. Nettleship, Alex. Ridgway, W. Young, Thomas Cochrane, C. W. Noehmer, John Seax, James Lewis Thomas, Richard Spencer, George Lambert, H. G. Buss, A. A. Pendlebury, and C. B. Payne.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the report of the Committee of General Purposes, published in the "Freemason" last week, was taken as read.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., moved, and Comp. Joseph Smith, D.C., seconded, the granting of the petition for a chapter to be attached to the Prince of Wales's Lodge, No. 671, Llanelly, to be called "The St. Elliw Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Llanelly, Carmarthen. The petition was granted.

Major Creaton S.N., moved, and Comp. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., seconded the granting of a charter for a chapter to be attached to the De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1356, Liverpool, to be called "The De Grey and Ripon Chapter," to meet at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool. The petition was granted.

Comp. Philbrick asked who had the control over the names to be given to chapters, as he thought it was rather a thing of the past to give this chapter its name, and he questioned whether it was desirable to perpetuate things of the past any longer.

Comp. Joseph Smith, D.C., said it was customary to give chapters the names contained in the petitions. If there was nothing objectionable in the name the warrant was granted for the chapter under the name applied for, unless an amendment was moved.

Comp. Philbrick said he did not move an amendment; he only asked for information.

The M.E.Z. said if Comp. Philbrick had any objection his objection came too late, as the warrant was granted.

Comp. Philbrick replied that he made no objection. Col. Alex. Ridgway, P. Prov. G. J. Deacon, reminded the companions that the name was a very worthy one in the Craft, and well deserving of being perpetuated.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., moved, and Comp. Joseph Smith, D.C., seconded the granting of the petition for a chapter to be attached to the Benevolent Lodge, No. 446, Wells, to be called "The Avalon Chapter," to meet at the Town Hall, Wells, Somerset. The motion was carried.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., moved, and Comp. Joseph Smith, D.C., seconded, the granting of a charter for a chapter to be attached to the Cestrian Lodge, No. 425, Chester, to be called "The Cestrian Chapter," and to meet at the Grosvenor Hotel, Chester. The motion was carried.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., proposed, and Comp. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., seconded, the granting of the peti-

tion from companions for a chapter to be attached to the Hindpool Lodge, No. 1225, Barrow-in-Furness, to be called "The Abbey Chapter," to meet at the Hartington Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire. The petition was granted.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., proposed, and Comp. Joseph Smith, D.C., seconded, the granting of the petition from companions for a chapter to be attached to the Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, to be called "The Bective Chapter," and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland. The motion was carried.

Comp. Major Creaton, S.N., proposed, and Comp. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., seconded, the granting of the petition for a chapter to be attached to The Royal Lebanon Lodge, No. 493, Gloucester, to be called "The Royal Lebanon Chapter," and to meet at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester. This petition also was granted, and Grand Chapter was then closed.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Continued from page 484.

The Grand Lodge of Hungary has asked for an exchange of representatives; we have not, however, entered into fraternal relations with that body, and whilst the fraternity in Hungary continues in its present divided condition it is advisable that our present attitude should not be changed.

The lodges in Prince Edward Island united in the formation of a Grand Lodge for that province of the Dominion, and a courteous request was sent to me and to the officers of Grand Lodge to attend on the 24th of June to instal the Grand Master and other officers of Grand Lodge. Satisfied with the regularity of their proceedings, the movement of the Freemasons in Prince Edward Island was one that met with my hearty concurrence, as I have no doubt it will with yours, and I readily accepted the invitation.

I attended the new Grand Lodge, and installed M.W. Bro. Yeo the Grand Master, and the other officers.

The Grand Secretary will lay before you the papers connected with the formation of a Grand Lodge in the province of Manitoba, together with the official application for a recognition. I have looked through the report of the proceedings, and I believe you will find the action taken to have been perfectly regular, and the new Grand Lodge entitled to our warmest fraternal regard and sympathy.

The transactions of our sister Grand Lodges record the death, during the year, of many eminent and distinguished brothers. In the number is included the Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, R.W. Bros. John Meredith Reed, Lucius H. Scott, and James Paige; M.W. Past Grand Master John N. McJilton, of Maryland; and Past Grand Master John H. Anthon, of New York. The Craft in Massachusetts recently sustained a severe loss in the death of Past Grand Master Winslow Lewis, not only a devoted and active Mason up to the time when death closed his illustrious career, but a citizen and a man adorned with the graces of mind and character which made him eminent in society, and in the State generally useful to his fellow man.

In our own Dominion the death of M.W. Bro. Wm. Mercer Wilson, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, excited deep and general sympathy. When I was made a Mason in the city of Montreal, nearly twenty years ago, Bro. Wilson was then at the head of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and for several times, at various intervals, he has been called to the same position, the duties of which he discharged with discretion, zeal, and ability.

In our own jurisdiction we have to mourn the death of R.W. Bro. W. P. Flewelling, who died at Clifton on March 26th, at the age of sixty years. For many years Bro. Flewelling was an active member of the Midian Lodge, in which he filled nearly every important office, and of which he was Treasurer at the time of his death. He took an active interest in the formation of our Grand Lodge, and was its first Senior Grand Warden.

The reports of the Board of General Purposes and of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer will show the Craft in this jurisdiction to be in a satisfactory condition. If we are not making as rapid progress in increase of members and in wealth as some of the more ardent of our bre-

then would desire, the returns will show that there is a healthy increase; and that there are no discordant elements at work to disturb the harmony that should be the great characteristic of all Masonic bodies. The Grand Master or the Board has not been called upon to settle any important disputes between lodges or members, and we can all heartily exclaim "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

When advice has been asked by lodges or brethren on any question it has been freely given, through the Grand Secretary; but I have made no decisions of particular importance to the Craft generally. In one case, where an enquiry was made as to whether a brother could hold office in a lodge of which he was not a member, an answer was returned in the negative, for although there is no constitutional enactment on the subject, it would seem to be opposed to common sense to allow a brother to be an officer where he was not a member; and the absence of any regulation might be taken as a proof that no regulation was thought to be necessary. Of course, the case of a Tyler, who is a serving brother, and whose duties are entirely different from those of any other officer, is entirely exceptional, custom as well as necessity permitting one brother to serve many lodges. In another case, the Grand Secretary advised a lodge that it was contrary to sound Masonic policy to initiate in 1875, without a fresh ballot, a person who had been accepted in 1871. The reasons are obvious. In that number of years many persons might be initiated into the lodge who would not be willing to receive the candidate, whilst, in the four years, his own character and habits might unfortunately have undergone changes which would unfit him to be made a Mason. Every lodge by its by-laws ought to provide that a candidate neglecting to come forward within a reasonable period after his election, should have his election set aside. A lodge asked whether it could rent its lodge-room to another society. Of course, with the control of the property of private lodges the Grand Master has no power, or even desire, to interfere; but the enquiring lodge was advised that, in order that the Craft would be best served by reserving its lodge room for its own exclusive use. I am aware that in some places throughout the country lodges cannot help a common tenancy with other societies, in places where Masonic halls have been erected by the joint action of the lodge and the community the lodge room is used for various purposes. It should be the aim of every lodge, however, to secure as soon as possible its own room for its own exclusive use. A lodge enquired whether objection would be taken to its holding a "Masonic Gift Enterprise" in aid of its Hall fund. The Grand Secretary fraternally advised the lodge to abandon the idea, as the whole feeling and spirit of the Craft is against undertakings of this kind—and they have been positively condemned by many Grand Lodges. The advice was at once acted upon in the most commendable spirit by the lodge—a circumstance that I note with pleasure, for the burden entailed upon it by the fine hall it is erecting is very great, and the "Gift Enterprise" seemed a very easy way of financing. A lodge was also advised that a native of this province, who has resided many years in California, and returns on a short visit to his friends, is to be regarded as a sojourner merely.

At the last session of Grand Lodge a resolution was adopted making the production of a Grand Lodge certificate a pre-requisite for examination, from brothers hailing from another jurisdiction, desirous to be received as visitors into lodges in this province. I invite Grand Lodge to a further and fuller consideration of this subject. If it is desirable to continue this regulation it should be made a constitutional enactment; and it appears to me that if continued it should be made to apply to brothers hailing from lodges in our own province, as well as to those coming from other jurisdictions. The European practice is to insist upon the production of a Grand Lodge certificate, as a proof that the applicant has been made a Mason in a regular lodge. On this continent the production of the certificate is not generally required,

though it is in some places. However, the brethren have now had several months' experience of the practice, and they ought to be able to say whether its continuance is or is not desirable.

The Constitution of Grand Lodge provides for the existence of a Charity Fund, to be styled the "Fund of Benevolence," for the relief of poor and distressed brethren, or the widows and orphans of deceased brethren in good standing, upon the request of Grand Lodge. Up to the present time this fund exists only in name, and I earnestly urge upon Grand Lodge to consider whether some practical steps cannot be taken towards the creation of the fund. If we begin in ever so humble a manner something even then will be achieved. Out of the surplus now on hand at least 200 dols. might be funded and placed at interest for this purpose. I sincerely believe that a fund created for such a laudable object will rapidly grow, and will commend itself to the warm consideration of charitable and well-disposed brothers; but until a commencement is made by Grand Lodge the "donations" contemplated by the Constitution are not likely to be received from individuals. The establishment of the fund itself is a duty the performance of which we ought no longer to postpone.

In Fredericton, last winter, Solomon's Lodge and St. Andrew's Lodge united in the formation of a Lodge of Instruction, principally upon the model of "Emulation Lodge of Instruction," held in St. John by the Grand Secretary, and which proved of great benefit to the Craft here. The lodge at Fredericton worked very satisfactorily. St. George's Lodge, No. 60, recently gave its permission to a number of its members resident in Pennfield to hold a Lodge of Instruction in the Temperance Hall at that place; but I have asked the lodge not to act upon its resolution until your opinion is given upon the subject. It appears to me that a very important principle is involved. With the desire of the brothers at Pennfield to receive Masonic instruction we must all heartily sympathise; but we must consider the effect of allowing a Lodge of Instruction to be worked elsewhere than in the village where itself is held, and in a different place of meeting from the lodge room, away, perhaps, from the control of the Master. If a lodge may authorize such a Lodge of Instruction in one place, may it not authorize a similar lodge in another; and what limit is thereupon its powers in this respect? I ask your serious consideration of this important matter.

A complaint was received from Alley Lodge, No.—, to the effect that Lewey Island Lodge of Princeton, Maine, had refused to examine or receive in any way as a visitor Bro.—, of that lodge. It did not appear, however, that Lewey Island Lodge declined to receive as visitors all of the members of Alley Lodge. The objection appears to have been made simply to an individual brother, and recognizing as I do the right of a lodge to refuse admission to a visitor who may be objectionable, I did not deem it advisable to interfere. Of course, it is our duty to secure for our subordinate lodges, from the Masonic powers with which we are in amity, every right to which they are entitled; and whilst it is sometimes difficult to prevent differences among lodges of different jurisdictions whose territory is contiguous, yet our relations with the Grand Lodge of Maine are of the most satisfactory kind, and we can rely on its best efforts in aid of our own to promote peace and harmony.

In conclusion, I have to thank the various officers of Grand Lodge and the Board of General Purposes, and many members of the Craft, of every station and rank, for the advice or assistance rendered me, as I have asked it, in the discharge of my official duties. The courtesy and kindness shown towards me personally I gratefully appreciate. Whilst the cheerfulness with which assistance has been rendered me has not only lightened my own labours, and made the performance of them very pleasant, it has also shown to me what must be equally pleasing to you all, the deep and hearty interest that is felt by so many of our brothers in the welfare of this ancient and honourable fraternity.

Reviews.

"The History and Antiquities of Freemasonry." Bro. G. J. FORT, Putnam, Philadelphia.—Sampson, Low, Son, and Marston, London.

We welcome this and all other like contributions to Masonic history and archæology. The history is well got up, and most carefully put together, and reflects the greatest credit on the industry and research of the author. The novelty of his treatment of an "oft-told tale" consists in this, that Bro. Fort takes back Freemasonry practically to the Scandinavian mysteries, and also seems to think that it is of Byzantine origin, with a Judaic colouring, and came into Lombardy, via Venice, soon after that the Roman Empire became Christian. As we understand his work, he accepts the operative basis as one side of the true history of the Order, and takes Bro. Findel's view of a 12th century creation, ignoring any question of the Roman guilds; but he also subjoins a theory of an occult side to the teachings of Freemasonry, a counterpart of which is found in the Scandinavian and other mysteries.

Among other peculiarities of his theory is that which looks upon the Locke MS., as it is called, as authentic, upon "internal" evidence too. Now this we do not profess to understand. The whole history of the so-called MS. is so full of suspicion that it is impossible to accept the statements respecting it. This is an English formula, said to have been re-translated from a German pamphlet, which professes to have been published at Frankfort in 1748. But no one has ever yet seen the German pamphlet, nor the English MS. of which it was an alleged translation.

About 1756 this so-called MS. appeared in the "Gentleman's Magazine," as a translation from the German, or, rather, a translation of a German book translated originally from the English. Who was the author of this ingenious mystification nowhere appears, probably one of that Rosicrucian fraternity, then very busy and restless.

From its internal evidence alone it has long been given up by all English students of MSS. Its archaisms are not the archaisms of Henry VI., and are evidently, it is said, archaisms for a purpose. We regret that Bro. Fort should, in the face of all critical studies in this country, boldly announce that from "internal evidence" he accepts the document. All, we think, that can be said of it possibly is this, that it represents an old Masonic catechism, of some sort, but garbled and added to, and greatly expanded, by the "fraus pia" of some ingenious mystifier. As an evidence of any value we must reject it utterly. Bro. Fort, we see, places Pius VII. in 1738, an anachronism which may be a typographical error, and we might take exception to one or two statements, or, rather, perhaps deductions, drawn from a mistaken view of the force of certain evidence. But it is useless our going over the same ground again, as our views are well known. Bro. Fort seems to think that it is now pretty clear that the Anglo-Saxon guild system is not a perpetuation of the Roman one, but if he accepts, as we do, the Anglo-Saxon guild system as the precursor of the mediæval guilds, so, to be consistent, he must go back to the Roman and pre-Christian guilds for the origin of the Anglo-Saxon guilds. But though we do not agree with all Bro. Fort's views, we have read his work with much pleasure, and can conscientiously commend it to all Masonic students. Bro. Fort writes clearly and agreeably, and if he does not always convince, at any rate he always pleases. His book cannot have been put together without much of thought, care, and study, and we are glad to note that in the United States so many valuable works are now appearing, all tending to prove that there is much literary activity amongst our intelligent brethren in America.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—The seeds of disease are often unconsciously sown by some neglect of those precautions which are so necessary in this changeable climate of ours. The earlier symptoms of deranged health are often neglected, and hence another great source of after consequences of a serious character arises. Amongst the precautions, most necessary at the change of season, is that of attention to the clothing, and to the advent of any cough or throat disorder, which should at once be treated by these remedies, which will quickly remove all chance of their taking hold of the system and producing consumptive symptoms. A few doses of these Pills are the best remedy for all hepatic and dyspeptic symptoms.—ADVT.

TO OUR READERS.

The *Freemason* is a sixteen page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 10s. Brethren in foreign parts, wishing to have this newspaper sent them regularly from the office of publication, should, in sending their remittances, add to the 2d. per week the postage on 20z. newspapers.

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TO ADVERTISERS.

The *Freemason* has a large circulation in all parts of the Globe, its advantages as an advertising medium can therefore scarcely be overrated.

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Answers to Correspondents.

All Communications, Advertisements, &c., intended for insertion in the Number of the following Saturday, must reach the Office not later than 12 o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Careful attention will be paid to all MSS. entrusted to the Editor, but he cannot undertake to return them unless accompanied by stamped directed covers.

We will publish Bro. Shepherd's letter if he think well, otherwise we can hardly make use of the information.

Bros. Tew and Perrot's letter received; shall appear next week. We could not publish two letters on the same subject the same week.

Bro. Iggleton's interesting communication also received with thanks.

W. Geyt's communication requires consideration.

The following stand over:—T. O. Bailey, P.M.; Knights of Malta at Hineckley, Consecration of a lodge at Morecambe, Grand Masonic Demonstration at Perth, Masonic Jewels.

BOOK RECEIVED.

Oration by Bro. Richard T. Russell, D.D., at Bideford.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Baxter, H. A., Ontario (P.O.O.)	0	18	6
Alcazar, L. J., Trinidad	1	0	0
Nalty, V. F. A., South Australia	0	13	0
Hickox, F. Clunes (P.O.O.)	0	10	0
Gabbidon, S.N., Cape Coast Castle (P.O.O.) ...	1	0	0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

DEATH.

HASELWOOD.—On the 1st November, Bro. William Haselwood at Fooks Cray, Kent, late of Burfords, Hoddesdon, Herts, in his 84th year, member of Fortitude and Old Cumberland Lodge No. 12.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, NOV. 6, 1875.

OUR ROYAL GRAND MASTER'S VISIT TO INDIA.

We learn from the "Times" that His Royal Highness the Prince received and answered an address at Aden, Nov. 1, inspected the 2nd Grenadiers, the Borderers, the Garrison, and the Tanks, and received and rewarded the Arab chiefs. He lunched with the Resident. There was a great reception and much rejoicing. The weather was fine, and the Prince and his suite were all well. The Sultan of Lahej received a medal and ring of honour at the hands of the Prince of Wales, after a "levée" attended by all the military, civil, and Consular residents. At 4.30 the Prince embarked again, and at 7 received the Resident and a small party at dinner, the town and port being brightly illuminated. His Royal Highness expressed great pleasure at the reception he had received. A telegram was received from Sandringham in reply to the announcement of his arrival here. The Serapis, with His Royal Highness on board, sailed from Aden at 10 o'clock, Nov. 1st. The "Times of India," received by the overland mail on Monday, says:—"It is understood here that the Prince will visit the capital of the Nizam before leaving India, and an official letter which has been published regarding the dress to be worn by officials at the Residency during the visit seems to confirm the rumour. A correspondent writing from Hyderabad, says:—"Preparations and presents on magnificent scales are being got ready for the occasion; carriages, jewellery, and novel trinkets of Hyderabad manu-

facture are being prepared for presentation to the Prince. The city of Hyderabad is, so to speak, alive with workmen of every description. Nothing seems to be wanting on the part of the Prime Minister, Sir Salar Jung, G.C.S.I., to do homage to our future King and Emperor on behalf of his young master, His Highness the Nizam." The following description of the railway arrangements for Madras is taken from one of the local papers:—"Seventeen carriages in all will form the Royal train—viz., two saloon carriages, six first-class, and nine second-class carriages. The hangings of the saloon carriages are of crimson silk, with cords and tassels to match. Two full-length mirrors decorate each extremity of these carriages, and the mouldings and metal fastenings are richly gilt. The accommodations for lavatory and other purposes will be in strict keeping with the furniture of the State apartments, and nothing is omitted in the way both of luxury and convenience which can be missed by the most fastidious. Elegance, simplicity, and taste have been very happily blended in the arrangements now rapidly carried out by Perambore workshop authorities for the ease and comfort of his Royal Highness. Bunting is being prepared, we hear, to a large extent to flutter forth its welcome to our future King. It is expected that the Prince of Wales and party, including the Staff, will number thirty, with 37 European servants and postillions. The lowest estimate formed of the native establishments is 40 jemadars and kitmutgars, 100 personal servants, 100 horses, 9 carriages, 159 attendants on horses, and 12 coachmen and postillions. The above do not include local officers, who will accompany the prince through the districts. Four Arab horses—very handsome animals—have been purchased at Bangalore, and were forwarded by rail to Poona for the use of the Prince of Wales. The Rajah of Cochin will meet the Prince at Madras. The following K.C.I.'s are to be invested at Calcutta:—Maharajah Punna Rajah Nahun Kashee Rao, Holkar's brother; Ranodeep Sing, of Nepaul; Gunputram Kirkey, Dewan of Gwalior; Faiz Ali Khan, Minister of Kotah. Maharajahs Scindiah and Holkar are making great preparations for the reception of the Prince when he visits their capitals."

COLOURED LODGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

It seems from a letter we publish elsewhere, that an article of ours, October 23rd, has sadly discomposed our good Bro. J. G. Findel, of Leipsic. He writes, as will be seen, in a very hasty and, to say the least, not a little intemperate strain, upon a subject which requires calmness of temper, courtesy of treatment, and, above all, a judicial frame of mind in its treatment. And for this reason, that it is not a question of colour or sentiment, but a simple, hard, dry matter-of-fact question of vital Masonic law which has to be decided between us. We pass over in silence the personal accusations of ignorance and incompetence, which we laugh at, we overlook historical misstatements and petulant apostrophes, and we come "au fait." What we stated on October 23rd we repeat to-day, equally distinctly and a little more fully. The Prince Hall Lodge was originally warranted at Boston from the English Grand Lodge in 1784, by a lodge charter, or warrant, granted by the Earl of Effingham, Acting G.M. under the Duke of Cumberland, G.M., to Prince Hall, Boston Smith, and Thomas Sanderson, and others there, these brethren being respectively the first W.M. and the first two Wardens. We do not now go into the question how far in 1784 the English Grand Lodge had a right to grant a warrant for a district where another Grand Lodge is said to have existed, for that is a point which we do not feel, at this moment well enough posted up in to argue. But we go simply upon this known normal constitutional position of all English warranted lodges. The grant of a warrant implies two things—first, that the Grand Lodge recognizes a certain lodge as belonging to its roll; and, secondly, the warranted lodge takes upon itself certain obligations, on the fulfilment of which the validity and vitality of its warrant depend. If for instance, a lodge makes no returns and pays

no annual fees, and becomes dormant, it forfeits its active character, and after a time, if not revived by the payment of back reckonings and a fresh understanding with its mother Grand Lodge, it is erased from the roll of lodges, and nothing under that warrant can call it into activity again. It is, as far as the Grand Lodge of England is concerned, Masonically defunct, and its warrant is forfeited. Such we apprehend to be, as far as our English law is concerned, the position of the Prince Hall Lodge. But, in addition to this, the warrant only gave authority to do known Masonic acts, and it is impossible to base on it any authority to open other lodges, much less to form a Grand Lodge! Thus, then, we have this anomaly: a lodge is dormant and defunct, not having complied with the conditions on which the warrant was originally granted, and it is revived without any legal Masonic authority whatever, and without any reference to the granter of the warrant, who alone could revive the dormant lodge. This lodge, brought into activity proprio motu, proceeds to commence Masonic working, to open other lodges, and eventually to form a Grand Lodge! All these acts are "ultra vires," and, as far as English Masonic law is concerned, utterly null and void. We must, therefore, beg respectfully to adhere to our expressed opinion, that on the facts of the case historically, and on the broad basis of English Masonic law, the position of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge is utterly vicious and unsound. Bro. Findel in the ardour of his advocacy ventures to place the Prince Hall Grand Lodge on the same footing as our English Grand Lodge. Now on this point much confusion of ideas exists in the minds of many continental brethren, and Bro. Findel seems to share in it. With us a Grand Lodge is an aggregate of private lodges, forming themselves by conjoint action into a corporate body, with a central Masonic authority. Abroad, many Grand Lodges were originally, and some still are, only private lodges which have assumed to themselves unmasonically the title of a Grand Lodge, but without any authority of aggregation, or any principle of delegation or representation to warrant such an appellation. The English Grand Lodge is the result of those four old lodges, who originally met, and very properly and very naturally formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, over which they nominated a speculative brother as first Grand Master of the revived Grand Lodge. And it is on this principle we contend, and only on this principle, that a Grand Lodge can properly or Masonically ever be formed. Bro. Findel dogmatically declares that the four old lodges were all operative. Where does he find any authority for such a misleading statement? In 1717, 1718, 1719, a speculative Mason was elected Grand Master, and there is no proof whatever of such an assertion, as far as we are aware of. The author of "Multa Paucis" tells us, "au contraire," that Captain Elliott was one of the Grand Wardens for 1717. The truth is that good Bro. Findel is a little angry at one of his hobbies being questioned by us audacious chaps in England, and, like angry people, he writes without that clearness and Masonic knowledge which mostly distinguish his writings. We confess that we have understated and undervalued unintentionally the amount of German recognition and of German opinion on the subject, but we had not looked very clearly into the facts of the case until our attention was called to them from America, and we had regarded the matter as more a question of feeling, than, as it now turns out to be one, of Masonic law. Our brethren in Germany are so free-spoken and honest themselves that they will, we feel sure, credit us with speaking frankly and fearlessly on the subject, on which, begging Bro. Findel's pardon, and despite his depreciatory estimate of ourselves, we are as competent to form an opinion as he is.

THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

Some questions having arisen with reference to the power of a P.G. Lodge, and of G. Lodge, to pass a resolution affecting the outward government of the Boys' School, we thought it right and due to our readers in our issues of the 23rd and 30th ult., respectively, to express our opinion, and to quote a precedent with respect to the abstract

point at issue. Our view, as originally expressed, has been more than confirmed by the unimpeachable and exalted authority of our good old and faithful G. Master, Lord Zetland, and we can, therefore, afford to smile at the pretentious impertinence of the sciolist or the illogical aberrations of the unmasonic. The point at issue is this: Can a Provincial G. Lodge, or G. Lodge, pass a resolution as a corporate body affirming the necessity of an enquiry into any matter connected with the school and appoint a committee of investigation? We say no; and Lord Zetland said no on a former occasion. A very distinguished brother of our Order, Bro. Beach, P.G.M. for Hampshire, had submitted a resolution to the Board of Masters for discussion in G. Lodge. This was an abstract resolution, enforcing the advisability of an annual examination for the two schools. The Board of Masters declined to allow the resolution to appear on the agenda paper, on the ground that G. Lodge was incompetent to pass such a resolution. On appeal by Bro. Beach to the G.M., he sustained the action of the Board of Masters, and for this reason:—The G. Lodge gives £150 per annum to the schools. Such an annual payment only placed it in the category of subscribers. The only course open to subscribers was to pass a resolution to that effect either at a Quarterly General Court or Special General Court, or at a General Committee. Lord Zetland's dictum goes to this effect, that G. Lodge, through its annual gift of £150, has no exceptional privileges as none are accorded to it by the laws of the Institutions, and that therefore all such resolutions can only be moved by individual subscribers, not by the G. Lodge or P.G. Lodges, or lodges as separate bodies. This is the common sense view of dealing with the matter, the practice and course of all similar institutions. Any one who has the hardihood to assert the contrary, in a Masonic or profane print, or is so perverse as to seek to mislead others, either through crass ignorance or jesuitical evasions, has no claim to be listened to, and is out of court altogether. One should pay no more attention to his remarks than if they had been never penned, put forth, as such silly animadversions evidently are, in a spirit of childish opposition, and in a way which shows limited acquaintance with Masonic teaching. The distinguished Province of West Yorkshire has passed an abstract resolution (much altered from the original matter in the P.G.L. agenda paper,) affirming the need of enquiry into the present condition of the school in all respects, and has also passed a resolution for a West Yorkshire Committee of Investigation of twelve members. This is a fact, though for some reason kept back in a report sent to us from W. Yorkshire, but we give elsewhere the shorthand writer's notes of the actual speeches and resolutions. We are, then, distinctly of opinion that on Lord Zetland's dictum the resolution so carried and the action so taken are *ultra vires* and can have no practical effect. If any body has any complaint to make, or grievance to expose, or wrong to redress, he must act legally and give notice of a motion that the General Committee shall call a Special General Court to devise a special resolution on the subject. Had the P.G. Lodge of West Yorkshire passed a resolution calling upon the General Committee to convoke a Special General Court to consider a certain resolution to be brought forward relative to the administration of the Institution, (though even in such a course it would be going beyond its constitutional right), yet considering all West Yorkshire has undoubtedly done for the Boys' School, the General Committee would, we think, probably have acceded to such a request. But as it is, the action of West Yorkshire threatens the very independence of our great educational institutions, is altogether taken in ignorance or forgetfulness of the constitutional position of the P.G. Lodge in the matter, and cannot be sustained by any who have the real and lasting interests of the Boys' School at heart.

MASONIC JEWELS.

Some controversy has been going on lately in our pages as to what jewels may or may not be worn in lodge, and we therefore think it well to call attention to a subject which has a special

interest for many and a general interest for all. It is quite clear in the first place that all jewels or decorations which belong to the Christian grades in Mark Masonry are not wearable in a Craft Lodge, or P. Lodge, or G. Lodge. The Book of Constitutions distinctly lays down the normal regulation of English Freemasonry in the provisions of its pages, but all tending to the same one point and end. At page 18 it is said "Nor shall any member be permitted to wear in the lodge or in any private lodge any jewel, medal, or decoration belonging or appertaining to any order or degree not recognised by the G. Lodge of England as part of pure antient Masonry." The G. Lodge having decided that "pure antient Masonry" consists of the three Craft Degrees and the R. Arch, necessarily in limine forbids absolutely all "jewels, medals or decorations" in Craft Lodges which belong to any grade or degree except these four. But "Ex converso" "jewels, medals and decorations" belonging to such recognised degrees may be worn in Craft Lodges. Here the question arises, what are the "jewels, medals, and decorations" belonging to such recognised degrees as may properly be worn in lodge? And here we confess we feel much difficulty in answering the question. In two other places in the Book of Constitutions G. Lodge has dealt with the question, in addition to the section just specified, and we must go to them to see what G. Lodge really says on the matter. At page 68, sect. 22, we find these further words—"No jewel shall be worn in a lodge other than those specified for the officers, except such honorary or other jewels as shall be consistent with those degrees recognised by the G. Lodge as part of antient Masonry." Thus, having previously said "belonging or appertaining to" the Book of Constitutions now adds "consistent with." At page 118, sect. 2, the G. Lodge thus further deals with the matter: "No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn in the G. Lodge which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees which are recognised and acknowledged by and are under the control of the G. Lodge as part of pure and antient Masonry." Thus we see all jewels, emblems, medals, or devices which are not consistent with and do not belong or appertain to one of the degrees acknowledged and recognised and under the control of G. Lodge are illegal. At first sight this last section would seem to exclude R.A. jewels, which belong to a grade not actually under the control of G. Lodge, but as the three sections quoted are based upon and all allude to the recognition of the Grand Lodge of certain degrees, as forming true and antient Masonry, we are led back to the Articles of Union for 1813, in which the three degrees including the Royal Arch are acknowledged and declared to be such. The Royal Arch jewels are worn under the direction of the regulations for Royal Arch Masons, and we do not feel quite sure, despite custom, that a strict interpretation of the words "under the control of Grand Lodge" might not even exclude them from a Craft or blue lodge. It seems too that the general idea of the Book of Constitutions is to be very chary indeed of jewels at all, and that the only jewels it actually recognizes, in addition to the jewels pendent to collars, and significant of rank, are such honorary or other jewels as shall be consistent with the three degrees it recognizes. The Book of Constitutions recognizes centenary jewels, and it mentions, as we have seen, honorary jewels, whatever they may be, but it does not allude to the charity medal, nor does it apparently give any authority for any dispensation for any other kind of jewel. Still, as often happens, custom is more powerful than law, and "mos est lex." We wear in our lodges many honorary jewels, medals, emblems, and devices, such as those of P.M., the five-pointed star, &c.; and some lodges, though very few, have a lodge jewel granted by special authorisation of the Grand Master. The number of lodges having a lodge jewel is so small that it cannot, we fancy, exceed a dozen, if so many. Now, we believe that under the law all devices, emblems, medals, or honorary jewels, which are consistent with the degrees recognized by the Grand Lodge, may be worn legally. An Entered Apprentice might wear a jewel on which were represented the working tools of the First Degree, for instance, and so too, as regards the Second

Degree, and in respect of the Third Degree, either the five-pointed star, its emblem, or a jewel with its working tools, might constitutionally, we apprehend, be worn in lodge, and for this reason—if not, what emblems, devices, jewels, or medals are legal? The jewels specified by the Book of Constitutions belong actually to officers, not to degrees; and if the Book of Constitutions admits that, other honorary jewels, emblems, devices, or medals may be worn, if consistent "with the recognized degrees." What are they? The word "degrees" cannot by any possibility be strained so as to mean "degrees of rank," so that it can only refer to the three Craft Degrees, including the Royal Arch. Why should it not then be stated what jewels, &c., may be actually worn in lodge? Why should not the charity medal come under the same law as the centenary jewel? And hence the question naturally almost arises, would it not be well to modify the law, and settle it fully and finally, and once for all. Why should not each lodge have its own lodge jewel, by sanction of the Grand Master, and by regulation of the proper authorities, and by the provisions of the Book of Constitutions? Each lodge would then keep up its own "esprit de corps" by the possession of its distinguishing badge, and a very large sum might be raised for the Fund of Benevolence, which, if the present strain on it continues, will want ere long increased supplies. We have spoken simply, and we trust clearly, and we venture to think what we have advanced may be worthy of a little consideration by those who we know well have ever the best interests of our great Order most truly and loyally at heart.

THE WESTMINSTER GAZETTE AGAIN.

The proceedings and deliverances of the Roman Catholic body in this country would be very saddening were they not so very ludicrous. Here is a religious organization of great power and greater influence, agitated and troubled about Freemasons and Freemasonry to a degree we could hardly have thought possible or credible. We have never in the history of the past, or in the controversies of the present, witnessed an excitement so silly, or a fear so craven. Day by day, in one form or other, the various publications of the Ultramontane school are pouring forth the most childish invectives, and the most venomous diatribes. There is nothing too hard or too bad to say of Freemasons and Freemasonry. We are accustomed to the violence of foreign Roman Catholic journals and ecclesiastics, but we confess we are not prepared for this absolute manqué of all "égards" of politeness, even for this unscrupulous use of perverse calumny, the "suppressio veri," and the "suggestio falsi," which we have to encounter in free-spoken, truth-loving England. But we fear, after a certain correspondence at Hastings that has appeared in the public prints, that we may expect anything at the hands of some Ultramontane partizans which violence can suggest or vulgarity inspire. Sir Geo. Bowyer in his kindness, attempts an appeal ad misericordiam, and ask us all not to judge of the many by the few, but, alas "facta" are more powerful than "verba," and at this moment some of the more violent and the least scrupulous of ultramontane writers have got the bit between their teeth, and words of moderation and counsels of restraint are worse than vain. The "Westminster Gazette," a sober Roman Catholic journal, in its issue of October 20th, puts forward an article entitled "The Secret Societies and their Aims," which we deplore, protest against, and laugh at at the same time. We deplore it in the interests of religion and of truth; we protest against it on behalf of a peaceful, loyal, and unrevolutionary society; we laugh at it because it simply displays at this moment the Ultramontane monomania, and as regards Freemasonry is a burlesque on fact, and a mockery of common sense. Any Roman Catholic taking up the article, or a non-Roman Catholic, for the matter of that, would believe that the whole of Freemasonry is simply a camp of secret conspiracy, a focus of revolutionary, socialistic, communistic, irreligious intrigue, a dangerous and destructive combination against all order, law, government, morality, and religion

everywhere. We can simply say that such an assertion is an utter falsehood, and a falsehood which is known to be a falsehood, deliberately persisted in, and calmly repeated without hesitation or regret. The writer makes no distinction between foreign and Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry, even supposing all his allegations against Freemasonry abroad be true, which they are not; and he simply lumps all Freemasons every where together under the appellation and character of a "horrible" society. Now, for the moment leaving out continental Freemasonry, in Great Britain, and the United States, and Canada, with our 800,000 or 900,000 Freemasons, the Roman Catholic authorities know as well as we do that we are entirely non-political, and a peaceful, loyal, benevolent, and religious brotherhood. Even Barruel, when he poured forth his bitter accusations against his compatriots and others, admitted that English Freemasonry had never adopted the "wild notions," he professed to discover in the continental system. And so it has ever been, so it still is, so it will ever be. Our great principles are still loyalty and charity, brotherly love, relief, and truth. Hence it is a very sad spirit of absolute mendacity which persists in ascribing to Anglo-Saxon Freemasonry any such revolutionary tendencies as these highly agitated Ultramontanes are ascribing in their nervousness and vexation to Freemasonry generally. And even abroad it is not true. The writer declares that the Freemasons are at the bottom of the German struggle, and of every thing just now which does not go as Rome wishes, a fact which has never been proved, and which we believe to be an entire fiction, the result of a deceased Jesuit brain, or an overwrought Ultramontane imagination. That foolish Masons, (for all Masons are not wise,) and individual lodges may not have been discreet, and have put forth regrettable manifestoes, we do not deny, but we doubt if the governing body of any Masonic Grand Lodge or Grand Orient has ever endorsed such views, or publicly approved such proceedings. Even the Bishop of Orleans got no further than the acts of individual Masons and lodges, and we do not believe ourselves that anything more is proveable. To clinch his arguments, to drive his complaints home, the writer in the "Westminster Gazette" gives us the following passage of an anonymous Freemason in 1838, which we now present to our readers simply because, first, we doubt that any Freemason ever uttered such words, and secondly, because they are such a parody on our true teaching that we should ourselves be prepared, if really ever made, at once utterly to disavow them. Here they are, and we append the conclusion of the writer. "But let us listen again to the initiated Freemason of 1838, and our readers, we fancy, will almost believe with us that we are listening to the voice of a Bismarckian Prussian of 1875. Rising in his frenzy, he exclaims—'Entice away the priest from the altar and from virtue; make him idle, or vain, or a patriot. He will then be better able to do our work than if the point of our dagger was blunted on his tonsured skull. Corrupt the people by means of the clergy, and the clergy by our means. Such a demoralization will alone enable us to bury the Catholic Church. It is a noble aim, and fit for men of our stamp. Let us not be led astray from it by indulging in the miserable satisfactions of individual revenge. The best dagger for the assassination of the Church, the best blow at her heart, is demoralization. On, then, to our work.' It seems to us that Freemasonry, painted by itself, looks even more horrible than when it is painted by its enemies, and Freemasonry, to say the least, is as much condemned in the eyes of honest men by its own voice as it is by the voice of the Church." Do any of our readers believe that such words ever were spoken by a true Freemason? We do not; and we hope that the writer in the "Westminster Gazette" will give us a specific reference to the source whence he has obtained this passage. We see he speaks of an initiated of "Judice" writing from Castellamare to a fellow conspirator of the "Nubio," but in what actual publication did these words appear? We pause for a reply, as after the proof of the writer's absolute unfairness and mental aberration as regards Freemasonry, we are sorry to say we must decline to accept his statements, or credit his "ipse dixit."

A REFERENCE.

With respect to the quotation in our last issue from the printed reports of the Quarterly Communication, March 3rd, 1858, we beg to refer our readers to the "Freemasons' Magazine and Masonic Mirror," vol. from January to June, 1858, p. 453, and to the "Masonic Observer" for March 20th, 1858, p. 5. We understand that the official minutes are naturally more condensed, but our readers will see who collate the reports of the "Masonic Magazine" and the "Masonic Observer" that they are almost identically the same, word for word.

A WORD OF WARNING.

We publish, as we promised, in another column a letter which came too late for insertion last week, relative to the Boys' School, and signed by Bros. Tew and Perrott. We have printed the letter at the request of our two brethren, though we are fully sensible of the deep evil which may accrue to an excellent institution by Partisan attacks and a protracted controversy, affecting alike the character, work, and progress of the school. Still, as we are unwilling to close our pages to the real or supposed grievance of any brother, the more so as we have admitted Bro. Binckes's letters, we shall continue to publish such further correspondence as we may be favoured with on both sides, but minus personalities. We give fair notice to all who henceforth forward to us their "gravamina" or their rejoinders, that we shall rigorously excise all personal reflections, come from what quarter they may.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even as approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.—Ed.]

THE MASONIC BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

We note in your issue of Friday last a letter from the Secretary of the Boys' School with reference to our pamphlet, and we crave space in your columns for a brief reply.

For obvious reasons we pass by the Secretary's abuse, and go straight to the point. Bro. Binckes, unfortunately for himself, adduces the case of "James Gasson" to convict us of error, and assures the friends of the institution that all our statements—"mass of vindictive accusations"—may be as easily confuted.

The Secretary states that £5 was paid for an outfit on leaving in May, 1872. We find, however, that "James Gasson," according to a Report, 2nd edition, before us, did not attain the age for leaving, viz., fifteen, in 1872, till the 28th October of that year, and, as we are informed in a contemporary that "James Gasson" was "an orphan and entirely friendless," it is very strange he left the school six months before his time. Again, the Secretary states that £5 was paid at commencement of apprenticeship, which, according to the same authority, must have been in the year 1872. Why then is this second grant of £5 not shewn in the 1872 Report, where other grants of the same amount, as late as December, are duly recorded? Everything concerning "Gasson" is most perplexing: in two Reports, one reaching a second edition, we are informed that he left in December, 1871; in another that for 1865, "second edition with corrections," we are told in two places that "Gasson's" time for leaving would not be till the 28th October, 1872; and now the Secretary states that £5 was paid for his outfit on leaving in May, 1872. We fail to see how the Secretary has improved his case, which appears to us to be only more involved, and all we can say of the Reports for the last three years is, that they are thoroughly unreliable, and therefore worthless. The repetition in Report for 1873 of grants made in 1872 and previous years, is in direct contradiction to the heading, "With amount of grant not previously made or ascertained."

As regards numbers "in the institution," as the several lists are headed, and not on the Secretary's books, we see no reason for altering our verdict, which is, that they are all wrong; this we have shewn conclusively in our pamphlet, and it will hardly escape the notice of our readers, that Bro. Binckes offers none of his solutions for the other blunders, which, being made in two editions of the same Report, ought not to be explained away as "clerical blunders."

Since the issue of our pamphlet several other errors in these Reports have been brought to our notice by correspondents. What the Secretary means by the sum of £510 17s. from this source we do not know; and have only to remark concerning his salary and office expenses, that the total cost last year for the Clergy Orphan Schools under this head, for 210 orphans, amounted to only £802 5s. 10d., whereas at the Masonic Boys' School, with 170 inmates, the total cost was £1274 18s. 9d. In the matter of clothing too, our school compares unfavourably with the Clergy Orphan School, where the cost per head is only £5 10s.

4d., whilst each of our boys cost last year £7 11s. 7d. These are facts, and speak for themselves.

The till-now-unheard-of charge of "unparalleled tyranny and persecution," &c., against Bro. Perrott argues the extremity to which the Secretary is reduced, and it will strike your readers as most strange that, withal, Bro. Perrott was spontaneously offered by a sub-committee of the governing body, formally appointed to treat with him, an opportunity of withdrawing his previous resignation. The letters from the masters were sent in order that they might offer any suggestions for alterations in the different time-tables.

We are glad to observe that the Secretary has at length seen fit to admit, though doubtless with many mental afterbirth pangs, the paternity of the Matron's reply, characterised by a member of the House Committee as "highly improper." Its authorship was one of Bro. Perrott's crucial questions, which the Secretary three months ago publicly announced should be crucially answered, and its late constrained recognition does not say much for a parent's natural pride.

We are, dear Sir, and Brother, yours fraternally,
THOMAS WM. TEW.
O. G. D. PERROTT, M.A.

Pontefract, Oct. 26th, 1875.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the hurry of complying with the exigencies of the press, I copied from the uncorrected MS. a statement with reference to outfits, &c. The amount 'paid in 1871' is £45 (instead of £55), and that appearing in Report 1875, "paid in 1874," is £37 10s. (instead of £47 10s.), the result not being affected. Regretting having thus to trouble you,

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES.

MASONIC JEWELS.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In reply to your correspondent, "An Enquiring M.M.," I can assure him that the "five-pointed star" is a perfectly legitimate jewel, and may be worn by any M.M. I have many times worn it in Grand Lodge, but what is perhaps of more consequence, I wore it at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as Grand Master, when I had the honour of acting as Steward, and when, as you are aware, every jewel was rigidly examined, so that nothing unorthodox should by any possibility be admitted. You, Sir, have already pointed out that such a jewel is not contrary to Masonic law (Craft), and I trust that "An Enquiring M.M." will rest satisfied that he is perfectly in order in wearing it. Should the W.M. and officers of his lodge make any objection, he has an appeal to the Board of General Purposes, when the question will be settled once for all, and I for one will gladly assist him in making such an appeal, if necessary.

I remain, dear Sir and Brother, your truly and fraternally,
J. J. HOOPER WILKINS, W.M. 73, &c.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In answer to Bro. the Rev. E. Y. Nepean, the jewels allowed to be worn in the Craft lodge include not only those specified in the "Book of Constitutions," and the charity and Royal Arch jewels (Principals, &c.), but also all special jewels, like those of the Lodge Antiquity ("Royal Medal"), and the Prince of Wales's Lodge.

I cannot myself see that the "five-pointed star" is a legal Masonic jewel, though it is just possible that the editor of the "Freemason" is correct, and that it comes under the definition of the "Book of Constitutions" as to decorations.

In addition to the foregoing there is the centenary jewel, a drawing of which appears now in the appendix to the "Constitutions." Many of these centenary jewels, however, are very handsome, the patterns formerly varying considerably, and the designs in many instances being most ornate. A brother may of course belong to twenty centennial lodges, and thus be entitled to wear as many centenary jewels, just as he may serve as Master of as many lodges, and be decorated with a corresponding number of Past Masters' jewels, but we are of the decided opinion that it would be ornamentation at the expense of common sense and a waste of money, much better turned into our charitable institutions.
WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

COLOURED LODGES IN THE UNITED STATES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In the "Freemason" of Oct. 23, p. 467, there is an article on the Coloured Lodges of the United States, and especially on Prince Hall G.L. of Boston, which, I cannot deny has astonished me very much, not only with regard to the want of information and care of the author, but still more because it is written in a most regardless and unbrotherly style. The author speaks there, that "a distinct opinion has been expressed thereabout by some writers and bodies in Germany." But if he is at all informed on the subject he touches upon, he will know that the "some" bodies are four independent lodges and the German Grand Lodge League, composed of all the Grand Masters and representatives of Grand Lodges, i. e., the whole fraternity of Germany. And the "some" writers are the publishers of the "Freimaurer-Zeitung," "Bauhutte," "Am Reissbret," and "Hamburger Logenblatt," and their contributors (except one brother), i. e., again, the whole fraternity. I may ask the English brethren whether it is allowed in such a case to speak of "some" writers and bodies?

There is a very great difference between the course taken by the author of that article and the German bodies; for the first gives his statements only after an "unimpeachable

authority," without the name of this "authority" to prove its value; the latter have decided the question, after having proved all documents and reasons pro and con. on the only authority of law, true Masonic principles, and justice. And from this standpoint four independent lodges of Germany, and the Grand Lodge League have acknowledged Prince Hall Grand Lodge as a just and perfect Masonic body. The Grand Lodge of Hungary and the Swiss Grand Lodge Alpina have done the same.

The highly-esteemed independent lodge, Baldwin zur Linde, at Leipzig (Worshipful Master Bro. Professor Dr. Marbach) has voted the acknowledgement after having heard a committee charged to prove all documents and writings, and has published the report of this committee in the "Reissbrett," a paper for Master Masons. It would be only right and just, if the "unimpeachable authority" of a writer should like, to translate that report, and to discuss the reasons laid down therein.

In the whole Masonic world the members of a dormant (not defunct) lodge have the right to resume the labour. The Prince Hall G.L. especially had this right, on the ground of the legal warrant still in its possession, and more, as Prince Hall, or African Lodge, regularly constituted from the G.L. of England, has not ceased the intercourse with London; but the Grand Lodge of England, as in so many other cases of olden time, has cared nothing for her daughter lodges, i.e., the mutual relations have gone asleep on both sides.

Indeed, I am very much astonished to find in an English Masonic paper such a boasting on the warrant, and the strict outer legal form. May the author and the "Freemason" first criticise the strict outer legal right of the existence of the Grand Lodge of England before moralizing other bodies? Has any other Grand Lodge warranted the first Grand Lodge of England? Had the four old lodges of London, without the other then existing lodges of England, an undeniable right to form a Grand Lodge and choose a Grand Master? Had they any strict legal right to convert simple operative lodges into pure symbolical lodges? Had they a right to put aside the Old Constitutions, and to vote the old charges of 1723? No, no, no; if the strict outer formal right is in question. And, further, if the author and the "Freemason" deny the legal existence of Prince Hall Grand Lodge as a just and perfect body, with the right to institute new lodges, it is not just and perfect for Freemasons to judge all Grand Lodges of the Universe with the same measure after the compass? Well, if this is done, then, with the exception of the newly-formed Grand Lodge of a recent date, scarcely a single Grand Lodge would have an undisputable right of acknowledgment, neither most of our German Grand Lodges, nor the Grand Orient of France, nor the Grand Lodge of Sweden, and others. But enough. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Boston is as much a just and perfect Grand Lodge as the Grand Lodge of England and other bodies, and all its members are true and lawful Masons.

I am, fraternally yours, J. G. FINDER.

DANIEL O'CONNEL.

The original of the following appeared in the "Dublin Post, and is the best answer to "Enquirer" in last week's "Freemason." About five years ago the question was discussed in the "Freemason":—

"Sir— London, April 19, 1837.

A paragraph has been going the round of the Irish newspapers, purporting to have my sanction, and stating that I had been at one time Master of a Masonic Lodge in Dublin, and still continue to belong to that society.

"I have since received letters addressed to me as a Freemason, and I feel it incumbent on me to state the real facts.

"It is true that I was a Freemason, and a Master of a Lodge. It was at a very early period of my life, and either before an ecclesiastical censure had been published in the Catholic Church in Ireland prohibiting the taking of the Masonic Oaths, or, at least before I was aware of that censure. I now wish to state that, having become acquainted with it, I submitted to its influence, and many, very many years ago unequivocally renounced Freemasonry. I offered the late Archbishop Dr. Troy to make that renunciation public, but he deemed it unnecessary. I am sorry to have this opportunity of doing so.

"Freemasonry in Ireland may be said to have (apart from its oaths) no evil tendency, save as far as it may counteract in some degree the exertions of those most laudable and useful institutions—institutions deserving of every encouragement—the temperance societies.

"But the great, the important objection, is this. The profane taking in vain the awful name of the Deity, in the wanton and multiplied taking of oaths, of oaths administered on the book of God, either in mockery or derision, or with solemnity which renders the taking of them without any adequate motive only the more criminal. This objection, which, perhaps, I do not state strongly enough, is alone abundantly sufficient to prevent any serious Christian from belonging to that body.

"My name having been dragged before the public on this subject, it is, I think, my duty to prevent any person supposing that he was following my example in taking oaths which I now certainly would not take, and consequently becoming a Freemason, which I certainly would not now do.

"I have the honour to be your faithful servant,
"DANIEL O'CONNEL."

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF NORTH WALES.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Having read the short paragraph in the last week's "Freemason" of the proceedings of the above lodge, although short it contained a few trivial errors. It was at first arranged that the procession should proceed through High-street and enter the cathedral by the great

west door under Bishop Sheffington's Tower and proceed along the nave to the transept. Owing to an oversight in the railway arrangements for the month, the R.W.P.G.M. and officers did not arrive by their appointed time, which caused a delay. At the last moment the order was given to proceed to the cathedral by the shortest way, which was just long enough to be able to form a procession before entering the cathedral, which they did by the north door, to the great disappointment of the inhabitants and visitors in not being allowed to have a glimpse of the R.W.P.G.M., their "Prince, in Wales." Bro. R. Roberts is not the S.W., but our respected P.M. and Sec.

I enclose you the sermon preached on the occasion by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, to show the great contrast felt for the spiritual welfare of the Craft by the head of Christ Church in this diocese, and that of the so-called head of Christ Church at Rome. "Ye shall know them by their fruits" and "According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay."

Yours fraternally, R. O.

MARK MASONRY.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am much interested in the Mark Degree; and have perused with interest the communication of a "Mark Master" in the "Freemason" of to-day on the subject.

1. As to the charities, I know one of its Provincial Mark Masters is a Vice-Patron of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and numerous members of the degree are foremost in aiding our three Grand Institutions, but we need not surely present any defence of the degree in that respect?

2. What does "Mark Master" mean by saying "Mark Lodges existed in England under the York Constitution the minutes of the St. John's Mark Lodge at Bolton dating from 1779?" Are we to understand by York Constitution that of the "Grand Lodge of all England," held at York, for some years extinct? If so, I deny the statement, for it has never yet been proved that the York Masons worked the Mark Degree, and as to Bolton, there was not a lodge working there last century under the Grand Lodge of all England (York).

I shall be glad to know what "Mark Master" means by his statement, and though I feel sure the lodge in question was not of the York Constitution, yet I should be exceedingly gratified to see an account of its records from 1779 in the "Freemason."

Those of "Banff" chapter have already appeared in the "Freemason" from our friend Bro. Hughan.
Joppa, Oct. 30. P.M. OF MARK LODGE.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your correspondent, a "Mark Master," is clever, and I am therefore justified in assuming that his letter is penned for effect. Pity he does not sign his name to his communications, in order that we may see who is who.

I will content myself by criticising the historical evidence he adduces in support of the genuine nature of the degree of Mark Master, because opinions may differ in regard to the value of a recognition of such a degree by the Order of the Temple, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

He is correct, no doubt, in regard to some degree called the "Mark" having been given at Banff and elsewhere at the close of last century, but when he adduces the instance of "Mother Kilwinning," I cannot help noticing that he is intelligent enough to know that he is only trying to hoodwink his readers. All the Kilwinning Lodge (or any other Scottish lodge) did was to record and register the Mark of the Apprentice Mason, a thing which the Scottish lodges were bound to do by an ordinance of the early part of the seventeenth century, and nearly two centuries before any degree of any kind called the Mark Degree existed anywhere.

Further, the York Constitution never did acknowledge the Mark or any analogous degree; they only recognised the Royal Arch, Knights Templar, and Priestly Order of Melchisedek.

Fraternally yours, JOHN YARKER.

To the Editor of the Freemason.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I am W.M. elect of our Mark Master Masons' lodge. At our next meeting I shall have to be installed, and there are two candidates to be advanced. Will you, or some of your readers, kindly tell me which ceremony ought to take place first, and oblige,

Very faithfully and fraternally yours, J. T. S.
[It is immaterial, so Bro. Binckes informs us].

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of this institution met on Thursday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. John A. Rucker, Vice-Patron, in the chair. Among the other brethren present were Bros. A. H. Tattershall, Richard Spencer, H. A. Dubois, R. B. Webster, George Kenning, F. Binckes, Walter Wellsman, H. M. Levy, H. W. Hemsworth, Henry Dubosc, Henry Moore, S. Rosenthal, W. F. C. Moutrie, John Boyd, Thos. Cubitt, and R. W. Little, (Sec.)

The minutes of the last General Committee were read and verified, and the minutes of the Quarterly Court and Audit Committee were read for information.

Five petitions were then read, of which four were approved and one was deferred. The committee then adjourned.

[The above appeared in our second edition last week].

WIPE YOUR FEET.—The best Coco Nut Mats and Matting are made by Treloar & Sons, 69, Ludgate Hill.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF COMP. HALSEY, M.P., AS PROVINCIAL GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

After a lapse of eleven years the meetings of the Grand Chapter for the Province of Herts have been revived. The province has for some time been without a Provincial Superintendent, but Royal Arch Masonry has not hitherto been very flourishing in the province, and there has been very little for a Superintendent to do lately, however, the Order has become more numerous, and the holding of a Provincial Grand Chapter become a necessity. The office of Superintendent being vacant, it could not be conferred on a more worthy Comp. than the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., a Past Z. of No. 404, a provincial chapter, a very popular chief, and one under whom the Craft in the province is flourishing considerably. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Z., therefore, appointed Comp. Halsey as Provincial Superintendent for Herts, and on Thursday last the installation of that companion was performed at the Masonic Hall, Watford, the first stone of which was laid by Comp. Halsey some time ago. There was a good attendance of companions at the installation, most of them, however, being, as might be expected, provincial companions.

The following is a list of the company:—Comps. John Hervey, G.S.E.; A. T. Brett, P.Z. 404; F. Davison, Z. 404; I. N. Edwards, 1385; R. T. Andrews, H. 403; T. S. Carter, Z. 1385, and J. 402; W. Marks, 1385; W. Cutbush, J. 1385; H. C. Finch, P.Z. 404; J. R. Cocks, P.Z. 403, S.E. 403, 1385; J. Lowthin, H. 1385; J. Livingston, 1385; H. C. Heart, Z. 403; G. P. Bernard, 404; G. Finch, P.Z. 403; H. Massey ("Freemason"); J. Terry, P.Z. 403, 1385; R. Horton Smith, P.Z. 404; A. J. Copeland, P.Z. 404; J. E. Dawson, 404; J. Wilkinson, 1248; H. Lloyd Thomas, P.Z. 403; J. Purrott, 1385; and H. F. Burchell Herne, P.Z. 404.

Comps. Hervey, as Z.; F. Davison, H.; Heard, J.; H. C. Finch, P.S.; G. R. Cocks, First A.; H. Lloyd Thomas, Second A.; Dr. Brette, N.; F. H. Wilson Iles, M.D., E.; J. Terry, D.C.; T. S. Carter, R. T. Andrews, J. Lowthin, G. Finch, H. Massey, and other P.P.'s, opened the chapter, and the companions having been admitted, Comp. Hervey thus addressed them:—

You are all aware of the object for which we are met on the present occasion, and I may congratulate those members of the Province of Hertfordshire who have been deprived of a Grand Chapter so many years on having the opportunity of meeting together again as a Provincial Grand Chapter. I need hardly say that it has afforded me great pleasure to come down to-day to resuscitate the Grand Chapter of the Province of Hertfordshire, and I hope that now that there is a Grand Chapter established we shall find that the Order of the Royal Arch will increase in this province, and that instead of three chapters, as I believe is now the number in the province, we shall soon see double the number. I will not detain you longer now, because time unfortunately flies, rather too rapidly to suit many of us. I will not take up your time needlessly, but will now proceed to the business of the day, when I shall have the pleasure of placing one to preside over you in this province better than I, who am the exponent of the G.Z. on the present occasion. I shall leave you this evening with a head of your own, instead of being as you have been for some time without a ruler to govern and control the Order of Royal Arch Masonry in the province. The business was thereupon proceeded with by Comp. Iles, calling over the roll of chapters, the Hertford, 403; the Watford, 404, and the Gladsuir, 1385, when the several companions, belonging to those chapters answered. Comp. Iles afterwards stated that the last meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter, was held on the 9th Sept., 1864, when the officers for the province were appointed. At this point of the proceedings S.N. announced that the Provincial Grand Superintendent Designate was without the chapter, when the Z. requested that he would send in his patent. S.N. having obtained it, handed it to Comp. S.E., who read it aloud and handed it to the M.E.Z. for examination, and appointed a deputation consisting of Comps. Finch, Cocks, and Thomas (Sojourners), T. S. Carter, and James Terry, D.C., to introduce Comp. Halsey for the purpose of being installed. These companions retired, and afterwards returned, conducting Comp. Halsey into the chapter. The M.E.Z., addressing him, said:—I congratulate you, sir, on being appointed Prov. Grand Superintendent of this province. It must be a gratifying feeling to yourself to receive that appointment from so eminent a member of the Craft as the head of our Order now is. He, of course, is one who will be the general disseminator of honours on some future occasion for the realm at large. He now is the King, one may so denominate him, for the time, of Masonry, the exponent of all our principles, one who, I am sure, during the time that he has been at our head, has conducted himself in a manner to recommend him to every member of our Order, whether it be in Craft or R.A. Masonry. It must, therefore, be an additional pleasure to you to be appointed by so eminent a member of society; and it must also be gratifying to you that after the province has had a lapse, I may say of 21 years in Royal Arch Masonry, it is considered advisable to resuscitate the Grand Chapter of Hertfordshire, and that you, sir, are appointed to be at its head, in which position I hope you will not only resuscitate the province as a province, but likewise that it will be in your power so to disseminate the seeds of the Order that we shall see chapters springing up in other parts of the province than those which now possess them. I am sure that during the time that you preside over the Order you will do it with that diligence and with that desire not only to further the interests of the Order in general, but render yourself in Royal Arch Masonry, as

you have done in the Craft, popular among its members and agreeable to the whole Province. (Hear, hear and cheers). I may congratulate you on having done so during the time you have been Provincial Grand Master; and I am quite sure that if it should again be my lot to visit a chapter in this province, I shall have the same feeling of gratification that you were appointed to be at its head—a feeling of intense satisfaction that not only you are at its head, but that the Order of Royal Arch Masonry is increasing and multiplying. I will not detain you longer, sir, because I am sure the companions round this room will be much more gratified to see you in this chair than the individual who now occupies it. I am simply the instrument, I may say, the link between the province and yourself. That link will soon be cut off, and you will remain the head of the chain which will connect London and Watford. It affords me pleasure to have come down here to-day to instal you in the chair of Grand Superintendent, as I had some time ago the pleasure of installing you in the Grand Master's chair of this province. As I have said before, the companions will be gratified to see you in the position you are about to occupy, and to feel that they have once more one at their head who will not only look after their interests, but do the best he can to promote the good of the Order in general and the Royal Arch in particular. It now only remains for me to enquire if you are willing to take the office. (Cheers.) Comp. Halsey having signified his assent, he was formally installed and invested, amidst much cheering. His first act was to appoint Comps. H. C. Finch, P.Z. 404, H.; J. R. Cocks, P.Z. 403, J.; F. H. Wilson Iles, P.Z. and S.E. 404, S.E.; T. S. Carter, S.N.; F. Davison, 2, 404, P.S.; Heard, First Asst.; Lowthin' Second Asst.; Lumley Smith, G.R.; Andrews, S.B.; Foord, Std. B.; James Terry, D.C.; Dibdin, Org.; Thomas, Jan.; and Wright, Assistant J. Comp. T. S. Carter, S.N., proposed, and Comp. Thomas seconded, Comp. Copeland as Prov. G. Treasurer, which having been carried unanimously, the Grand Superintendent invested him accordingly, and complimented him on attaining that office. The Grand Superintendent afterwards said it would be advisable to have a committee appointed to frame the laws for the province; and Comp. Iles said it might be interesting to know what laws existed in the former Grand Chapter. The first meeting was held on the 22nd Sept., 1845, when a committee was appointed to frame a code of bye-laws. The committee met on the 17th Oct. that year, and resolved and recommended that the bye-laws of Grand Chapter were sufficient with the exception of some minor points. At the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter on the 7th Sept., 1846, this report was read and confirmed. No meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter was held from that time till the 19th Sept., 1864, when it was resolved that the payment of arrears of dues should not be enforced, but all dues should date from that meeting. (Laughter.) But no subsequent meeting had been held, and no money had been received, except £1, which the family of the late Comp. Tootal, Prov. G. Treasurer, had forwarded with his books to him (Comp. Iles). This £1 appeared to have been received at the last meeting eleven years ago. (Laughter.) Perhaps it would be as well to appoint a small committee. It was not necessary to frame any new bye-laws, but there might be questions arising in the province which it would be requisite to advise upon at next meeting. The Grand Superintendent said he also thought a small committee would be desirable. Of course some dues would be necessary to defray the expense of Grand Chapter, such as clothing, jewels and collars. Large contributions would be unnecessary.

Comp. Hervey remarked that there was one thing usual in Provincial Grand Chapters, a fee of honour on appointment to Grand Office, some trifling sum, which was graduated according to the office a companion filled. It did not press heavily on the individual, but it greatly assisted the province in meeting the expenses which necessarily fell upon it. This was a general rule prevailing in provinces for raising funds. Comp. Cocks, J., thought this suggestion a right one. The fee of honour with a small sum as a due from each member of the chapters in the province would raise quite sufficient. It might be left to the committee to fix what the amount should be, but for himself he thought 2s. a member, the same as a brother in the Craft paid, would be a fair amount to fix. He mentioned this just in conversation, in order to get at the opinion of the companions in general, upon the subject. Comp. Thomas thought there would be no difficulty in getting a subscription from each member in the meantime to provide clothing. Comp. Horton Smith believed it would be better to appoint a committee, and leave it to them. He would propose the three Grand Principals, the S.E., and the Treasurer to form the committee who was to report to Grand Chapter. Comp. Terry, D.C., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Comp. Iles, S.E., read communications regretting inability to attend from Comps. Sedgwick, D.P.G.M.; Humbert, Z. 404; Martin, J. 404; Goodliffe, 404; Fellows, and Lumley Smith, after which Grand Chapter was closed, and the companions sat down to a choice banquet provided in the banqueting-hall by the proprietor of the Essex Arms. The usual toasts were subsequently proposed and drunk. The toast of "The Queen," as the mother of a Mason who presides ably over every branch of the Craft in this country, having been duly honoured, the Grand Superintendent next gave "The Prince of Wales, G.M.," and said that, as Comp. Hervey would vouch, the Prince of Wales was no mere show or ornamental Mason, but that he had the interests of the Craft at heart, that he was Grand Master and G.Z., not only in name, but in fact, and promised to be second to none of the previous Grand Masters of the Craft. They must all wish him success through his journey in India, and trust he would come back in safety to preside over Masonic meetings. The toast of "The Pro G.Z., the G.H., and G.J.," coupled with the name of Comp. Hervey, was next proposed and

the Grand Superintendent, in giving it, referred to Comp. Hervey's performance of the ceremony that evening. It had made a deep impression upon him (the G.S.) which would last throughout the whole of his Masonic career. It was not the first time he had heard him, for Comp. Hervey had previously installed him as Provincial Grand Master. They were fortunate in having such a representative of Grand Officers present. He looked upon it as a white letter day in the history of the Craft and Royal Arch Masonry in the Province of Herts that the ceremony had been gone through so ably as it had been performed by the G.S.E. (Hear, hear).

Comp. Hervey said he was much honoured in having his name coupled with the names of the noblemen who held the three offices below the Prince of Wales. If England were sought through it would be difficult to find three men more devoted to the interests of the Craft, or who carried out the duties they had undertaken with more anxiety that they should be well performed. Lord Carnarvon was well known in every position in life, as a politician (which perhaps he ought not to mention there), as a man of letters, and in social and family life. So also with Lord Skelmersdale and Lord De Tabley, men who were distinguished as deserving well of their country and their Craft. For the kind feelings expressed towards himself, he (Comp. Hervey) felt very grateful to the Grand Superintendent, and to the companions for the way in which they had received them. He had come down to Watford with a great deal of pleasure to instal the Grand Superintendent in the chair he now occupied, feeling that in doing so he was not only performing the duty which every Mason owed to the Craft—to do the best he could to forward its interests. He did not think he could have forwarded those interests better for Herts than by installing Comp. Halsey as Grand Superintendent. The duties he (Comp. Hervey) had performed had been very light. The ceremony was but a short one, and hence it was that there was little in it to attract brethren other than feeling that they were taking part in the ceremony of inducting the Grand Superintendent. The companion appointed to preside over them was one whom they respected as a neighbour, whom they looked upon as possessing high character and great ability, and whom they wished to see presiding over them, who they felt would carry out his duties to their satisfaction, and temper justice with mercy. He (Comp. Hervey) was sure that if the Grand Superintendent found it necessary to administer justice, he would not shrink from it. He hoped that during his term of office (which he trusted would be a lengthy one), he would have no cause to execute any particular or severe sentence as far as justice was concerned; but he must be a hopeful man who on becoming the head of any society, great or small, could look forward to filling that position without some little difficulties, drawbacks, and stumbling blocks in his way. That Comp. Halsey's course might be a smooth one he sincerely hoped, if he felt that the brethren around him would assist him in carrying out all the duties he had to perform, that they would lighten his labours as far as it was possible to do so, and that they would support him whenever he should require it. The companions were very much pleased at having him as their Superintendent, and they trusted he might long remain so. Comp. Hervey then congratulated the Prov. G. Superintendent, and hoped he would never have cause to regret the 28th Oct., 1875. He then proposed Comp. Halsey's health.

Comp. Halsey, in reply, thanked Comp. Hervey for the very flattering way in which he had spoken of him. He felt it a very great honour to have been called on to preside over the Province of Herts, which had laid dormant so long. He was much pleased that the Grand Z. had thought fit to revive it, and he hoped that, being revived, it would prosper. He remembered being present at the last meeting eleven years ago, one of the three meetings referred to by Comp. Iles. On that occasion there was only one chapter in the province, and the meeting of Grand Chapter was one of the ordinary chapter days of the Watford Chapter. The only difference was the special business was performed before the ordinary began. It was with satisfaction he found there were now three chapters in the province, and when the next Provincial Grand Chapter met he hoped to see more. He did not think they should be satisfied with the progress hitherto made. The companions no doubt looked upon the Royal Arch Degree as the necessary complement and fulfilment of the M.M. Degree, that until a Mason had taken that degree he had not really completed his Masonic career. He therefore hoped the day would come when they would see a Royal Arch Chapter attached to every lodge in the province which up to the present time had not got them. He was aware that there was a rule which prevented the younger lodges from having chapters, because it was customary not to grant a charter for a chapter until the lodge had been in existence a certain time. That was quite right, because from circumstances brethren were constantly changing their domicile, and many of them who had taken the Third Degree in Craft Masonry were not able to go on to the Royal Arch Degree. A lodge should therefore have a certain amount of stability by length of existence before it had a chapter. It was true that for Royal Arch purposes some of the lodges seemed tacitly to agree to unite together. In the Watford Chapter there were many brethren of the Berkhamstead Lodge and others; but at the same time it would be more appropriate and fitting that they should have a chapter connected with each lodge, because, as he had said before, the Royal Arch Degree was the complement and completion of the Third Degree, and if a brother having taken his Master Mason Degree, who was desirous to take the Royal Arch, should be able to do it in the chapter belonging to his own lodge. Especially should this be so in country districts, in scattered, rural places like the North Eastern parts of the province, where the brethren were comparatively

out of reach of a chapter. (Hear, hear.) Craft Masonry was flourishing, and had been flourishing for a long time. New lodges were being formed, and it was only that day he had been informed of the probability of another Craft lodge being added to the roll of Herts. R. A. Masons of Herts had now set the ball rolling by reviving and resuscitating Prov. G. Chapter, and he sincerely hoped that this degree as well as the Craft would go on increasing. As long as he had the honour of presiding over the Order in the province, he would do all he could to support it, and he again appealed to the Companions to assist him. (Cheers.) "The Provincial Grand Officers" was the next toast, which was responded to by Comp. Finch, and "The Visitors" having been replied to by Comps. Wilkins and Massey, the Janitor gave his toast, and the companions separated. [The above appeared in our second edition of last week.]

CONSECRATION OF THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER LODGE, No. 1563.

The City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, was consecrated on Friday week at the Regent Masonic Hall, Regent-street. The ceremony was performed by Bro. R. Wentworth Little, who was assisted by the Rev. P.M. Holden as Chaplain, Bros. C. A. Cottebrune as D.C.; John Boyd, P.G.P.; W. Stephens; Colonel Burdett, Prov. G.M. Midx., and the following brethren:—Edward White, Benjamin Phillips, George Fowler, 1305; G. T. Carter, 145; John Hodges, 1319; G. Bubbs, P.M. 180; Thomas Lausdown, 813; T. Dayson, 382; A. Cameron, P.M. 180; W. H. Pope, 1305; W. E. Phillips, W.M. 435; G. J. Hill, S.W. 1336; John Hancock, 765; Thaddeus Wells, 205; J. Mason, 309; Theo. Distin 173; E. C. Woodward, W.M. 382; H. Massey ("Freemason"); Thomas Bull, P.M. 145; F. H. Cozens, Org. 907; Edward Moody, Sec. 1426; John Woodward, 1446; F. R. Gibson, 1446, 1460; A. Flattely, P.M. 205; A. C. Burrell, 1446; W. Morphew, 1446; H. Reed, 733; J. T. Baker, 1305; J. L. Lucas; J. E. Shand, 1507; E. Farwig, 180; Thomas Pratt, 1446; A. Stewart, 1158; C. W. Wise, W.M. 1158; J. Waugh, 177; R. H. Morrison (Michigan) P.M. 297; A. B. Grabham, P.M. 1494; James Kench, P.M. 538; C. Burmeister, 538; J. Marshall, 538; S. Willis, 177; James Morrell, P.M. 111; A. Bassington, I.G. 205; W. S. Lee, 120; E. M. Haigh, P.M. 29; and T. B. Yeoman, 1460. The W.M. designate was Bro. B. H. Swallow, P.M. 382; the S.W. designate, the Rev. P.M. Holden; and the J.W., Bro. Edward White. Bro. Little opened lodge at four o'clock in the handsome lodge-room, which, as may be imagined from a perusal of the above list of names, was full. The consecration was adorned with a beautiful musical accompaniment, which was provided by Bro. Thaddeus Wells, who also took part in the singing. Bro. F. H. Cozens presided at the organ; and the professional brethren who assisted were Bros. Hodges, G. T. Carter, and Theodore Distin. The ceremony of consecration was magnificently rendered, and the chants were given in splendid voice, and with exquisite taste. Bro. Holden, who delivered the oration, said,—Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, W.M., and brethren,—The occasion on which we meet together this day is, I conceive, interesting, not only to ourselves as Masons personally and individually, but to the Craft at large, inasmuch as it denotes the continued prosperity and vitality of our venerable Order, which like the famous Indian tree, the banana tree, perpetually renews itself in scions as vigorous and flourishing as the parent stem. To me, as you will readily understand, it is a particularly interesting occasion, inasmuch as in a short time I shall be invested with the S.W. collar of the lodge. And I assure you it is also a special gratification that I have been permitted to-day to assist and officiate as chaplain at so important a ceremony as the consecration of the City of Westminster Lodge, more especially as I feel convinced that those brethren who unite with me as founders of the lodge are eminently qualified to discharge the various duties of the high offices to which they have been appointed. They, it is true, have already made their mark in Masonry, and they have also won "golden opinions" for their zeal in its cause; and they are now, like myself, extremely anxious to devote their ability, time, and influence to the further advancement and development of so noble, so very interesting a science. It has been remarked, by a great and distinguished writer, of literary men, that they are a perpetual priesthood, standing forth from generation to generation as the dispensers and living types of God's everlasting wisdom; and the same remark, I think, may very fairly and properly be applied to the members of our enlightened Craft; and I rejoice to see so many worthy and talented men in the ranks of our fraternity. To their enfranchised minds Freemasonry unveils a universe of thought. To them it is and must be ever a keen source of delight to trace and to interpret those grand and solemn truths that were dimly foreshadowed in the mystic rites of the ancient world. Looking through the mists of ages, they behold the white-robed Athenians a kindred race. Amidst the darkness and gloom of occult ceremonies they discern a faint glimpse of the true light in which we all now rejoice. In every land they find tokens and traces innumerable graven by the hands of skillful Masons upon the walls of ruined fanes and temples; and they establish the affinity of our Order with the society of Dionysian artificers, with the disciples of Pythagoras, with the College of Architects at Rome, and with the various operative associations of the Middle Ages. They demonstrate clearly that the great ethics of Freemasonry were known and taught by the very wisest sages of Greece, whose names are still honoured and revered by the whole civilized world. They prove that our Order, though often persecuted and often derided, has never yet paused, failed, or faltered in its sublime career, although meanwhile the mightiest and most powerful empires have been compelled to succumb to the destroying hand of conquest or to the effacing fingers

of time. And I would ask what nobler exercise of the mental faculties can be found than a calm and earnest pursuit of Masonic knowledge, thus gleaming and gathering, as it were, in our onward path those rich treasures of wisdom which it unfolds to our view? But it is not merely to the intellectual pleasure to be derived from the study of Freemasonry that I would desire to direct your attention. Our institution possesses other and more practical claims upon our sympathy and support. Freemasonry is founded upon principles that are an honour and an ornament to human nature. It bids us hasten to the rescue of the young and helpless from the snares of poverty, ignorance and vice. It calls upon us to ameliorate the sad condition of those who in the decline of life require our assistance, consolation, and support. And I am proud to add, that English Freemasons have ever been highly distinguished, not merely for their zeal in promoting the welfare of our venerable Order, but for their large hearted benevolence and diffusive charity. The very best answer that can be given to the cavils and the sneers of the unenlightened world is to point to those excellent, those honourable institutions that have been raised for the culture, and nurture of the young, and the shelter of the old. I believe nearly a century has now passed away since the Masonic Girls' School was founded; and who shall venture to estimate the vast amount of good it has achieved? The Boy's School was established some ten years later; and the crowning act of our charitable undertakings was effected by the erection of a suitable building for those who, having borne the heat and burden of the day, and standing as it were on the very threshold of the Grand Lodge above, desire to end their days in peace and tranquillity. (Hear hear.) My brethren, it is our duty to prove to the world that Freemasonry is something more than a name, something infinitely better and higher than a mere excuse for social gatherings, be those social gatherings never so pleasant; it is our solemn duty to prove to the world that its principles are pure and lofty, its designs admirable and praiseworthy; and the best and the clearest and most logical way of convincing the scorner or the sceptic is by a steady and consistent practice of the beautiful precepts of our Order. Freemasonry will then not only present to the mind of the philosopher and the student a regularly-organised system of knowledge, unfolded in ritual and ceremonies known only to the initiated; but it would appear to mankind in general as a beneficent and beautiful institution, teaching and inculcating morality and visibly bearing the glorious fruits of charity and good will. May then the lodge which we inaugurate this day prove a conspicuous example of all those virtues that adorn and beautify the Masonic character; may it convey to distant posterity those grand, those august lessons that have been handed down from our forefathers; may it ever be the shrine of intellect and the temple of thought, the home of peace and the abode of joy, established, as I humbly hope it has been, by the hands of true, faithful, and devoted Masons; and resting upon the firm pillars of intelligence, may it remain as an imperishable memorial of its founders, growing year by year in happiness and prosperity, and shining brighter and still brighter in the glorious firmament of Masonic fame. (Applause.) After this oration, which was listened to with deep attention, the consecration ceremony was completed, and Bro. B. H. Swallow was installed as Master of the lodge. Bro. Cottebrune was invested as I.P.M., and the following brethren were appointed:—Bros. the Rev. P.M. Holden, S.W.; E. White, J.W.; C. A. Cottebrune, Treas. (unanimously elected); Scott, Sec.; Phillips, S.D.; Turner, J.D.; Parsons, I.G.; Polter, Tyler; Shand, D.C.; and Hutchinson, W.S. The addresses having been delivered Bro. Scott read a long list of brethren desiring to join the lodge, and of gentlemen wishing to be initiated. Col. Burdett was elected an honorary member, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the S.W. The same compliment was also bestowed on Bros. Little and Cottebrune, and a vote of thanks to Bro. Little for consecrating the lodge and installing the W.M. was also adopted. This concluded the formalities of the day in open lodge, and the W.M. with the usual assistance closed down, and afterwards presided at a choice banquet. The Masonic toasts followed, and Colonel Burdett replied for "The Grand Officers," and expressed the pleasure he had experienced in being present at the consecration of a lodge which held out such promise of becoming distinguished. He then referred to the great progress made by the Order of late years. Going back only as far as five years, when he was at the consecration of a lodge numbered 1293, in the time that had elapsed since that event another 250 lodges had been added to the roll. That showed how Masonry was spreading throughout the world, and was creditable in every way to the Order. Masonry stood in a higher position now than it ever did, and from the high aims it had in view it was fully entitled to that position. The W.M., in the course of proposing "The Consecrating Officer, Bro. Little," made reference to the presence of Bro. Morrison, from America, and said he did not look on Americans as foreigners. He drew the brethren's attention to the occurrence of an event to an English brother when in America, who was there stricken down by illness. Bro. Morrison took him to his home, and gave him not merely the right hand of fellowship, but the consolation and encouragement which a man in the circumstances of the sick man most required. Bro. Hill, who was the sick brother, was for months in Bro. Morrison's house, and when the latter brother came to this country his services were recognised in the Highgate Lodge and the Domatic Chapter by making him an honorary member. The more these great facts were known in connection with Freemasonry, the more we should see Freemasonry increase. (Cheers.) In reply to Bro. Little, who proposed "The W.M.," Bro. Swallow said that although it was nine months since the lodge was first started its promoters were quite satisfied with its success. He felt sure it would prosper. He was supported by good officers, he knew he would have many initiates, and he should suit

their convenience by calling as many emergencies as possible. He hoped the lodge would be able to send the first W.M. as a Steward with a good sum for the charities. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Morrison (Michigan) replied as a "visitor." It afforded him a great deal of pleasure, he said, to respond and to acknowledge the kind courtesy extended to himself and the other visitors. That time the evening before he was ignorant of the fact that he should enjoy the pleasure of seeing a Masonic lodge consecrated by his respected Bro. Little, much less that he should see a lodge start with such prosperity before it. He had seen lodges consecrated before, and the ceremony performed with some ability, sometimes in places where there were less than half a dozen huts in the wide woods. When he came to think of Masonry in new tribes and countries, and under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, and then came to the mother country, the home and cradle of Freemasonry, and witnessed such a consecration as he had that night, he could not but feel proud that he had been enabled to see, to his mind, one of the greatest contrasts there could be in the fraternity. But he was happy to say that Freemasonry in his own country was very successful. A town had a lodge where there were less than 200 inhabitants at the time, and now that the same town's population had increased to 30,000 it had five Masonic lodges, and two of them owned a hall creditable to any lodge outside the City of London. He then passed a high eulogium on the Masonic Institutions of London, and said that the Masons in London were favoured beyond most other Freemasons of the world in having such institutions. He certainly had had no comprehension of the extent and working of those charities, and he was proud to see that they were all extending their benefits. Before he visited England he thought the Masons of America were more benefited in their necessity than others; but he would frankly admit that he was deceived in that respect. There was no place he knew of where charity was so well bestowed as in the City of London. He would go back to America and tell his brethren with pride of what he had seen. (Hear, hear.) Bro. Boyd, P.G.P., P.M. 145, also replied. Bro. Cottebrune replied for "D.C.," and wished prosperity to the lodge. The officers responded to the toast drunk in their honour, and the brethren shortly afterwards retired. The musical brethren enlivened the proceedings with some capital singing.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, November 12, 1875.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

General Committee, Boys' School, at 4.
Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.
Manchester Lodge of Instruction (179), Yorkshire Grey, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8; Bro. H. Ash, Prec.
Lily Lodge of Instruction (820), Greyhound, Richmond.
Star Lodge of Instruction (1275), Marquis of Granby, New Cross-road, at 7; Bros. Macdonald and Griffin, Preceptors.
Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at 8.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 29, St. Albans, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 59, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
" 90, St. John's, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 136, Good Report, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.
" 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
" 222, St. Andrew's, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.
" 1366, Highgate, Gatehouse Hotel, Highgate.
Chap. 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st.
" 720, Panmure, Horns Tavern, Kennington.
" 1319, Asaph, Freemasons' Hall.
Red Cross Conclave 2, Plantagenet, Caledonian Hotel
Prince Leopold Lodge of Instruction (1445), Lord Stanley Tavern, Sandringham-road, Kingsland, at 7; Bro. T. Austin, Preceptor.
Strong Man Lodge of Instruction (45), Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, at 8; Bro. Beckett, Preceptor.
Sincerity Lodge of Instruction (174), Railway Tavern, Fenchurch-street Station, at 7.
Camden Lodge of Instruction (704), Stanhope Arms, Upper James-street, Oval Road, Camden Town, at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Eastern Star Lodge of Instruction (95), Royal Hotel, Mile-end-road, at 7.30; Bro. E. Gotheil, Preceptor.
British Oak Lodge of Instruction (813), Bank of Friendship Tavern, Mile-end, at 7 for 8.
St. James's Union Lodge of Instruction (180), Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8; Bro. J. R. Stacey, Preceptor.
Wellington Lodge of Instruction (548), White Swan, Deptford, at 8; Bros. Shaw and Griffin, Preceptors.
West Kent Lodge of Improvement (1297), St. Saviour's College, Stansted-road, Forest-hill, at 7.30; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
Perfect Ashlar Lodge of Instruction (1178), Victoria Tavern, Lower-road, Rotherhithe, at 8; Bro. C. W. Kent, Preceptor.
Sydney Lodge of Instruction (829), White Hart Hotel, Church-road, Upper Norwood, at 7.30; Bro. H. E. Francis, Preceptor.
Metropolitan Mark Lodge of Instruction, Coach and Horses Hotel, 323, Strand, at 8.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Lodge 96, Burlington, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
" 166, Union, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.
" 180, St. James's Union, Freemasons' Hall.
" 194, St. Paul's, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
" 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
" 211, St. Michael, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street.
" 228, United Strength, Old Jerusalem, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell,

Lodge 235, Nine Muses, Long's Hotel, Bond-street, W.
" 435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
" 548, Wellington, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.
" 917, Cosmopolitan, Terminus Hotel, Cannon-st.
" 933, Doric, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
Rose Croix Chapter, Oxford and Cambridge, 33, Golden-sq.
Yarborough Lodge of Instruction (554), Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8; Bro. Barnes, P.M., Preceptor.
Domatic Lodge of Instruction, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 8; Bro. Larham, Precep.
Faith Lodge of Instruction (141), 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st. (opposite Westminster Palace Hotel), at 8; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Preceptor.
Prince Frederick 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 (860), King Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.30; Bro. Crawley, Preceptor.
Prosperity Lodge of Instruction (65), Gladstone Tavern, Rishopsgate-st. Within, at 7.30; Bro. J. L. Mather, P.M. 65 and 1227, Preceptor.
St. Marybone 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), Wheatshaf Hotel, Hand-court, Holborn, at 7; Bro. John Bingham, W.M. 55, Preceptor.
Percy Lodge of Instruction, Grapes Tavern, Little Windmill-street, W.
Israel Lodge of Instruction, Rising Sun Tavern, Globe-road, at 7.30.
Royal Arthur Lodge of Instruction (No. 1360), Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea, at 8; Bro. G. King, P.M., Preceptor.
Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement (975), Jamaica Coffee House, St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, at 6.30; Comp. J. Brett, Preceptor.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Gen. Com. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution See Advt.
Lodge 3, Fidelity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-st.
" 9, Albion, Regent's Masonic Hall, Regent-street.
" 11, Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
" 13, Union Waterloo, M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
" 15, Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
" 87, Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth.
" 147, Justice, White Swan, High-street, Deptford.
" 238, Pilgrim, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street.
" 749, Belgrave, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.
" 781, Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Limehouse.
" 820, Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond.
" 1017, Montefiore, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1306, St. John of Wapping, Gun Tavern, Wapping.
" 1503, Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.
Chap. 1260, Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
" 1305, St. Marybone, British Stores, New-street, St. John's Wood.

Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction (73), Windsor Castle Tavern, Southwark-bridge-road, at 8; Bro. Noke, P.M., Preceptor.
Pythagorean Lodge of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich, at 8; Bro. J. Robt. Nash, Preceptor.
New Concord Lodge of Instruction, Rosemary Branch Tavern, Hoxton, at 8.
Royal Union Lodge of Instruction, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Prec.
Confidence Lodge of Instruction, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Peckham Lodge of Instruction, Maisinore Arms, Park-road, Peckham, at 8; Bro. David Rose, Preceptor.
Stanhope Lodge of Instruction, Thicket Hotel, Anerley, at 7.30 p.m.; Bro. H. W. Lindus, Preceptor.
Finsbury Park Lodge of Instruction (1288), Finsbury Park Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, N., at 8; Bro. P. Dickinson, Preceptor.
Southwark Lodge of Instruction (879), Southwark Park Tavern, Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction (1524), Havelock Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston, E.
United Strength Lodge of Instruction (228), the Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
Mount Edgcombe Lodge of Instruction (1446), 19, Jermyn Street, St. James's, at 8; Bro. Mander, Preceptor.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

Lodge 91, Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
" 206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 263, Bank of England, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
" 657, Canonbury, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-st.
" 860, Dalhousie, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-st.
" 879, Southwark, Park Tavern, Southwark Park.
" 1076, Capper, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks.
" 1288, Finsbury-park, Finsbury-park Tav., Holloway.
" 1321, Emblematic, Tulse Hill Hotel, Tulse Hill.
" 1457, Bagshaw, Bald-faced Stag, Buckhurst Hill.
" 1471, Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury.
" 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Chap. 73, Mount Lebanon, Brid. Hou. Ho., London-brid.
" 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
" 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
K. T. Precep. 45, Temple Crossing, Bridge House Hotel.
" 117, New Temple, The Inner Temple.
Rose Croix Chapter 8, St. George's, 33, Golden-square.
Egyptian Lodge of Instruction (27), Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., at 7.30; J. Crawley, Preceptor.
Fidelity Lodge of Instruction (3), Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W., at 8; Bro. T. A. Adams, Preceptor.
Finsbury Lodge of Instruction, Jolly Anglers' Tavern, Bath-street, City-road; Bro. Stean, Preceptor.
United Mariners' Lodge of Instruction, Three Cranes, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
Whittington Lodge of Instruction (862), Crown Tavern, Holborn, at 8; Bro. L. Alexander, P.M. 188, Preceptor,

Temperance in the East Lodge of Instruction, (898), George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar, at 8; Bro. S. T. Finch, Preceptor.
 Ebury Lodge of Instruction, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank.
 Highgate Lodge of Instruction (1366), Bull and Gate, Kentish-town, at 8; Bro. J. N. Frost, Preceptor.
 The Great City Lodge of Instruction (1426), 111, Cheap-side, at 6.30.
 High Cross Lodge of Instruction (754), Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
 Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, Union Tavern, Air-st., Regent-st., at 8; Bro. Mander, Preceptor.
 Marquis of Ripon Lodge of Instruction (1489), Albion Tavern, Albion-road, Dalston; Bro. W. Stephens, Prec.
 Doric Chapter of Instruction, Three Cranes Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Comp. T. J. Barnes, Preceptor.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter of Instruction, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8. Comp. Baker, P.Z., Preceptor.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

Lodge 33, Britannic, Freemasons' Tavern.
 " 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 " 157, Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
 " 177, Domatic, Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street.
 " 1420, Earl Spencer, New Wandsworth.
 Rose Croix Chapter, Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-square.
 Union Waterloo Lodge of Instruction (13), Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 8; Brcs. Davis and Macdonald, Preceptors.
 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), Lyceum Tavern, 354, Strand, at 8; Bro. Pulsford, Preceptor.
 Unions Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.'s Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 Temperance Lodge of Instruction, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, at 8.
 Clapton Lodge of Instruction (1365), White Hart, Clapton, at 7.30; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., &c., Preceptor.
 Stability Lodge of Instruction, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-st., 6 to 8 p.m., Bro. H. Muggerridge, P.M., Preceptor.
 Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction (1056), Portugal Hotel, Fleet-street; Bro. Stacey, P.M. 180, Preceptor.
 Westbourne Lodge of Instruction (733), Horse and Groom, Winsley-street, Oxford-street, at 8.
 Metropolitan Lodge of Instruction, 269, Pentonville-road at 7; Bro. T. Adams, P.G.P., Preceptor.
 United Pilgrims Lodge of Instruction, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, at 7; Bro. M. S. Larham, Preceptor.
 St. James's Lodge of Instruction, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-road, Bermondsey, at 8; Bro. Joshua Howes, P.M. 765, 879, Preceptor.
 Duke of Edinburgh Lodge of Instruction, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar, at 7; Bro. D. S. Potts, Preceptor.
 Doric Lodge of Instruction, Earl Grey Tavern, Mile-end-road, at 8; Bro. P. M. Austin, Preceptor.
 Burgoyne Lodge of Instruction, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W., at 8; Bro. P. M. Wuest, Prec.
 St. Luke's Lodge of Instruction (144), Commercial Tavern, King's Road, Chelsea.
 Chigwell Lodge of Instruction, Bald-faced Stag Hotel, Buckhurst-hill, at 8.
 Burdett Coutts Lodge of Instruction (1278), Approach Tavern, Approach-road, Victoria Park, at 8; Bro. J. Crawley, Preceptor.
 Pythagorean Chapter of Instruction (79), Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd., at 8; Comp. W. Smith, Precep.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 13, 1875.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
 " 613, Unity, Masonic Hall, Southport.
 " 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool.
 " 721, Independence, M. R., Eastgate-row, Chester.
 " 1021, Hartington, M. H., Barrow-in-Furness.
 " 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
 Chap. 148, Elias Ashmole, Chapter Rooms, Warrington.
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9.
 Lodge 241, Merchants', Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 5.
 " 897, Loyalty, Fleece Inn, St. Helen's, at 6.
 " 986, Hesketh, Grapes Inn, Croston, at 4.
 " 1250, Gilbert Greenall, Mas. Rooms, Warrington.
 " 1256, Fidelity, Bull Hotel, Poulton-le-Fylde.
 " 1325, Stanley, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 9.
 Chap. 537, Zion, 55, Argyle-street, Birkenhead.
 Downshire Lodge of Instruction (594), M. Hall, Liverpool, at 7.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Lodge 86, Loyalty, King's Arms, Prescott, at 6.
 " 281, Fortitude, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
 " 484, Faith, Gerard's Arms, Ashton-le-Willows.
 " 580, Harmony, Wheatsheaf Inn, Ormskirk, at 5.
 " 758, Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn, at 6.
 " 1052, Callender, Public Hall, Rusholme.
 " 1094, Temple, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.
 " 1356, De Grey and Ripon, North Hill-street, Toxteth-park, Liverpool, at 6.
 " 1547, Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 Neptune Lodge of Instruction (1264), M. H. Liverpool.
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11.
 Lodge 216, Harmonic, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, at 5.
 " 333, Royal Preston, Victoria Garrison Hotel, Fulwood, near Preston.
 " 477, Mersey, 55, Argyle-st., Birkenhead, at 6.
 " 786, Croxteth United Service, M. H., Liverpool.
 " 950, Hesketh, Royal Hotel, Dock-st., Fleetwood.

Lodge 1032, Townley Parker, Howard's Arms, Whittle-le-Woods.
 " 1035, Prince of Wales, Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, at 6.
 " 1070, Starkie, Black Horse, Kirkham.
 " 1182, Duke of Edinburgh, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 " 1213, Bridgwater, Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles.
 Chap. 220, Harmony, Garston Hotel, Garston, at 5.
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12.
 Lodge 1289, Rock, Rock Ferry Hotel, Rock Ferry, at 7.
 Chap. 249, Mariners', Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN GLASGOW AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 13, 1875.
All the Meetings take place at Eight o'clock.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 102, St Mark, 213, Buchanan-street.
 " 204, St. Paul, Whip Inn, Ayr.
 " 205, Garthland, St. Winnoch, Eagle Inn, Lochwinnoch.
 " 219, Star, 12, Trongate.
 " 307, Union and Crown, Masonic Hall, Barrhead.
 " 362, St. Clair, 25, Robertson-street.
 " 384, Athole, Washington Hotel, Kirkintilloch.
 " 403, St. George, Oddfellows' Hall, Helensburgh.
 " 541, Marie Stuart, Masonic Hall, Crosshill.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

Lodge 177, St. James, Masonic Hall, Coatbridge.
 " 230, St. Barnabas, Black Bull Hotel, Old Cumnock.
 " 406, St. John, Masonic Hall, Motherwell.
 " 413, Athole, 213, Buchanan-street.
 " 419, Neptune, 35, St. James's-street, Kingston.
 " 426, Prince of Wales, Mas. Hall, High-st. Renfrew.
 " 441, Glasgow, 22, Struthers-street, Glasgow.
 " 543, St. John's, Masonic Hall, Dalmuir.

Chap. 69, St. Andrew, 170, Buchanan-st.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

Lodge 178, Scotia, 170, Buchanan-street.
 " 333, St. George, 213, Buchanan-street.
 " 510, Maryhill, 167, Masonic Hall, Maryhill.
 Chap. 113, Partick, Masonic Hall, Partick.
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11.
 Lodge 88, New Monkland, Town Hall, Airdrie.
 " 109, St. Marnock's, Crown Hotel, Kilmarnock.
 " 203, St. John's Operative, Olive Hall, Airdrie.
 " 553, St. Vincent, 162, Kent-road.
 Chap. 50, Glasgow, 213, Buchanan-st.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

Lodge 18, Dumbarton Kilwinning, Mission Hall, Dumbarton.
 " 170, Leven St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Leven.
 " 399, Royal Blues, Commercial Hotel, Kilbirnie.
 " 427, St. Clair, Masonic Hall, Cambusnethan.
 Chap. 144, St. Rollox, Freemasons' Hall, Garnagad-road.
 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13.
 Lodge 28, St. John's, Black Bull Inn, Kirkintilloch.
 " 179, St. Mungo, London Hotel, Mauchline.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN EDINBURGH AND VICINITY.

For the Week ending Saturday, November 13, 1875.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8.

Lodge 145, St. Stephen's, St. James's Hall, Writers' Court
 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9.
 Lodge 1, St. Mary's Chapel, Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo-place.
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.
 Lodge 2, Canongate, St. John's Chapel, St. John-st.
 Chap. 1, Edinburgh, Freemasons' Hall, Writers' Court.
 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11.
 Lodge 8, Journeyman, Blackfriars-st., High-st.
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12.
 Chap. 56, Canongate, Masonic Hall, John-street.

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Nov. 1, 1875.

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