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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LANCASTER.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 281).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on the 9th inst. at the Masonic Rooms, Athenæum, St. Leonard-gate. Bro. R. Taylor, the W.M., presided, and there was a very good attendance of members and visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened with solemn prayer, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Melrose having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired, and the lodge having been opened in the Second Degree he was re-admitted, and duly passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., the S.W. presenting the working tools. The lodge was then resumed in the First Degree, and a unanimous ballot having been recorded for Mr. Edmund Johnson, he was initiated into the mysteries of the Craft by the W.M., the working tools being presented by the J.W. A candidate was proposed for admission at the next meeting, after which the usual proclamations were made, which elicited hearty good wishes from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was subsequently closed in peace, love, and harmony.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, William-street. Bro. T. Butt, W.M., presided, and was supported by the following officers: Bros. T. Ward, P.M.; C. Hobson, P.M.; G. Crawford, P.M.; E. Bowles, P.M.; S. Waters, S.W.; A. C. Woodley, J.W.; J. Henderson, Sec.; J. Warren, S.D.; E. B. Hobson, J.D.; C. Cooke, Org.; W. McCoy, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. W. Weston, W.M. 1536; W. Hogg, P.M. 1349; G. Spinks, S.W. 1536; W. A. Watkins, 1536; J. Frankling, 913; and C. Jolly, 913. The business before the lodge consisted of the balloting for as joining member of Bro. J. Epsom, of Lodge 1107, and Mr. J. Epsom as an initiate. Both being approved of, Bro. John Epsom was formally introduced, and Mr. James Epsom duly initiated into Freemasonry. Bros. Glocock and Skillen were then passed, and Bros. Lacey and Hillier raised to the Sublime Degree. The three ceremonies were, as usual in this lodge, splendidly worked. After two charitable appropriations had been made the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshments. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been most enthusiastically responded to, Bro. Ward, the I.P.M., proposed the toast of the W.M. in flattering terms, and Bro. Butt in reply said he fancied Bro. Ward had been listening to an old song in which it said "His virtues were so rare," and attributed to him virtues that he was afraid he did not possess; however, he trusted that during his year of office, that had now so nearly expired, he had done all he could, as Bro. Ward said he had, for the benefit and welfare of the lodge. "The Healths of the Joining Brother and Initiate" followed, Bro. J. Epsom responding. "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Weston and Jolly, followed, and was responded to by those brethren as well as by Bro. Osbourne, 387, I.C., Malta, who gave a very interesting account of a visit he had paid to an Italian lodge, and the earnest way in which the work was carried out in that lodge. To a very cordial toast of "The Past Masters," Bros. Ward and Crawford replied, the latter regretting the unavoidable absence of P.M. Dawson, their esteemed Treasurer, through domestic affliction; and after "The Health of the Officers" had been proposed, drank, and responded to, the Tyler's toast concluded the business of the meeting.

ECCLES.—Bridgewater Lodge (No. 1213).—On Thursday evening, the 10th inst., the ceremony of installation was rehearsed at this lodge by Bro. J. Gibb Smith, P.P.G.J.W. East Lancashire. The lodge met at its usual trysting place, Bro. J. Pearson's, the Cross Keys Hotel, Eccles, and about seventy brethren, including visitors, were present. Bro. J. Gibb Smith having opened the lodge in the different degrees, proceeded with the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Edward Distin Wills, a brother well known for his probity and high character among the members of the Craft in Yorkshire and Lancashire, the whole ceremony being given beautifully. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Harry Lynill, S.W.; Chas. V. Brown, J.W.; J. Cater (Worsley), Chap.; W. Bowden, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Shepley, Sec.; H. E. N. Puenjer, S.D.; J. H. Hassall, J.D.; John Willis, I.G.; T. Cavanah, P.M., D.C.; G. Wait, Isaac Sim,

and W. Powell, Stewards; Stanislaus and Brenner, Musical Directors. A banquet afterwards followed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being duly honoured.

WEST DERBY.—Pembroke Lodge (No. 1299).—The usual monthly meeting of the members of this suburban lodge was held at Rawlinson's Hotel, West Derby, near Liverpool, on Thursday, the 17th inst. Bro. W. S. Vines, P.M., P.G.S., the W.M., presided, and amongst other brethren present were Bros. R. Bennett, I.P.M.; P. Macmullrow, P.M., P.G. Pur., Treas.; J. Capell, S.W.; J. Sellar, P.M., acting as J.W.; T. G. Fisher, Sec., &c. There was a good representation of visitors. Mr. H. Bloomer and Mr. H. Lyon, jun., were duly initiated, and Bros. T. W. Rudd and W. K. Greenway were passed to the Second Degree. A sum was voted from the funds of the lodge in order to qualify the J.W. as a Life Governor of the Hamer Benevolent Fund. Refreshments followed business, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

MORECAMBE.—Morecambe Lodge (No. 1560).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Edward-street, on the 4th inst. There was a good attendance of members and visiting brethren, among the latter being Bro. Johnson, Prov. G. Steward for West Lancashire. Bro. Dr. Moore, P.M., P.G.S.B., occupied the chair of K.S., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Capt. Garnett, W.M. The minutes of previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was raised to the Second Degree, when Bro. Schofield, having proved his proficiency as a Fellow Craftsman, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Schofield having been re-admitted he was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. Dr. Moore, the working tools being presented by Bro. Longman, I.P.M. 1051. Bro. Duff, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, the installation taking place on the 1st proximo. A candidate was proposed for admission, and the usual routine business having been transacted, the lodge was closed with the formalities of the Craft.

INSTRUCTION.

LONDON MASONIC CLUB LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 14th inst., at 101, Queen Victoria-street, there being present Bros. Hawksley, W.M.; Tickle, S.W.; Shand, J.W.; Wall, S.D.; Howard, J.D.; Willett, I.G.; C. J. Hogg, Treas.; J. Mander, Precep.; S. E. Shaw, Sec., and other brethren of the Masonic Club. The lodge having been opened in usual form, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the initiation of Bro. Eastgate, E.A. 1563, was rehearsed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Hogg was passed to the Degree of F.C., after which the lodge was closed to the First Degree. Bro. Tickle, 1196, S.W., was elected W.M. for the next meeting, which takes place at 6 p.m. on Monday next.

Royal Arch.

WIGTON.—Chapter of St. John's (No. 327).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Lion and Lamb, High-street, Wigton, on Wednesday, the 16th inst. Present: Comps. John Gate, P.P.G.R., Z.; Henry Bewes, H., and James Gardiner, J.; and others. The chapter having been opened in due form and the minutes read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Harris, of St. John's Lodge, No. 327, which proving unanimous in his favour, he was introduced, obligated, and exalted to the Sublime Degree of a Royal Arch Mason, the ceremony being most impressively performed by Ex. Comp. Barr, P.Z. 119, assisted by Comp. Bewes, H., the beautiful Mystical Lecture being given by Comp. Barr with his customary elocutionary power, and the Historical and Symbolical by Comp. Bewes. The companions were greatly struck at the admirable way in which the degree was worked and at the solemnity and decorum which pervaded the proceedings. Two brothers having been proposed for exaltation at the next meeting, the chapter was closed and the brethren retired for refreshment.

HAMPTON.—Era Chapter (No. 1423).—An emergency meeting of this new chapter was held at the Island Hotel, on Saturday, the 12th inst., to consider a notice of motion "That the chapter should be removed from the King's Arms Hotel, Hampton Court, to the above-mentioned place." There were present Comps. Sabine, M.E.Z.; Moss, P.Z., acting H.; Baldwin, M.E.Z. Lebanon, acting J.; Faulkner, acting S.N.; Dubois, acting S.E.; Walls, P.S. 185, acting P.S.; Johnson, acting 1st A.S.; W. Hammond, P.Z., D.C.; Gilbert, Janitor. The subject of the removal of the chapter having been fully ventilated, it was unanimously resolved that it should be forthwith carried out. The convocation having been adjourned until the second Saturday in the ensuing July, the companions partook of a well served collation. The customary preliminary toasts having been fully done justice to, "The Health of the M.E.Z." was proposed by Comp. Thiellay, the Second Principal. In introducing this toast the worthy companion expatiated at length upon the great services of Comp. Sabine to the cause of Freemasonry in general. He had but recently vacated the chair of the Chaucer Lodge; he was on the road to the Master's chair of the Era Lodge, and last, but not least, he occupied the high position of founder and First Principal of the Era Chapter. He went on to state that the principal members of both lodge and chapter were the proud recipients of Provincial Grand honours, which distinctions not only gave a lustre to their own names but shed a ray of brightness upon No. 1423. In conclusion, he said that he hoped the M.E.Z. would live many years to enjoy the society of his colleagues and companions of the Era Chapter. Comp. Sabine, in reply, made a very telling speech, in which he augured a very bright future for the Era Chapter,

which had met under such happy auspices that day. In conclusion, he told them that nothing should be wanting on his part to make the chapter a great success. The remainder of the evening having been agreeably spent the companions separated.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT.—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday evening, May 17th, at 7.30 p.m. Bro. James Gardiner, W.M., P.G. Inspector of Works, was in the chair, supported as follows: Bros. Thos. Moore, as S.W.; T. Mandle, J.W.; Jos. Nicholson, P.M., P.P.G.S.W., Treas.; P. Dodgson, Sec.; G. M. Tickle, as Chap.; J. R. Banks, M.O.; J. Quay, as S.O.; J. H. Banks, J.O.; J. Smith, P.G. Org., Org.; J. Thompson, S.D.; J. W. Robinson, J.D.; E. G. Mitchell, I.G.; other brethren also being present. The minutes of the April meeting being read and confirmed, a communication was read from an approved candidate for advancement, apologising for unavoidable absence. A ballot was then taken for Bro. R. Hetherington, Craft Lodge No. 371, which being unanimously favourable, he was duly advanced to the degree of M.M. by Bro. Gardiner, in his usual workmanlike style, whilst the candidate was ably chaperoned by the veteran, Bro. Nicholson, as S.D. The next business was to elect W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. The Secretary having read the list of those qualified for the chair, the W.M. mentioned that Bro. W. F. Lamonby, a recently joined member of Whitwell Lodge, was also qualified. Bro. Lamonby, however, withdrew his claim on the present occasion, and intimation of the remainder, with one exception, having adopted the same course being severally announced, Bro. T. Mandle, J.W., and W.M. of Craft Lodge No. 371, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Mandle having expressed his acknowledgments for the high honour conferred upon him, a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Gardiner for his services in the chair. Bro. Nicholson was next re-elected Treasurer with acclamation, and Bro. Harris was also elected Tyler. The lodge was finally closed in form a little after nine o'clock. The installation festival will take place in June. We may mention that the Grand Mark Lodge of England will hold its next annual meeting within the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland during the present year.

Knights Templar.

THE KEMEYS TYNTE ENCAMPMENT.—The installation meeting of this encampment took place at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden Square, W., on Friday, the 18th inst., V.E. Sir Knt. Lieut.-Col. H. S. Somerville Burney, P.P. Prior of Essex, as E.P. There were present Major Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Sub Prior; Major General Henry Clerk, F.R.S., R.A., P.P. Prior of Kent; Captain N. G. Phillips, P. Prior of Suffolk and Cambridge; Hugh D. Sandeman, P.P. Prior of Bengal; Capt. Portlock Dadson, R.B.G., P.E.P., P.D.P. of Kent, Treas.; Colonel C. W. Randolph, late of the Grenadier Guards, as Constable; James Lewis Thomas, F.R.G.S., as Marshal; the Rev. P. M. Holden, as Chaplain; Thos. Harrison, P.E.P., as Registrar; Peter Laird, P.E.P., as Almoner; John T. Gibson, Captain C. F. Compton, Captain Adolphus Nicols, P.E.P., S.; Graham Bake, Capt. Henry S. Andrews, Edwin M. Lott, and Capt. Francis Pavy, R.B.G. Also as visitors Sir Knts. Dr. R. J. Nunn, of the Palestine Encampment, Georgia; the Hon. R.W.H. Giddy, P.E.P. Diamond of the Desert, South Africa; and Charles S. Jekyll, as Organist. A resolution was entered on the minutes expressing the deep sorrow of the members at the death of the Great Prior of England and Wales, the Right Hon the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, who had honoured the encampment with his presence at the last meeting. A communication was read from Convent General, ordering mourning to be worn for the next six months. Comps. F. J. Ricarde-Seaver, Capt. Francis Pavy, Capt. William Arthur Hicks, Edwin Matthew Lott, and Capt. Kilner, A. A. Brasin-Creagh, were balloted for and approved, together with Comps. the Right Hon. Lord Henniker and Sir T. Douglas Forsyth, C.B., K.C.S.I., and Comps. Capt. Pavy and E. M. Lott being in attendance were duly installed as Knights Templar, and proclaimed accordingly. Comps. Lieut.-Col. Bousfield, M.P., and Capt. W. M. A. Barnes were proposed as candidates for ballot at the next meeting. The Treasurer's report was submitted by the Audit Committee, showing a balance in favour of the encampment of £66 5s. 6d., and on the charity account of £2 17s. 3d., after giving donations and subscriptions to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and Girls, and other charities. Sir Knt. Captain Adolphus Nicols, P.E.P., proposed, and V.E. Sir Knt. Col. Somerville Burney, E.P., seconded the following resolutions:—"That a cordial vote of thanks be tendered to Sir Knt. Captain W. F. Portlock Dadson, P.E.P., in recognition of his services, in having by his indefatigable zeal raised the Kemeys Tynte Encampment to its present very high position, both in strength of arms and the status of the knights (such vote to be entered on the minutes), and that in addition thereto some appropriate gift, or token of our regard, to the value of ten guineas, from the funds of the encampment, be also presented to our worthy brother, the Audit Committee being instructed to consult his wishes as to the form of the gift." This was supported by Sir Knt. Peter Laird, P.E.P., and carried nem. con. Sir Knt. Colonel Randolph was then duly installed and invested as E. Preceptor for the ensuing year, by Sir Knt. Colonel H. Somerville Burney, and appointed his officers as follows: Sir Knts. J. Lewis Thomas, F.R.G.S., as Constable; the Rev. P. M. Holden,

as Marshal; Capt. W. F. Portlock Dadson, P.E.P., as Treasurer; Thomas Harrison, P.E.P., as Registrar; J. Sandilands Ward, as Sub-Marshal; Edwin M. Lott, as Organist; Capt. C. F. Compton, as Master of the Ceremonies; Peter Laird, P.E.P., as Almoner; Capt. R. P. Leeson, as Captain of the Guards; John T. Gibson, as 1st Standard-Bearer; W. H. Kempster, M.D., as 2nd Standard-Bearer; Capt. H. S. Andrews, as 1st Herald; Capt. W. S. Gilbert, as 2nd Herald; Frater George Austin, as Equerry. The encampment was then closed in solemn form and with prayer. The members appeared in mourning, and the annual banquet was postponed in consequence of the death of the Great Prior. The following interesting account of the family of Tynte was given by the P.E.P., Colonel Burney. Of the surname of this family, tradition (says Burke), has handed down the following derivation:—"In 1192, at the celebrated battle of Ascalon, a young knight of the noble house of Arundel, clad all in white, with his horse's housings of the same colour, so gallantly distinguished himself that Richard Cœur de Lion remarked publicly after the victory that the maiden knight had borne himself as a lion and done deeds equal to those of six crusaders. The king then rewarded him for his prowess, conferring on him for arms a lion argent on a field gules between six crosslets of the first, and for motto 'Tinctus cruore Saraceni.'"

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

[This report appeared in the Second Edition last week.]

The annual meeting of the Subscribers and Governors of this excellent Institution was held yesterday, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Lieut-Col. Creaton, V.P., presided. There were likewise present Bro. E. C. Woodward, Hyde Pullen, Henry Smith, Henry Day, Thos. Hill, Samuel Gale, Capt. J. Wordsworth, A. H. Tattershall, John Symonds, Henry C. Burt, the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Joseph Smith, H. J. Thompson, James Kindred, Raynham W. Stewart, George Kenning, J. P. Platt, William Hale, Griffiths Smith, Thos. J. Sabine, V.P.; Frederick Adlard, Rev. J. M. Vaughan, W. F. C. Moutrie, Thos. W. White, Charles Godtschalk, Alfred A. Garter, J. W. Case, Geo. Page, G. R. Shervill, Josh. Di-coll, Stephen Austin, H. Masscy, (Freemason), W. Langley, James Brett, John P. Roberts, J. L. Hime, W. H. Perryman, E. Harris, Charles Raydon, G. Ward Verry, L. Stean, John G. Stevens, William Payne, S. Rawson, C. A. Cottebrune, C. P. Cobham, William Stephens, Thos. Fenn, Wm. Bobby (Ipswich), Henry Bartlett, W. Watson, George Everett, George Newman, J. M. P. Montagu, and Capt. N. G. Phillips, S.G.D.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were taken as read, they having been printed and circulated; and they were then confirmed.

Bro. Terry (Secretary) read the following letter from Bro. Francis Knollys, Private Secretary to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales:—

Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.
May 11th, 1877.

Dear Sir,—

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales approves of the Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, being fixed for Wednesday, 13th Feby., 1878.

I am, yours faithfully,

FRANCIS KNOLLYS.

The following report of the Audit Committee was then read and approved:—

We, the undersigned, having audited the Treasurer's accounts from the 1st of April, 1876, to the 31st of March, 1877, inclusive, and the several vouchers having been produced, do find the same correct.

MALE FUND.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... £3825 7 2
Subsequent Receipts ... 7495 7 8

£11320 14 10

Disbursements ... £5919 12 0
Purchase of £2000 3 per cent. Consols. ... 1880 0 0

£7799 12 0

Balance on this account ... £3521 2 10

WIDOWS' FUND.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... £1341 17 11
Subsequent Receipts ... 6792 19 0

8134 16 11

Disbursements ... £4620 11 5
Purchase of £1000 3 per cent. consols. ... 940 0 0

£5560 11 5

Balance on this account ... £2574 5 6

SUSTENTATION FUND.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... £6 18 7
Receipts ... 30 0 0

£36 18 7

Disbursements ... 9 14 3

£27 4 4

Total balance... £6122 12 8

ash at bankers ... £6073 7 8
less overpaid ... 0 15 0

£6072 12 8

Secretary's petty cash ... 50 0 0

£6122 12 8

(Signed) JOHN SYMONDS.
HENRY G. WARREN.
A. H. TATTERSHALL.

May 10, 1877.

Bro. Terry afterwards read the following report of the Committee of Management:—

The year which has just passed has been the most successful the Committee of Management have ever had to report to the Governors and Subscribers since the formation of this Institution.

The annual festival, which was held on the 12th February last, the committee had hoped would have been presided over by H.R.H. Prince Leopold, R.W. Prov. G.M., Oxon., and J.G.W. of England; but, unfortunately, and to their great regret, at the last moment he was compelled to decline, owing to the state of his health. His place was taken by the late Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire, who very graciously consented to do so, that the Institution might not suffer. The amount announced was £12,866, being an increase of nearly £3500 beyond any previous festival. Your committee have unfortunately to announce that his lordship has, to the great regret not only of themselves but of the whole Craft, been suddenly called away. While deeply deploring this fearful visitation, they will ever have in grateful recollection the ability with which he presided, and the earnest manner he advocated its claims upon this and other occasions. To the Board of Stewards, 274 in number, who worked so strenuously and zealously to make the festival a success, their thanks are justly due.

There are on the list for election to-day 70 candidates, 34 men and 36 widows. The deaths during the past year has been 14 men and 9 widows and the Committee with such a large list of candidates claiming election determined to fill up the vacancies thus created but also to place an additional number upon the funds, and considering that the Craft had very generously subscribed nearly £13,000 at the festival they felt themselves justified in adding 30 more annuitants to the list, viz., 15 men and 15 widows; so that the total to be elected to day will be 29 men and 24 widows. When this has been done there will be 145 men and 125 widows recipients of the fund. In addition to this there are 13 widows receiving half the amount of their late husband's annuity, and which is paid them unless they are previously elected to the full pension, for three years—a boon, it is believed not conferred by any other Institution. The payments to these annuitants will absorb a sum of £10,035, being an increase during the past five years of 99 annuitants, and £4608 in annuities.

To meet this larger expenditure the Committee cheerfully rely upon the continued and increasing liberality of the Craft, which during the last few years has been evinced in a manner totally unprecedented in the history of the Order.

Two vacancies in the Trusteeship of the Male Fund have been created by the deaths of the R. W. Bro. Alexander Dobie, P. Prov. G.M. for Surrey, and the Right Hon. the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, Prov. G.M. for Staffordshire, and will have to be filled up to day.

The Committee desire to express their thanks to the Grand Lodge of England for their renewed grant of £70, which has enabled them to provide the residents of the Institution at Croydon during the whole of the winter months with coals.

To the Honorary Surgeon, Henry Jno. Strong, Esq., M.D., they also tender their sincere thanks, not alone for the manner in which during the past year he has ministered to the comforts and alleviated the sufferings of the residents, but for the kindness invariably shown by him during the fifteen years he has given the Institution the benefit of his valuable services.

The Institution at Croydon requiring a thorough repair the committee have given directions for the same to be done, necessitating the outlay of a considerable amount, which it is hoped will not exceed £1000.

Subjoined is a statement of the receipts and expenditure during the past year ending the 31st March, 1877, together with the particulars of the permanent income of the Institution.

MALE FUND.

Receipts.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... £3825 7 2
Donation from Grand Lodge £500 0 0
" " Chapter 100 0 0
" " Lodges, Chapters, and individuals ... 4907 19 0
Annual Subscriptions ... 1148 3 0
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ... 828 18 11
Profit on Fire Insurance ... 8 9 3
Repairs at Asylum ... 1 17 6

£7495 7 8

Disbursements.

Annuitants ... £4851 0 0
Salary of Secretary and Clerk 303 6 8
Collector's Commission ... 231 15 0
Messenger ... 5 0 0
Secretary's Provincial Expenses ... 42 19 0
Medicine for Inmates at Asylum ... 12 10 0
Warden, Gatekeeper, and Gardener at Asylum ... 64 0 0
Taxes, &c., at Asylum ... 28 4 4
Repairs and Furniture at Asylum ... 43 5 10
Surveyor at Asylum ... 5 5 0
Stationery, Printing, &c. ... 110 11 2
Advertising ... 14 6 8
Postages, &c., including expenses at Election ... 98 3 5
Petty Expenses ... 10 4 5
Entertainment of Stewards and Inmates ... 22 9 6
Fire Insurance ... 8 11 0

Gratuity to Mrs. Lane ... £50 0 0
Rent, &c., of Office... 18 0 0

£5919 12 0

Purchase of £2000 3 per cent. Consols. ... 1880 0 0

£7799 12

Balance on this account ... 3521 2 10

WIDOWS' FUND.

Receipts.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... 1341 17 11
Donation from Grand Lodge £300 0 0
" " Chapter 50 0 0
" " Lodges, Chapters, and Individuals ... 4847 15 6
Annual Subscriptions ... 1009 6 9
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ... 532 8 3
Profit on Fire Insurance ... 8 9 3
Legacy of the late Bro. W. Brooks Gates, £50 less duty ... 45 0 0

£6792 19 0

£8134 16 11

Disbursements.

Annuitants ... £3645 10 0
Salary (Secretary and Clerk) 303 6 8
Collector's Commission ... 188 15 0
Messenger ... 5 0 0
Secretary, Provincial expenses 42 18 11
Medicine for Inmates at Asylum 12 10 0
Matron ... 30 0 0
Rates and Taxes ... 28 4 6
Repairs and Furniture ... 41 8 3
Surveyor ... 5 5 0
Stationery, Printing, &c. ... 105 9 1
Advertising ... 14 6 6
Postage, &c., including expenses of Election ... 88 5 0
Petty expenses ... 10 2 0
Entertainment of Stewards and Inmates ... 22 19 6
Fire Insurance ... 8 11 0
Gratuity to Mrs. Lane ... 50 0 0
Rent, &c., of Office ... 18 0 0
Purchase of £1000 Three per cent. Consols. ... 940 0 0

£5560 11 5

Balance on this account ... £2574 5 6

SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.

Balance 31st March, 1876 ... £6 18 7
Dividends on Stock in the Government Funds ... 30 0 0

36 18 7

9 14 3

Balance on this account ... £27 4 4

Total Balance as per Auditors' Report £6122 12 8

The permanent income of the Institution is as follows:—

MALE FUND.

Annual Grant from G. Lodge £500 0 0
" " G. Chapter 100 0 0
Dividends on £28,950 Stock in the Government Funds 828 18 11

£1428 18 11

WIDOWS' FUND.

Annual Grant from G. Lodge £300 0 0
" " G. Chapter 50 0 0
Dividends on £18,450 Stock in the Government Funds 532 8 3

£882 8 3

SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING.

Dividends on £1000 Stock in the Government Funds ... £30 0 0

£2341 7 2

(Signed) JOHN CREATON.

This report was then received and adopted. Bros. J. Bellerby, Raynham W. Stewart, and R. W. Little were re-elected on the Committee of Management, on the motion of Bro. Joseph Smith, seconded by Bro. James Brett. Bros. John Symonds, H. G. Warren, and A. H. Tattershall were re-elected Auditors on the motion of Bro. Joseph Smith, seconded by Bro. Captain Wordsworth.

Bro. Terry said that in consequence of the death of the Earl of Shrewsbury, another Trustee would have to be elected, as well as one in the place of the late Bro. Dobie. He had received the following letters:—

Carlton Club, May 17, 1877.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I shall have much pleasure in accepting the Trusteeship of the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, providing I shall not in any way be made pecuniarily liable. Awaiting your reply, believe me, yours fraternally,
Bro. JAMES TERRY. FREDK. M. WILLIAMS.

37, Portman-square, 16th May, 1877.

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I shall be happy to accept the Trusteeship of the Male Fund of the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, rendered vacant by the lamented death of our brother, Lord Shrewsbury.
Yours truly and fraternally,
J. TERRY, Esq. LEIGH.

Bro. J. M. Case, P.G.D., rose, and said: Before you proceed to elect a new Trustee in place of the late Lord Shrewsbury, I propose that we should pause to pass some testimony of the great loss this society, as well as the other Masonic societies generally, have experienced in the death of Lord Shrewsbury. At the last festival of this Institution Lord Shrewsbury took the chair, under circumstances which redounded greatly to his credit. Our Royal Bro. Prince Leopold, was unable, on account of illness, to preside, and the Institution was at some loss to know how to supply his place. The Secretary, with commendable alacrity, looked round for some one to occupy the chair, and with great discrimination he applied to Lord Shrewsbury, who agreed, at a very short notice, to occupy the chair. How successfully he did so I need not call to your minds; the result of the meeting amply justifies me in saying that it was successful. As I happened to be President of the Board of Stewards on the occasion, I had an opportunity of seeing how readily he took the office, and how successfully he performed its duties; and, therefore, I beg to propose that we should now offer our testimony of respect to the late Lord Shrewsbury; and of the great loss this Institution has sustained by his death. He was a Trustee and a Vice-Patron of this Institution, as well as a great supporter of it. But he was equally a supporter of the other Masonic Institutions, though this is not a place to advert to that circumstance. I propose that we pass a resolution to the effect I have mentioned, and also expressing our sympathy with the Countess of Shrewsbury and her family in their bereavement. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said: I shall have great pleasure in seconding the resolution, but I would suggest that an addition should be made to it to the effect that a letter expressive of our sympathy should be written to the Countess.

Bro. J. M. Case said he would adopt the proposed addition.

The motion was then put and carried nem con.

The Chairman proposed, and Bro. Raynham Stewart seconded, Sir F. M. Williams, Bart., as a Trustee in place of the late Bro. Alex. Dobie, and Lord Leigh in place of the late Earl of Shrewsbury.

Carried unanimously.

Bro. S. Rawson rose to move an alteration in the laws of the Institution with respect to the annuities to widows. He said it was not with the object of altering the rules so much as to afford aid in the interpretation of them that he proposed the amendment. On a recent occasion, at a meeting of the committee, a widow of a Freemason, who married again after her husband's death, came forward as a petitioner to be placed on the list of candidates for election. It was announced by the committee that the rules excluded her, as she was not qualified for the widow's fund. Some of the brethren, though a very small minority, thought that that reading was not right, and therefore he submitted an addition to the law, which should admit, in the event of a widow marrying again, and being again left a widow, still being eligible as a candidate. If the brethren carried this motion, they would only be applying the same rule as was now applied by the Government as regarded the army and navy, and the East India Government, that if a widow who had been in receipt of a pension lost it by reason of her marrying again, if she for the second time became a widow, she could again receive her pension. He thought he need say no more, and therefore he would propose that an addition should be made to the laws on the subject, that in the event of the widow marrying again, and a second time becoming a widow, she should be eligible as an annuitant.

Bro. J. M. Case, P.G.P., seconded the motion. At the time the subject came before the committee he was confined at home by illness, but when he read an account of what had taken place he was afraid there was some misapprehension on the subject before the brethren. The Institution being a Benevolent Institution, one of its objects should be to extend its benefits rather than to narrow them; and, as in other institutions which he knew of, widows' pensions reverted to them when they became a second time widows, he took the opportunity of mentioning the subject to Bro. Rawson, who at the next meeting brought it forward. He (Bro. Case) had in his hand an extract from the book of rules of the Admiralty Navy List, bearing on this subject. It was as follows:—"In all cases of a widow remarrying, since 3rd December, 1830," (up to that time a widow lost her pension if she did re-marry), "her pension shall be suspended from the date of her re-marriage; but, in the event of her again becoming a widow, her pension may be restored upon proof being adduced to the Admiralty that her private income does not exceed the limit fixed from time to time by the Admiralty for the rank last held by her husband, and that she is otherwise deserving the public bounty, but it will be again liable to suspension during future re-marriage." He had also a book of rules of the Royal Naval Benevolent Society, with which he had been associated for fifty years. The rule on this subject was: "No widow, orphan, mother, or sister of any naval officer shall have any claim to relief from the corporation during coverture, nor if the subscription of the officer shall be in arrear for three years preceding his death, provided the officer held wardroom rank so long. But this rule is not to affect the relatives of subscribers who died before the 21st of April, 1851." With these precedents for the guidance of the brethren he begged leave most strenuously to second the motion of Bro. Rawson, feeling that the desire of the Institution should be to extend its benefits and not to restrict them. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., said he thought the brethren were much indebted to Bro. Rawson for bringing forward this motion, and asking the meeting to decide what should be the course to be pursued for the future. He apprehended that Bro. Rawson did not say that if a widow

who had received the annuity, married, and lost it, and a second time became a widow, she was to receive her annuity without being a second time elected. (No.) The brethren should certainly be the judges of her qualification. There might be a very strong case. A widow might marry some brother who had held a very high position in the Craft, and if she was not a very old woman, some brother in the Craft who had known her before might marry her. He might be a very influential man, who had taken an active part in Freemasonry, and if he died it would be a very unjust thing to say that his widow should not be eligible for the annuity. He thought Bro. Rawson meant that she should become a candidate a second time, and if the subscribers chose to elect her she should have the annuity. The brethren must remember that by marrying again she did the Institution a benefit, for she saved the Institution the amount of the annuity by being married.

The motion was carried unanimously and the Chairman declared it carried subject to the approval of Grand Lodge.

Bro. Dr. Erasmus Wilson was not present to move on a subject of which he had given notice.

Scrutineers of votes were then appointed for the election, and the Chairman said that in consequence of deaths which had occurred since the proxies were issued the number of men and women to be elected would be 29 men, and 24 widows.

At the declaration of the poll the following was found to be the result:—

SUCCESSFUL MEN.

NAME.	VOTES.
Bro. Watson, William...	1847
" Smith, George ...	1510
" Barnes, Richard E. ...	1266
" Phipps, Osborne G. ...	991
" Wright, Henry ...	907
" Neeve, Henry ...	851
" Barnard, Alfred T. ...	829
" Goddard, Cornelius ...	802
" Seabrook, Edward ...	801
" Polkinghorne, Edwin S. ...	757
" Lovelace, John ...	625
" Barnard, John C. ...	616
" Holmes, Joseph J. ...	616
" Jones, Richard ...	582
" Le Page, John ...	577
" Doorne, John C. ...	558
" Burgess, George ...	557
" Russell, James ...	326
" Newton, Henry ...	518
" Langlands, Nathan ...	515
" Haworth John ...	507
" Luter, John, ...	494
" Wilkinson, Benjamin ...	456
" Fauvel, John ...	453
" Hodson, Samuel ...	448
" Ball, William ...	443
" Bence, Edward O. ...	412
" Chapman, William H. ...	412
" Stening, James ...	363

WOMEN.

NAME.	VOTES.
Mrs. Flockton, Maria I. ...	1099
" Whiteman, Jane ...	1082
" Heming, Rhoda ...	873
" Jenkins, Jane M. ...	850
" Woods, Eliza ...	797
" West, Maria A. ...	745
" Buck, Susan ...	738
" Eastes, Frances ...	735
" Farnham, Sarah ...	691
" Sumner, Charlotte ...	690
" Naylor, Martha ...	667
" Allatson, Margaret ...	659
" Haselwood, Lucy A. ...	635
" Trotter, Ann ...	624
" Dewar, Mary A. ...	623
" Masters, Rebecca ...	603
" Dixon, Margaret ...	600
" Emery, Harriett ...	565
" Clarkson, Hannah ...	564
" Brown, Ann ...	514
" Tilbury, Ann ...	507
" Packwood, Emily ...	455
" Rackstraw, Amy ...	416
" Bushr, Mary A. B. ...	365

UNSUCCESSFUL MALES.

NAME.	VOTES.
Bro. Allen, James P. ...	273
" Holdaway, Henry ...	46
" Morton, Hiram ...	14
" Cushen, Thomas ...	9
" Gray, John ...	Dead.

FEMALES.

NAME.	VOTE.
Mrs. Fletcher, Betty ...	325
" Thompson, Julia ...	292
" Sherry, Maria G. ...	277
" Brinckley, Eliza ...	216
" Beale, Sarah ...	215
" Shearer, Anne ...	120
" Elliott, Issabella ...	110
" Lewis, Jane D. ...	75
" Wakefield, Ann ...	9
" Crispin, Martha ...	2
" Stafford, Jane ...	2

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and the Chairman of the day closed the proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSETSHIRE.

(Continued from page 199.)

At the close of the Provincial Grand Lodge (the proceedings of which were fully reported in our last) the brethren were invited to a magnificent banquet provided in the great hall of Canford House, by Messrs. Gunter, of London. A number of carriages were in readiness in the Square, Wimborne, ready for the conveyance of the brethren to Canford, and the entire company were speedily conveyed thither. According to the notice on the agenda paper, the brethren appeared at the banquet in Masonic Craft clothing. The tables were splendidly laid out, and the liberality which prompted Bro. Montague Guest to invite so large a company to so sumptuous a banquet called forth the highest praise. As a matter of course, the newly-installed P.G.M. occupied the chair, and he was supported by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M.; Bro. J. Hervey, G.S.; Bro. Sir Albert Woods, (Garter), P.G.W., G.D.C.; Bro. Wilhelm Kuhn, G. Org.; Bro. Viscount Holmesdale, Prov. G.M. Kent; Lord Methuen, Prov. G.M. Wiltshire; Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P.; Bro. Lord Henry Thynne; Bro. W. T. Bennett-Stanford, M.P.; Bro. J. M. Brymer, M.P.; Bro. A. E. Guest, Bro. the Hon. R. Harbord, Bro. C. Hambro, and other distinguished Masons.

Grace was said before and after dinner by Bro. the Rev. H. Everett, of Dorchester.

Bro. Winn, of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal and Vicar Choral of St. Paul's Cathedral; Bros. Baxter and Carter, of Westminster Abbey; and Bro. Beckett, of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, during the evening sang a number of glees in excellent style, which called forth repeated applause.

The Chairman proposed "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Patroness of Freemasonry," He said that he felt he need not say anything to commend the toast, for it was always well received (cheers).

The Chairman next proposed "The Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." Those who were present two years ago at the installation of his Royal Highness would, he was sure, never forget the imposing and impressive sight. He thought no person in England could maintain the dignity of the office of Grand Master better than did the Prince of Wales. (Cheers.) Two of the Prince's brothers were also Masons—the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold. (Cheers.) The Princess of Wales was also deserving of their esteem and regard. (Cheers.)

The Chairman proposed as the next toast, "The Health of the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master of England, the Right Hon. Lord Carnarvon." He felt so much had been said in praise of his lordship during the last few years that he need not on that occasion say anything respecting him, because they all knew how much his lordship had done. (Cheers.) He had hoped their Pro Grand Master would have been present with them that day, but was prevented by other duties, his lordship sending a very kind letter, expressing his regret, and hoping they would have a pleasant evening and fine weather. (Cheers.)

The Chairman said he was sure they would be pleased to receive in the most enthusiastic manner the next toast which he would have to propose. It was "The Health of their Deputy Grand Master Lord Skelmersdale." (Cheers.) He felt he could personally do no more than the Provincial Lodge had already done, viz., thank his lordship for his great kindness in coming down on this occasion to assist them. This he could assure their Deputy Grand Master was no idle praise. He had known his noble friend for many years, and he knew how many matters his lordship had to engage his attention, and also how he had to tear himself away from other important duties so as to be with them that day. (Cheers.) Whatever his lordship did was always successful, and he felt that his coming down to them that day had made the meeting a success. (Cheers.) His lordship was always successful, whether as a breeder of short-horns or as a hardworking member of his party in the House of Lords. The Chairman concluded by again commending to them the toast.

Lord Skelmersdale said he thanked them most warmly for the kind way in which they had received the toast of his health. He assured them it had been a real pleasure to him to meet them that day. He was glad that the meeting had been fixed for Saturday, as that was his free day. The Chairman had said that whatever he took in hand proved successful, and he hoped that in this present instance this would prove true, and that his coming amongst them that day would be an augury of the future prosperity of the province under the rule of its newly-installed Grand Master. (Cheers.) His lordship then referred to the death on the previous day of the Earl of Shrewsbury, than whom, he said, no person took a greater interest in Freemasonry, and concluded by proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master of Dorset." (Cheers.) The toast was received with great enthusiasm.

The Chairman, in responding, thanked the Deputy Grand Master for the way in which he had proposed his health, and for the good wishes which he had expressed towards him. He felt that a sorrow overshadowed their meeting that day, occasioned by the death of their late Provincial Grand Master—Bro. Joseph Gundry, who for 18 years ruled over the Province. They all knew how well he had worked, and he was sure they would agree with him that he filled the office with impartiality and ability. He felt it was an exceedingly difficult task to follow after one who was so much appreciated, but he was certain it would be his endeavour to fill worthily the post to which he had been appointed by the Right Worshipful the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales. It would be his endeavour to personally work amongst them, and he should be pleased to listen to any suggestions which might be made by any of his brethren for the furtherance of the interests of

Masonry in general, and of that Province especially. The Chairman then proposed the health of four Grand Masters of other provinces—Lord Methuen, Wiltshire; Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Hampshire; Viscount Holmesdale, Kent; Lord Skelmersdale, West Lancashire. He most sincerely thanked them for attending that day, and he could only hope that he should prove as good a Provincial Grand Master as they were.

Lord Methuen briefly responded. He said Masonry was largely compounded of loyalty and charity. They all knew that their charity abounded, and that nothing could destroy their loyalty.

Viscount Holmesdale, M.P., in responding, said he could not help coming down that day to see his old friend, Bro. Montague Guest, installed as Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., in responding, referred to the thoroughly amicable feelings which existed between the Provinces of Hampshire and Dorsetshire.

Lord Skelmersdale said he appeared that day before them in two characters—as Deputy Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, and as Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire. He could assure them, as Grand Master of a Province having more than 80 lodges, with the largest Masonic constituency of any province of England, that the brethren of Dorset had the hearty greetings of the lodges over whom he had ruled.

The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Officers Past and Present, of the Grand Lodge," and he associated with the toast a gentleman whose name was familiar to all of them, Lord Henry Thynne. He knew the toast would call forth the hearty response which it always did. He would mention in connection with the toast the names of Bros. Hervey, Grand Secretary; Sir Albert Woods, Grand Director of Ceremonies; and Chevalier Kuhe, Grand Organist.

Lord Henry Thynne, in responding, said he could assure them that for various reasons he had much pleasure in being present. He was greatly pleased at seeing the enthusiastic way in which his old friend, Bro. Montague Guest, was received into this province. He also expressed his satisfaction at seeing the good fellowship which existed between the provinces of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire.

Bro. J. Hervey, Grand Secretary, said he had been much gratified with the manner in which the proceedings of that day had been carried out. When he looked at the services rendered by Bro. Sir Albert Woods he felt they must acknowledge that the officers of the Grand Lodge were alive to the duties devolving upon them, and were always ready to perform those duties. Although that was not the first time he had been present at their Provincial Grand Lodge he was impressed that day by the manner in which everything had been carried out, and by the hospitality shown them—(cheers)—and which he had never seen exceeded—he might say he had never seen equalled. He felt he must pay this tribute to the generosity and kind feeling of the chairman. (Cheers.)

Sir Albert Woods also briefly responded. He said that he, like the previous speaker, had felt it his duty to be present on that occasion, and to render any assistance in his power, which every officer of the Grand Lodge was always ready to do, and if he had contributed in any way to the success of the ceremony he was pleased. (Cheers.)

Bro. Wilhelm Kuhe, Grand Organist, in responding, expressed the pleasure he felt in being present that day. Twenty-one years ago he spent his honeymoon in that very house, and he had a dim recollection of several lads who at that time were dressed in jackets (laughter.) These were now men, and it was a great pleasure to him to be there again that day to witness Bro. Montague Guest's installation as Provincial Grand Master. (Cheers.)

According to custom the box was passed round in aid of the Masonic charities. The collection amounted to £27 3s. 3d.

The Chairman said although the toast he was about to propose came at a late hour of the evening, yet he was sure it was not to them the least in importance. It was "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master of the Province, and Past and Present Provincial Grand Officers." The Chairman made special allusion to Bro. W. Eliot, of Weymouth, a Past P.G.M. of Dorset, who had been 61 years a Mason, and was the oldest member of the fraternity in the county. He regretted Bro. Eliot, owing to his great age, was unable to be present that evening, but he should like to read the following letter which had been received from him:—

Weymouth, 12th May, 1877.

To the Right Worshipful P.G. Master, Deputy G. Master, and Brethren of the Province of Dorset.

My dear Brethren,—

During the long period I have been a Freemason, having been initiated in the All Souls Lodge, Weymouth, in the year 1816, I have on many occasions received from the brethren of the Province of Dorset repeated marks of their kindness and brotherly affection towards me, but the address, or I may say the resolution, passed at the Provincial Grand Lodge held at Shaftesbury on the 14th September, 1876, affords me still greater gratification. In the evening of my life, whilst memory gilds the past and hope looks brightly on the future, my proudest consolation is the recollection of your brotherly esteem and affection towards me, not only on the present occasion, but during the period I had the happiness to preside over you as your P.G. Master.

And now R.W. Master, I sincerely congratulate you on your appointment as P.G. Master of Dorset, a high and distinguished situation, and I congratulate you, my brethren, on having a P.G. Master who will do honour to Freemasonry, and whose life I earnestly pray may be prolonged for very many years to rule and direct Freemasonry in this Province.

In conclusion, my dear brethren, let me most earnestly

impress on your minds not to neglect the practice of the fundamental truths of our Order, and may that bright morning star whose rising brought peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race be your shield, buckler, and stronghold, and may the Grand Architect of the Universe, the disposer of all events and the giver of all good, instil into all our hearts a deep sense of His power, goodness, and mercy, and may He pour down His blessing on you, my dear brethren, and at the termination of your earthly career receive you into His heavenly lodge, where peace and joy reign to all eternity. With fraternal regard I remain, very sincerely,

WILLIAM ELIOT.
Past P.G.M. of Dorset.

I very much regret that the infirmities of old age prevent my joining you this day to assist at the installation of your P.G. Master. My best wishes are with you.

The Chairman proceeded to say that it would be his endeavour to work with the Grand Officers of the Province, and he was sure they would assist him to the best of their power. He would connect with the toast the name of Bro. T. B. Hanham, who was for the second time the Provincial Grand Senior Warden.

Bro. Hanham, in returning thanks, said he did not think he should be called upon to respond to the toast of the Provincial Grand Officers of Dorset, who attended on that occasion, and whom he so unworthily represented. They gave their thorough acquiescence to the appointment of Provincial Grand Master that had been made, and they were determined to show that was their feeling by supporting their Provincial Grand Master, and maintaining that position which the province of Dorset had achieved. He hoped all the Provincial Grand Officers would concur in his remarks.

Lord Skelmersdale said he rose to propose a toast which was not strictly Masonic, viz "The Health of Sir Ivor Guest." He was sorry that Sir Ivor was not one of them. (Hear, hear.) They all owed him a debt of gratitude for enabling his brother to entertain them so regally that evening. He was sure they would drink the toast with hearty cheers (Applause.)

The Chairman proposed "The Health of the Visitors," connecting with the toast several brethren present belonging to the Meridian Lodge of the 31st Regiment, stationed at Portland, and particularly mentioning the names of Bro. Montagu, the son of their Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Ralph Harbord, brother of Lord Suffield—Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk—who was an active Mason.

Brother Montagu briefly responded.

Brother Rev. Dr. Collis also responded.

The Chairman then proposed "The Masonic Charities." Lord Methuen had said that the motto of Freemasonry was loyalty and charity, and he could not help asking them to drink the health of Bro. Binckes, Secretary to the Boys' School, and Bro. Terry, Secretary to the Benevolent Institution.

Bro. F. Binckes said the toast had come home to them when they heard all present join in wishing happiness and prosperity to the institution just mentioned by the Provincial Grand Master. But another toast ought not to be forgotten. There was a large amount of Masonic distress which they were called upon to relieve and assist in every way they could, but he should not take advantage of an exceptionally auspicious occasion like that to occupy their time with regard to it. He thought they might boast upon their inexhaustible loyalty and charity, and he asked them to give their thanks to Mr. Bennett-Stanford, who had accepted the position of Steward of the Boys' School this year, and to assist him in taking up a good list of subscriptions with him. He hoped the brethren would support him both materially and personally, and he was proud to acknowledge the present Right Worshipful Grand Master as one of the most munificent supporters of the benevolent institutions. (Cheers.) He had every confidence that, under his benign rule, the Province of Dorset would reap the greatest advantage. (Applause.)

Bro. Terry said he thanked them very sincerely on behalf of the Benevolent Institution. He was most grateful to them for the support which it had received from the province, and he felt certain that the effort which would be made on the following Friday would result more successfully.

The brethren then separated, highly gratified with the princely liberality with which they had been entertained.

CONSECRATION OF THE HENRY MUGGERIDGE LODGE, NO. 1679.

On Saturday last this new London lodge was consecrated by Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary, at the Prince George Hotel, Park-road, Dalston. The arrangements which had been made for the ceremony were perfect, and Bro. E. B. Crichton, proprietor of the hotel, had exerted himself to the utmost to render the day a complete success. On entering the hotel the brethren found all the approaches to the lodge-room bordered by a profuse collection of elegant ferns and flowers, while the lodge-room itself was decorated with Masonic and national flags. The room provided was a very commodious one, and Bro. Crichton had at his own expense adapted it to the wants of the Craft by shutting it off from the outside portion by a double door in one part of the wall, and placing a new door to lead from the clothing and preparing room to the lodge. The room was admirably adapted for holding a Masonic lodge, as it had the advantage of a quiet locality, wherein passing street sounds would not be likely to interfere with the due performance of the ceremonial observances.

The ceremony was opened shortly before four o'clock, when the brethren were marshalled by Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, who acted as D.C.; and the brethren who joined in the procession were Bros. John

Hervey, Grand Secretary; H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary; W. T. Howe, Assistant Grand Pursuivant; Henry Muggeridge, P.M. 192 and 715; Francis Fellows, S.W. 192; Edward F. Storr, W.M. 22; J. Lorkin, 192; Henry Birdseye, P.M. 715; John Jonas, P.M. 715; A. H. Tattershall, P.M. 140; Joseph Defriez, W.M. 45; J.D. 1278; W. J. Hunter, 228; Thomas Goodes, S.W. 1288; H. J. Thompson, P.M. 192, 869, P.P.G.S.W. Herts; J. B. Scriven, P.G.S., P.M. 5; S. W. Iron, D.C. 1579; Henry John, 749; R. W. Robinson, 177; S. Lazarus, 53; G. C. Young, 820; Thomas White, P.M. 22; T. Burdett Yeoman, S.W. 1460; Thomas Richardson, 1599; J. H. Weedon, P.M. 715; C. Lorkin, 1524; George Phythian, S.W. 22; Edwin Payne, Organist 1261; William George, 742; Mark Hibbard, 22; John Ealves, 174; H. Watkins, 72; H. Massey, P.M. 619 (Freemason); W. Fredrick, 1264; G. Blackie, S.D. 1426; Henry Leah, J.W.; 193; Ernest Dietrich, 1524; Oscar Dietrich, 1524; Thomas Charles Chapman, P.M. and Treas. 1524 E. B. Crichton, S.D. 869 and 192, and H. P. Matthews, 569. Bro. Geo. Bilby, Org. 185, presided at the harmonium, and played a march as the procession entered. Bro. Hervey, on taking his seat, placed Bro. Henry Muggeridge on his left as P.M., Bro. Birdseye as S.W., Bro. John Jonas as J.W., Bro. J. B. Scriven as Sec., Bro. George Phythian as I.G., and, as we have said above, Bro. H. G. Buss as D.C. He then formally opened the lodge in the three degrees, and offered up the prayer usually rendered by the Chaplain. After the brethren had taken their seats, Bro. George Bilby played a voluntary on the harmonium, and at its termination,

Bro. John Hervey said: Brethren, it is usual on these occasions to address a few observations to the brethren round the room, but I shall not trouble you with many remarks on the present occasion, but I should not like the business of the day to commence without expressing the great gratification I feel in coming down here to-day to perform the ceremony of consecration of a lodge which is about to be presided over by so eminent a Mason as my good brother on my left. I can assure you I feel much complimented by being invited to perform the ceremony this day, and nothing should have interfered with the pleasure which I anticipated in having the opportunity of placing him in the chair of a lodge bearing his name. It is not often that one has the opportunity of installing an old friend, I may say, in a new place; it is not often that it falls to the lot of old Masons like Bro. Muggeridge and myself to come before the Craft to take the control of a lodge when we are not quite so young as we used to be, and once more enter into the arena of competition perhaps with not more experienced brethren, but at any rate with our juniors in the science, and those who from circumstances of health and other reasons are probably more vigorous than we are ourselves; therefore it is to me a peculiar pleasure to come here this day. I have known your—our—respected Bro. Muggeridge many years, and I believe that to know him is to respect him. Therefore it is that we are assembled here this day, and I see around me many of those with whom I have been associated some years past in various grades of Masonry, assembled here to take part in the proceedings of the day. That those proceedings may be carried to a successful issue is my earnest hope, and that the lodge which we are about to consecrate now will, under the experienced guidance of our good friend, attain to a position which will be second to few in the Craft, I sincerely trust. Young as it is, it will be guided in its course by a very experienced brother, and a brother who knows how to carry out everything which he undertakes in Masonry with success, and with, I may say, éclat. We all know the gatherings which take place annually, now, at the Cannon-street Hotel, and I recollect the time when they used to take place at Radley's, and I am quite sure they tend to stimulate the feelings of brethren who are entering Masonry to exert themselves, to show that they are willing to work for the honours which the Craft gives, and for the offices which may be conferred upon them. No lodge can be carried on without good officers, and if the officers be good, yet if they do not attend, then there is a lapse which we all know who have worked a lodge, creates a difficulty. If either of the officers are absent or incapable they injure the working of the lodge. Our good brother here will, I know, so tutor his officers that there is little chance of their not being efficient in the various offices they undertake to fill. But, brethren, I would ask those who are about to take office this day not to leave Bro. Muggeridge in the lurch when their services are wanted, but to attend at the time named in the summons, and to be ready to perform the duties they have to fulfil at the proper time; or if they are unable to attend at the proper hour, that they should give him timely notice of their inability to attend. You will pardon me for making these few observations. I have told you already how glad I am to perform the ceremonies of to-day, and how pleased I am to see an old friend, not with a new face, but at any rate in a new position. (Cheers.)

Bro. Henry Muggeridge, in place of the Chaplain thereupon delivered the oration, which all brethren who have seen Bro. Muggeridge consecrate a lodge are well acquainted with, wherein he sketches the three degrees of Freemasonry, and explains their application to the life of man upon the earth, and his preparation for a future state of bliss.

When this oration had been concluded, Bro. Hervey proceeded with the consecration and dedication of the lodge. This having been performed, Bro. Henry Muggeridge was installed by Bro. Hervey as W.M., the new Master being presented by Bro. Buss, and declared to be found well skilled in the noble science, and fitted to preside over the lodge. The installation took place before a numerous board of Installed Masters, who, on Bro. Muggeridge being placed in the chair, offered him their hearty congratulations on his selection by the Prince of

Wales to take the management of the new lodge. Bro. Scriven was invested as I.P.M. The board being then closed, the brethren below the rank of an Installed Master were admitted, and the customary ceremonies in the three degrees having been observed, Bro. Muggeridge invested the following brethren with the collars of their respective offices:—Bro. Francis Fellows, S.W.; Bro. Edward F. Storr, J.W.; Bro. J. Lorkin, S.D.; Bro. Henry John, J.D., pro tem.; Bro. J. H. Wilkins, I.G.; Bro. W. F. Darnell, Steward; and Bro. Gilchrist, Tyler.

Bro. Hervey delivered the addresses, and afterwards, on the motion of the W.M., seconded by the J.W., the lodge passed a vote of thanks to Bros. Hervey and Buss for attending and consecrating the lodge. On the motion of the W.M., seconded by the J.W., a vote of thanks was also passed to Bros. Bilby, Birdseye, and Jonas for performing the duties of Organist, S.W., and J.W. respectively during the consecration ceremony; and on the motion of Bro. Fellows, S.W., seconded by Bro. Storr, J.W., the honorary membership of the lodge was conferred upon Bros. Hervey, Buss, and Bilby. Responses in acknowledgment of these compliments having been made, Bro. Muggeridge read the list of names proposed as candidates for joining and initiation at the next meeting of the lodge which takes place to-day, the proposals were duly seconded, and the lodge was then closed. The brethren afterwards partook of an elegant banquet, arranged with great taste by Bro. Crichton, and late in the evening honoured the usual toasts.

The W.M., after the brethren had fully recognised the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," proposed that of "The M.W.G.M." and in doing so, said that he intended to make very short speeches during his year of office, unless he had something particular to say, in which event, he should not hesitate to say it, they might rely.

In giving "The Health of the Pro Grand Master," &c., the W.M. observed, that though the brethren did not so often meet Lord Carnarvon and Lord Skelmersdale as they did the rest of the Grand Officers, they had not that intimate knowledge of them as they had of the latter brethren. As they met these brethren often, they knew perfectly well their great merits, and it was with peculiar pleasure that they found Bro. Buss recently enrolled among the ranks of the Grand Officers. He was a brother who richly deserved promotion, not only for his long devotion to Masonic working, but for the great support he had afforded to the different Masonic charities. The brethren of the lodge were greatly indebted to Bro. Hervey, Grand Secretary of England, Bro. Buss, the Assistant Grand Secretary, and their good friend, Bro. W. T. Howe, who had such a good feeling towards the promoters of the lodge as to come and consecrate.

Bro. John Hervey responded. He was glad he had not to return thanks for the Foreign Secretary instead of the Colonial Secretary, inasmuch as they might then be induced to embark in political allusions, which would be best left alone at this time. But he had great pleasure in responding for the Colonial Secretary, because he dealt only with those subjects which were connected with our own kingdom and our own colonies. There was no man in this country more worthy of having his health proposed and responded to than the Earl of Carnarvon. He was a man who in every position of life had proved himself to be a good man and true; whether as a literary man, or as a politician, or as a Minister of the crown, or as Pro Grand Master of Freemasons, he had shown himself equal to the occasion; well able to cope with the duties he had to perform, and capable of holding his own well and worthily. He might say the same of Lord Skelmersdale and the Grand Officers who were now present, as well as he himself, were proud of having their names associated with those of such noblemen, feeling that they borrowed some of the reflected light of such characters, so amiable in themselves, and whose principles were unchallenged. With regard to the toast it might be said to be more of a personal than a general one, and he could only repeat what he had said in the lodge before the consecration, that nothing had given him greater pleasure for a long time than to come to Dalston to consecrate the lodge which bore a name which was connected with Masonry in every shape and way; which was known not only through the length and breadth of London but through the length and breadth of England. Bro. Muggeridge was associated with Masonry in other ways than as regarded lodge working. He was connected with the charities as a great contributor to them, and he must say that this was a more intimate and gratifying association than any, and it was combined with kind feeling, with good fellowship, and with uncompromising integrity. Those were really points which any man might be proud of; and therefore he (Bro. Hervey) had come down with very great gratification to consecrate the lodge. He hoped he had performed his duties to the satisfaction of the brethren, and he trusted the Henry Muggeridge Lodge would not, after their good friend had been called to his last home, fail to perpetuate his memory, so that if any man in ages yet to come should ask who was Henry Muggeridge, they would get their answer in this lodge. After thanking the brethren again for the toast, and also for the hospitable entertainment which they had given the Grand Officers, Bro. Hervey proposed "The Health of the W.M." The brethren might perhaps think he had in some measure anticipated the remarks to be applied in this toast by those he had previously made with reference to the Henry Muggeridge Lodge. He would only repeat one thing, that the respect in which Bro. Muggeridge was held in the Craft generally was not one likely or lightly to be interfered with. Bro. Muggeridge was one of those whose popularity was universal. Long might it continue, and long might Bro. Muggeridge continue to be the ornament to the Craft which he was now. In conjunction with the name of Bro. Muggeridge he would propose "Success and Prosperity to the Henry

Muggeridge Lodge," and it was with all sincerity he wished both health to the W.M. and success and prosperity to his lodge.

The W.M. in reply said he need scarcely tell the brethren that he rose with a great deal of pleasure to return his most sincere thanks for the very kind manner in which the V.W. Grand Secretary, his esteemed friend, Bro. Hervey, had proposed this toast, and for the kind way in which the brethren had responded to it. He could assure them he was very pleased, and now they would permit him to depart a little from the rule he had laid down to make short speeches, for he wanted to say a little more than he would like to say on all occasions. In the first place he felt highly honoured and exceedingly gratified by his name being attached to this lodge. To take events in the order of their occurrence, the idea had been conceived by somebody, and it had been realised, and he had to thank the brethren who conceived the idea of calling the lodge the "Henry Muggeridge Lodge." That was an honour to him—a very great honour, and he esteemed it as such, felt deeply grateful for it, and fully appreciated it. The authorities had recognised the wish of the promoters of the lodge that it should be named after the humble individual who now had the honour of addressing the brethren. It was an honour conferred by the promoters, and it was no less an honour conferred by the authorities. Twenty years ago he was the promoter of a lodge called the Panmure Lodge, in the same neighbourhood, which was consecrated at the Pembury Tavern. It was then numbered 1017, and he (Bro. Muggeridge) was the first W.M. He took a great deal of pains in obtaining the warrant for the lodge, and in the course of his proceedings he had occasion to feel deeply indebted to his good friend, the Assistant Grand Secretary, Bro. Buss, because he got the Canonbury Lodge, of which he was Secretary, his friends, the Master and Wardens, to sign the recommendation. The Panmure Lodge was consecrated by Bro. Havers, P.G.W., in 1857, assisted by Bros. Edwin Fox, P.M. 235, H. G. Buss, W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; J. B. King, P.G.D.; George Biggs, and several other distinguished Masons. It gave him great pleasure to be after the lapse of so many years, in the same parish again in the same position. He was not however the prime mover in getting the present lodge, but Bro. Fellows was; and Bro. Fellows asked him to accept the office of first W.M. He hesitated and required time for consideration, not from any affection. He felt proud to have his name given to the lodge. He liked to have his own way, and he told them that if he became Master he must be allowed to rule the lodge his own way. He could assure them he did like a good dinner, but at the same time he liked Masonry better; and he would rather spoil a dozen dinners than one Masonic ceremony. The great object of the lodge should be not the dinner, but Masonic working: it should be Masonry. They would not hurry over work, but when they got to their banquet they would endeavour to enjoy it; and they would enjoy it much better for knowing that they had done the work well in the lodge. He knew he was expressing the feelings, sentiments, and opinions of the founders when he said they did not wish to make this a numerous lodge—there was no occasion to do so. They might depend upon it that the most numerous lodges were not the most comfortable or most happy. They would study the true interests of the lodge if they endeavoured to keep it within moderate bounds. As to the initiation ceremony, he thought it the best way to initiate only one candidate at a time, an opinion which was shared by a late Grand Secretary, William Henry White, a letter of whom he had in his possession stating that it had been most injudicious to initiate more than one candidate at a time.

The other toasts were then given and honoured, and the brethren separated after spending a delightful evening.

Mulum in Parbo; or Masonic Notes and Queries.

GRAND LODGE OF MUNSTER.

I have the pleasure to announce through the favour of my esteemed friend and brother, J. H. Neilson, P.M. 620 (Representative of the Grand Orient of Egypt at the Grand Lodge of Ireland, &c.), the following curious addition to the History of Freemasonry during the third decade of last century.

In the Records of the Council of Cork the following entries occur:—

2nd Dec., 1725, "That a Charter be issued out for the Master, Wardens, and Society of Freemasons, according to their petition."

31st Jan., 1726, "The Charter of Freemasons being this day read in Council, it is ordered that the further consideration of said Charter be referred to the next Council, and that Alderman Phillips, Mr. Croker, Foulks Austen, and Mr. Corn Speaker do inspect same."

A careful search has been instituted, but nothing more on the subject can be discovered in the minutes of the Council. There is, however, no doubt as to the references being to Freemasons, not "Freemen," and thus we have a record unexampled in the annals of our Fraternity.

Our distinguished Bro. Neilson has been so much engaged in Masonic matters of international importance that he has been unable as yet to fulfil his promise to me, to thoroughly investigate the character and extent of the Grand Lodge of Munster Records, still happily preserved at Cork (City), and we thankfully accept the foregoing as an earnest of the contents of those very valuable and interesting minutes.

It will be observed that the records herein noted refer to the Registers of the Council, which are quite an unexpected source of "Masonic light."

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

Masonic and General Tidings.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire will be held in the Corn Exchange, Horncastle, at one o'clock p.m., on Thursday, the 7th proximo, by order of His Grace the Duke of St. Albans, R.W.P.G.M. The banquet will take place at the Bull Hotel, at three o'clock.

A complimentary dinner will be given on Monday next to Bro. Wm. Creswick, the eminent tragedian, prior to his departure for Australia. The dinner will take place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, at three o'clock, Dr. Doran, F.R.S. in the chair.

NEW CONCORD LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—The ceremonies of consecration and installation will be performed in this lodge on Wednesday next, at seven o'clock, by Bro. James Terry, P.M. 228, 1278, and 1366. Brethren will be in Craft clothing.

Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson's letter reached us too late for insertion this week, but shall appear in our next.

A meeting of the Grand Mark Lodge for the Province of North Wales and Chester, was held on Saturday last. A report will appear in our next.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ONE SHILLING DAY.—MONDAY, MAY 21.—Admission by season tickets, 4,329; ditto by payment, 55,605. Total visitors, 59,934.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on Wednesday inspected the Thunderer, Minotaur, and Vernon at Portsmouth, and from the latter vessel witnessed a number of experiments with torpedos, mines, hand-grenades, and other explosive materials. In the evening his Royal Highness was the guest of the officers of the Thunderer.

A Reuter's telegram from Athens states that Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales will start on Monday on her return to England.

The Manchester Guardian says:—The best known monastic liqueurs are the Trappistine, made by the Trappists; the Benedictine, distilled by the Benedictine monks, once world-famed for their book erudition; and above all the Chartreuse, the queen of liqueurs, the unrivalled production of the monks of the Grand Charterhouse in the mountains of Dauphiny. The head of this latter firm—or to give him his religious title, the General of the Order—Dom Saisson, has just died, and it has therefore become necessary to give him a successor. This is a matter of great importance for the religious prosperity of the monastery, as every gourmet, French or foreign, acquainted with the extensive sale of Chartreuse, white, yellow, or green, can tell. The profane will be surprised to hear that the profits of the business are figured by millions of francs; but out of this—by way, no doubt, of sanctification—a yearly tribute varying from 300,000 to 500,000 francs is sent by the venerable brothers to the Pope. We have it on the authority of one of the lesser prophets that "Il y a avec le ciel des accommodations." The recipe for making this deservedly famous liqueur has been a secret for the last three centuries, and the only copy of it extant is said to repose beneath the centre stone of the high altar of the chapel of the monastery; in the spot, that is, where in other churches and chapels the relics of saints are deposited. It is only when a new General of the Order is elected that the stone is unsealed and taken up. According to a French contemporary, that ceremony will take place in a few days with great pomp.

BAYARD LODGE No. 1615.—A full report of the proceedings at the meeting of this lodge on Monday will appear in our next.

LONDON COFFEE TAVERN.—The first temperance public-house of the Coffee Tavern Company was opened on Tuesday, at 344, Edgware-road, London. The house is called the Glasshouse Tavern, and is elegantly fitted up. It is open daily from 5 a.m. till 12 p.m., and hot and cold beverages are served up at a moment's notice. Amongst the company at the opening ceremony were the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper Temple, M.P. and Mrs. Cowper Temple; Hon. Rollo Russel, Canon Duckworth, Dr. Norman Kerr, and Mr. Ernest Hart. The tavern has been already extensively patronised, and it is hoped that many other houses will shortly be opened. The Market Tavern, close to Billingsgate fish market, is nearly ready.

We have been favoured by Messrs. Locke and Whitfield, of 178, Regent-street, with four excellent portraits of the late Earl of Shrewsbury, to which we beg to call the special attention of our readers, as many of them would like to possess a souvenir of our noble and lamented brother.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriff's have accepted Sir John Bennett's invitation to visit him in state at his country seat, The Banks, Mountfield, Sussex, June 30th. The Mayor and Corporation of Hastings and about a thousand guests are expected. The Garden Party will include, as did the one two years since, some of the most eminent individuals, in politics literature, art, science, and public life.

PROVINCIAL MAYORS.—The Lord Mayor intends giving a ball at the Mansion House to the provincial mayors on the 21st of June.

On Tuesday evening General Sir Hastings Doyle, K.C.M.G., had the honour of entertaining H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at dinner, when his magnificent set of Masonic gold plate decorated the table.

LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY.—The traffic receipts for the week ending May 20th amounted to £18,890 18s. 7d., against £11,237 15s. 9d. last year.

Henley-on-Thames Regatta is fixed for June 21 and 22.

The Floating Swimming Bath on the Thames, near Charing-cross, is now open for the season.

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.

ADVERTISEMENTS should reach the Office, 198, Fleet-street, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

NOTICE.

To prevent delay or miscarriage, it is particularly requested that ALL communications for the FREEMASON, may be addressed to the Office, 198, Fleet-street, London.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIBERS are informed that acknowledgments of remittances received are published in the first number of every month.

It is very necessary for our readers to advise us of all money orders they remit, more especially those from the United States of America and India; otherwise we cannot tell where to credit them.

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a sixteen-page weekly newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Annual subscription in the United Kingdom, Post free, 1s/6. P.O.O.'s to be made payable at the Chief Office, London.

NEW POSTAL RATES.

Owing to a reduction in the Postal Rates, the publisher is now enabled to send the "Freemason" to the following parts abroad for One Year for Thirteen Shillings (payable in advance):—Africa, Australia, Bombay, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Demerara, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Newfoundland, New South Wales, New Zealand, Suez, Trinidad, United States of America, &c.

Answers to Correspondents.

The following stand over:— Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire; St. Aubyn's Lodge, 958; Rowley Lodge, 1051; Lebanon Lodge, 1326; Era Lodge, 1423; Blackpool Lodge, 1476; West Smithfield Lodge, 1623; Wolsey Lodge, 1656; Prince Frederick William Lodge of Instruction, 753; Mount Lebanon Chapter, 73; Priory Chapter, 1000. "The Instructed and the Preceptor," next week.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Bathing in London," by Bro. Hadley Prestage; "The Lodge of the Nine Muses," by Bro. Walter Webb, W.M. (a review in our next); "Keystone," "Monde Maçonnique," "New York Dispatch," "Craftsman," "Voice of Masonry," "Masonic Herald."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

[The charge is 2s. 6d. for announcements, not exceeding four lines, under this heading.]

BIRTHS.

CARTER.—On the 20th inst., at Shanghai, the wife of W. H. Carter, of a son.
JOHNSON.—On the 18th inst., at Wytham-on-the-Hill, Bourn, Lincolnshire, the wife of A. C. Johnson, Esq., of a daughter.
ROBERTS.—On the 18th inst., at Fopstone-road, Earl's-court, the wife of J. Roberts, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

ALDRIDGE—LITTLE.—On the 17th inst., at the parish church, Frindsbury, John Thomas Aldridge, of Paddock-terrace, New-road, Chelsea, to Emma, daughter of W. B. Little, Esq.
TIBBETTS—SOUTHERNWOOD.—On the 22nd inst., at Holy Trinity, St. Marylebone, by the Rev. W. Cadman, rector, James Kirby, second son of the late William Holliday Tibbetts, of Buckingham, to Bessie, fifth daughter of the late Eleazar Southernwood, Esq., of Tring Park, Herts.

DEATHS.

CANNON.—On the 18th inst., at Brentwood-road, Romford, George Cannon, formerly of 7, Primrose-street, Bishopsgate, aged 66 years.
GRAHAM.—On the 17th inst., at Cornwall-terrace, Regent's Park, James Graham, Esq., in his 68th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1877.

H.R.H. The DUKE of CONNAUGHT at the MASONIC ORPHAN SCHOOL GATHERING, DUBLIN.

All the members of our Craft will read with the deepest interest the record of the day's proceedings of that interesting anniversary, the manly speech of our Royal Brother, and the account of the prosperity of these useful institutions. They will be pleased to think that so much prosperity is attendant on the charitable educational efforts of our good Irish brethren, and we propose to recur to the subject in our next. But we note with pride and pleasure—and we feel sure that the Craft in Great Britain will coincide with us in the feeling—that, like our Royal Grand Master, his brothers lose no opportunity of evincing their kindly sympathy and attachment as regards our often calumniated Order, a sympathy and attachment which are as becoming to our august brethren as they are grateful and consolatory to us. The words of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught will long be remembered by those who had the privilege of being present, and by the children to whom he spoke so naturally, so kindly, and so well.

THE LAST ELECTION FOR THE BENEVOLENT ANNUITY FUND.

We rejoice in being able to report that 24 widows were elected out of 36, and 29 men out of 34 male applicants, at the election on Friday last. All our brethren will be glad to realize the great prosperity attendant on this invaluable charity of our Order, and we congratulate the executive and Bro. Terry warmly and sincerely on that most happy position of affairs, which marks the onward progress of that well-managed Institution, the Royal Masonic Benevolent. As regards its exact financial condition, it is one of unexampled prosperity. Up to the 31st March, 1877, the Male Fund stood thus:—

RECEIPTS.

Balance March 31, 1876	£3825	7	2
Donations from Grand Lodge	500	0	0
" " Grand Chapter	100	0	0
Donations and Subscriptions from Lodges, Chapters, and Brethren	4907	19	0
Annual Subscriptions	1148	3	0
Dividends	828	18	11
Small sums	10	6	9
	£11320	14	10

DISBURSEMENTS.

Annuitants	£4851	0	0
Salaries	303	6	8
Collector	231	15	0
Messenger	5	0	0
Office expenses	42	19	0
Medicines, Asylum	12	10	0
Salaries, Asylum	64	0	0
Taxes, Asylum	28	4	4
Repairs, &c., Asylum	43	5	10
Surveyor	5	5	0
Stationery and Printing	110	11	2
Advertising	14	6	8
Postage	98	3	5
Rent	18	0	0
Petty expenses	10	4	5
Entertainment	22	9	6
Fire Insurance	8	11	0
Gratuity to Mrs. Lane	50	0	0
Purchase of £2000 Consols	1880	0	0
	£7799	12	0
Balance to Credit	3521	2	10

Widows' Fund:—

RECEIPTS.

Balance March 31, 1876	£1341	17	11
Donation from Grand Lodge	300	0	0
" " Grand Chapter	50	0	0
Donations from Lodges, Chapters, and Brethren	4847	15	6
Annual Subscriptions	1009	1	0
Dividends	532	8	3

Legacy of the late Bro. W. B. Gates	45	0	0
Small sums	8	9	3
	£8134	16	11

DISBURSEMENTS.

Annuitants	3645	10	0
Salaries	303	6	8
Collector	188	15	0
Messenger	5	0	0
Rent	18	0	0
Secretary's Office expenses	42	18	11
Medicines, Asylum	12	10	0
Matron	30	0	0
Rates and Taxes	28	4	6
Repairs, &c.	41	8	3
Stationery and Printing	205	9	1
Postage	88	5	0
Gratuity to Mrs. Lane	50	0	0
Small sums	61	4	0
Purchase of £1000 Consols	940	0	0

Balance to Credit	5560	11	5
	£2574	5	6

The united balances amount to the large sum of £6122 12s. 8d. The Male Fund has now invested £28,950, and the Widows' Fund has £18,450. Certainly Bro. Terry may well claim credit for the good fraternal work this excellent Masonic charity of ours is doing.

THE EXCHANGE OF VOTES.

With reference to the question of a reform of the "voting system" in our Masonic institutions, one of the points often alleged is the "exchange of votes." The argument on this head seems to be this. "The voting paper is a responsibility (per se), and therefore the brother voter ought to give it to one of the cases presented to his notice." Now, this we maintain, in our humble opinion, involves two fallacies. First, it is not necessary that the voter should exercise his franchise, he may refuse to vote at all, and, therefore, he cannot be compelled to vote, just as he cannot be required to vote in lodge, unless he thinks fit to do so. There is no compulsory voting in Freemasonry. Secondly, the voter has a clear right to take this view of his privilege. Bro. A., for instance, says to Bro. B., "You have Case 24 this time, which you deem a most deserving case, now I have a case coming on next time that I consider a most distressing case. If you will vote for me, or obtain for me so many votes this time, to carry my candidate in, I will vote for you and endeavour to obtain an equivalent number of votes for you next time." There is surely nothing wrong in this; and all exchanges, as a general rule, whether by individual or charity committees, proceed on the assumption of a special case, which is considered most pressing. We have seen that no one voter can be compelled to vote at all. We have before pointed out that it is impossible to lay down what is absolutely the most distressing case; and therefore there can be no necessity for any one directly to vote, if for any reason the voter thinks it best to allow another person to use the votes which belong to him. For all cases are supposed to be deserving "per se," (whether they are all equally so is not the point for the voter, but the committee to consider), and we assume as a matter of fact, that no improper case is on the list, and that therefore the exercise of the voting power becomes simply a matter of private judgment and of individual discrimination. It must be remembered also that all exchanges, presuppose, the eventual good of some one or more candidates. They are not made at hazard or corruptly. They are not entered into from any unworthy motive. There is nothing prima facie wrong, legally or morally, about them, but they simply represent a use of the voting power, clearly within the voter's competence, to effect the election of a particular candidate, a special case. Now, let us suppose, as an illustration, the following incident, which as we know has taken place more than once. A charity committee of a province takes up the Girls' list, and finds that it has no candidate. But it knows, as a fact, that it will have a candidate at the October election. It has, say, 800 votes of its own, and it is aware that it will require 1200 to succeed. Is it not justified in saying to the charity committee of another pro-

vince, "You have a case which you are anxious about, we will give you our 800 votes, on the condition that you give us 800 votes next April, which will ensure the return of our candidate, and leave us 400 to carry to the credit of our second candidate?" Is there any technical or moral wrong in such course of action? Nay, is it not both a fair and prudent course of proceeding? Admitted, if you like, that the votes might have been given to another case, yet, as these votes need not have been polled at all, the committee, as acting for the voters, having their "power of attorney" so to say, have a distinct right to use them so as to bring about the successful election of a fitting candidate, at another election, of their own. The great object of all provincial voting is to secure the election of provincial candidates, by the great power of voting aggregation, who otherwise would be "left out in the cold," and we feel sure of this, that any theory that you are bound to take a list of thirty names, say, and select the most distressing case, is an ideal and transcendental view of duty, alike unreal and unpractical, and unworkable to boot. If it were possible, which it is not, to lay down any abstract canons which could mark out infallibly the most distressing case, or cases, something might be advanced for so hyper-sentimental an argument, but as it is, we feel bound to relegate it to the "limbo" of many of those dogmatic declarations, those visionary and partial theories, however well meant, which practical experience must criticise, and common sense and kindly feeling must equally resist and reject.

THE EXCLUSION OF THE HEBREWS.

Thanks to Bro. Findel, we have now the case clearly before us, divested of all doubts and disputes, on a matter of fact. Two of the Grand Lodges of Germany, the Three Globes and the Great Countries G. Lodge, still unwisely keep out the Hebrews from initiation, and some private lodges of the Royal York. Bro. Findel thinks that the exclusion by the Three Globes will not long be maintained, though he seems to apprehend that it will be perpetuated in the Great Countries Lodge. We deeply regret the fact, that any German Grand Lodge should still maintain a relic of what may be fairly termed the despotism and superstition of the dark ages. We had hoped that we had outlived all such theories of intolerance, and all such teachings of irreligion. But it seems that there still linger among the Freemasons of Germany the crude dogmata of a mistaken mysticism, and the untenable assumptions of a so-called religious bigotry. We hope and trust that the day is not far distant, when all the German Grand Lodges will see that their unwise and unjust exclusion of Hebrews is put an end to, and that the sacred principles of toleration are practised as well as professed in all Masonic lodges and under all Masonic authorities in that important section of our great Masonic world. We do not go into the question which Bro. Findel has treated with his usual frankness and forcibleness of expression, as regards the position of the Great Countries G. Lodge, because we do not deny that the Great G. Countries Lodge is a lawful Grand Lodge, and has an inherent right to lay down its own laws for its own members, for those who belong to its lodges and acknowledge its jurisdiction. Though we should gladly wish that that Grand Lodge would have its avowed teaching, such as we consider Masonic, and equitable, and tolerant to all, yet, we must not forget that it is a lawful body, and has all along acted on these, to us, unwise and obsolete principles. It is no new law, no sudden act of retrogression, which has left the Hebrews out of its pale, and we therefore, while we deeply deplore its persistence in such intolerant principles, cannot say that it is "hors de la Maçonnerie." But it will be perfectly competent for all Grand Lodges, which uphold principles of Masonic toleration and philanthropy, to say to it, that until it removes from its laws an unjust exclusion, a most unfair proscription, it cannot expect to enjoy any recognition or mutual interchange, whether of representatives or courtesies. We do not say that all Grand Lodges are bound, so to speak, but all may

say so, though we feel, that there is a good deal to be urged for the actual independence of each lawful Grand Lodge, and that this is a most important truth in itself, which cannot be lightly treated or carelessly overlooked. But our opinion is unchanged, that the exclusion of Hebrews from Freemasonry anywhere, under any pretence, is most impolitic and un-Masonic, and most antagonistic to the aims and teachings of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. As a fact, we know, all of us, that the Hebrews make excellent Masons, and to say to any one, "you shall not be admitted because you are a Hebrew" is both, in our opinion, an outrage against justice and propriety, toleration and liberality, religion and brotherly good will. We have not gone either into Bro. Schiffmann's case, though we recognize that brother's literary merits and Masonic worth, because we feel strongly that, as outsiders, it is impossible for us to express our opinion on a matter (except generally and abstractedly), which requires us to act as judges, and hear both sides of the pleadings. We thank Bro. Findel, however, very warmly for his letter, which has the singular merit, in these long-winded days, of putting the whole matter, as a "matter of fact," clearly and condensedly before us.

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 INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
The above engraving, as you and several friends are aware by ocular evidence, is now in a very advanced state, but I find on close examination that there is fully six or eight weeks of close and constant application to be given to it yet before I can pronounce it fit for the hands of Messrs. McQueen, the printers. As it is my ardent desire to produce a work worthy of the great event, and I trust satisfactory to all, I feel convinced, from opinions already expressed to me, that brethren will not grudge this delay in publication. It affords me much pleasure in stating that the encomiums of eminent official brethren, so far, are very encouraging, and I hope will but prove a forecast of the general verdict of the Craft. The blank spaces I expect to have finally occupied with portraits by Tuesday next, after which the efforts of the engraver will be occupied solely in producing effects of light and shade.
Thanking you heartily for your kind indulgence in permitting me to occupy your space so frequently, I remain, dear Sir and Brother, very truly and fraternally yours,
EDWD. J. HARTY.
213, Regent-street, W., May 17th, 1877.

ILLEGITIMACY AND FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
I beg to take exception to your answer to "Enquirer," in which you state that the "rule of the Craft is adverse to the reception of all not born of honest parentage."
As it is not the fault of the individual that he is illegitimate, I shall be glad to be favoured with a copy of the rule or law by which he is excluded from Freemasonry, according to the Grand Lodge of England.
One of our most talented Masons of the last century was an illegitimate, viz., Thomas Dunckerley, Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of a host of provinces, and according to the authority of the Grand Secretary of Scotland, Bro. D. Murray Lyon, that Grand Lodge has been equally liberal in its reception of such persons, if otherwise worthy.
Yours fraternally,
REVIRESCO.
[There is no law on the subject. We were talking of the unwritten "common law" of Masonry," and the "tongue of good report." Dunckerley is not quite a case in point.—Ed.]

CHARITY VOTING.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
Allow me, Brother Editor, to warmly support your able leader on the subject of "Charity Voting," and to differ most positively from the previous communication of the Rev. Bro. R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G.C.
It appears to me that the only security we can have that the various Royal Masonic Institutions of London shall be, in the main, used only for the purposes intended by the numerous donors, is by the present system of voting.
Each subscriber has now an opportunity to record his votes for the candidates he favours, whereas to delegate that power to a small committee would be to introduce, as you say, "favouritism and partiality."
It seems to me quite impossible that these excellent Institutions can be much abused under present circumstances, and, indeed, we know that they are not, but judging from other societies we have a sure index to guide us as to their fate if in the hands of a few individuals.
I think, however, that it is advisable that the petition of each candidate of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, &c., should be signed by the Master and Wardens, and a

majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the lodge to which the father did or does belong, or by the lodge supporting the petition. As it is now any two subscribers can sign the application, which I consider an insufficient test.
Fraternally yours,

WM. JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D.

MASONS' MARKS.—LAUSANNE CONGRESS AND THEIR BEARING UPON FREEMASONRY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
I am interested in the letter of "W. E. N." in your last issue, and should like to see him contribute copies of these Masons' marks from both Jerusalem and Shushan. I do not doubt that Mr. Deutsche is correct in his statements and conclusions, and some years ago I pointed out that a large proportion of the old English marks were well formed letters of the Runic alphabet, but occasionally Masonic symbols, and even Roman letters. But as this truth did not square with the assertions of the recently concocted and modern Mark Degree, I was voted heterodox, and some Manchester agents, jewellers, and tailors went about saying, "Do not read his books and writings, they are spurious!" with a sign of horror.
This brings me apropos to the remarks of "One of the English Delegates to the Lausanne Congress," who is proposing that we should ignore the lodges of the erring Grand Orient of France, and that English Craft Masons should seek refuge and protection in the spurious Craft lodges of the spurious Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in France. This is to seek legitimacy in a way which the Craft will appreciate, but perhaps the letter is intended merely as a hint to their own members. The carefully concealed cloven-hoof of the English "Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite" is coming out with a vengeance. Will this worthy delegate oblige your readers by explaining fully what Lausanne adopted in relation to the Deity? I am told that they fell back upon the ancient Chinese Yang and Yin theory, which we explain by attraction and repulsion, and upon a denial themselves of the Being—God.
I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
JOHN YARKER.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
A jealousy (pardonable I trust) for the reputation of my province respecting the charities, and specially so at the present time while mourning for the loss of our late highly esteemed and respected R.W. Prov. G.M., Lord Shrewsbury, to whom is due to a great extent the awakening of the brethren to their duties in connection with the charities, will, I trust, be a sufficient excuse for my trespassing upon your time in calling attention to your article in last week's issue on the above subject. I find that the province of Staffordshire, although contributing the sum of £161 3s., is passed by without special notice, while the provinces of
Hertfordshire, contributing ... £143 16 6
Gloucestershire " ... 135 9 0
Wiltshire " ... 122 0 0
Berks and Bucks " ... 114 9 0
Northampton and Hunts ... 105 0 0

have all had special reference made of their returns, Staffordshire being classed among the "several smaller amounts," making up the provincial returns £4600. As I do not think this fair, either to the memory of our late lamented Prov. Grand Master, or to the charitable spirit of the province, which has for some time taken a respectable position at each of the festivals, I shall esteem it a favour if you will make some note of this in your next issue.
I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
T. MOUNT HUMPHRIES, P.M. 539,
Prov. G. Sup. of Works, Staffordshire,
Steward at Boys' Festival, 1876,
Steward at Girls' Festival, 1877.

P.S.—Out of the twenty-six lists as given out at the festival, Staffordshire then stood tenth in amount. I presume lists sent in subsequently have improved the position of Warwickshire.

[We quite agree with our brother's remarks. The omission was a pure oversight, and certainly most unjust to Staffordshire.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
With reference to the letter of Bro. Little in your issue of last week, I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to inform your readers that the report was accurate, and faithfully represented the statement referred to. Whether the statement was inaccurate or not, there was no inaccuracy on the part of
Yours fraternally,
THE REPORTER.

MY LITTLE REVIEW.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."
Dear Sir and Brother,—
I have to call attention to the numerous errata in my little review of "Dame Europa's Remonstrance" in your last, which make my humble words read like utter nonsense. Whose fault that may be, I do not stop to enquire. "It is quite true," should be "It is quite time;" "able to pursue," "able to maintain;" "slim logic of facts," "stern logic of facts;" "Christian populations," "the Christian populations;" "diplomats," "diplomats;" and "supposition," "suppositions."
Be so good as to insert this explanation, and oblige, yours fraternally,
YOUR REVIEWER.
[Mistakes, like misfortunes, will occur in the best regulated "Chapels."—P.D.]

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Will you permit me to direct attention to one incident of the election on Friday, the 18th inst., which may be considered not only as an act of injustice to a poor candidate, who has been deprived of the benefits of the Institution, but as seriously damaging to the principle of election by the votes of subscribers.

Briefly, the circumstances appear to have been these:—

A brother representing a Prov. G.M. had been entrusted with a number of votes more than sufficient to ensure the election of a particular candidate, but in marking a portion of the proxies a tick was placed on one side of the name and the number of votes on the other, the number inadvertently being in the wrong column, so as to read opposite the name of another candidate, to whose credit the scrutineers (after observing the contradiction) passed the votes. A first appeal to the chairman was somewhat abruptly replied to by one of the scrutineers, and a subsequent demand for a scrutiny, after the declaration of numbers, was ruled out of order.

The consequence was a triplicate error. 1. A candidate whom a large number of subscribers desired to elect was excluded. 2. A candidate, who friends had already polled sufficient proxies for his election, received a large number of votes to which he had no right, and of which he had no need. 3. A candidate, for whose case comparatively few votes were recorded, was declared elected.

How can such a miscarriage of justice be rectified, and a repetition be avoided at future elections?

The only possible rectification would now appear to be that the excluded candidate should be declared by the Committee elected to fill the first vacancy subsequent to the day of election; and to prevent the recurrence of so serious a mistake, the duties of the scrutineers should be more clearly defined. Cases of doubt or difficulty should be always referred by them to the chairman of the meeting, whose decision alone should be recognised. Had this been done in the case under notice, this unpleasant circumstance could not have occurred. The chairman would at once have referred to the brethren representing the interested cases; one of whom would have claimed, the other repudiated, the proxies in question.

The case is a chapter of errors, to which each of the parties—candidate, scrutineers, and chairman—have contributed a verse. It will not, however, prove altogether an evil, if it should result in an improvement of our election regulations, and it is with this object that I ask you to invite attention to the matter.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,
H. T. THOMPSON, P.M.

MASONIC ORPHAN SCHOOLS, DUBLIN.

The annual festival of Masonic charity was celebrated on the 8th May, in the Exhibition Palace, with a success alike worthy the cause and the influence of the Order. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, presided. Round him was gathered the cream of the Order and of Irish Society. There were noble lords and landed proprietors, merchant princes, the leading members of the learned professions, and of the middle classes—all these representing learning, rank, wealth, and commerce assembled under the chieftainship of a Prince of the Blood Royal in proclaiming to the world that the general outcome of Masonry is good will and charity. That his Royal Highness has faith in the principles of the Order, and desires initiation into all the arcana, the fact of his advancement beyond the domain of Craft Masonry fully attests. In conjunction with Lord Pelham Clinton, of the Rifle Brigade, he has lately obtained at the Freemasons' Hall in this city, the Mark Degree, the Royal Arch, and the other day, he became a Knight Templar. His Royal Highness is now Great Prior Elect for Ireland, and would have been in office ere this but for the sudden death of the Earl of Shrewsbury, who was to have come over specially to instal him. The sight which presented itself to his Royal Highness must have confirmed his opinion of the power and utility of the Order. Before him was arrayed a fashionable multitude of Freemasons and their lady friends, numbering fully seven thousand. Of the Masons the numbers who displayed badges were remarkable, showing to the eye what a widespread interest there exists in the cause of charity, and which the figures in the reports likewise testified to those who heard them read. The figures may be repeated here. During the year the receipts for the Boys' School amounted to £2375, exceeding those for the previous year by £493, and making, after paying expenses, a total of credit of £8869. In this school twenty-two boys are maintained. Of the Girls' School the account was still more satisfactory. During the year the receipts amounted to £5315, and the total to credit, after paying expenses, £8850. Forty-five girls are maintained. The foregoing figures demonstrate the thoroughness of the interest taken in this branch of the Masonic charity. Still they do not approach the sums contributed in England. At the annual Festival of Masonic Charity in London no less a sum than £12,000 is taken; and the liberality of the subscriptions may be inferred from the ability of the Grand Lodge to grant for two lifeboats, the sum of £4000, as a thank offering on the safe return from India of the Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The enlightened, who know that Masonry is "a beautiful system of morality veiled in allegory," prize it and practise its tenets, while the ignorant question its principles and sneer at its mysteries. Freemasonry, the ignorant allege, is opposed to religion, social order, and the rule of kings. Yet Popes in past days granted the Masons bulls of protection and recommendation, as the precursors of religion and civilisa-

tion. Kings and princes of the present day are the chief rulers of the Craft. Its Chaplains are in most instances eminent divines, one of those of the Irish Grand Lodge being a Bishop. For sixty-four years the late Duke of Leinster—clarum et venerabile nomen!—was head of the Order in Ireland. There are those who will remember his grace's testimony in the House of Lords to its worth, obtaining, despite the ungenerous opposition of the emissaries of dogma and superstition, its exemption from the Illegal Oaths Act. Again, witness the testimony of Ireland's late popular viceroy, his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, the present Grand Master of Ireland, delivered this time twelve months, on an occasion similar to the present: "It gives me most sincere gratification (said his grace) that my first public appearance in the high position in which I have been placed as Grand Master of the Freemasons of Ireland has been an occasion which so fully exemplifies the leading object of our great and ancient Order. These objects are unity, benevolence and charity to all men; and in no way can these great principles be better or more usefully carried out than in contributing as far as lies in our power to the education and instruction of our rising generation in such a way as, by God's providence, may serve to render them sincere and good Christians, and also useful members of the universal brotherhood of mankind." On that same brilliant occasion another speaker, Colonel Ffoliot, who is remarkable both for his piety and loyalty, testified that the charity in whose cause they had met was "the noblest example of Masonry, in which everything was carried out in the exercise of practical Christian feelings and principles." Few there are, whatever they may think of Masonry, who will not regret that the cause of the absence of the Duke of Abercorn from this ceremonial is the continued disposition of the Duchess. It may not be amiss to mention here that the present viceroy, his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, is also a brother of the mystic tie. Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from the Marquis of Headfort, Senior Grand Warden; the Earl of Bandon, Grand Secretary; the Most Rev. the Lord Bishop of Meath, Grand Chaplain; the Hon. David R. Plunket, Q.C., M.P., Senior Grand Deacon; the Earl of Huntingdon, Provincial Grand Master of the Midland Counties; Viscount Powerscourt, K.P., Provincial Grand Master of Wicklow and Wexford; the Marquis of Donegall, K.P., Provincial Grand Master of Antrim; Lord Harlech, Provincial Grand Master of North Connaught; and the Right Hon. Edward Gibson, M.P., Attorney-General for Ireland. All these noblemen and gentlemen, clerics and laymen, including those who make the laws of the land and those who administer them, are responsible guarantees for the utter untruth of accusations that the Order is anarchical, anti-social, and anti-religious. The repudiation of the "facts and fictions" in a vile print published in Dublin, purporting to disclose the secrets of the Order, will be hailed with satisfaction by the public, who do not doubt that Masons have their hearts in the right place. The Duke of Connaught, too, testified to the excellence of the Order, showing that "charity has ever been the first principle of Freemasonry;" and he also regretted the absence of the Grand Master, the Duke of Abercorn, "who takes a deep interest in the institution and in everything connected with Freemasonry." It is needless to say that his speech was cheered. The other speeches were characterised by ability and earnestness, vindicating "The Christian principles of Masonry."

The Solicitor-General was particularly happy in his speech of "thanks and hope," inculcating the performance of the grateful duty of "protecting the orphans of those brethren who die by the hands of those who survive," and pointing out that the present meeting was an answer to the calumnies uttered against the Order. The fraternity, he said, was one not of crime and secret, but of love and charity—the love beginning at the throne extending to the poorest brother of the Order. His announcement that the Grand Lodge of England was at present governed by three brothers, the sons of our Most Gracious Sovereign Lady the Queen, was greeted with prolonged cheers.

On the arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught at 1.30, he was received by the Stewards, the band playing the National Anthem. A procession was then formed, consisting of the Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Officers, Foreign representatives, and the officers of the Dublin lodges, who conducted his Royal Highness from the robing-room to the dais in the Grand Concert Room, through an avenue composed by the brethren; Bro. Charles Grandison playing Gounod's "Marche Romaine" on the organ, and the combined bands of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, under Bro. J. Brophy, and of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, under Bro. H. Murray, playing Mendelssohn's march from "Athalie" until the processionists took their places on the dais, in proper order.

Then came the pupils of the schools two-and-two, led by Stewards, the Hon. Secretaries, Bros. J. F. Elrington, Q.C., Major L. H. Deering, and the Assistant Secretary, Bro. Whitty, and some members of the committee. The girls were dressed in blue and white, and presented a pleased and happy appearance. They took their places on the front tier of the dais to the left, the boys occupying the right. Though absent, a salute, according to ancient usage, was given to the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, by a running fire of eleven "on the third coming down," taking the fire from the Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master (R. W. Shekleton, Q.C.), who announced that the Duke of Abercorn is in the south of France. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught was then accorded a similar salute, the even cadence of the fire in both instances telling with fine effect. Led by the Right Worshipful the Rev. John James MacSorley, Grand Chaplain, the 100th Psalm was sung, "With one consent," the ladies joining the brethren in producing a glorious volume of praiseful sound to the Almighty Architect of the Universe.

His Royal Highness wore the collar of the Senior Grand Warden of England, and on his left breast the stars of the Orders of the Garter and St. Patrick.

The following brethren took part in the ceremonials of the evening:—

GRAND OFFICERS—Right Worshipful Robert W. Shekleton, Deputy Grand Master; Right Worshipful Marquis of Headfort, Senior Grand Warden; Right Worshipful Lord Dunboyne, Junior Grand Warden; Right Worshipful Robert Warren, D.L., Grand Treasurer; Right Worshipful Earl of Bandon, Grand Secretary; Right Worshipful the Rev. John James MacSorley, Grand Chaplain; Worshipful Alderman Joseph Manning Junior Grand Deacon; Worshipful George A. Stephens, Grand Superintendent of Works; Worshipful Theophilus E. St. George, Grand Director of Ceremonies; Worshipful George Moyers, LL.D., Grand Steward; Worshipful Harry Hodges, Grand Sword Bearer; Worshipful Charles Ogilvie Grandirion, Grand Organist; Worshipful Humphrey Minchin, M.B., Grand Inner Guard; Worshipful Samuel B. Oldham, Deputy Grand Secretary and Treasurer; Bro. Archibald St. George Assistant Secretary; and a large number of other distinguished Provincial Grand Officers, Masters and Wardens of lodges and representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges.

Amongst those also present were Bros. Lord Muskerry, county Limerick, G.M.L.; Charles P. Cotton, Thomas K. Austin, Sir John Barrington, D.L.; H. O. Barker, LL.D.; Dr. Barker, Joshua Bewley, jun., Wm. F. Black, J. P. Omagh, P.G.T. Tyrone; Samuel H. Bolton, Wm. Keatinge Clay, George Crowe, Lucius H. Deering, Samuel H. Dobbin, Henry T. Dockrell, Thomas Drumlin, George Drury, John Dunne, Mus. D., P.G.O.; John H. Elliott, Dr. Fitzgibbon, Rev. B. W. Gibson, Alderman Harris, R. W. Gamble, Q.C.; G. A. John, Dr. Kidd, G.M.L.; Dawson T. Knox, Rev. L. A. Le Pan, E. F. Litton, Q.C.; Robert W. Lowry, J. P. Dungannon, G.M.L.; J. H. Luby, LL.D.; Alfred McDermott, J. W. Mangeon, Plato Oulton, G.M.L.; Dr. G. H. Porter, G.M.L.; Francis Quin, P.G.O.; Richard S. Reeves, John Rigby, John P. Ryan, George Tickell, J.P., T.C.; Edward D. Thorpe, W. Grove White, George T. Whitestone, Henry Wilson, J. L. Dames, Q.C.; R. Bourne, Joseph Henry Woodsworth, Thos. Wright, William Allen, Holt W. Archer, Major A. W. Bailey, A. M. Baird, John A. Baker, J. Guinness Beatty, M.D.; Mons. P. Belin, Samuel Boucher, Rev. Wm. G. Boyce, Swords; Jessop Browne, William J. Burnside, J. W. Casson, J.P.; James Charles, jun., Lieut.-Col. Colclough, D.G.M. Wicklow and Wexford; Major Chas. A. Cooper, Philip R. Patman, H.K.T.; John Henry Edge, Thomas Fitzgerald, Andrew Fitzpatrick, P.M.; Adam Fletcher, Charles Foot, J. Forsythe, Edward Hamilton, John Hodges, George H. Kinahan, James S. Kincaid, Philip T. Lyster, James H. Macauley, Major George Hill, Benjamin McDowell, M.D.; Thomas M'Govern, J. C. Meredith, LL.D.; Robert Mitchell, Echlin Molyneux, J.A. Scott, Fletcher Moore, James H. Neilson, W. J. O'Donovan, Samuel Parker, Thomas S. Pearsall, Thomas Rice, William Rigby, Charles J. Sidford, George H. Smith, W. J. Smyly, Maurice Solomons, Joseph R. Sutcliffe, W. G. Ternan, Robert Thacker, Davys Tuckey, Anthony Wilson, James Winstanley, B. Newport White, J. C. Atkinson, H. A. Johnstone, H. Hunt, Rev. S. F. Cresswell, D.D.; Adolphe Davis, Wexford, William Draker, M. de Groot, Henry A. Dillon, Thomas A. Drew, Alexander Johnston, A. Fitzpatrick, Rev. J. J. Westby, Wm. Roper, Barrister-at-Law; Martley, the Vice-Chancellor, Stewart Blacker, B. Mackay, Sir George Owens, R. C. B. Furlong, Sir John Arnott, Captain Harris,—Craig, Solicitor, and others.

Bro. Dr. Elrington, Q.C., Hon. Sec., read the Governor's report of the Female Orphan School for the year ending the 31st December, 1876:—"The amount received from all sources, including the balance of £825 12s. 2d. from the former account, and proceeds of sale of stock, amounting to £1772 17s. 8d., was £5315 12s. 3d. The net revenue exceeds that of the previous year by £75 7s. 3d. The expenditure, including the purchase of a plot of ground adjoining the schoolhouse, and £1000 invested in railway securities, amounted to £3746 10s. 3d., leaving at 31st December, 1876, a balance of £1569 2s., out of which £1046 2s. 5d. has been invested in Indian Four Per Cent. Stock since the commencement of the present year. The increase in the receipts of the school arises principally from the annual subscriptions of individual and official governors, which is a very satisfactory source of increase. This class of subscription exceeds that of last year by £128 3s. 6d., while the donations of Life Governors of all classes presents a decrease in the whole of £47 2s., which makes the net increase from donations and subscriptions amount to the sum of £81 1s. 6d. for the past year."

The report of the Boys' School was next read, from which we learn that "The total receipts from all sources exceeded those for the year 1875 by the sum of £493 19s. 5d. During the same period—the year 1876—six boys left the school. The number of boys at present maintained in the Institution is twenty-one, and they are still in the establishment of Bro. the Rev. S. S. Skeen, at Merrion. The committee continue to have special examinations of the boys at Midsummer and at Christmas; and they are happy to be able to state that the several examinations generally reported favourably on the results of the examinations. The committee cannot close their report without again urging the brethren in the country to come forward and support the Institution more liberally than they have hitherto done, and thus enable the committee to extend the benefits of the school, and to provide for a larger number of the orphans of their deceased brethren."

The Right Worshipful R. W. Shekleton, Q.C., Deputy Grand Master: I ask the brethren to assist me in saluting the patron of the Order represented by the Senior

Grand Warden of England H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. The salute was given according to ancient custom.

Bro. Shekleton: I have been directed by the M.W. Grand Master, His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, to express his deep regret that he is not able to be present. He is absent in the south of Europe, and but for that he would have been at the annual distribution of prizes to the children of the Masonic Schools, in which he takes a deep and warm interest. I desire on behalf of the Order at large to return our thanks to the fairer portion of the audience for their kindness in attending here to-night. It is a great satisfaction to us that they have not been deterred from venturing amongst Masons by certain pictures which were exhibited recently in reference to Masonry. I am sure our lady friends do not consider that we Masons in Ireland, or Masons in any country, would participate in those barbarous and cruel atrocities which are portrayed in those pictures to which I refer. I can assure you those pictures and these facts are as unfounded as their anatomy is at fault. In these pictures they represent Masons as having their hearts at the right side. Now, I can assure you Masons hearts are at the left side, but though at the left side, they are in the right place.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, on coming forward to propose the first resolution was received with enthusiastic applause. He said: Most Worshipful Grand Master, my lords, ladies, and brethren, I have the pleasure to propose "That the report now read be circulated, and that the thanks of this meeting are due to the members of the several committees of the Institution, and also to the medical officers of the school, for the zealous and efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties devolving upon them, and for the lively interest they manifest in everything conducive to the prosperity and progress of the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School." I hope I may be allowed, sir, this opportunity of expressing to every one here present the great pleasure I feel in being present on this interesting occasion. As a Grand Officer of the Grand Lodge of England, this pleasure is very much enhanced by my being enabled to express to you the deep sympathy and interest taken by our Fellow Craftsmen in England with their brethren in this country. I have to thank you, sir, for affording me this opportunity of meeting so large and so influential a number of the Freemasons of Ireland. Charity has ever been the first principle of Freemasonry; and I am sure, when we look on this charming array of girls and boys, who show by their appearance and by what we have just heard, that everything connected with the mind and with the body is cared for. I say when we see this, I am sure you will agree with me, we should congratulate those connected with the Institution on the admirable manner in which they carry out this principle. I cannot sit down without expressing my deep regret that the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, should be absent on this occasion. You all know the deep interest he takes in this Institution, and in everything connected with Freemasonry.

Judge Townsend, in seconding the resolution, spoke of the flourishing financial condition of the schools. He remembered the time when the total annual expenses did not amount to as much as one item of the expenses did now. A great deal of this was owing to those who were called governors, but who were merely subscribers. It could not be expected that the large number of those who were governors would pay any attention to the government of the school, and so it was managed by committees elected from out of these, and he (Judge Townsend) was quite certain everyone would agree with him that they had performed their duties well. The appearance presented by the pupils of the school that evening was a sufficient proof that their temporal condition had been well cared for, and the result of the examination showed how well their education had been looked after. They were a credit to the Institution in which they had been brought up, and to the exertions of the committee who directed the school.

The resolution was passed amidst applause.

General Darby Griffith moved the following resolution:—"That while acknowledging with gratitude the liberal support and assistance with which the Institution had hitherto been favoured, the governors would earnestly invite the co-operation of the brethren, in order to still further extend its usefulness." He said that as representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, who always felt the sincerest interest and sympathy with the Freemasons of Ireland, he had very great pleasure in being present that evening, and on being called to propose a resolution in favour of the noble Institution in which the interest felt was plainly manifested by the magnificent assemblage that evening. He felt the greater pleasure and an additional pride owing to the presence that evening of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who had kindly consented to distribute the prizes to the orphans of their deceased brethren, the pupils of the Female Masonic School, which was a noble example of Christian charity. The report which had been read showed that the financial condition of the school was satisfactory; but the governors had further efforts in view, and they were deserving of hearty support.

The Solicitor-General in eloquent terms seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously.

In the intervals between the speeches a selection of music was admirably played by the pupils on the piano-forte. Considering their tender age and the time they have been in the Institution, the proficiency they displayed was a satisfactory test of their training and talent. Each performance was cordially applauded.

The National Anthem having been sung, the procession was re-formed, and conducted the Duke of Connaught to the dais at the northern end of the glass building, where he performed the ceremony so gratifying to the students—namely, the distribution of the prizes.

[We are indebted for this admirable report to the courtesy of an Irish brother, and the Dublin Morning Mail.]

CONSECRATION OF THE HWLFFORDD CHAPTER, No. 464.

On Thursday, the 10th May, the Hwlffordd Chapter was consecrated at Haverfordwest by Capt. S. George Homfray, P. Standard Bearer of Grand Chapter, and P.G.H. of Monmouthshire, assisted by Ex. Comp. Thos. Powell, P.Z. of Virtue and Hope, 237, and Ex. Comp. H. J. Gratte, P.Z. Silurian, 471, as H. and J.

Amongst the companions present were Comps. Dr. Jas. Hall, P.Z. Talbot, No. 1323; Thos. Margrave, P.Z. St. Elwes, No. 671; W. J. Morgan, H. Merlin, No. 475; H. J. Groves, Org. 471; Jas. Phipps, G. Butterwell, T. J. White, Rev. W. J. L. Stradling, S. Read, and others.

After the chapter had been opened and the introductory ceremony performed, Comp. H. J. Gratte delivered a short oration, and the ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Comp. H. J. Groves. P.G.O. of Monmouthshire.

When the chapter had been duly constituted Comp. Thos. John White was installed M.E.Z.; Comp. Rev. W. J. L. Standing H.; and Comp. Thomas James, J. The whole of the ceremony was most ably performed by Ex. Comp. Capt. S. George Homfray.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously passed to Comp. Capt. S. G. Homfray, for his kindness in coming such a distance to perform the ceremony, which was duly acknowledged by him.

Comp. J. J. Homfray then proposed and Comp. Stradling seconded over twenty-three candidates to be exalted.

The chapter was then closed in harmony, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Salutation Hotel, presided over by Bro. T. Rule Owen.

The usual Masonic toasts were given, and in responding to "The Health of the Consecrating Officer" Comp. Capt. S. Geo. Homfray thanked the brethren for the compliment paid him, and said that it afforded him great pleasure to attend to the wishes of their P.G.M., Major T. A. Lloyd Philips, an old esteemed friend of his, by attending to consecrate the chapter, and regretted that a family bereavement prevented his attendance.

Comps. H. J. Groves and Captain S. Geo. Homfray contributed much to the harmony of the evening.

A chapter was held on the following day, when twelve candidates were exalted, the ceremony being most ably performed by Ex. Comps. Capt. S. Geo. Homfray as M.E.Z.; H. J. Gratte as H.; and W. J. Morgan as J. and their skill in Masonry will be long remembered in the town of Haverfordwest.

Obituary.

BRO. FREDERICK PATTISON, P.G.W.

Another of the old familiar forms and faces in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter will now be missed. Bro. Frederick Pattison, P.G. Warden, died at his residence, 11, Montague-place, Russell-square, on the 10th inst., with but little previous warning. The announcement will take the Craft by surprise, as, at his last appearance in public, he had about him all the external signs of the possession of the best bodily health. As an old Past Warden of England he usually occupied the J.G.W. chair when the J.G.W. for the year was unable to attend; and the regularity of his visits to Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, caused him to be looked upon as almost an essential part of the quarterly meetings of these two great bodies. Bro. Pattison was initiated on the 14th Feb., 1839, in the Lodge of Friendship, No. 6, of which lodge he became W.M. in 1849. In 1850 he joined the Royal Alpha, No. 16, and in that year he was appointed, by the late Earl of Zetland, Junior Grand Warden for the year. On the 26th of June, 1840, he was exalted in the Chapter of Friendship, No. 6, and became Z. of that chapter in 1856. In addition to being Grand Warden of Grand Lodge, Bro. Pattison was a Past Scribe N. of Grand Chapter; and his services to the Masonic charities, were comprised in his Life Governorship of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

FATHER BURKE AT ST. FINBARR'S.

The concluding sermon of the very successful retreat preached during the past week by the Very Rev. Fr. Burke, O.P., for the Men's Confraternity of the Holy Family and the working men of the south parish, was delivered on Saturday morning, immediately after the celebration of five o'clock Mass, at which a very large number of men communicated. Father Burke said—My dear brothers, I suppose we have not gone through our retreat, and opened our hearts to God, without making some resolutions, and I suppose these resolutions principally are the following. First, never to neglect the monthly communion; secondly, to try in preparing for confession, to find the sorrow that springs from the love of Christ rather than from the fear of Him; thirdly, to try to sanctify our day and our day's work (as I told you yesterday morning) by mingling it with prayer, by offering it to God, and by thinking of God throughout the day, as often as we can making a little interior act of faith, of hope, of sorrow, or of love, as the case may be; fourthly (and perhaps I should have put this first), a resolution to avoid every occasion of sin, especially anything that could lead us, no matter how remotely, to the sin of drunkenness, or to the sin of impurity. I ask you also, my brothers, to make another resolution—to try and induce as many of your friends and your acquaintances as you can to enter the Confraternity, to become members of the Holy Family, to try to bring them within the sacred sacramental influences that it is your privilege to possess. Remember that whenever St. Joseph had a friend, or

made an acquaintance, he always said to him, "come with me; there is a little child at home in my house, and I would like you to see him;" and he brought his friend, and brought his acquaintance, and the Child from Heaven blessed them, and they were saved. The Blessed Virgin also occupied herself amongst her neighbours and her friends, and brought them to Our Lord, saying, "Come, until I show you the little boy I have at home." And she would bring the women and all humble friends to Jesus, and He laid His hands upon them, and they were saved. Remember, you are members of the Holy Family. Remember, my brothers, you belong to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Ah, try to bring your friends to them. Try to bring every poor fellow you may know or that comes under your influence—try to bring them to Jesus, to Mary, and to Joseph. You may, perhaps, think and say in your humility, "I have no influence. I have no power to bring any man." I deny it. I tell you you have. I tell you any Catholic man with the education that you have—and, now, I am speaking to the humblest man amongst you—with the knowledge of your faith that you have, with the education that you have, and above all, with the character that you have for morality and for sobriety—I say that that man has influence. He has influence amongst his fellow men, amongst his fellow labourers, he has an influence as great as I, perhaps, may have amongst my fellow priests. Use it, use it for God, use it for Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Ah, my brothers, though I am speaking to you from this pulpit, in heart and in mind, it is on my knees I am before you—on my knees I am before you, because so many amongst you, sitting around me here, have my Lord and my God in your hearts. You know how grand a thing it is and how sweet a thing it is to belong to the Holy Family of Nazareth. You know that there is nothing in this world—nothing that money could give, nothing that the world could give of honour or of dignity, nothing that genius or talent could give—to be compared with the joy of going up to the altar rail and receiving the Son of God, the Lord of Heaven, into your hearts; and you have done it this morning. Try to bring others, my dear brothers to the same happiness as you possess, and to make them members of the Holy Family. And if there be here this morning one man or boy who has not yet been enrolled, it is my parting request, and I beseech such a one to enter at once into the Confraternity—at once. For, we live in an age when the world is divided into two great camps—into two great confraternities—one belongs to God, the other belongs to the Devil. Freemasons, you have all heard of them, and they may call themselves by a dozen other names—they are banded together by secret oaths and obligations—for what purpose? To oppose the Catholic Church, to pull down the Catholic altar, and if possible, to put to death the Catholic priest for no crime under Heaven except that he chooses to lead a chaste life, and to speak the Word of God to his fellow Catholics. They are banded together, you know it. There are whole nations—Italy, a great part of France, Portugal, the Republics of South America—I know it, for I have been in those countries, and I have asked the priests and bishops—"What is your difficulty here? Why is it that you cannot manage your people?" "Ah! they are all Freemasons. We never can come near one of them." Now, if the devil is able to band his children together, why should not Almighty God, and the Lord that is in that tabernacle, band us together? And if we only unite and keep together, in humility, in charity, in poverty and prayer, we will be more than a match for all the devils in hell, and for all the men that choose to serve the devil upon this earth. In the darkest day of our national history, when there was a cloud of persecution over Ireland that rained blood upon the land; when our grandfathers—for we may start with them and go back two hundred years—were ground to the very earth in slavery and in bloodshed for the Catholic Faith, was not Ireland still more than a match for all her enemies? And to-day, with our improved education, and with our magnificent religious organisation, surely we can still triumph, and triumph easily, over every enemy and every power that Hell can bring amongst us, if we are only banded together. Therefore, oh my brothers, I ask you to be faithful to the great Confraternity, be faithful to the Holy Family, be united in God; and if you are united in God, you shall always be able to conquer everything, for "This is the victory that overcometh the world, our faith," says St. John the Evangelist. But, my brothers, I must also ask you now that I am taking my leave of you—I must also ask you to persevere. It is not the man that begins, nor it is not the man that perseveres for a time that is crowned; but it is the man who perseveres unto the end. "Be thou faithful unto death," that is to say, to the last moment, "and I will give thee the crown of life." These are the words of Christ. And now, if you ask me, How am I to be faithful? I will give you the secret in one word. If you want to be faithful unto death and to persevere, don't look beyond to-day. Be faithful to the graces of to-day. Say to yourself, "I don't know whether I will live until to-morrow. I don't know whether there is any to-morrow for me. I will just do what I ought to do to-day, as if it was the last day of my life. I will say my prayers to-day the best way I can, just as if I was certain that to-morrow I would be before my Judge. I will try to avoid temptation, and to fulfil all my duties to-day as well as I can." Don't be saying, "Oh, how on earth will I be able to live this way for the next twenty years?" Who told you you would live for twenty years?" Who told you you would live for a day?" Remember the words of our Lord "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," and sufficient unto the day are graces thereof too. Whatever confession then, you make, or whatever other duty you perform, just say to yourself, "Perhaps I will never have a chance of doing this again; I may be dead before to-morrow. I will try, then, to do it as well as I can." Live, as the proverb says, from hand to mouth from day to day. Be faith-

ful to-day, and God will give you grace to be faithful to-morrow, and the next day, and the next day, until at length the day arrives which will crown your lives with the crowning grace of final perseverance; for "as a man liveth, so shall he die;" and the man that lives faithful to the grace of God in that grace shall die; and by that grace he shall be translated from glory unto glory, until he beholds the face of the Lord his God in the eternal kingdom.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B.; James Brett, P.G.P.; and Bro. W. T. Howe, A.G.P., occupied the chairs respectively of President, Senior Vice-President, and Junior Vice-President. Bros. John Hervey, G.S.; H. G. Buss, Asst. G.S.; and W. Dodd, attended from Grand Secretary's offices. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, Past District G.M. for China; Henry Browne, P.G.D.; Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Capt. N. G. Phillips, G.D.; John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; J. M. Case, P.G.D.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; E. P. Albert, P.G.P.; Ex-Sheriff Hutton, P.G.D.; James Mason, P.G.S.B.; Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; J. Wright, P.G.P.; W. Smith, C.E., P.G.S.; Griffiths Smith, P.G.S.; S. G. Foxall, G.P.; C. F. Hogard, P.M. 205, Capt. Hunter, P.G.M. Aberdeenshire; M. D. Loewenstark, W.M. 1668; T. H. Meredith, W.M. 1257; W. Mann, P.M. 186; Charles E. Walter, W.M. 87; W. H. Myers, P.M. 1445; James Muzie, W.M. 1150; W. R. Marsh, W.M. 1672; Wm. Poore, W.M. 1506; John Bingemann, P.M. 1599; Hon. R. W. H. Giddy, D.G.M. Griqualand; W. Stephens, P.M. 1365; J. J. Defrics, W.M. 45; H. Garrod, P.M. 749; Charles Cutler, P.M. 245; H. Bartlett, P.M. 1158; W. Fooks, W.M. 136; E. J. Hart, W.M. 1201; W. H. Perryman, W.M. 3; Israel Abrahams, P.M. 188; Charles Sewell, W.M. 1382; Walter Hopekirk, P.M. 1586; George Tunley, W.M. 183; Herbert Dicketts, P.G.S.; Wm. Browne Kidder, W.M. 12; Col. Somerville Burney, W.M. 1615; John J. Pakes, W.M. 871; W. Hilton, P.M. 780; Jno. Norton, W.M. 969; James Terry, P.G.D.C. Herts.; F. W. Koch, P.M. 1381; E. Spooner, P.M. 1420; W. J. Parish, W.M. 1604; C. P. Cobham, P.M. 957; Charles E. Walter, W.M. 87; Capt. J. Wordsworth, P.M. 380; Ed. Cox, P.M. 360; H. Massey, (Freemason); J. Awley, W.M. 907; W. F. Nettleship, P.G.S.B.; Edwd. Baxter, W.M. Great Steward's Lodge; J. M. P. Montagu, P.M. 707; Ed. Jones, W.M. 192; J. B. Sorrell, P.M. 176; J. H. Southwood, W.M. 1360; S. J. Hilliard, W.M. 174; J. K. Abel, W.M. 957; J. P. Collier, W.M. 205; E. Bonye, P.M. 1580; J. P. Villiers, W.M. 834; S. J. Harvey, W.M. 1658; P. G. Jupe, W.M. 1287; J. D. McGachen, P.M. 827; J. W. Sugg, W.M. 452; and C. L. Brown, W.M. 1237.

At the Board of Masters which preceded the Lodge of Benevolence, the paper of business for Grand Lodge of 6th June was settled. At the Lodge of Benevolence the brethren first confirmed the grants made at the Lodge of Benevolence of April last to the amount of £170. The brethren then proceeded with the consideration of the new cases, of which there were twenty-two. Of these three were dismissed, and three deferred. The remainder were relieved with a total sum of £425, composed of one grant of £100, one of £75, one of £50, one of £40, four of £20, and eight of £10 each.

The Lodge of Benevolence was then closed. The sitting lasted three hours.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.—The Eboracum Conclave, No. 137, will be consecrated at the Masonic Rooms, Micklegate, York, on Tuesday, the 29th inst., at three o'clock.

The late Southwark Conference created a demand for Compressed Tea beyond all expectations. Eminent Analysts declare it is only when tea is in its pure and native state that it will yield to pressure under hydraulic power. The London and Provincial Press unhesitatingly assert that if you want a cup of tea in perfection it must be brewed from tea that has been compressed. Economists advocate the use of Compressed Tea, and say if you want to get double the value out of your tea use it Compressed. Testimonials in thousands speak highly of the increased value and advantages in using the finely selected teas of the Compressed Tea Company (Limited). Families are making constant applications for the smallest wholesale quantity supplied, and say, "We are compelled to send to the warehouse for Compressed Tea; because the tradesmen in our locality appear to know nothing of it; and as one pound weight of Compressed Tea goes as far as two pounds weight of loose tea, we hope you will supply us." Sold in handsome cabinets—1lb. 2s. 6d., 2lbs. 5s., 4lbs. 10s.—got up specially for the Easter trade as samples, carriage free to any part of the kingdom. Works and Warehouse, 36, Southwark-street, London. Arrangements have been completed whereby Tea dealers can have their own blended and selected teas compressed at a nominal cost per pound for compressing. All applications for Agencies for the sale of Compressed Tea, or from traders desirous of opening up wholesale depots for the sale of Compressed Tea throughout the kingdom, must be addressed to the Secretary.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Sores, Wounds, and Ulcers.—Every variety of sore, ulcer, eruption, boil, and carbuncle is safely stopped by the timely application of this healing Ointment. It arrests unhealthy and substitutes healthy action, thus curing the inflamed, irritable, and spreading diseases affecting the skin. Holloway's Ointment has gained an imperishable fame for its facility in healing old inflammatory sores about the shins and ankles, and for bad legs and old wounds it cannot be equalled; nor is it less efficacious in gathering breasts and abscesses. When the complaint has been of long continuance, Holloway's Pills will expedite recovery if taken in those doses which act as alteratives on the stomach and tonics on the constitution.—ADVT.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, June 1st, 1877.

SATURDAY, MAY 26.

Lodge 1451, Alexandra Palace, Muswell Hill.
Lodges of Instruction.

Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, S.W.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot. Fleet-st.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Row.
Eastern, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
Wellington, White Swan, Deptford.
Perfect Ashlar, Victoria Tav., Lower-rd., Rotherhithe.
Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd.
Marquis of Ripon, Pembury Tav., Amherst-rd., Hackney.
Loughborough, Warrior Hot., Brixton.
London Masonic Club, 101, Queen Victoria-st.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Steyne.
Domestic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
Faith, 2, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-st.
Prince Fredk. Wm., Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
Dalhousie, King Edward, Triangle, Hackney.
Prosperity, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Constitutional, Wheatsheaf Hot., Hand-court, Holborn.
Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe Road.
Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, York-road, Battersea.
Beacontree, Red Lion, Leytonstone.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Rotherhithe.
St. John of Wapping, Gun Hot., High-st., Wapping.
Islington, Coopers' Arms, Silver-st., Falcon-sq.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Newby-pl., Poplar.
Lodges of Instruction.

Confidence, Whittington, Moor-lane, Fore-street.
Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle Tav., Southwark-bdg.-rd.
Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Mount Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters'-rd.
Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
Whittington, Black Bull Tav., Holborn.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, MAY 31.

Gen. Com. Girls' School, at 4.
Lodge 1524, Duke of Connaught.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st.
Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., W.
Finsbury, Jolly Anglers' Tav., Bath-st., City-road.
Temperance in the East, Catherine-st., Poplar.
Hbury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Highgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenuc.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 1275, Star, Ship Hot. Greenwich.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Ball's-Pond-rd., N.
Chap. 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Union Waterloo, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Belgrave, Constitution, Bedford-st., Covent Garden.
Unions Emulation (for M.M.'s), F.M.H.
Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-road, Deptford.
Clapton, White Hart, Clapton.
Metropolitan, Portugal Hot., Fleet-st.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Horse & Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road.
St. James's, New Tanners' Arms, Grange-rd., Bermondsey.
Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
Doric, Earl Grey Tav., Mile-end-road.
Burgoyne, Grafton Arms, Prince of Wales's-road, N.W.
St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria Park.
Royal Standard, The Castle, Holloway-rd.
Ranelagh, Bell and Anchor, Hammersmith-rd.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
Pythagorean Chapter, Prince of Orange, Greenwich-rd.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Hot., Goulbourn-rd., N. Kensgtn.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, June 2, 1877.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

Lodge 178, Antiquity, Royal Hot., Wigan.
" 1384, Equity, Com. Hot. Widnes.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester
Merchant's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.
" 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
" 1403, W. Lancashire, Com. Hot., Ormskirk.

THURSDAY, MAY 31.

Lodge 1313, Fermor, M.H., Southport.
FRIDAY, JUNE 1.

Lodge 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
" 1505, Emulation, M.H., Liverpool.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR AGED FREEMASONS

AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS, CROYDON.

Office—4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

PATRON AND PRESIDENT:

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, the 18th May, 1877, W. Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Creaton, P.G.D., in the Chair. After the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the election of Twenty-nine Male Annuitants from an approved list of thirty-four candidates, and Twenty-four Female Annuitants from an approved list of thirty-six candidates, when the following were declared duly elected:

MALES.

NAME.	VOTES.
Bro. Watson, William...	1847
" Smith, George ...	1510
" Barnes, Richard E. ...	1266
" Phipps, Osborne G. ...	991
" Wright, Henry ...	907
" Neeve, Henry ...	851
" Barnard, Alfred T. ...	829
" Goddard, Cornelius ...	802
" Seabrook, Edward ...	801
" *Polkinghorne, Edwin S. ...	757
" *Lovelace, John ...	625
" *Barnard, John C. ...	616
" *Holmes, Joseph J. ...	616
" *Jones, Richard ...	582
" Le Page, John ...	577
" Doorne, John C. ...	558
" Burgess, George ...	557
" Russell, James ...	526
" Newton, Henry ...	518
" Langlands, Nathan ...	515
" Haworth, John ...	507
" Luter, John ...	494
" Wilkinson, Benjamin ...	456
" Fauvel, John ...	453
" Hodson, Samuel ...	448
" Ball, William ...	440
" Bence, Edward O. ...	412
" Chapman, William H. ...	412
" Stening, James ...	364

WIDOWS.

NAME.	VOTES.
Mrs. Flockton, Maria I. ...	1099
" Whiteman, Jane ...	1082
" Heming, Rhoda ...	873
" Jenkins, Jane M. ...	850
" Woods, Eliza ...	797
" *West, Maria A. ...	745
" Buck, Susan ...	738
" *Eastes, Frances ...	735
" *Farnham, Sarah ...	691
" *Sumner, Charlotte ...	690
" *Naylor, Martha ...	667
" *Allatson, Margaret ...	659
" Haselwood, Lucy A. ...	635
" Trotter, Ann ...	624
" Dewar, Mary A. ...	623
" Masters, Rebecca ...	603
" Dixon, Margaret ...	600
" Emery, Harriett ...	565
" Clarkson, Hannah ...	564
" Brown, Ann ...	514
" Tilbury, Ann ...	507
" Packwood, Emily ...	455
" Rackstraw, Amy ...	410
" Busher, Mary A. B. ...	365

The votes of the unsuccessful candidates will be carried forward to the next election. Those marked * are elected to fill vacancies occasioned by death since the voting papers were issued.

JAMES TERRY

Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. Herts, Secretary, 18th May, 1877.