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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

GLOBE LODGE (No. 23).—This lodge, whose career has extended over upwards of a century, held its installation meeting on Thursday evening, the 17th inst., at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, and was, as usual, well attended. Bro. John Boyd, W.M., P.G.P., P.G.S., occupied the chair. Bro. R. Douglas, S.W., and W.M. elect; Bro. Davies, J.W.; and all the assistant officers were present, and a numerous body of visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Col. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex; Col. Peters; Hyde Pullen, P.G. S.B.; Bartlett, 228; Baker, P.M. 753; J. Moon, J.D. 49; Thielay, P.M. 145; Manby, 145; Sides, Grand Steward's Lodge; H. Thompson, P.M. 177 and 1158, (*Freemason*); Reviere, 538; Riddle, 1501; Biggs, P.M. 435; Massey, P.M. 65; and several others. The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes read, Bros. Simonds and Tartas, candidates for passing, were introduced and questioned, after which they withdrew. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and on their re-introduction they were passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft, the ritual being rendered in Bro. Boyd's usual painstaking manner. The next business on the agenda was the installation of Bro. Robert Douglas, W.M. elect, he being presented by Bro. William Watson, the Senior Past Master of the lodge. The usual proceedings having been gone through, all the brethren below the degree of an Installed Master were requested to retire, and a Board of Installed Masters (about twenty in number) was formed, and Bro. Douglas was most ably installed by Bro. Boyd into the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, as W.M. of the Globe Lodge for the ensuing year. On the admission of the brethren he was duly saluted in the different degrees, and then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. Davies, S.W.; Reinhardt, J.W.; Palmer, S.D.; Wildy, J.D.; Venn, I.G.; Dodson, D.C.; Jermyn Boyd, W.S.; Dicketts, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge, Hon. Sec.; Bennett, P.M., Treas.; Radford, Tyler. Bro. Boyd then delivered the customary addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren, and at the close he was warmly applauded. The newly-installed W.M. immediately commenced his active duties by the initiation of Mr. Frederick Mortimer into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, which ceremony was gone through with correctness and all the confidence of a veteran of the Order, giving evidence that throughout his year the prestige of the Globe Lodge for good working will be fully maintained. The W.M. said he had a most pleasing duty to perform, which was to present Bro. Boyd, P.M., with a jewel, as a memento of the kind feelings entertained towards him by the lodge on his quitting the chair as W.M., wishing him long life and happiness, and that he might remain many years amongst them. Having attached the jewel to his breast, amidst general cheering, Bro. Boyd, I.P.M., said: I am greatly pleased at receiving this mark of the favour of the brethren, and if my year of office has been satisfactory to you, brethren, I can assure you that it is most gratifying to me. I have endeavoured to conduct the affairs of the lodge during my year to your satisfaction, and this proves that I have done so. (Cheers.) The report of the Audit Committee was presented and adopted. Bro. E. C. Davies, S.W., proposed "That on and after January, 1878, the initiation and joining fees be raised from eight guineas to twenty guineas." Bro. Wildy seconded the motion, which was put and agreed to. A committee was appointed to revise the bye-laws of the lodge, and report its proceedings to the lodge at the earliest convenient opportunity. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where a splendid repast was provided by Bro. Best, the proprietor of Freemasons' Tavern. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W. Master in giving the first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," said she had not only endeared herself to them as their Sovereign, but as a warm supporter of their noble institutions, a toast which was drunk most cordially. The National Anthem was sung by Bros. Carter, P.M. 382, Baxter, Jekyll, and Winn. The W. Master said the next toast he had to propose was that of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," who had shown the deep interest he took in all that appertained to Freemasonry by the appointment of his two Royal brothers to support him in the Grand Lodge, and to make its proceedings a success. They all knew the cordial reception that had been given to the Prince of Wales, not only on both sides of the

atlantic, but throughout the whole of the British dominions, and he was sure all the brethren would join with him in wishing him all the happiness he could possibly enjoy in the coming year. This toast was drunk, followed by hearty cheering. A glee was sung by the professional singers "Hail! to thee, Albert," the solo by Bro. G. T. Carter, which was most delightfully rendered, and warmly appreciated. The W. Master said the next toast he had the honour to propose was that of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master." He need not remind the brethren of the high estimation in which his lordship was held amongst them, or the great interest he took in promoting the prosperity of Freemasonry, especially in his support of their benevolent institutions, which are looked upon as the greatest ornaments to the Craft that the world could produce. Those institutions he looked upon as a fulfilment of the law of God, and the Earl of Carnarvon was a man upon whom they could always rely as a steady exponent of universal charity, and he asked the brethren to drink his health with cordiality, wishing him all the happiness that could attend him. The W. Master said the next toast that he had the honour and pleasure to propose was that of "Lord Skelmersdale, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Officers, Present and Past." As to the marked abilities of these Grand Officers no one could have any doubt, and the brethren looked to them as the great supporters of their institutions, for when work was required to be done they were always ready to do it, and the aid they rendered in providing for their comforts had cultivated those good and kindly feelings for them which existed amongst them. He was of opinion that a great deal of good was done when they came amongst them. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Colonel Burdett and Bro. Hyde Pullen. Colonel Burdett, Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, said he had often to return thanks for their toast, but seldom with more pleasure than he did at the present moment. As so much had been said of their Grand Master and Pro Grand Master, he would not allude to them; but so far as the toast applied to the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Officers, he was sure that every one would do his duty to the utmost extent of his power, and he was happy to say that the officers of the Grand Lodge were never stronger than they were at that moment. He might say, however, that the higher they got on in the Order, the greater was the responsibility they felt for the discharge of their duty to the brethren of the Order at large, as they had to take care of the interests of others as well as that of themselves. His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales was responsible for the working of the Grand Lodge, and to enable him to be so he counted upon the assistance of the Grand Officers; and so it went on, step by step, the Grand Officers being supported by the brethren at large, not only of England and Wales, but of other countries who naturally looked to the Grand Officers to take care of the interests of the Order throughout the world. In conclusion he again returned thanks for the honour conferred upon the Grand Officers. Bro. Boyd, I.P.M., said it was getting late in the evening, and after what had been said as regarded the last toast it would be presumption on his part were he to occupy much of their time in proposing the health of their Worshipful Master, but he felt bound to make a few remarks, although he should keep them from a peculiar enjoyment only for a few moments. Those who were present, who were Royal Arch Masons, knew that apart from the ceremony of exaltation there was a ceremony in their proceedings in the shape of a lecture, and one of the sections was called "Moses' Rod," and towards the end of that lecture, "Moses' Rod" was called an emblem of authority; when held by the monarch it was called a sceptre, by the bishop a crozier, by the general abaton and by a civic dignity a mace. The Worshipful Master's gavel was also an emblem of authority but under a very different appellation. The W. Master had placed his gavel as an emblem of authority in his (Bro. Boyd's) hands, and he trusted that he should make the best use of it by the introduction of his name. They had not all the same capability, and it took some a very long time to learn the duties of Craft Masonry, but he thought they would agree with him when he said that their W. Master had that night exhibited a large amount of capability and talent when for the first time he presided in the chair. Bro. Douglas, notwithstanding that was the first time he had presided, had gone through the ceremony of installation exceedingly well. He had therefore no doubt that they would give the toast of his health a hearty welcome, and at that time twelve months hence they would be better able to say what they thought of him. He trusted that he might echo his (Bro. Boyd's) wish that he had had a happy new year of office, and that each member of the lodge would assist him in every way in his power. He asked the brethren to cordially drink the health of the W. Master. The W. Master, in responding said—Brethren, and Past Master Boyd—I rise to thank you for the very kind manner in which you have proposed my health, indeed in such very flattering terms—and you, brethren, for the way in which you responded to it. It was indeed a great honour conferred upon me to be placed that night in the position of Worshipful Master. Certainly I have had many honours conferred upon me, and particularly in receiving a certificate from a late great Exhibition, but there is no honour that I shall value so much as that which has been conferred upon me this evening. I thank you very much, although I know that I shall have a very difficult task in having to follow such an accomplished Past Master as Bro. Boyd, but I must rely upon the Past Masters in any case of difficulty, and I will do my best to copy their good example. If I do so, I am sure that I shall receive the best wishes of the Globe Lodge, and I again thank you for the manner in which my health has been proposed and received. The W. Master said the next toast he had great pleasure to propose was "The Health of the newly-initiated Bro. Mortimer." He had great pleasure in having initiated him into the Order, as he

had known him all his life, and had many opportunities of seeing his good qualities, which had been cultivated until he arrived at maturity, and now he had become a Freemason. He felt sure that before many years were passed he would promote the good and welfare of every one with who he might come in contact, and he wished him all the happiness that Freemasonry could bestow upon him. The toast was well received, followed by the "Entered Apprentice's Song." Bro. Mortimer said he was naturally a little nervous in being called upon to return thanks for the toast which had been just given and received so kindly. When he came to the place that night he little thought he should have to stand up to return thanks, or any opinion as to what he would have to go through to become a Freemason. He thanked them for the kind manner in which they had drank his health, and he hoped to become a good Mason. He had great confidence in coming amongst them; as the W. Master was a personal acquaintance; and he hoped that in time to come he should be enabled to do as much for the brethren as they had done for him. (Cheers.) The W. Master next gave "The Immediate Past Master" of the lodge, and in doing so especially referred to the services rendered by Bro. Boyd, who had been most assiduous that evening in seeing every one well attended to, and he felt assured that it must have created amongst the brethren, as it had in him, a feeling of attachment to Bro. Boyd. They were all aware of the great interest he took in all their Masonic Institutions, more particularly the Girls' School, of which committee he was a prominent member. His kindness on all occasions had won for him their esteem and regard, and he sincerely wished that he might live for many years to enjoy that good opinion that was at all times entertained for him. He asked the brethren to join with him in drinking the health of Past Master Boyd. Bro. Boyd said he was much pleased with the W. Master for the manner in which he had introduced the toast, and was very grateful to the brethren for the manner in which they had responded to his observations about himself. He might say that during his career in Freemasonry he had endeavoured to do his duty in every position in which he had been placed, and to those officers who were then in a subordinate position he assured them that if they pursued a career of good conduct they would in time arrive at the same high position he had attained in the Globe Lodge. It was a pleasure to him to follow a good example in his own lodge, and during the next twelve months he should do all he could to forward the interests of it. During the past year they had put up with his infirmities, but he had done his best, and he believed that he had given them satisfaction or they would not that night have placed on his breast the jewel they had voted to him. He should not detain the brethren with any further remarks as to himself, as a most important toast had just been put into his hands to propose, which was that of "The Visitors." The worthy brother then read the names of the different visitors, making a running commentary on the good qualities of each, and concluded by proposing their healths, a toast which was enthusiastically responded to. Bro. Hyde Pullen returned thanks for the visitors. The W. Master then gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge," for whom Bro. Watson responded, who stated that was the 31st installation meeting of the Globe Lodge at which he had been present, and remarked that during the whole of that time one feeling seemed to reign amongst its members, that they should do unto others as they should do unto them. During thirty years every W. Master had gone forward according to his merits, and there had been no ill-will, and the consequence was that they always looked forward to the installation of a new Master with pleasure. The Past Masters thanked the W. Master for the compliment he had paid them, and they congratulated him in being called upon to preside over so large and distinguished a lodge, and in doing so he had the kindly feelings and best wishes of every member. "The Officers of the Lodge" was then given, and with the Tyler's toast a very happy and harmonious evening was brought to a close. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. G. T. Carter, P.M. 382, assisted by Bros. Baxter, Jekyll and Winn.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 201).—The installation meeting of this old and respected lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, 18th inst., under very favourable auspices, Bro. Elsum, W.M., P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, in the chair. As a great amount of work had to be done, lodge was summoned for four o'clock, and opened punctually at that time. The minutes having been read and confirmed, and report of audit committee adopted, Bros. Yardley, Cope, and Beale, were duly raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons, and Bros. Claudius, and Josua, passed to the Fellow Craft Degree, and Messrs. Leigh and Trew initiated into Freemasonry. The W.M. then proceeded to instal as his successor, Bro. R. C. Read, S.W., who had been unanimously elected by the lodge, the ceremony of installation, as also those of initiation, passing and raising, being very ably rendered by the retiring W.M. On investing the I.P.M. a pleasing duty, that of presenting Bro. Elsum with a P.M.'s jewel, devolved on the newly-appointed W.M., who kindly and affectionately wished the wearer long life and prosperity to wear it. Bro. Elsum deeply impressed, cordially thanked the W.M. of the lodge, and assured them it would be highly appreciated, and he trusted, handed to his son as a memento to stimulate him to try to gain the good-will of all. The usual congratulations, &c., having been accorded Bro. Read, W.M., in a very efficient manner, appointed and invested his officers, thus favourably commencing the duties of his exalted position. Through the admirable arrangements of an experienced Secretary, and the able services of Bro. Davage, D.C., the whole of the business set forth in the summons was concluded at seven o'clock, and lodge closed in due form. After closing lodge, the members and numerous visitors adjourned to a sumptuous

tuous banquet which gave the greatest satisfaction to all assembled, and highly creditable to the new proprietor of this well known tavern. Full justice being done to this well spread board, and grace having been said, the W.M. instructed the Wardens as to seeing the columns charged in the West and South, proposed "The Health of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen," coupling with it prosperity to the Craft, as usual in this old lodge. This was most heartily received and responded to. The National Anthem followed by Bro. Thurley Beale, and given in his able style, elicited great applause. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were effectively and briefly given by the W.M., and duly honoured. "The Visitors" is at all times a welcome toast in this lodge, and was most eloquently and feelingly responded to by Bro. C. Walker, P.M. Whittington, who after alluding to the ability of the officers in having got through the great amount of blessings in the lodge, then thanked the W.M. and the lodge generally, for the liberality and hospitality at all times extended to the visitors of the Jordan. Bro. Leigh in a very effective speech returned thanks for "The Initiates." The Secretary in a few words, thanked the W.M. for the confidence reposed in him by the lodge, and referred to the great labours of his fellow officer, Bro. Davage, Treasurer, D.C., and Third Steward, and to the great interest he takes in seeing to the wants and comforts of the brethren. Bro. Davage in reply, assured the lodge that it was a source of pleasure to see them so satisfied. The Wardens, Bros. Summer, Smith, and Andrews, severally responded, and during these proceedings Bros. Beale, Read, Mander, Yardley, Wettenhall, Smith, and Andrews, sung several songs—accompanied on the piano—amongst others. Bro. Spooner having finished the "Entered Apprentice," in company with "A Jolly Old Miller whose name was Bob Bell," were taken by a well known brother "To the West, to the West," and passing along met Bros. Brewer, Hawkins, and Bacquan, sympathising friends of "Tom Pearce," and being attracted by the "Bells of Chandon," found their way to the "Grove of Blarney," where, either from "The Bells," or the exhilarating influence of Moet and Chandon all seemed really happy, so there leave them to enjoy favourable recollections of the old Jordan, No. 201.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, on Wednesday. The W.M., Bro. H. R. Jones, presided. The following officers and brethren were amongst those present: Bros. W. A. Morgan, S.W.; Bro. E. H. Boddy, J.W.; J. Frost, Sec.; P. Cook, P.M.; J. G. Kewney, P.M.; Wardroper, J. J. Holland, S. C. Landon, W. Price, G. Clark, H. E. Goodchild, G. Fortescue, R. Neal, and A. A. Denham. Mr. John Saunders, a well-known solicitor in the district, and Clerk to the Wandsworth Board of Guardians, was ably initiated by the W.M. Bro. Price was afterwards passed to the Second Degree. Upon the motion of Bro. P. Cooke, P.M., who spoke in feeling terms, it was unanimously decided that a letter of condolence be sent to Bro. G. Howick, P.M., who has lately sustained a severe loss in the death of his wife. The names of Messrs. J. W. Marshall, and P. V. Denham (the former proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. E. H. Boddy; and the latter proposed by Bro. A. A. Denham, and seconded by Bro. J. J. Holland), were given in to the Secretary, and will be balloted for at the next meeting. Other formal business was transacted and the lodge was closed.

METROPOLITAN LODGE (No. 1507).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, at Anderson's Hotel, when there were present Bros. R. T. Kingham, W.M.; John Douglass, S.W.; C. J. Scales, J.W.; J. Willing, jun., P.M., Treasurer; W. M. Stiles, Sec.; W. Side, S.D.; H. Stiles, D. of C.; H. Lovegrove, Steward; J. Colls, I.G.; J. J. Michael, P.M. Visitors: Bros. J. Shilcock, P.M. 449, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Roach, 49; J. T. Briggs, P.M. 159; E. F. Pierdon, 948; H. Webb, P.M. 72, 193, 890; J. H. Bedwell, I.G. 861; J. D. White, J.W. 190; and A. Clemow, 838. Bros. W. Garrett, and J. Ford were raised; Bros. R. Kearns, S. Ward, C. C. Cruikshanks, and J. H. Grant, were passed, and Messrs. W. G. Smith, W. Davey, F. W. Dimsdale, and H. A. Dimsdale, initiated. The brethren afterwards banqueted together and honoured the usual toasts.

WEST SMITHFIELD LODGE (No. 1623).—At the New Market Hotel, King-street, Snow Hill, West Smithfield, on Thursday, January 17th, the regular meeting of this well established lodge was held. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. T. W. Adams, who was out of town, the J.P.M., Bro. J. Smith, P.G.P., Treas., presided, and he initiated Mr. Samuel Hume, raised Bros. W. McCluer Butt, C. Goodwin, J. Chapman, and W. Marton, and passed Bros. Howard, all the work being well done. Some candidates were proposed for initiation and a brother for joining. Business ended, the lodge was closed, and adjourned to meet on Thursday, March 21st, at three o'clock p.m. The banquet followed, well served by the host, Bro. T. Butt, and his two sons, who were unremitting in their attention to the comfort of all. There were present Bros. G. S. Elliot, S.W.; J. J. Howes, P.M., J.W.; F. Walters, P.P.G.D. Middx., P.M., Sec.; J. Johnson, S.D.; A. Black, W.M. 186, I.G.; W. Pennelather, P.M., D.C.; W. Malthouse, Stwd.; T. McButt, W.S.; E. Mallett, W.M. 141, acting as J.D.; and several others. Visitors: Bros. E. Clark, 1587; W. Malton, 1423; and others.

EVENING STAR LODGE (No. 1719).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. A. J. Duff Filer, W.M., presiding. There were also present Bros. Hartley, as S.W.; Kirkham, J.W.; James Glaisher, P.M., P.G.D., Treas.; Magnus Ohren, P.M., Sec.; William Sugg, S.D.; F. A. Greene, J.D.; J. W. Sugg, D.C.; H. Greene, G. C. Trewby, Joseph Mainwaring, F. W. Hartley, Samuel Cutler, Edward Hide, and John Johnson. Visitors: Bros. E. Crombie, 1623; W. Miller, 1326; Hyde Pullen,

P.G.S.B.; John Methuen, 452; H. Massey, P.M. 619, (Freemason.) Messrs. John West, and Thos. Henry Martin were initiated, and Bros. J. W. C. Holmes, J. Manwaring, E. Hide, and G. C. Trewby were passed. The ceremony of passing was performed by the W.M., and that of initiation by Bro. Magnus Ohren. This being an emergency meeting, there was no other business before the lodge, and the brethren after closing lodge dined together at Freemasons' Tavern. The toasts were afterwards proposed, and Bro. Hyde Pullen, P.G.S.B., responded for "The Grand Officers," of whom there are no less than three who are members of this lodge, the W.M., Bro. James Glaisher, and Bro. Hyde Pullen. The W.M. next proposed "The Initiates," and included in that toast the four candidates for passing, who when initiated at last emergency meeting, had not an opportunity of replying to the toast, as the brethren separated without dining together. The W.M. said that he had the pleasure of welcoming all these brethren as members of the Craft, and he hoped that though young in Masonry, they would find in their progress that Masonry was much to their satisfaction, and that they would never regret joining it, and especially in that particular lodge. They were placed that evening in the seat of honour, and until they advanced to the post of Master or P.M., they would never have so distinguished a post again. Bro. West, in responding said that of course as he was only an initiate he hardly knew how to begin, but he could only say that he was very pleased to be there that evening, and to have had the special privilege of being initiated in that particular lodge. He felt that it was a particular favour, and a special privilege because there were so many kind friends of his in it. Although he had been many years in a provincial town in England, he found himself a stranger there, and in an isolated position. If Masonry was what he imagined it was, it was a matter which must be very comfortable on that account, because there must be a brotherly feeling existing between the members of the Craft, which men did not get at in an isolated position in a provincial town. The isolation of men who were not Masons might perhaps arise from their not putting themselves forward, to mix with people they came in contact with. Perhaps it might not be prudent on all occasions to do that, but going back to some eighteen years ago, he was impressed with the importance of Freemasonry. His grandfather was a very energetic Mason at Northampton in a very old lodge there, shortly before his death, intimated to him in an indirect way the advantages of Freemasonry, saying that its principles were sound and founded upon a rock, and that therefore they ought to be what every human being should desire and wish for. He had never forgotten the remarks the old gentleman made to him on a special occasion a short time before he died, and he (Bro. West) gathered from it that Masonry was founded on a sure and firm basis, and seeing that he had to go in the world he thought it would be a nice thing to be a Mason and to know the people with whom he had to do. He had never been able to know these people so much as he had that night, and he felt already now that he had gone through a portion of the ceremony safe, and very pleased that he had had the privilege of joining a body who met together as brothers, especially in connection with the special line of life which he followed. This must make them feel a deeper interest in each other than they had felt heretofore. Being isolated as they were they felt they would like to know each other better than they had. He did not know whether he was going astray, as he was young in Masonry; but he could not help expressing himself although in a very rude and rough way, because he did not expect to be called upon to say anything. Still, he could not help expressing his feelings and how much indebted he was, not only for the brotherly kindness he had received that evening and before hand. He hoped and trusted that Bro. Martin and himself would strive to make themselves efficient. He was very anxious already to know what all the stars and stripes, and diamonds, and collars, and everything the brethren wore meant, and he felt that he and Bro. Martin were very desirous of getting some of them upon them. Bro. Trewby wished that when he was at Constantinople he had had an opportunity to join the Freemasons. All his friends there were Masons, but he was at that time only nineteen years of age, and he did not like to tell them he was so young. He held a very good position there, but it would have added very much to his enjoyment of the country if he had joined a Masonic lodgt. Now that he had joined he should make up for lost time, and prove himself worthy of being admitted to the Order. Bro. James Glaisher proposed "The Health of the W.M." The brethren were all exceedingly anxious about his health. At the consecration of the lodge he was ill, but he had been to the seaside for sometime, and when he came back to London he said he was a good deal better. The brethren hoped that that better health would continue, and become better and better. The toast having been enthusiastically honoured, the W.M. replied, and said this was the first occasion that he had had the pleasure of meeting the brethren at banquet, where they could give utterance to their sentiments as they had been able to do that evening, since the memorable occasion when the lodge was consecrated, and when the brethren would remember, he cut rather a sorry figure. (No, no.) He bore up against it as well as as long as he could, but he was obliged through positive suffering to leave at last. As Bro. Glaisher had said, he went out of town, and he hoped by the care he had taken of himself since, he had laid the foundation of better health. The brethren could not imagine how much he regretted being ill on the occasion of the consecration, because anything like that on the inauguration of a new era, threw a damper on the brethren, and was not consonant with those agreeable feelings which the brethren should then have. But the brethren were all very kind

and gracious to him then, and he was sure they felt, as it had been expressed by the Treasurer and responded to by the brethren that they were very pleased he was among them again. As he had said at the consecration, it was a curious thing that after thirty-five years of Masonry, after having received the honours of Masonry, he should be performing the duties of W.M. of a lodge; but they all knew the cause. They seemed to be looking round for a W.M., and they thought it best to look on the oldest man in the profession of gas engineering in England, or at all events in the Metropolis. He accepted the office, thinking that having made his mark in the profession and having secured a competency in his pocket that it would be ungracious to turn his back on old friends. It was with that view he accepted the office, and he had never regretted it, because he had the brethren's support in the excellent manner in which he knew most of them could perform the ceremonies. He had been supported that evening by Bro. Ohren, who thought that he (the W.M.) would be fatigued if he went through the whole of the ceremonies. It was a very kind offer, and he felt that an offer so kindly made should be accepted. He had also to thank Bro. Sugg who kindly acted as P.M., and Bro. Hartley as S.W. This meeting had been a very happy meeting both in lodge and out of lodge. He had to thank Bro. Treasurer for his kind expressions towards him, and the brethren for adopting those sentiments in the way they had done. The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors" to which Bro. Crombie replied. The W.M. then proposed "The Masonic Institution," and said that no lodge ever separated without drinking to the success of the glorious charities of the Order. The younger members of the Craft were not supposed to know much about them, and therefore we would inform the initiates that Freemasons had three very noble Institutions, the Benevolent Institution the Boys' School and the Girls' School. Bro. J. W. Sugg was steward of another lodge for the Girls' School, and any support to members of this lodge might be disposed to give him he would be very glad to accept. Bro. J. W. Sugg replied and told the brethren that he thought no greater proof of the value of Masonry, not only in its profession, but in its practice, than the Masonic Institutions. There were two sides to everything, and in Masonry there was a pleasurable side in the latter case, and the pleasure consisted in being able to relieve him. On behalf of the charities, he thanked Masonry generally for the noble efforts made for some years past to support the Institutions, when he passed the chair of his lodge, and had a jewel presented to him, he thought, pleasurable as it was, there were something on the other side; if there were pleasure, there was suffering; and if there was suffering, he ought to do something for its relief. He could not do it all at once, and therefore he had taken up the cause of the Girls' School. He became Steward for the lodge of which he had been the Master, and he hoped for the support of the brethren of the Evening Star Lodge, which would be thankfully received and faithfully applied. The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," to which Bro. James Glaisher responded, and the toast of "The Officers," having also been proposed and responded to, the brethren separated. Bros. Ohren, Combie, and others contributed to the harmony of the evening by singing some capital songs.

WOOLWICH.—Union Waterloo (No. 13).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 9th inst., at the Freemasons, Hall, William-street, Bro. G. W. Reed, W.M., presiding. The following officers were present:—J. Primus Moore S.W.; T. Hutton, J.D.; H. Syer, Sec., N. Brown, S.D.; G. H. Masters, J.D.; T. Hosgood, I.G.; T. E. Hassel, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were H. J. Wetherill, P.M. 166, I.C.; H. Harding, 1536; W. Lacy, 700; J. Davis, 1437; C. Jolly, 913 (Freemason); and others. After raising Bro. Akers to the Sublime Degree, the W.M. closed the lodge in due form, and at the refreshment board, Bro. Moore, in the absence of a P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," regretting that it should not have fallen into abler hands, though none could do it more willingly and heartily than himself. Bro. Reed in reply said no one regretted the absence of a Past Master more than he did. Of course they could not expect to see their I.P.M., Bro. Pownall, who was now at Dover, and unfortunately Bro. G. Davies, who was the "backbone" of the lodge, was unavoidably absent. He felt nervous in their absence, and that had prevented him from carrying out the work to his own satisfaction. He was young in the chair yet, but he trusted at their next meeting to be able to get over that feeling. In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," he paid a high compliment to Bro. Jolly for his excellent reports of their meetings in the *Freemason*, and strongly advocated the claims of that paper to their support. In it they would find a rich fund of Masonic lore, that would be of inestimable value to the student, and yet not one word that the most fastidious could find fault with, so far as regarded the exposure of their secret arts to the uninitiated. (Applause.) For himself he was always glad to see it on his table, and his friends and family perusing it, for in it one of the most beautiful articles he has ever read had shown what a "Freemason" really was. He alluded to one entitled "What is a Freemason," in the last issue? and advised them all to read it. Bro. Wetherill, who had lately come home from Constantinople, responded, and said he found a little difference in the working here and in the East. He had seen it in Turkish, Armenian, Italian, French, Irish, and Scotch lodges, but whatever the difference the principles inculcated were the same. He then alluded to the action of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and its repudiation of the Grand Orient of France, and said that action would be endorsed by every true Mason. Bro. Jolly as well briefly replied. "The Officers of the Lodge," was responded to by Bro. Hutton, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the business of the evening.

HASTINGS.—Derwent Lodge (No. 40).—The installation meeting of this old lodge was held on Monday, the 14th January, by dispensation, at the New Claremont Rooms, Hastings and St. Leonards Observer office, when Bros. A. R. Croucher, M.D., J.P.; Pro G. Steward, W.M., presided. A ballot was taken for and resulted in favour of Bro. F. Plowman, Lodge 838, Boston, as joining member. Bro. H. F. Crossthwaite having given proof of his proficiency, he retired when the lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Sir Walter W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., accompanied by a large majority of his Prov. Grand Officers, was then announced, and received with the usual honours. The W.M. having offered the gavel to the R.W. P. Grand Master, and that offer having been with his usual courtesy declined, the W.M. then proceeded with the work of the evening, and raised Bro. H. F. Crossthwaite in his wonted admirable manner. The lodge having been resumed to the Second Degree, Bro. T. Trollope, M.A., P.P.G.S.W., P.M., then presented to the W.M. the W.M. elect, who took the usual obligations. The lodge was then resumed to the Third Degree; when the ceremony of installation was performed at the request of the W.M., by Bro. T. Trollope, M.A., P.P.G.S.W., P.M., in his usual effective manner so well known throughout the province. The board of Installed Masters, which numbered twenty-nine brethren, included R.W. P.G.M. Sir W. W. Burrell, the W.D.P.G.M., J. H. Scott, Bros. J. P. Freeman, W.P.G.S.; T. H. Crouch, P.G.J.D.; G. A. Wallis, P.G.S. of Works.; J. M. Kidd, P.G.D.C.; C. Sandeman, P.A.G.D.C.; Alfred King, P.G. Organist; W. S. Nell, P.G.S.; W. S. Farncomb, P.G.S.; T. Trollope, M.D., P.P.G.S.W.; W. Davies, P.P.G.R.; C. W. Duke, P.P.G.S.D.; G. Weller, P.P.G.D.C.; T. H. Cole, M.A., P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Howell, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Lamborn, P.P.G.P.; J. Dorman, P.P.G.J.D.; C. M. Norris, P.M. 40; John S. Terry, P.M. 507; O. N. Wyatt, W.M. 38; G. M. Pragnell, P.M. 310; F. J. Rubie, W.M. 441; S. F. Foat, W.M. 315; A. Whitfield, W.M. 914; C. R. Chandler, W.M. 1184; G. Stone, W.M. 1303; G. B. M. Whinney, W.M. 1466; J. M. Cunningham, P.P.G.S.W. The officers appointed were Bros. W. Gleinster, S.W.; F. Rossiter, J.W.; Rev. A. Hodges, B.A., Chaplain; G. Weller, P.P.G.D.C., P.M., Treasurer; John S. Terry, P.M., Secretary; A. Wells, S.D.; Captain E. W. J. Hennah, J.D.; G. M. Wilkins, I.G.; W. D. Davis, Organist; T. Trollope, M.D. P.P.G.S.W., D.C.; J. Attersol, Tyler. The W.M., in investing the Treasurer, drew attention to the fact of his having been appointed to that office for the 28th time. Bro. T. Trollope, M.D., P.P.G.S.W., P.M., on the proposition of the I.P.M. and seconding of Bro. C. W. Duke, P.P.G.S.D., P.M., was elected unanimously as members on the Prov. Charities Committee to represent this lodge. The jewel voted to the retiring W.M. was then presented, and regret was expressed by the W.M. at the absence, through illness, of Bro. W. Langley, P.M., to whom a similar token of esteem had been voted. "Hearty Good Wishes" to the W.M. and brethren from the unmentioned: J. T. Miller, 19; J. W. Watts, S.W., 507; D. Malpas, 1559; J. H. W. R. Burrell, 1465; E. Valentine, 15; J. B. Sargent, 1184. The W.M. received a telegram from the W.M. of the South Saxon, 311, expressing his regret at not being able to attend. There were also present the following members of the lodge: Bro. A. L. Ward, F. H. Parsons, J. C. Kenwood, S. T. Waston, J. W. Markwick, J. Pearce, T. Hulburd, A. Harwood, F. de B. Cooper, H. J. Goldbold, W. H. Russell, W. L. Vernon, C. G. Nairne, A. W. Elliott, G. S. Grey, C. D. Jones, C. Coleman, T. H. W. Wadd, Rev. J. F. Forbes. Bro. T. Brassey, M.P. for Hastings, unable to attend the lodge, was present at the banquet, which took place at the Castle Hotel.

PENZANCE.—Mount Sinai Lodge (No. 121).—A meeting of this lodge was held last week, when Bro. H. Kinsman was installed as W.M. by Bro. Boase, P.M. The Board of Installed Masters included Bros. R. Lovell, J. Maxwell, and I. Levin, Past Masters of 121; F. Beringer, F. Jeffrey, jun., W.M. 318; and G. B. Pearce, I.P.M. 318. After installation the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. Lovell, I.P.M.; J. J. Taylor, S.W.; A. O. Michell, J.W.; Rev. R. W. Aitken, Chap.; C. Read, Treas.; J. Lovell, Sec.; G. H. Small, S.D.; F. Holman, J.D.; M. Sampson, I.G.; T. Reynolds, D.C.; N. Jenkins, S.S.; T. Palmer, J.S.; and R. Reynolds, Tyler. The banquet was held in the evening at the Western Hotel.

TRURO.—Lodge of Fortitude (No. 131).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held last week, and was attended by a large number of brethren desirous of paying respect to the W.M. elect, Bro. William J. Hugan, P.M., P.S.G.D., England, whose researches in Masonic lore have obtained for him renown, not only in England, but in the United States and other parts of the world, and whose works have been translated into several languages. At the opening of the lodge Bro. E. Edwards, W.M., presided, and the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Thomas Chirgwin, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., (Mayor of Truro), who installed Bro. Hugan in the Master's chair in 1868. The Board of P.M.'s included Bros. W. Lake, P.P.G.R.; R. John, P.P.G.D.C.; W. J. Johns, P.P.G.R.; J. R. Crewes, and J. T. Tillman, all of 131, together with Bros. John Thomas, 589, Redruth; J. R. Collins, P.P.S.B. 339, Bodmin; W. F. Sharp, 331, Truro; W. H. Jenkins, P.P.G.S.W. 331; S. Serpell, P.P.G.R. 331; and F. W. Dobb, P.R.J.G.W. 589. After the installation, the W.M. appointed and invested Bros. E. Edwards, I.P.M.; J. H. Sampson, S.W.; J. C. Furniss, J.W.; T. Chirgwin, P.M., Treasurer; W. Porter, Secretary; R. Lean, S.D.; S. Richards, J.D.; H. Toopce, Organist; J. A. McKinsey, D.C.; W. B. Morriss, I.G.; J. Langdon, Tyler. Bro. S. Holloway, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., was appointed Steward to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. The banquet was held at the Red Lion Hotel, and sixty brethren sat down to it. Amongst the guests besides those

mentioned were the following:—Bros. Sir James Hogg, Bart., M.P., 53 (Royal Sussex); E. T. Carlyon, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Tweedy, P.P.G. Treasurer; J. F. Hooper, S.W. 699; J. Wallace, S.W. 75; Rev. W. F. Fry, P.P.G.C. (Rutland); and J. Jeffery, J.W. 331. The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Queen," mentioned the fact that her Majesty had nearly 200 votes for the Masonic Charities.

NEWPORT.—(Isle of Wight) Albany Lodge (No. 151).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall on the 3rd inst., for the installation of Bro. D. S. Pring, S.W., the Worshipful Master elect for the ensuing year. There was a very good muster of the brethren. The ceremony of the installation was ably and impressively performed by the W.M., Bro. J. Parkes. After the ceremony the W.M., appointed the following brethren as his officers: Bros. J. Parkes, I.P.M.; H. E. M. Hughes, S.W.; J. Golden, J.W.; George Wyatt, P.M., Treas.; J. White, Sec.; the Rev. Watts, P.M., Chap.; B. W. Tilley, S.D.; C. O. Harris, J.D.; R. B. Chiverton, P.M., D.C.; F. W. Beach, I.G.; C. King, Organist; H. T. Dashwood, Tyler; Lock and Ross, Stewards. The brethren subsequently adjourned to Bro. T. E. Bull's Warburton Hotel, where they sat down to an excellent banquet. The W.M. presided, supported by his officers. About 45 brethren were present.

RYDE.—East Medina Lodge (No. 175).—The W. Master elect of this lodge, Mr. George Pack, was installed on Wednesday, Jan. 16th, in the presence of a large attendance of its own members, and those from the neighbouring lodges. Bro. F. Newman, P.M., acted as installing Master in his usual impressive manner. The following brethren were appointed by the W.M. as his officers for the year: Bros. J. Lowe, S.W.; W. T. Brook, J.W.; F. Newman, Treas.; F. Carter, Sec.; A. P. Wilkes, S.D.; E. P. Padden, J.D.; B. Marvin, D.C.; E. Groves, I.G.; A. Alyward, Org.; M. Willis, Tyler; F. Jones, Trewin, and Smith, Stewards. At 5.30, the brethren sat down to a most excellent banquet at the Royal Pier Hotel, and the way in which Bro. Barnes had catered, was heartily appreciated by all. After the banquet the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and a pleasant evening was passed.

WINDSOR.—Etonian Lodge of St. John (No. 209).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Windsor, on Saturday, the 5th inst. Present: Bros. C. D. Hume, P.G.S., W.M.; Roberts, P.G.S., S.W.; E. Schiemann, J.W.; Wilson, P.M. Treas.; Carter, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Sec.; Pears, J.D.; Cousins, I.G.; Tolley, P.M. Organist; Evans, S. Reid, P.M.; Dixon, P.P.G.D.C., P.M.; Denne, P.M.; Stedwell, P.M.; Cockburn, P.M.; Bryett, P.G.S. of Works, P.M.; Briggs, P.M.; and a large number of the members of the lodge. Visitors: Bros. Sir D. Gooch, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of the Province; Col. Burdett, Provincial Grand Master of Middx.; Bradley, Prov. G. Sec.; Biggs, P.P.G. Sec.; Scott, W.M. 771; Terry, 241; Smith, 574; Simmons, P.M. 902; Bancebrook, 177; Hardy, 190; Cox, J.W. 1566; Bolton, 1566; T. Bryett, 834; Barton, 771; Cole, 742; Elsam, W.M. 201; Burrell, P.M. 1446; Swallow, P.M. 381; Read, P.M. 511; Nash, P.M. 865; Needham, P.M. 865; Cantrell, S.D. 771, and P.M. 1501; Johnson, 771; Fleck, J.W. 771; Davey, 1566. After the Auditors' balance sheet had been presented and received, the W.M., Bro. C. D. Hume, installed Bro. E. Schiemann as W.M. for the ensuing year, who afterwards invested the following brethren as officers in the lodge, Bros. Roberts, S.W.; Wilson, P.M. (re-invested) Treasurer; Carter, P.M. (re-invested) Secretary; Pears, S.D.; Cousins, J.D.; Tolley, P.M. Organist; Evans, I.G.; Dixon, P.M., D.C.; Dick Radclyffe, A.D.C.; Andrews and Apted, Stewards; Kent, Tyler. The ceremony of installation (including the addresses) was done in Bro. Hume's well known style. The first official act of the W.M. was to invest the I.P.M. with the usual P.M. jewel. The Secretary read letters of apology from Bros. Gen. Brownrigg, Provincial Grand Master for Surrey; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, and the Rev. J. P. Purey Cust, the new D.P.G. Master of the province, who were unable to attend. Four candidates for initiation and two joining members were proposed, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to the White Hart Hotel, where the banquet was served, at the conclusion of which the usual toasts were proposed. In addition to the usual floral and fern decorations there were placed on the tables some splendid displays from the artistic establishment of Bro. Dick Radclyffe, of High Holborn, who "worked" up a variety of very appropriate and novel designs in exotics and other choice flowers; amongst them the Square, Level, Plumb-rule, Five Points of Fellowship, Square and Compasses, &c.; the beauty and exquisite designs of which were a source of much admiration and praise. The Worshipful Master, in giving the toast of "The Queen and Craft," said: In the royal borough of Windsor he could add little in admiration of the virtues of the royal lady whose name was first in the loyal love of the Craft. The W.M. next gave "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England, and the rest of the Royal Family." They had a Royal Prince, their future King, at the head of the Craft, who shed a lustre upon their Order; while his brother Princes were also with the Craft, and taking as much interest in them as their elder brother had done. He sought their enthusiasm for the toast. The W.M. asked especial honour for the toast of "The Most Worshipful the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Officers of Grand Lodge of England," with which he coupled the honoured name of Bro. Col. Burdett, P.G.M. Middlesex. Colonel Burdett expressed the great pleasure it afforded him to be present that evening, and he thanked the W.M. for the honour of associating his name with the toast. His heart had ever been with the brotherhood of Freemasonry, and he was no stranger to the Etonian Lodge of St. John. He had been greatly impressed with what he had witnessed that evening in the mother lodge of the province; and it

was simple justice to the I.P.M. to say how pleased he was at the unexceptionable manner in which he had conducted the installation. He had never seen better, from first to last, than the working of the I.P.M. He had set an example that would be well to follow; but it would be difficult to excel. It gave him the utmost pleasure to respond to the toast. (Cheers.) The W. Master said the next toast, he felt assured, would be received with the utmost pleasure and acclamation—"The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Daniel Gooch." (Loud applause.) He had not the eloquence to do justice to the talents and qualifications of the Provincial Grand Master of the royal borough and county; but he could put it in a homely phrase, which would go to their hearts, when he said they had "the right man in the right place." (Loud cheers.) He asked them to drink the toast in bumpers. Sir D. Gooch thanked them sincerely for the heartiness of their feeling towards him, as expressed in their manner of drinking their toast. It was a great pleasure for him to be with the Etonian Lodge that evening, and to see what there was in the Etonian Lodge; the wisdom of charge as applied to the Etonian Lodge was apparent; and showed the advantage of having a lodge of their own. All he had seen that night was excellence itself. If he were to tax his energies and talk for a month, not knowing when to leave off when he once started, he could say no more than that the work of that evening was admirable, and to the utmost creditable in its excellence, and gave character to the Etonian Lodge. (Cheers.) He always spoke with sincerity and openly. He had been asked a question as to the desirability of the division of the two Provinces of Bucks and Berks, as had been proposed. To that he was going to answer openly that he had no sympathy with the proposed change, which he could not think would prove wise or advantageous. There were in all, only sixteen lodges in the two counties, nine in Berks, and seven in Bucks. Did they think sixteen lodges in all, too many for the united province, and was it prudent or desirable to divide them? Was sixteen too many, that they should cut them in two? ("No, no.") He could not help holding the opinion that the proposition was a mistake. He had an objection to putting every Mason in purple. He had always felt, both in Berks and Wiltshire, that they should make purple a mark for zeal, energy, and Masonic excellence. It should be the fitting honour for good service; and go only to men who had done services to deserve it. If they had very small provinces, it would be difficult to get on without the indiscriminate extension of purple. Berks and Bucks had worked satisfactorily and well together; and they were not too strong in character to warrant them in dissolving the bond. (Hear, hear.) They had been enabled to organize a system of charity that had not been surpassed. He felt sorry, therefore, at the step taken, because he considered it a source of weakness. He should not himself take any active personal part against what had been proposed, but those who had taken such steps, were aware he was not with them in the matter. He had but one object in view, and that was for the prosperity and good of the Craft. If they thought the prospect a wise one, not one word from him would be urged against their wishes. When asked his opinion, as he probably might be, by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, he should reply as candidly as he had spoken that night. The settlement laid amongst themselves, and whatever they decided, would have his hearty good wishes. He thanked them sincerely from his heart, and he hoped on many future occasions to meet the brethren of the Etonian Lodge (loud cheers). The W. Master gave "The Provincial Grand Officers of the Province, Past and Present," and associated with it the name of Bro. Bradley. Bro. Bradley returned thanks. P. M. C. E. Hume called upon the company to charge their glasses, and drink with him all the honour they could give the W.M., Brother E. Schiemann. It was his duty for the first time to propose what might be said to be the toast of the evening, the health of the W.M. of the Etonian Lodge. Time was on the wing, and the clock told menacingly against long speeches. He was not gifted with oratory, but he could say that the lodge had in Brother Schiemann "the right man in the right place." He knew that was second hand, because the W.M. had also applied those words elsewhere; but still they were words of truth. In Bro. Schiemann the Etonian Lodge possessed one who during his year of office would set an example that would be worthy of following by those who succeeded him. He regretted his poverty of language prevented him applying more strength to his wishes in asking them to cordially accept from him the toast of their Worshipful Master. The W.M. scarcely knew how to thank Bro. Hume for the kind manner in which words expressed, or the brethren for the heartiness of its reception. He knew he did not deserve so much from them, but he would strive to deserve it. The present was the proudest moment of his life. Though a foreigner they had always taken kindly to him. There was a little prejudice in England against foreigners (no, no)—except Freemasons. Freemasons were spread all over the world, and they were a band of united brothers, and knew nothing about "foreigners." As had been said, time was on the wing, and he could only promise he would try to prove by deeds how much he esteemed the proud position they had placed him in that night. (Cheers.) The W.M. said he would put the two next toasts together, "The Past Masters of the Etonian Lodge," and couple with it "The Name of the I.P.M., Bro. Hume." Bro. Hume returned thanks in a short and terse speech. He thought he should not have come that night if he had known he would have had to listen to the many kind things that had been said of him; he, too, felt the high honour in which he had been placed in returning thanks for the Past Masters of the Etonian Lodge. It was the

unity in the Etonian Lodge that made them strong, and got them all on so well together (hear, hear), for all the Past Masters took the greatest interest and gave their help. He regretted his poverty of language prevented his better expressing his thanks; but if he was poor in thanks, such as he had he gave to them most heartily. (Loud cheers.) Some other toasts followed, but the train to London being just due, the meeting was virtually closed with the last toast. The musical talent of Messrs. Folley, Bolton, and Cox, added very considerably to the evening's enjoyment.

HELSTON.—Lodge True and Faithful (No. 318).—The members of the lodge celebrated the annual festival of St. John the Evangelist, last week. The brethren assembled at the Masonic Rooms, at 1.30 p.m., when the lodge was opened in due form. Two candidates for the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry were then accepted, and initiated in the First Degree. The ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. J. Jeffery, S.W., was then ably and impressively performed by Bro. Joyce, W.M., assisted by Bros. A. J. Grant, P.M. and H. Trembath, P.M. Bro. Jeffery, after expressing his appreciation of the high honour conferred upon himself, invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bro. T. J. Joyce, I.P.M.; R. Sedgman James, Senior Warden; W. Wearne, Junior Warden; Rev. W. H. Bloxome, M.A., P.P.G.C., Chaplain; T. N. Curry, P.P.G.S.D., Treasurer; J. Q. James, P.M., Secretary; R. Arthur, Senior Deacon; Josiah Rowe, Junior Deacon; W. E. Lukies, D. of Ceremonies; J. Willey, Organist; J. Moyses Pascoe, Inner Guard; W. Ellis and R. Dunstan, Stewards; Richard James, Tyler; H. Trembath, P.M., Steward of Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. The brethren then adjourned to the "Angel" Hotel, where an excellent banquet was prepared and served by Bro. Dawe. The usual Masonic toasts were enthusiastically drunk, interspersed with songs, &c., and a pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present. The visiting brethren were Bro. Jas. Lovell, jun., No. 121, and Bro. Stephens, from Pennsylvania.

SANDBACH.—Samaritan Lodge (No. 368).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the George Hotel on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at two o'clock p.m. The W.M., Bro. H. Makin, was supported by his officers and above thirty brethren, including Bros. G. W. Latham, P.G.D. of England; J. Tomlinson, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C.; John Bowes, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. C. and W.; J. R. Tomlinson, P.M.; Gilbert, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Rev. Lunt Jones, S.W., W.M. elect, and others. The lodge was opened in due form, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when two brethren claimed preference, and in due time were raised. The lodge was lowered, when Bro. Bowes was invited to act as Installing Master, and having taken the chair, the W.M. elect, Bro. Jones, was presented and duly installed, according to ancient custom. After labour the brethren went to refreshment, and spent a pleasant evening.

BATH.—Lodge of Honour (No. 379).—The first meeting under the new officers was held on Monday, January 14, at the Masonic Hall, at 8 p.m., but unfortunately, several of them were unavoidably absent. The lodge was opened by Bro. H. Culliford Hopkins, W.M., supported by Bros. Dr. Henry Hopkins, P.P.G.S.W., as I.P.M.; F. Wilkinson, W.M. 41, as S.W.; Dutton, P.M. 885, as J.W.; H. Gore, P.M. and Treasurer; Johnson, Secretary; Rev. Sanderson, J.D.; Davis, P.M. and I.G. Loder, P.M.; Gazzard, Tyler; several members; and as visitors, Bros. Beckett, P.M. 906; Wats, P.M. 855; Peach, 41; W. Baldwin, 41. The minutes having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bro. Lyell as a joining member, and Mr. R. B. Stewart as a candidate for initiation, which, in each case, was unanimously favourable. The Treasurer read the financial report, as examined and passed by the Auditors, which was adopted. Bro. Dr. H. Hopkins then took the W.M.'s chair, and initiated the candidate, also explaining the symbolism of the working tools and giving the charge. The W.M. resumed his chair, and though he had intended to give the lecture on the first Tracing Board, for several reasons deferred it till the next meeting. Other business was transacted, a vote of thanks to the visitors was passed, especially to the brother who had officiated in the ceremony, and the lodge was closed at 10 o'clock.

BANGOR.—St. David's Lodge (No. 384).—The annual installation meeting of the members of this ancient lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 15th inst., at the lodge-room, Bangor, Bro. John Ellis, P.M. St. Cybi, being installing officer. The following brethren were installed:—D. Wynn Williams, W.M.; A. McMillan, I.P.M.; W. Jarvis, S.W.; D. Cameron, J.W.; Ellis Roberts, S.D. and Sec.; W. E. Thomas, J.D.; John Jones, S.S. and Org.; M. Roberts, J.S.; R. Owen, Treas.; W. Jones, P.M.; Tyler. After the closing of the lodge, a banquet took place at the Castle Hotel, the W.M. presiding. The visitors included Bros. J. S. Boucher, P.G.C. P.M. 606; Tysilio Johnson, P.M. 1013, 755; J. Salmon, P.P.G.J.W.; T. Coxhead, J.S. 1671; L. H. Aronson, 906; Banks, P.P.G.S.W.; and others.

SPALDING.—Hundred of Elloe Lodge (No. 469).—It is many years since, if ever, such a large gathering of the fraternity has been witnessed in the "good old town of Spalding," as that which assembled last Thursday week to do honour to Bro. G. F. Barrell, who was then installed W.M. of this ancient lodge. After reading the minutes, Bro. Woodrow, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., raised Bro. Edmund Cammack to the Sublime Degree of M.M., and in the hands of this gifted exponent of the ritual of Masonry it would be difficult to imagine anything more impressive. Indeed, nearly the whole of the lodges in the south of the province have been indebted to Bro. Woodrow at one time or other for most eloquent rendering of all the ceremonies of the Craft, and he is thoroughly looked to as the standard of perfection to which every

working brother in the province should strive to attain. Bro. Harmstone, the Organist of the lodge, most effectively rendered appropriate music in this and the subsequent ceremonies, thus much increasing the interest and solemnity. The lodge being reduced to the First Degree, the W.M., Bro. Jas. Robinson (who has laboured hard during his Mastership to render accurately all the ceremonies he has performed) initiated Mr. J. R. Capps, and the lodge being again raised the installation ceremony proceeded. It was understood that Bro. J. Terry, P.M. 228, P.G.D.C., Herts, and Sec. R.M.B.I., would officiate as Installing Master, and additional interest was thereby excited in the proceedings, and no brother, be his rank or Masonic experience what it may, could have been disappointed. Throughout the whole ceremony not a word escaped without its proper effect, and Bro. Terry held the breathless attention of the lodge—a silence at times almost painful. The Board of Installed Masters numbered no less than twenty-four—a number rarely, if ever, congregated at a private lodge in this province. On the re-admission of the brethren, the W.M. invested his officers as follows, addressing at the same time a few most telling and well-chosen words to each, viz:—Bros. J. Robinson, I.P.M.; Marten Perry, S.W.; J. F. Symes, J.W.; Fountain, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treasurer (for the eleventh time); Giles W. Ham, Secretary; J. Laming, S.D.; J. Benner, J.D.; Woodrow, P.M., P.P.G.J.D., D.C.; J. T. Harmstone, Organist; A. Harrison, I.G. The I.G. was also invested with a new and very handsome sword, which the W.M. presented to the lodge in addition to the other furniture. The lodge was then called off for refreshment, and loving cups were for a few minutes passed freely round. On labour being resumed, the newly-installed Master addressed the brethren, thanking them for having raised him to the proud position of their Master, asking their help and co-operation in carrying out the work of the lodge, claiming their patience towards himself, and urging punctuality throughout the coming year. The W.M. also dwelt upon Bro. Terry's great kindness in coming down to install him, and expressing the thanks of both himself and the brethren for the great treat they had had in the ceremony so ably performed. Bro. Terry replied, assuring the lodge that no one could be more gratified than himself in being present on so interesting an occasion, and after a unanimous vote of thanks had been proposed by the I.P.M., to the W.M., for his liberal presentations to the lodge, it was closed in form by the W.M. The brethren then adjourned to the Corn Exchange, where a sumptuous banquet had been provided by Bro. Harper. The table was decorated with a very beautiful collection of hothouse ferns and plants in pots, as well as cut flowers from the fine collection of the W.M., who is known as one of the most enthusiastic and able amateur horticulturists in Lincolnshire. The labours of the "knife and fork degree" being ended, grace, "To Thee Alone," was beautifully sung by Bros. Montem Smith, T. G. Carter, and Theodore Distin, whose talents in this line are so well known throughout the kingdom, and who contributed very materially to the enjoyment of the evening. The W.M. then gave "The Queen and the Craft," and followed by "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Pro G.M., and the D.G.M.," "The Prov. G.M., the D. Prov. G.M., and Present and Past Provincial Officers," to the latter of which Bro. Vise responded, endorsing the remarks respecting the officers of the province, and regretting the absence of the D.P.G.M., whom he had hoped to entertain as his guest. Bro. Harrison, I.G. 469, then gave "The Past Masters," considering that by their counsels, experience and ready help they constitute almost the backbone of the entire system, and Bro. Fountain, P.M. 469, in responding on behalf of the Past Masters, assured the brethren and the W.M. that they would be ever ready to give every assistance in promoting and establishing the science so dear to them all. He trusted that the ancient customs and time-honoured observances would ever be preserved, and especially in the Hundred of Elloe Lodge. Bro. Woodward, P.M. 469, in giving "The W.M." said: "I am sorry I feel quite incompetent to discharge the duty of proposing this toast in any way acceptable to you, with satisfaction to myself or the person to whom it alludes, and although, my brethren, admitting my inability, still on looking down the toast list I see none that requires so few words from the proposer as the one allotted to me. The toast is that of our esteemed and respected W.M., who has this day been installed as our presiding officer for the year, and who I trust will sit most comfortably in the honourable position in which he has been placed by the unanimous vote of the lodge. Yes, brethren, I have the greatest pleasure in proposing the toast, because I believe we have got the right man in the right place, and, if you will allow me the expression, the round peg in the round hole this time. In his election we have had no heartburnings, no casting vote—I have heard of no resignations, but everything has gone 'as happy as the marriage bell,' and my earnest hope and belief is that under our Master the Hundred of Elloe will have a most joyous, most happy, and prosperous year. In our W.M. we have one who is not only respected in our order, but he is one who has the confidence of a very large portion of the citizens of his native town. Very pleasing must it have been to him a short time back, in the building in which we now are, to see the forest of hands held up for him on his being elected to a most important post in carrying out the law for the better education of the rising generation. Yes, we have in our W.M. one who has the tact, the ability, the energy, the will, and the determination to make anything go to which he sets his hand. In him we have a brother who is able to acquit himself with honour and credit to the lodge he represents, no matter how high in social rank they may be into whose company the duties of his office may lead him, and whilst he is able to rub shoulder to shoulder with my Lord Duke or with the Very Rev. the Bishop, we know full well he has the gen-

tlemanliness to hold out the right hand of fellowship to the poorest and most unfortunate Mason that may cross his path. I might go on to speak of his kind and open-hearted generosity, of the debt we owe to him for the handsome way in which he has, at great expense and loss of time beautified and adorned the temple in which we meet, but this has been patent to you all. I therefore ask you to drink in a bumper, health and prosperity to our W.M. with all the enthusiasm it deserves." The toast was received with loud and long-continued cheers. The W.M. expressed his thanks for the honour done him, and said he feared when Bro. Woodward's name was placed to this toast that his partiality might lead him to say much more than was deserved, or than a strict interpretation of language would justify (cries of no, no). He could only say that no effort should be wanting on his part to conduct the lodge according to the purest principles of ancient Freemasonry; no innovations would be attempted under his rule, and if in any minor particulars the lodge had departed from that standard, he should attempt ruthlessly to pull it back again. He hoped the lodge would increase in all the Masonic virtues, for he believed that was the true strength of a lodge, and though new members might be desirable, he would rather see a small lodge of Masonic Masons than a large lodge of unmasonic brethren. In his opinion a man is a Mason in heart and life before his initiation, as he could not imagine that merely going through the ceremony worked a magic change in motives and actions, and great care should therefore be exercised in the selection of candidates at the beginning. The W.M. resumed his seat amid prolonged cheering. Bro. Woodrow, P.M. 469, P.P.G.J.D., then proposed "The Retiring W.M. and Officers." The I. P.M. responded on behalf of himself and officers, thanking the brethren for all their help and confidence, and the officers for their ready co-operation during the past year, assuring them of his undiminished interest in all the affairs of the Craft. "The Other Lodges in the Province," "The Visiting Brethren," "The Newly-initiated," "The Charities," "The Ladies," "The Tyler's toast," were also proposed and suitably acknowledged. Bro. Terry in the course of an eloquent response to "The Charities" touching most feelingly on the irreparable loss the province and the Craft had sustained in the death of Bro. Sutcliffe. Bros. M. Smith, Distin, and Carter continued to entertain the brethren with their vocal powers, as also did Bros. Woodrow and Bolton, to the great delight of all present, and thus terminated certainly the most numerous attended gathering that has taken place in the "Hundred of Elloe."

BIRKENHEAD.—Mersey Lodge (No. 477).—The annual installation meeting of the members of the above lodge, perhaps the strongest in the province of Cheshire, took place on Thursday afternoon, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Argyle-street, Birkenhead. Bro. W. Pulford, W.M., occupied the chair at the opening of the lodge, and his position was subsequently taken by Bro. Samuel Jones, P.M., Secretary, who initiated two candidates. Bro. Pulford at the conclusion of this ceremony, again took the chair of K.S., and very efficiently installed Bro. John Dutton as the W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The following were the officers appointed elected, and invested: Bros. W. Pulford, I.P.M.; T. Brown, S.W.; W. Bennett, J.W.; D. Fraser, P.M., Treas.; S. Jones, P.M., Secretary (for the fourth time); J. Woolley, S.D.; E. K. Gardiner, J.D.; F. Thompson, I.G.; G. Dicken, D.C.; E. Gross, Organist and S.S.; W. Hopkins, J.S.; G. Lloyd, A.S.; H. Scaman, A.S.; and Ottoway, Tyler. The retiring W.M., Bro. Pulford, was presented with a P.M.'s jewel in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge, and a letter was read during the evening from Bro. Lord De Tabley, Prov. G.M., expressing regret at inability to attend in consequence of other business.

ST AUSTELL.—Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 496).—The annual meeting of this prosperous lodge was held in the New Masonic Hall—a very neat little structure and well-proportioned—close to the County Court—on Tuesday the 8th inst. About twenty or thirty brethren were present, including Bros. T. J. Smith, W.M.; W. Mason, S.W.; Rev. F. B. Paul, P.P.G.C.; E. G. Dyke, P.P.G. Org.; W. Eny, P.P.G.D.C.; and C. Truscott, P.P.G.S.B. Visiting brethren: Revs. G. Ross, P.M., 1121, P.P.G.C.; F. Williams, P.M.; W. H. Durant, W.M. of No. 977; and Bros. N. Lamb, P.M. 977; J. Stephens, P.M. 1151; W. P. Smith, W.M. 856; Emra Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.R., and P.P.G.C., Suffolk. The ordinary business of the lodge having been transacted Bro. Mason, who had been previously elected to that honourable position, was installed into the chair of K.S., and duly obligated as W.M., for the ensuing year, the interesting and impressive ceremony being very ably conducted by Bro. Truscott. The Master then appointed the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year: T. J. Smith, I.P.M.; A. White, S.W.; J. Job, J.W.; R. Stephens, S.D.; A. Luke, J.D.; C. Beggs, I.G.; C. G. Pedlar, D.C.; A. Hodge and B. Ousley, Stewards; Rev. F. B. Paul, Chaplain; W. Eny, Treasurer; C. Tozer, Secretary. The lodge having been duly closed in ancient form and with solemn prayer, the brethren adjourned to the White Boar Hotel where an elegant banquet was spread, to which ample justice was done by some five and twenty of the brethren. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair, and the W.M. took occasion to remark that the brethren were specially required to be loyal to the Queen when they remembered she was patron of the Order, and three of her sons held the foremost positions in the Grand Lodge of England. Bro. Ross responded to the toast of the Past and Present Prov. G. Officers, and in doing so passed a very high eulogium on the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, whose heart was so thoroughly in all that concerned the welfare of Masonry. Bro. Emra Holmes proposed the toast of the Installing Master, Bro. Truscott

and spoke in flattering terms of the admirable way in which the installation ceremony had been performed that evening. A number of other toasts followed, including "The Visitors," "Host and Hostess," whose catering on the occasion was warmly eulogised, "The Ladies," and "The Tyler's Toast" brought the formal proceedings to an end. A very pleasant evening was spent. Some of the brethren contributed to the harmony of the evening.

SALISBURY.—Elias de Dereham Lodge (No. 586).—The annual festival of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., when there was a numerous attendance of members and visitors to witness the ceremony of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. T. Norwood, S.W. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. E. Booth, P.P.G.J.G.W. Hants and Isle of Wight. The W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. F. J. Russell, I.P.M.; A. Tucker, S.W.; H. C. Card, J.W.; J. Rumbold, P.M. Sec.; H. Cross, S.D.; W. Haskell, J.D.; Hannen, I.G.; T. S. Fitcher, P.M., D.C.; J. Folbott and Bartlett, Stewards; Silverthorn, Tyler; and Goodridge, Assist. Tyler. Amongst the members present were Bros. Lord H. F. Thynne, M.P., P.S.G.W. England; Blackmore, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. Wilts; Griffin, P.M.; Stoddart, P.M., P.P.G. Purst. Wilts; Powning, P.M. 1373; Booth, P.M., P.P.G.J.G.W. Hants and Isle of Wight, &c. The visitors included Bros. Higgs, P.M.; and Cox, 106; Robbins, 472, P.G. Reg., Dorset; Parry, 195; and Butcher, 892. During the evening Bro. P.M. Blackmore on behalf of the lodge presented a handsome P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Russell, I.P.M., and also to Bro. J. Rumbold, P.M., both of whom returned thanks in a graceful and feeling manner. The annual banquet took place after the closing of the lodge, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and ably responded to.

HOLYHEAD.—Lodge of St. Cybi. (No. 597).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday the 7th inst., in the Masonic Rooms at the Town Hall, Holyhead. In the absence of the W.M. the lodge was opened at 3 p.m. by Bro. John Peters, P.P.G.S.W., supported by the following officers:—Bros. R. J. Edwards, S.W., W.M. elect; W. P. Elliott, J. W.; James Lloyd, Treasurer; Owen Roberts, Sec.; John Weston, S.D.; John James, J.D.; Robert Parry, Organist; and William Jones, I.G. The members present included Bros. John Ellis, P.M.; John Lloyd Griffiths, P.G.S.B.; William Lewis, P.M.; W. R. Jones, John Hughes, R. R. Lewis, A. A. Elliott, E. P. Griffiths, G. Lewis, T. Varian, J. Hazlitt, Thomas Jones, Owen Hughes, Henry T. Barber, H. T. St. Williams, A. L. Williams, J. Jones, E. Evans, S. Rowlands, and William Roberts. The visitors present were Bros. M. Henderson, P.M. 659; Charles Hunter, P.P.G.M. Aberdeenshire East, and P.S.G.W. of Greece, P.M. 755 and 1615; Wm. E. Thomas, J.S. 384; D. Wynn Williams, J.U. 384; W. R. West, 721 and 1477; George J. Hughes, J.W. 1113 and 1488; Samuel Nightingale, J.W. 606; Charles P. Boucher, Treasurer 606; J. Sidney Boucher, I.P.M. 606 W.P.G.C.; T. H. Warrington, W.M. 1113; and W. G. Lewis 1113; W. Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, M.P., D.P.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire, and R. W. Bro. Charles Hunter having been severally announced and introduced to the W.M., and saluted by the lodge according to ancient custom, the W.M. presented the D.P.G.M. with the emblem of power, which he retained until the minutes of the last regular meeting had been read by the Secretary and confirmed. When this had been done, the D.P.G.M. vacated the chair, returning the emblem of power to Bro. Peters. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree, and the W.M. elect (Bro. R. J. Edwards) was then presented by Bros. J. Lloyd Griffith and John Ellis for the benefit of installation. After the usual charges had been read by the Secretary, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree when all the brethren below the rank of Installed Master withdrew. A Board of Installed Masters was then opened, and Bro. Peters, assisted by Bros. G. P. Griffiths, John Ellis, J. Lloyd Griffith, W. Lewis, T. H. Warrington, and J. Sidney Boucher, placed Bro. R. J. Edwards in the chair of K.S. On the readmission of the brethren the newly-elected W.M. was saluted according to ancient form in the several degrees. The Installing Master delivered the charges in the several degrees in his usual impressive and solemn manner. The W.M. then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, and they were duly invested by the Installing Master, namely, W. P. Elliott, S.W.; Owen Roberts, J.W.; James Lloyd, Treasurer; Henry S. Barber, Secretary; John Weston, S.D.; John James, J.D.; Robert Parry, Organist; G. Mawby, and W. R. Jones, Stewards; John Peters, Director of Ceremonies; W. Jones, I.G.; W. Williams, Tyler. "Hearty good wishes" were accorded by P.G. Lodge of North Wales and Shropshire, and P.G. Lodge of Aberdeenshire East, and from Lodges 755, 1615, 606, 659, 384, 1488, 115, 1113, 721, and 1477. The lodge being then closed, the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been provided by Miss Lyall in her usual excellent style. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were ably given and eloquently responded to, interspersed with a few capital songs, finely rendered by some of the brethren. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

NEWPORT.—Isca Lodge (No. 683).—A meeting of this lodge was held on the 16th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Dock-street, where in the absence of the W.M., Bro. W. Parfitt, the lodge was opened by Bro. W. Hitchcox, P.M. After reading the minutes, Bro. Capt. S. Geo. Homfray, P.A.G.D., D.P.G.M. of the province, was received in due form; he then took the chair and passed the lodge to the Third Degree, after which he raised his son, Bro. S. Geo. Homfray, jun., to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. After reducing the lodge, Bro. Walter West was presented for installation as W.M., and the ceremony was performed by the D.P.G.M. in his usual impressive and masterly style. After appointing his officers the

W.M. closed the lodge, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the King's Head Hotel, when a most enjoyable evening was spent.

SEACOMBE.—Combermere Lodge (No. 605).—The annual celebration of St. John's Festival by the members of this lodge, which occupies a prominent position in the province of Cheshire, took place on Thursday, the 17th inst., at the Seacombe Hotel, Seacombe, near Birkenhead. There were altogether about eighty members and brethren present. Bro. Thomas Shaw, the retiring W.M., presided at the opening, and amongst those present were Bros. M. Mc Nerney, I.P.M.; E. Davies, P.M. C. Staley, S.W.; J. Sillitoe, P.G.P.J.D., M., Treas.; T. Gregory, S.D.; R. C. Mellor, P.P.G.J.D., D.C.; J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.W.; H. Williams, P.M. 249 and 1264; W. J. Stanton, W.M. 1289; J. Hindley, S.D.; D. Fraser, P.M. and Treas. 477; W. Bennett, J.W. 477; F. Thompson, I.G. 477; J. Calton, W.M. 477; C. Hennecke, 1370; W. Matthews, P.G.S., J.W. 1276; F. Chesworth, W.M. 1576; A. Morrison, 241; T. C. Jonglum, 477; G. Lloyd, 477; J. Moles 477; T. Dixon, 477; J. Ridehalgh, 1275; J. Lambert, P.M. 537; F. J. Cooper, 43; J. Taylor, P.M. 1276; R. Carr, 249 (N.S.); H. Skinner, W.M. 1276; M. Ellaby, 1276; H. Tabinar, 477; B. Elvis, 477; H. Martin, P.M. 477; W. M. Asher, 477; E. Jones, M. Bielby, J. Clarke, T. Evans, D. Davies, E. H. Harris, S. Williams, C. Bowen and others. After the transaction of some preliminary business, Bro. J. P. Platt, P.P.G.J.D., took the chair, and proceeded to instal Bro. Charles Staley, as the W.M. for the coming year, the ceremony being most admirably performed. The following were the officers appointed and invested:—Bros. Thomas Shaw, I.P.M.; Edward Jones, S.W.; Thomas Gregory, J.W.; Joseph Sillitoe, P.G.J.D., P.M., Treasurer, (re-elected); J. R. Simon, Secretary; R. Foulkes, S.D.; A. E. Coveney, J.D.; F. Lea, P.P.G.S. of W., P.M., D.C.; W. Parry, Organist; G. J. Davies and W. Parry, Stewards; B. F. Kettle, I.G.; and J. Holloway, Tyler. During the afternoon a handsome P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. M. Mc Nerney, P.M., to the I.P.M., Bro. Thomas Shaw, the presentation and acknowledgement being made in exceedingly eloquent terms. An excellent banquet was served by Mrs. Stokes, and during the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed.

LIVERPOOL.—Alliance Lodge (No. 667).—The annual installation meeting of the brethren connected with the Alliance Lodge, No. 667, was held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, on the evening of the 15th inst. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors. Bro. G. S. Willing, W.M., occupied the post of honour, and amongst those present were Bros. J. E. Jackson, I.P.M. P.G.S.; J. Bolton, P.M.; J. Devaynes, P.M.; G. Ockleshaw, P.M.; J. Ellis, S.W.; H. Firth, J.W.; J. W. Gregory, Secretary; T. Peake, S.D.; D. Lloyd, J.D.; A. Bucknall, I.G.; P. Ball, Tyler; James Lees, J. Bond, I. Hall, H. Formby, J. Skeaf, P.G.O.; W. J. Chapman, W.M. 1609; S. Bushnell, T. J. Luya, R. J. Hudson, R. Foulde, R. Derwin, T. Moore, R. Wright, B. Catlow, W. E. Berks, J. Archdeacon, J. Goldie, J. H. Taylor, T. Haslan, J. Cohen, J. Bowyer, R. G. Elman, H. Eve, J. Downey, M. Creak, L. C. Craghill, R. Ellery, J. Catlow, W. Barry, T. Wood, J. S. Gregory, and others. The long list of visitors embraced the names of Bros. B. B. Marson, P.G.S.B.; P. B. Gee, P.M. 1264; A. Cotter, P.M. 1264; J. Holden, 1182; J. T. Callow, P.M. 973 and 1505; W. T. May, P.M. 673; P. W. Oglesby, Sec. 825; H. Burrows, W.M. 673; M. Lofthouse, 478; T. A. Collinson, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Dolbie 1161; W. Ballard, 1391; S. Gore, 1396; W. Marshall, W.M. 1547; J. Walters, 1094; W. Wilson, P.M. 823; W. Ladyman, 1347; J. Nelson, 673; E. Maccabe, 203; H. Pritchard, 1356; F. Shaw, P.M. 823; W. C. Webb, J.W. 1264; and others. Owing to the recent death of Bro. W. Doyle, P.P.J.G.D., who was a P.M. and Treasurer of the lodge, the brethren appeared in Masonic mourning. Bro. G. S. Willings closed his year in the chair by most efficiently initiating one elected candidate. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bro. Willings said the duties of that chair were usually mingled in their character, some of sorrow and some of joy, and that had been his experience during his year's occupancy of it. It was to him a matter of deep regret that his closing act should be one of so painful a nature, not only to himself, but to many other brethren in the lodge. But he should never forgive himself if he quitted that chair without expressing his grief and sorrow, a sorrow and grief which must be felt by every brother, at the loss they had sustained by the sudden and unexpected death of the late Bro. William Doyle. He (Bro. Willings) did not know what steps the lodge would take to perpetuate the memory of their esteemed deceased brother. The calamity had come so suddenly, and had occurred so recently that there had not yet been time to take that point into consideration, although he had no doubt it would be done at an early period, when the W.M., P.M.'s, officers, and brethren would give the subject the consideration which it deserved. But he should be wanting in his duty if he should allow the lodge to proceed to the electing of a successor to Bro. Doyle in his capacity of Treasurer without first marking the high esteem felt for his character, memory, and merits. Indeed, this was a subject upon which his feelings would not allow him to say much. Bro. Doyle was well known and highly respected by all in that lodge and throughout the province of West Lancashire. All who knew him recognised in him a zealous, earnest, and indefatigable Mason. Many present that evening knew him as a warm-hearted and sincere friend, courteous in his manner, generous in nature, and most benevolent in his disposition. His unassuming and gentlemanly address, his affable smile, and the generous warm-heartedness endeared him to every one who came into contact

with him. He (the W.M.) therefore proposed the Secretary be instructed to enter on the minutes of the lodge the members' expression of profound grief at the loss they had sustained in the death of Bro. Doyle, as some mark of the esteem felt for him as a man and a Mason; and also that the Secretary be instructed to write a letter to his nearest surviving relative (a sister), enclosing this minute and conveying the feelings of sympathy of the brethren with her in her affliction. Bro. J. E. Jackson, P.M., P.G.S., who was very much affected, seconded the resolution which was carried unanimously. On the motion of Bro. Foulds, seconded by Bro. Hudson, Bro. T. Ockleshaw, P.M., was elected Treasurer of the lodge, in room of the late Bro. Doyle. The chair in the E. was then taken by Bro. B. B. Marson, P.G.S.B., who in the most efficient and impressive manner, installed Bro. John Ellis as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The following were the officers invested: Bros. G. S. Willings, I.P.M.; H. Firth, S.W.; J. W. Gregory, J.W.; T. Ockleshaw, P.M., Treas.; T. Peake, Sec.; D. Lloyd, S.D.; A. Bucknall, J.D.; R. Foulds, I.G.; J. Bailey, S.S.; L. C. Craghill, J.S.; and P. Ball, Tyler. Owing to the death of Bro. Doyle, the usual installation banquet stands postponed till March.

DEVIZES.—Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity (No. 663).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Town Hall, Devizes, on Tuesday week, the 15th instant. There were present Bros. T. Raymond, W.M.; Dr. J. W. Burman, S.W.; W. H. Burt, J.D.; D. A. Gibbs, P.M., Treasurer; W. Nott, P.M., Secretary; Rev. T. F. T. Ravenshaw, P.M., P.G.C. Eng.; H. J. Ward, P.M.; Thomas H. Chandler, P.M., P.S.G.W. Wilts., and many other members of the lodge, whilst amongst the visitors were Bros. R. de M. Lawson, P.M. 632, P.P.S.G.W. Wilts.; W. Munro, P.M. 326, P.P.G.D.C. Bristol; W. H. Dill, P.M. 906, P.G.P. Somerset; G. F. Tuckey, P.M. 326; Rev. W. C. Lukis, S.W. 837; A. Browne, Secretary 632, and others. The W.M. after opening the lodge, and having had the minutes read and confirmed, announced that since the last meeting he with several members of the lodge had as a deputation from the lodge attended the funeral on the 28th ult. of Bro. Holloway, a P.M. and member of the lodge, and a vote of condolence to his widow on her loss was unanimously passed. The lodge was then opened in the Second Degree by the W.M., who then requested Bro. William Nott, P.M. and Secretary, 663, and P. J. G. W. Wilts., to take the chair. This was done, and Bro. Nott then proceeded according to ancient custom to instal the W.M. elect, Bro. Dr. J. W. Burman, S.W., in the chair of K.S. for the ensuing year, which ceremony being completed, and the brethren re-admitted, the customary salutes were given and proclamations made. The officers were appointed and invested by the W.M., the Installing Master addressing them collectively and individually as to their duties and the manner in which they ought to be performed. The list of officers was as follows:—Thos. Raymond, I.P.M.; T. H. Chandler, P.M. 355, P.S.G. Wilts., S.W.; Harry Howse, J.W.; Rev. H. Richards, P.M., Chaplain; D. A. Gibbs, P.M., Treasurer; W. Nott, P.M., Secretary; W. Day, S.D.; J. A. Randell, J.D.; W. E. Tulford, I.G.; Thos. Waite, P.M., M.C.; G. S. A. Waylen, and W. H. Bush, Stewards; and John Hayter, Tyler. The usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were delivered by the Installing Master. After sundry routine business, letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from many brethren, including one from the D.P.G.M., Bro. Goldney, and another from Bro. Watson Taylor of Erlestoke Park, who at the same time announced that he had sent a supply of venison and game for the banquet. Two new candidates for initiation were proposed for ballot at the next meeting. The alms bag was sent round in aid of the charity fund of the lodge, and the lodge being then closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet at the Crown Hotel. After the banquet the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The W.M. in responding to the toast of his health mentioned that he should shortly be leaving Devizes, but that his idea of the importance of his office was such that he should not make any professional arrangements which would interfere with punctual attendance to his duties during the ensuing year. Bro. Nott took occasion, on being requested to propose the toast of "The Masonic Charities," to remind the brethren that he was going up as Steward for the province to the festival of the Girls' School in May, and solicited the support of the brethren, in consequence of which a considerable number of subscriptions then and there was made to his list.

WOOLWICH.—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, William-street, Bro. S. Waters, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers and Past Masters: A. Woodley, S.W.; J. Warren, J.W.; Past Masters T. Butt, T. Ward, E. Bowles, W. Graham, C. Norman, G. Crawford, and C. Hobson, the latter filling the responsible office of Treasurer; and J. Henderson, Sec.; J. Wilkins, S.D.; W. McCoy, I.G.; G. Beaver, D.C., and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors present were, Bros. G. Spinks, W.M. 1536; E. West, P.M. 1272, 1076, 1327, and P.P.G.S.D. Herts; J. Gaskell, P.M. 1076; E. Lloyd, I.G. 1472; G. Barth, 913; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). A most extraordinary slackness of Masonic work prevails at the present time in Woolwich, and this is the second meeting that this most excellent lodge has gone through its business without an initiate, the only work before it on the present occasion being the raising of Bro. Epsom to the Sublime Degree. After that beautiful ceremony had been rendered in rare form by the W.M., it was decided by the unanimous vote of the lodge that the winter banquet should be held a month hence at Bro. Plaisted's Hall on Anglesea Hill, Plumstead, and a committee was formed to carry out the

wishes of the lodge in that respect. It was then proposed, on the motion of Bro. C. Hobson, that the proceeds of the "Broken Column" gathered that night should be devoted to the widow of the unfortunate Station-master who lost his life on Friday, the 11th inst., at the Royal Arsenal Station in endeavouring to rescue a woman who had fallen upon the rails in front of an advancing train, a task he successfully accomplished, but lost his own life in the noble action, and we are happy to say that the sum of £2 4s. was the response to the call of the W.M. The lodge was then closed, and after the brethren and visitors had partaken of a nice little supper at Bro. Prance's house, the Duke of Wellington, opposite, who as well provided the refreshment in the hall, they re-assembled, and drank the usual loyal and Masonic toasts with eclat. "The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Butt, the I.P.M., in felicitous terms, and met with a very brief response from that brother, who, although a man of great and good deeds, is evidently not given to many words, particularly when it concerns himself. In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. dwelt with a little excusable pride on both the number and influence of the visitors that usually visited the Nelson Lodge. He said it was one that was always welcomed by the brethren of the lodge with enthusiasm. That night they had visitors from a young sister lodge, the Henley, and one of them, Bro. West, was not only one of the old initiates of the Nelson, but was a Past Master of several lodges, and a Past Provincial Officer of Herts, which province he honoured the Nelson Lodge by representing that night. (Cheers.) They had as well the W.M. of the United Military Lodge, a good and worthy Mason, and several brethren of the district lodges. In the name of the Nelson Lodge he gave them a hearty welcome. (Applause.) Bro. West in reply said that was the first time he had visited his mother lodge for the last three or four years. He was initiated in the Nelson Lodge in 1861, and for special reason that he need not now enter into, he had seceded from it, but he should always remember with pleasure his connection with it. (Cheers.) His association with the province of Hertfordshire as one of its P.P.O.'s was a source of gratification to him, but nothing pleased him more than to see around the social board of the Nelson so many old faces who were his brethren years ago of that lodge. (Applause.) Bros. Gaskell, Spinks, Bath and Lloyd, as well responded. Bro. Butt replied for the Past Masters generally, and Bro. Hobson, in a few kindly words, spoke of the long illness suffered by their oldest Past Master, Bro. J. Rowland, who as the father of the lodge, he declared had their warmest sympathy in his long and terrible indisposition. He wished him a speedy relief from his suffering, and a happy return to his brethren of the Nelson Lodge. (Loud Cheers.) "The Officers' Health" was then drunk, and Bro. Woodley replied. A pleasing recognition of the services of our representative then took place, to which Bro. Jolly replied, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the business of the evening.

BRIGHTON.—Royal Brunswick Lodge (No. 732).—On Thursday, at the Royal Pavilion Rooms, Brighton, Bro. Alderman Davey was unanimously elected W.M. of this lodge. There was a very numerous assembly of the brethren, including Bro. the R.W. Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M. of Sussex, and his officers. At the close of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where a sumptuous repast was provided by Messrs. Mutton, the old-established caterers of King's Road, who gave the utmost satisfaction to the company, which numbered in all 100. The W.M., Bro. Davey, presided, supported by his provincial officers, as follows: Bro. J. H. Scott, D.P.G.M.; Bro. J. Dixon, S.W.; Bro. C. P. Henty, J.W.; Bro. H. M. Dewey (Rev.) Chaplin; Bro. H. Crosskey, Treasurer; Bro. V. P. Freeman, Secretary, Bro. Thos. J. Byass, S.D.; T. H. Crouch, J.D.; Bro. G. A. Wallis, Superintendent of Works; Bro. J. M. Kidd, D.C.; Bro. C. Sandeman, A.D., of C.; Bro. G. Marin, S.B.; Bro. A. King, Organist; Bro. W. Rintz, Pursuivant; Bro. W. G. Sharp, Steward; Bro. J. A. Farncombe, Steward; Bro. W. J. Nell, Steward; Bro. F. Holford, Steward. The visitors present included the Mayor of Brighton (Bro. Alderman Mayall); Bros. Alderman Lamb, Martin, Cox, Abbey, and Bridgen; also Councillors E. Martin, W. R. Wood, Hayllar, Nell, W. J. Smith, Bennett, and Soper. There were also present the following members of the lodge: J. Solomon, Immediate P.M.; J. N. Kidd, V. P. Freeman, W. Reed, C. G. Reed, Walter Smith, George Smith, G. Day, S. Martin, E. Carpenter, A. Partridge, H. N. Jenner, G. H. Evershed, J. W. Douglas, Joseph Newham, J. Rutter, E. Hiestead, J. T. Chappell, R. W. Mard, T. Hughes (Tyler). The general company present included Bros. W. R. Wood, jun., J. McWhinnie, F. Willard, W. A. Butt, S. T. Foat, C. G. Reed, P. Capon, J. H. Capon, C. J. Corder, Rose, W. H. Gorman, R. B. Smithers, T. J. Nell, Thos. Wilkinson, W. Marchant, F. Willard, W. Wright, G. de Paris, C. Wren, Jas. Curtis, T. J. Sabine, C. Hudson, Sandeman, F. Tillstone, H. Freeman, Kuhe, Cole, D. Smith, F. Noakes, Cunningham, Dr. Pierpoint, G. Gale, J. Anderson, J. Fabin, G. G. Stone, (Newhaven), J. W. Hughes, Nash, Bennett and others. After the banquet, the usual toasts appropriate to the Craft were given, and "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Davey," was received with the utmost enthusiasm. The Mayor of Brighton responded to the toast of "The Visitors" in a most eloquent speech, and Sir W. W. Burrell delivered a truly ably exordium to the brethren on the duties of Freemasons. During the evening, Bro. Kuhe, P.G.O., favoured the company with one of his exquisite pianoforte performances, and the proceedings were enlivened by some excellent singing by Bros. Soper and Willard. The evenings entertainment passed off with the greatest success.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The regular meeting of this prosper-

ous lodge was held on the 16th inst., at the Royal Sussex Hotel, when there were present: Bros. B. S. Wilmot, W.M.; J. Read, P.M.; W. B. Bacon, S.W.; H. D. Williams, J.W.; J. Bates, Sec.; C. Graham, acting S.D.; J. Burton, J.D.; Dunkely, I.G.; Deadman, Org.; G. Strange, Tyler; Gilbert, Bass, Waterman, Griffiths, Spencer, Farrer, and others. Visitor: Bro. Spencer, P.M. 1063. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. T. Elliot being a candidate for raising, the W.M. put the usual questions, which were answered in a very satisfactory manner, whereupon he withdrew, and the lodge being opened in the Third Degree, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The lodge having been resumed to the First Degree, the ballot was taken for Mr. Montague W. Williams, which proving unanimous, he was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. The ceremonies of both degrees, especially the E.A. charge, being performed in an impressive manner, which drew forth the approbation of the brethren present. As the working of the lodge was nearing its conclusion, the W.M. called the attention of the brethren to the case of a distressed brother, whom P.M. Read had taken a great interest in, and proposed that £5 be taken from the lodge funds next meeting. There being no other business before the lodge, it was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent repast, and at its conclusion the usual toasts were given and responded to, after which the Tyler's toast, at 10 o'clock, brought the proceedings to a close, the brethren having spent a most enjoyable evening.

FOWEY.—Fowey Lodge (No. 977).—The annual meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, on Monday, the 7th inst., when there were present a large number of members of the lodge, about sixty or seventy attending on the occasion, including Bros. N. Lamb, W.M.; Dr. Davis, P.P.G.J.W.; W. Tonkin, P.M. Visiting brethren: Dr. Le Legh, P.M.; and W. P. Smith, W.M. of the St. Matthews Lodge, Lostwithiel; J. C. Stephens, P.M.; St. Andrew's Lodge, Tywardreath; and others. The lodge having been opened by the W.M., and the minutes confirmed, he resigned his gavel into the hands of Bro. Davis, P.P.G.J.W., who proceeded with the ceremony of initiation, and admitted Mr. Anthony Hanson to the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. Bro. Tonkin, P.M., then assumed the gavel and proceeded to instal Bro. H. W. W. Durant, as W.M. for the ensuing year with the customary ancient formalities. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Percy Davis, S.W.; R. Gould, J.W.; A. Luke, S.D.; J. Walton, J.D.; T. Richards, I.G.; W. Tonkin, Sec.; H. W. Durrant, Treas.; Rev. Dr. Treffy, Chap.; F. Williams, P.M., D.C.; Dr. Davis proposed and Dr. Treffy seconded the nomination that Bro. Emra Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.R. and D.C., Suffolk, should be a joining member of this lodge. The other business of the evening having been disposed of the lodge was closed, and the brethren proceeded to the Commercial Hotel, where a very excellent banquet was served in Bro. Richards' best style. From 40 to 50 brethren were present; the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given from the chair and cordially responded to by the brethren. Bros. Davis and Treffy briefly responded on the part of the Past and Present Prov. Grand Officers. The Rev. Doctor then proposed the toast of the visitors and made some very pertinent remarks as to the great progress of Masonry, the increase of lodges, and large accession of members, and expressed a wish that more care was shown in the selection of candidates. He ended by proposing "the Visitors" in complimentary terms. Bro. Emra Holmes in reply enlarged on the great advantage of brethren visiting different lodges in order to see the different working, to learn as much as possible about Masons and Masonry, and above all, hospitality, for the social bond was the strongest to make friends. He could not help calling attention to the recent action of the Grand Orient of France in eliminating the name of the Supreme Being from their official documents, and thus becoming as it were the supporters of Atheism. He was glad to see the Grand Lodge of Ireland had excommunicated the Grand Orient for this conduct, for they were destroying the landmarks of the Order which distinctly laid down that no stupid atheist could become a Mason. The Grand Lodge of England had also taken action and appointed a committee to consider and report on what the Grand Orient had done, and the *Freemason* of last week stated that the Grand Committee of the Scotch Grand Lodge was also acting in the matter with a view to following the example of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. It was very necessary that we should speak out now lest our enemies should accuse us as well of being atheists. The brethren might rest assured that the fall of Masonry was very near when Masons once forgot there was a God. The sentiments expressed were evidently approved by the brethren. Bro. DeLegh also responded. The toast of the "I.P.M."—proposed by Bro. Tomkin and briefly responded to by Bro. Lamb in a humorous speech—that of the "Installing Master;" the "Wardens," &c., all followed in their proper place, and the brethren enjoyed a very agreeable evening and separated at a reasonable hour.

LIVERPOOL.—Prince of Wales Lodge (No. 1035).—The annual celebration of the Festival of St. John, in connection with this lodge, took place on Thursday, afternoon, the 10th inst., at the Skelmersdale Hall, Westminster-road, Kirkdale, Liverpool, where there was a very large attendance of members and visitors from other lodges. Bro. A. Willis, W.M., opened the lodge in due form, and amongst others present were Bros. J. F. Newell, P.M.; J. W. Turley, P.M., P.P.G.J.D.; G. Sculthorpe, P.M.; J. W. McWean, S.W.; T. McWean, J.W.; G. Morgan, P.M., Treasurer; R. R. Forshaw, Secretary; J. Whaites, S.D.; J. P. Bryan, J.D.; A. C. Forshaw, O.; W. Forrester, I.G.; and H. Cruice, Tyler. C. Bowen, W. Nicholson, G. Mitchell, E. T. Gee, R. Wilson, C. Burchall, R. Seddon, J. Bunting, P.M.; J. Pratt, T. Gardner, T. Ormiston, J. Colderwood, A. Barton, G. D.

Peake, W. Nelson, S. Garden, R. Pritchard, A. Eadon, J. King, N. Rees, J. Curtis, L. Beake, J. Fegan, J. Davies, G. Stephens, M. Warmlesley, W. March, W. Chicken, H. C. Ewing, &c. The visitors present were Bros. J. G. Townsend, W.M. 1086; J. Barlow, 440; J. Lunt, P.P.G.D.C.; J. C. Lunt, P.M. 1086; D. Birrell, 250; C. G. Bryan, J. R. 1313; C. Birch, 203; J. McArthur, P.M. 1086; J. W. Bottomley, J.W. 1675; J. Duncan, S.W. 1473; C. Muirhead, 1473; R. W. Hickson, J.D. 1713; J. W. Burgers, W.M. 1325; R. Davidson, 673; J. H. Bradshaw, S.W. 1325; J. Whalley, 1086; Captain J. Ainscow, 1398; and 371 (S.C.); J. Hocken, P.M., Treasurer, 1505; James Skelly, 675 and 1505; T. Maudesley, 1356; C. Lloyd, 1356; W. T. May, P.M. 673; and 1393; J. Brotherton, 2410; G. E. Hammer, P.M. 1086; T. Daniel 1520; J. J. Durant, 1473; S. E. Ibbes P.P.G.S.B.; T. K. Hughes, P.M. 1013; J. Wells, P.G.S.; J. Ellis, P.M. 1016; T. Berry, P.M. 155; and others. After the minutes had been read, the chair was taken by Bro. J. F. Newell, P.M., who proceeded to instal Bro. J. W. McWean as the W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was most effectively performed by Bro. J. F. Newell, P.M., by whom the charges were also impressively given to the following officers: Bros. A. Willis, I.P.M.; T. McWean, S.W.; R. R. Forshaw, J.W.; G. Morgan, P.M., Treasurer; W. Donkin, Secretary; J. Waite, Assistant-Secretary; J. P. Bryan, S.D.; W. Forrester, J.D.; John Smith, I.G.; W. Nicholson and R. Seddon, Stewards; and H. Cruice, Tyler. The brethren subsequently banqueted in the large dining room of the hall, the catering of Bro. Casey, 1086, being of a satisfactory kind. The W.M., who presided, proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, and during the evening a valuable P.M.'s jewel was presented to Bro. A. Willis, I.P.M., in recognition of services to the lodge. The toast of "The P.G.M. and Officers" was responded to by Bro. S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B., Bro. J. Lunt, P.P.G.D.C., and Bro. J. Wells, P.G.S. Bro. Willis proposed "The Health of the W.M.," who, in responding, assured the brethren that he would use his utmost talent to uphold the position of the Prince of Wales Lodge. An excellent musical programme was given by Bros. J. Barlow, C. Waterson, T. Foulks, A. C. Forshaw, R. N. Hobart, W. Forrester, J. P. Bryan, and C. E. Bryan. Bro. H. Gill, S.S., 1086, again created the greatest enthusiasm by his really artistic performance on the "fairly bells."

LANCASTER.—Duke of Lancaster Lodge (No. 1353).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 17th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Leonard Gate, Bro. F. G. Dale, W.M., in the chair. Bros. Wolfendon, S.W.; Ellershaw, J.W.; Bell, P.M., Treas.; Acton, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Parkes, S.D.; Hartley, J.D.; Cleminson, I.G.; Bell, S.S.; Stork, J.S.; Coulon, I.P.M.; Oglethorpe, Org.; Hartley, P.M.; Heald, P.M.; Taylor, P.M. 1051; J. Simpson, Woods, Beckett, Blizard, Stirzaker, Huthersall, W. Bell, J. Hartley, Huntingdon, Dutton, King, Proctor, Dobson, Drinkall, Richmond, Barlow, Hall (Kirkham), Allison, Tyler. The lodge was opened by the W.M. with solemn prayer, the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, Mr. W. Howson, corn merchant, was balloted for and unanimously accepted. Bros. King, E. Huntingdon, and Dutton were afterwards separately passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M. The working tools were presented by the S.W. The lodge was resumed to the 1st degree, when Mr. Howson was admitted and initiated with the secrets and mysteries of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons by the W.M. The working tools were presented the J.W. Bro. Heald, P.M., then brought forward his motion, of which he had given notice on the previous lodge-night, that ten guineas be voted out of the funds of the lodge to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and the Widows of Freemasons. The motion having been put by the W.M., was carried with acclamation, and Bro. J. D. Moore, P.G.S.B., of England, was unanimously appointed Steward to represent the lodge; after the usual proclamations, which were heartily responded to, the lodge was then closed. The W.M. has decided to call an emergency meeting on the 6th proximo, for the purpose of raising Bros. Lacey and Wilkinson to the sublime degree of Master Masons, it was intended they should have received this degree last lodge-night, but, through unavoidable business, they could not attend. The Choir with the Organist were in attendance, and rendered charming effect to the ceremonies.

INSTRUCTION.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE (No. 1642).—At the last meeting of this lodge, held at the Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-road, Notting Hill, there were present: Bros. Smout, sen., W.M.; Murliss, W.M., S.W. Penn, J.W.; Tettenborough, S.D.; Poulter, J.D.; Spiegel, I.G.; Savage, P.M., Preceptor; Luhtwitz, Bartle, jun., Wood, De Haye, Hatton, and others. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed. The Secretary then read the report of the committee appointed to arrange the Bye-laws, which, after a little discussion by Bro. Wood, were approved of, and ordered to be printed. The W.M. then handed to the Secretary the programme of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge Ball, for distribution amongst the members. By the same we find the committee, presided over by Bro. Penn, W.M., have appointed Friday, the 22nd February, at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, and for double tickets they will charge 16s.; Gentlemen's 10s 6d., Ladies' 7s. 6d., including supper, to be obtained of the Stewards, or Bro. Murliss, P.M., Hon. Sec., 154, Lancaster-road, W.

[Several Lodge reports, which arrived too late to appear in their proper places, will be found on page 52.]

Public Amusements.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—"Fatherland," as the adaption of M. Sardou's celebrated melodrama, "Patrie," is entitled, has been produced at this theatre with considerable success. An adaptation of this play has appeared across the water called "Dolores," and another in the provinces, by the experienced author of "Charles I.," called "Betrayed;" but strange to say, until the present time, no version of this far-famed work has appeared at a West-end theatre. That this drama should have been passed over, in these days when three out of four pieces are taken from the French, is, and has been, a theme for wonder, and Mr. Labouchere is to be highly commended for at last giving all lovers of the drama an opportunity of witnessing M. Sardou's serious masterpiece. True it is, we do not see it in all its grandeur—we miss the final scenes that in the original made the blood run cold, that kept an awe-stricken audience spellbound till the curtain fell on the weird and tragic death of the sensuous heroine by her remorseful paramour; but we must be content with what we can get, and if our mock turtle lacks the richness of the real, nevertheless, perhaps it is more wholesome for our delicate English digestion. To us it appears individually a terrible sacrifice; by M. Sardou doubtless it would be regarded as an unwarrantable sacrilege, and an insult to the Goddess Art. Still we strongly advise our readers to see "Fatherland," for though the giant hath lost a right arm, there still remains vigour and strength enough for a dozen ordinary milk and watery dramas that grace our theatres. The acting is, taken all together, feeble, and the artistes engaged misplaced. With two exceptions no one has succeeded in realising the parts allotted to them. Miss Hodson, one of the most charming comedy actresses we know, who plays or rather trifles with the part of the infatuated wife, should never have undertaken a part so thoroughly unsuited to her. Mr. Billington should have had Mr. Brooke's part, and vice versa. There are however, as we said, two exceptions. The part of the Governor is played by Mr. Herman Vezin in a manner that leaves nothing to be desired—we cannot say more; and secondly, the part of Donna Inez is played by Miss Maud Milton, a young lady almost new to the stage, so ably, that she fairly surprised us. We had seen her previously when playing Juliet to Mr. Conway's Romeo, and in some minor character in "The Wandering Heir," and in both parts she pleased us considerably—but by no means so much as she has now in this part. If we are not mistaken she is destined for a successful career. The mounting of the piece is excellent, and altogether we can honestly congratulate Mr. Labouchere on producing the best melodrama that has been produced for years.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Mr. Byron's new comic drama, "A Fool and His Money," was produced on Thursday, the 17th of January, at this theatre, before an appreciative audience composed principally we should think of the author's friends and relations, who went for the sole purpose of applauding, and who it must be admitted fulfilled their mission with Spartan fortitude. But fifty times the applause would fail to make this new comic drama a successful play. For once in a way we will attempt to describe the story upon which Mr. Byron has contrived to hang his three-act farce. In Act the First we are introduced to an old servant of a late Mr. Ransome, "Chawles" by name, at Ramsdale Hall, Sussex. We find that "Chawles" had been woefully disappointed, in not receiving some handsome momentum on the old gentleman's death, as he anticipated and that his services, which had consisted principally in rubbing his master's back and embittering his master's mind against the old gentleman's rightful heir—one Percival Ransome,—has been unrewarded. In default of a will the property had come into the possession of the said Percival Ransome, and "Chawles," who had formerly had his own way, was now more than likely to have a rough time of it with his new master. The heir arrives and is mistaken by "Chawles" for a footman seeking a situation, of course a natural mistake, seeing that the young gentleman was dressed as only a gentleman could dress, and might as easily have been mistaken for the ghost of "Hamlet." Things being explained, everything seems progressing satisfactorily, when of course, as is always the case, the old lawyer, who had previously carefully looked through the legal documents left by the deceased, happens to find a will cutting off the nephew and leaving all to "Chawles." Whereupon "Chawles" becomes the master, and the disappointed heir of course immediately volunteers to become his late servant's valet—we say of course, because an educated gentleman would unquestionably accept the post of a menial. This little episode terminates the first act. In the second, we find "Chawles" at his Welsh retreat, with Percival still as his valet—where Brabazon Vandeleur, Esq., and his fortune hunting daughter have come to pay the owner a visit with no excuse and no invitation. Here another mistake occurs, for "Chawles" is taken for the valet, and "Percival" for the owner, by Mr. and Miss Vandeleur, who, finding out their mistake, proclaims Percival an impostor, and soft-sawder the irate "Chawles," ascertaining however that the owner was once a servant in the kitchen. Mr. Vandeleur seizes hold of "Chawles" by one arm, whilst the incensed Percival lays hold of the other, and the act drop descends on "Chawles" being pulled and pushed like a policeman in a pantomime. In the third act, Mr. Vandeleur, who has made it up on second thoughts, proposes a match between the wealthy "Chawles" and the penniless Kate, but in the meantime (without "Chawles" knowing anything about it), the will has been set aside, and the property comes back to the rightful heir, who of course, marries the guileless maid and sets up the luckless "Chawles" in a public-house. We were not aware that the Court of Chancery set aside wills without

giving all parties concerned a right to defend their interests, but Mr. Byron knows otherwise. All parties concerned did their best for the commonplace parts allotted to them, Mr. Righton giving a comedy finish to the part of Vandeleur, and Mr. Toole a farcical one to the part of "Chawles." The author was called twice before the curtain. Notwithstanding the reception, in our opinion the play is not worth the paper it is written on—The first Toole and Righton Matinee at the Globe Theatre will be given this day (Saturday). The bill-of-fare is more than usually attractive. Mr. Toole will play his original character in Mr. Clement Scott's successful little drama "Off the Line," and Mr. Righton the part of "Major Shoreshot" in Messrs. Romer and Bellamy's comedy "Flirtation." The entertainment will conclude with "Bardwell v Pickwick," in which Messrs. Toole and Righton sustain the leading parts.

Reviews.

"The Fight between Aleck and Hamid at Dame Europa's School;" E. W. Allen, Ave Maria Lane.

This is one of the numerous *pieces d'occasion* which the Turko-Russian War has called forth. Like many similar "brochures," it is written with animation and humour. Whether or no our readers will approve of its sentiments or accept its apparent conclusions, we must leave them to settle themselves. It is impossible for us, in our absolute neutrality, to express any opinion on the subject, as though Freemasons are "par consequence" humanitarians in the highest degree, we are not justified in enlarging on political questions, or even diplomatic disputes. We have no doubt, however, that, like several other *jeux d'esprit* of a similar category, it will be read by many and applauded by not a few.

"Speak to the Earth;" by J. G. FOSTER; Wm. Poole, 12a, Paternoster Row.

This is a very different little pamphlet from the above, and is, in fact, a Lay Sermonette. In the *Freemason* it is obviously very difficult to review sermons, but we may fairly say that we have perused this little contribution of Mr. Foster's with pleasure and approval. It deals no doubt with an important truth, often overlooked, undervalued, and misunderstood, and is well written, and forcibly expressed. If we are correct in assuming the real teaching of the "Tractate" to be as follows, as Freemasons we can cordially approve of its teaching, and warmly applaud its words. It is, as we gather it, this. This world in all its teeming forms of life and marvel, its animate and inanimate creation, its mineral, its floral, its oceanic, its terrestrial world, is entirely under the governance and control of T.G.A.O.T.U., and while we may seek in science for an explanation of the natural laws which apparently direct and mark its onward course, we must look to the Bible for an explanation of spiritual creation of its Divine life. We fancy that in this view all our educated brotherhood will warmly concur, and therefore, agreeing with Mr. J. G. Foster, we are glad to commend to the notice of the thoughtful amongst us a modest little essay on a great subject, which is in happy contrast to many of those more pretentious utterances just now of the sceptical or unbelieving school. When belief and unbelief seem marshalling their forces, it is well for us, as Freemasons, at once to declare on which side we openly and manfully range ourselves. We are glad to have read a "Lay Sermonette," so well expressed, and so straightforward in its adherence to the Bible, as the word of God.

"Irish Freemasons' Calendar and Directory for 1878." Freemasons' Hall, Dublin.

This very admirably got up Pocket-book has come to hand, and deserves alike notice and commendation from all Masons.

If Bro. Oldham is the Editor of it he deserves all "kudos" for his neat and effective work, and we congratulate him sincerely on a result as creditable to him as it is to the Irish Craft, and most useful to the fraternity in Ireland—yes, and out of Ireland. We are among those who always feel great sympathy for our Irish brethren, knowing their many admirable qualities of head and heart, and while we feel bound to speak in honest terms of laudation of the "Irish Freemason's Calendar and Directory," and offer all "hearty good wishes" for our Hibernian friends, we cannot but express the hope that we may yet be enabled to give more reports of Irish Masonic doings, for the perusal of our English and Cosmopolitan brotherhood. This is a "consummation devoutly to be wished for" by us all.

"The Public Ledger Almanack, 1878."

We have received this useful almanack from Philadelphia, and fully concur in the statement from personal perusal, that it is "a treasury of useful information on local subjects and general events." For the inhabitants of Philadelphia, U.S., it is and must be really invaluable. For all visitors and strangers to that important city of the commonwealth of the United States it is almost a necessary "vade mecum."

"The City Diary," 1878. Fifteenth year of publication. Published by W. H. and L. Collingridge, City Press Office, 128, and 129, Aldersgate-Street, E.C. One Shilling.

This is a very useful almanack and diary, and is well worthy the attention of all to whom such publications are both useful and necessary.

A New Italian Weekly Journal has appeared in London this week entitled *La Posta di Londra*.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

At a General Assembly of the Royal Academy of Arts, the following gentlemen were elected as Associates, —Mr. Briton Riviere, painter, Mr. Joseph E. Boehm, sculptor and Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, architect.

Mr. Gladstone will contribute an article entitled "The Coming Peace" to the February number of "The Nineteenth Century."

The Diploma Galleries of the Royal Academy, containing the works deposited by members on their election as Academicians, and other works the property of the Academy (including the Gibson sculpture), is now open, free, to the public from eleven to four daily—Sundays excepted.

A large increase in the exportation of telegraphic wire, &c., occurred last year. From £814,849 in 1876 it reached last year to £1,248,403.

M. Victorien Sardou has completed a new piece—Les Bourgeois de Pontarsy—for the Paris Vaudeville, a sketch of bourgeois life in the provinces.

The *Athenaeum* says that the Princess of Wales has expressed to Bro. Erasmus Wilson, in a very graceful and flattering way, her appreciation of the liberality and public spirit which he has shown in defraying the cost of transporting Cleopatra's Needle from Egypt to England.

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Botanical Society on Thursday last week, the name of Oscar II., King of Sweden, was unanimously placed on the list of Royal Honorary Fellows.

The Memoirs of Prince Metternich, which will soon be published, in eight volumes, will not contain the whole of the Prince's papers and correspondence. Part of the notes left behind by the Chancellor are written in a diplomatic cypher of which the key cannot be found.

An Art Exhibition is to be held in March at Bombay, which it is hoped will prove the first of a series. It will be held in the building of the School of Art now being erected, and Lord Lytton has promised to lend a number of works.

FREE LIBRARIES.—The Bishop of London presided on Friday last at a meeting of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee, held at the London Library, St. James's-square. There were also present the Rev. W. Rogers, Mr. James Heywood, F.R.S., Mr. Robert Harrison, Professor Leone Levi, Mr. E. J. Watherston, Mr. H. R. Tedder, and other members; and Mr. E. B. Nicholson, secretary.

Some curious Manuscripts have been lately discovered in the Jesuit College at Rome. When the Government took possession of the College, it was found that many valuable articles recorded in the library catalogue were missing, and for some time all search was vain, until two ex-Jesuits offered to unearth the hiding-place. Accordingly some of the missing treasures were found stowed away in an upper room between the floor and the ceiling of the room below, and it is believed that the remainder are concealed in a similar manner. Amongst the MSS. found was a copy of the constitution of the Society of Jesus, dated 1293, the only one known to exist; a curious map-case, consisting of a cylindrical leather box with hinge and lock, containing three sheaths enclosing maps, the oldest dated 1455, and showing the seaports prominently; and a "Florilegium"—coloured drawings of garden flowers—dated 1678. The Jesuit Fathers refuse to acknowledge the concealment of any further MSS., and the authorities are in doubt whether to pull the rooms to pieces or leave the result to chance.

A Clock modelled on the Famous Time-piece in Strassburg Cathedral is now being exhibited in Washington. The maker, when an apprentice at Strassburg in 1847, secretly copied the cathedral clock, and set it up in a deserted house. A malicious rival discovered his secret, and the apprentice was banished from the country, but he returned in disguise and carried off his treasure to London. He did not, however dare to exhibit the clock, and eventually died mad, his wife and son subsequently selling it to its present owner.

Memorial Cards across the Atlantic are now ornamented by a ship with black crape sails, the hull of the vessel being made of white rosebuds, and the masts of pansies, while a white dove, holding a spray of forget-me-nots, surmounts the mainmast.

BRITISH HANDICRAFT.—"An Art Workman" writes to *The Times*:—"Mr. J. P. Seddon, in *The Times* of Saturday last, complains that "art work in England at the present time is a myth." In the name of architecture he breaks into lamentation that this should be, and complacently charges the catastrophe upon the apathy of journey-men carvers and others because they have failed to become artists on workman's traditions and workman's pay, and in other words, architects having habitually encouraged workmen to adopt a sterile antiquarianism corresponding with their own, affect astonishment that art is not apparent in the result. All this seems little less than mockery.

An expedition having for its object the thorough examination of the natural resources of Russian Turkestan is about to leave St. Petersburg. M. de Middendorf, the famous explorer of Siberia, and M. Smirnof, Conservator of the Botanical Museum of the University of Kazan, will be among its members.—*Athenaeum*.

The Baroness Burdett Coutts, who has been elected an associate of the Royal Historical Society, has made the library of the institution a magnificent present of books, including the publications of the Camden Society.

The Empress of Austria is still at Cottesbrooke, where she hunts regularly, and excites great admiration by the boldness with which she rides to hounds.

TO OUR READERS.

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Communications on literary subjects and books for review are to be forwarded to the Editor. Anonymous correspondence will be wholly disregarded, and the return of rejected MSS. cannot be guaranteed.

Further information will be supplied on application to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

REPORTS, etc., intended for insertion in current number, should reach the Office, (198, Fleet-street), by 12 o'clock noon, on Wednesdays.

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.

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.

TO ADVERTISERS.

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ADVERTISEMENTS to ensure insertion in current week's issue should reach the Office, 198, Fleet-street, by 12 o'clock on Wednesdays.

Answers to Correspondents.

W. GOODACRE.—Much thanked,—a report already in type.

BOOKS &c., RECEIVED.

"Der Bund," "Loomis's Musical and Masonic Journal," "Masonic Herald," "Keystone," "The Watchman," Boston; "Popery—What is it?" "Scriptural Extracts, &c., for Masonic Ceremonies;" "Corner Stone," "New York Dispatch," "Irish Freemasons' Calendar and Directory."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

CUTHBERTSON.—On the 19th inst., at Lordship Park, N., the wife of F. Cuthbertson, Esq., LL.D., of a son.

DRUMMOND.—On the 29th ult., at Ahmedabad, India, the wife of Col. J. H. Drummond, of a son.

MAW.—On the 20th inst., at Hyde Park-terrace, W., the wife of C. Maw, of a son.

PETER.—On the 14th inst., at Great Malvern, the wife of J. Peter, Esq., of a son.

RAND.—On the 19th inst., at Spencer-road, Wandsworth-common, the wife of W. G. Rand, of a daughter.

SMITH.—On the 21st inst., at Chester-square, the wife of A. L. Smith, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

BARTLETT.—On the 21st inst., at 149, Drummond-road, Bermondsey, Mary Maria, wife of Bro. Henry Bartlett, P.M. 147, aged 48.

HANKEY.—On the 18th inst., at Brighton, Mary Matilda Alers Hankey, aged 24.

INNES.—On the 19th inst., at Portsza, Catherine, wife of the Rev. J. Innes, aged 52.

PALLISER.—On the 16th inst., at Russell-road, Kensington, aged 72, Fanny, widow of Capt. R. B. Palliser.

WILKINSON.—On the 20th inst., at Beaumont-street, Portland-place, Sarah, widow of V. Wilkinson, aged 61.

WILLIAMS.—On the 16th inst., at Duffryn Frwd, near Cardiff, Evan Williams, in his 78th year.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1878.

MOST TRUE.

Since the appearance of our little "note of warning" we have had several communications, literary and personal, which convince us how true, "most true" says a good friend of ours, were the humble words we then thought it well to pen. We fancy from what we hear, that we have greatly underrated the evil. Like the "Gaul" of old, it is "at our gates," in our very midst, and unless we "put our foot upon it," unless we check it and crush it with a firm but kindly hand, it will, so to say, eat out the very life of Freemasonry in our lodges. So, first, let us see how it is working now, and it is likely to work in the future. We find when we receive our lodge summons a long list of proposals for initiation or "joining," the names of those of whom we know nothing. And though no doubt, as Bishop Butler would have said, both faith and probability must be our guides, more or less, in this life, yet we feel we should like to know a little more of those whom we are about to admit into our lodge. We are, therefore, about to suggest a change in the bye-laws of many of our lodges which we know has worked well. It is this, that each candidate should be proposed two months before the lodge, that is, that Bro. Jones should announce his intention in January of proposing in February Mr. Trotter as a member of the Lodge Generosity, and that the notice appears in the summons for February as well as in March, when Trotter is balloted for. Of course, we feel, that there is an objection peculiar to London lodges—which is, that as they only meet in November, January, February, March, April, and May, for the most part, such "hanging up" of the candidates for two months will restrict the possible number of initiates. We do not, however, think, that such an objection is insuperable, and it would undoubtedly let all the brethren know who are those new members who seek admission into the good old lodge. We have often heard it said, "Ah! we made a mistake, we were in too great a hurry, we knew little or nothing about him; he ought never to have come into our lodge." Too often within our knowledge has the entire harmony of a lodge been impaired by the admission of one uncongenial brother; too frequently have cliques and coteries been the consequence of yielding to the unwise dictation of some pig-headed or perverse brother, who looks upon the rejection of the candidate he proposes as a personal affront to himself. *We cannot be too cautious in regard to those whom we admit into Freemasonry.* And then, again, let us look at the social "status" of our lodges, which is too often endangered by this hasty admission of those of whose antecedents, nay, of whose actual position we know absolutely nothing. It must be remembered our charities are not mere eleemosynary institutions, on the principle of a benefit club or as material benefits, but are meant for *decayed Freemasons* and for *decayed Freemasons* alone, those whom untoward fortune or unforeseen calamity have reduced from affluence to poverty, from comfort to adversity, or for those widows and orphans who have been bereft of their natural protector in the inscrutable dispensations of T.G.A.O.T.U. We cannot expect, nor would it be well or wise, to make our charities co-extensive with our numbers, and, therefore, our object always has been, and is necessarily now, to guard their administration with checks and counter checks, to render them in fact alike truly useful, truly valuable, truly charitable, and truly Masonic. They constitute, in fact, in one direction, the "outcome" of all our professions, the expression of the beneficent teaching of Freemasonry. No doubt there are many other ways in which true Masonic charity is felt and becomingly expressed, but in our great Masonic Institutions it finds alike a happy freedom and a sensible manifestation. We ought not then to admit those who from certain antecedent conditions are pretty certain to swell the already overpowering demands on our charities. For such there are many valuable benefit orders in existence, extern to Freemasonry;

and there let them seek the material aid they are certain ere long to require. Too many are seeking Freemasonry not for what it is, but for what it may be to them, and we cannot conceal from ourselves or our brethren that unwise precipitancy in the mode and means of admission to our lodges must if persisted in be productive of most serious consequences sooner or later. They say one illustration is worth a hundred arguments, and we take one to conclude what some may deem a rather long-winded address. We shall have at the Boys' School election in April seventy-eight candidates. There were forty six unsuccessful candidates in October, and there are forty to be elected. But as the list has already increased thirty-one since October, we have no reason to doubt that in October we shall probably have very nearly another list of seventy to deal with. When all these alterations are completed, we shall be educating 500 children in the two schools, and we feel strongly that this is not only a very wonderful, but a very serious fact to contemplate per se. We therefore, as we said before, greatly deprecate the undue extension of our Order which is going on amongst us as we feel sure that it can but have the result we have already ventured to predict. But as we think it always right to recognize the certainty that there are two sides to every question, we propose in the next *Freemason* to call attention to another view, which has occurred to us while writing, and may have occurred to others, and which perhaps we may be disposed to accept as a satisfactory answer on the whole to this somewhat trying question. Though we may be "peripatetic" philosophers, we neither profess to belong to the "cynical" or the "howling" school, and we think it well always to obtain what consolation we can, amid the doubts, the difficulties, and the conflicts of life.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

We find in the *Bauhütte* of January 5th, edited by our esteemed Bro. J. G. Findel, of Leipsic, a passage which we cannot understand, and which we shall be obliged to any German brother to explain fully. Bro. Findel takes, as will have been seen from our pages, a very strong view indeed, as regards the question of the Grand Orient of France. In this he differs from all our English brotherhood. For we in England, just as in Scotland, and Ireland, and America, and Canada, decline to give up the unwavering declaration of Freemasonry to please the "libres penseurs" of France. Bro. Findel does not like either the resolution of our Grand Lodge, or the remarks of the *Freemason*, or the speeches of our brethren. That we can clearly understand and appreciate. But in the *Bauhütte* of January 5th, he uses words which we do not profess to comprehend in any measure. Speaking most kindly as he always does of the Editor, and expressing his regret at our English view, and insular perversity, he then closes with these remarkable words. "Frotz dem tout aus dem munde jedes Englischen Frmmrs aus Kreuz mit ihm," and "der Jude wird verbrannt." For those of our readers who do not understand German it may be sufficient to observe that the import of these words is as follows:—Nevertheless there echoes from the mouth of every English Freemason. "To the cross with him, and the Jew will be burnt." Now we beg to say to Bro. Findel, that this charge against English Freemasons, whatever it may really mean, is as unjust as it is absurd. There is no such tolerant body in existence as the English Grand Lodge. Since 1813 that Grand Lodge has practically declared for universal toleration, and in the recent struggle in Germany against the unwise exclusion of Hebrews, the toleration of the English Grand Lodge has more than once been appealed to by Bro. Findel himself. It is rather too bad, that because he disagrees with us as to our view of the French Grand Orient question, he is to denounce our English Craft as persecutors and intolerant, in terms which we must beg leave to say to our good friend Bro. Findel are equally offensive and untrue. We persecute no one, we excommunicate no one, we condemn no one. All we have ever contended for is this, that in this unwise and uncalled for revolution, the French Grand Orient

has departed from the acknowledgment of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, which in some shape or other has ever been made belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. Under the special circumstances of the case in France, the practical result of this violent change, is to pave the way for the admission of non-believers in God—and that we hold to be a great mistake for French Freemasons, as well as a grievous wrong to Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. But having said this we stop here to-day, and we think we shall be conforming to the wishes of our readers, when for the present at any rate, we close this untoward discussion in our pages.

A FEW WORDS TO OUR KIND CORRESPONDENTS.

Some little disappointment having been expressed by not a few old friends of ours, at the non-appearance of lodge reports in our hebdomadal impression, we beg to call their attention to one or two little facts in connection with that subject. First of all we wish to point out that such delay is sometimes unavoidable owing to press of matter. No one but those who have to deal with it, can well realise or tell, what is the difficulty of the case often in this respect. At special periods of the year, lodge reports become "few and far between." But every now and then, as now and for some time to come, the demands on our weekly space, are often quite overpowering. Our general rule, and the fairest we believe for all, is according to the old adage "first come first served," and we print reports as we receive them in order of time. Of course there is in this, as in everything else here, no rule without an exception, and some lodge reports, from special circumstances, or general importance every now and then appear to claim at our hands a preference, alike for the welfare of the Craft and the information of the brethren. But we must ask those good friends of ours, who are sometimes dissatisfied at the non-appearance of their lodge meetings to make those allowances which a fraternal feeling might suggest, or the actual facts of the case may fairly demand. And then in the next place, some of our ready and agreeable correspondents are a little oblivious of "times and seasons," of the data we announce, of the information we give. We do not profess owing to the exigencies of printing arrangements, to accept for the current week, reports after twelve o'clock on Wednesdays, but we often receive reports on Thursday morning, yes, and on Thursday evening, with a request for their appearance, when it is utterly impossible for us to comply with such applications. To use a technical term we "machine" at two o'clock on Thursdays, and therefore reports and advertisements must equally be in our hands at by twelve o'clock on Wednesdays. That we may occasionally print special reports and pressing information is no doubt true, but we are not dealing now with abnormal reports and the like; we are treating upon what is the normal and necessary arrangements of every newspaper. The *Freemason* loses somewhat by its appearance on Friday morning, though its subscribers gain greatly, and it is this early appearance which necessitates our wonted arrangements, and seems sometimes to make us a little behind hand in the reports of lodge meetings. We should then urge on all our ready willing friends and correspondents to send us their reports early in the week. We feel bound here to express our heartfelt thanks to those many warmhearted brethren of ours, who so zealously help and earnestly support the *Freemason*, by reports, which are often marked by happy condensation, and much felicity of expression. We trust that they will add to our sense of "favours received," by the continuance of "favours to come," and we thank them by anticipation for their valuable communications, and their always welcome contributions.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE.

We congratulate our esteemed Bro. Erasmus Wilson, as well as Mr. John Dixon, C.E., on the safe arrival of this interesting obelisk, after all the perils of the "stormy main." We shall allude more fully to the subject in our next.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

We publish with pleasure the letter of our worthy and distinguished Bro. Thevenot.

Bro. Lakeman probably only meant that 78 lodges (the minority) had protested by their vote against—in his and our opinion—a most unwise vote on the part of the French Grand Orient. "Pace" our esteemed Bro. Thevenot, we fear that the modification introduced into French Freemasonry is only too well interpreted and understood by all Freemasons in Great Britain, just as it is in Canada and America.

A la Gloire du Grand Architecte de l'Univers,
GRAND ORIENT DE FRANCE,
Supreme Conseil pour la France et les Possessions Françaises,
O. de Paris ce 17 Janvier, 1878.

A. M. George Kenning, Propriétaire-Directeur du journal "The Freemason," à Londres.
Monsieur et Très cher Frère,

On lit dans votre estimable journal "The Freemason," No. 461, du 5 Janvier, 1878, à la page 10 et à l'article "Freemasonry in Scotland," la mention suivante :

"Bro. Lakeman said that between seventy and eighty French Lodges had protested against the change, and he submitted that Mother Kilwinning Lodge ought to do all in their power to support these lodges in the stand they were making for the right."

C'est pour moi un devoir, Monsieur et Très cher Frère, de vous faire remarquer que la citation du Bro. Lakeman ne repose sur aucun fondement véridique, et que rien ne la justifie.

Le F. Lakeman est tombé dans l'erreur la plus complète en annonçant au sein de la mère Loge de Kilwinning que 78 loges avaient protesté contre le vote qui a modifié l'article 1er de la Constitution du Grand Orient de France.

Pas une seule loge en France n'a protesté contre ce vote, et pas une seule loge, à la suite de ce vote, ne s'est séparé du Grand Orient de France. J'affirme ces deux faits devant la Maçonnerie universelle, et je mets un défi le Bro. Lakeman ou tout autre frère de citer le nom d'une loge ou d'un Maçon qui se soit détaché du Grand Orient de France par suite du vote dont il s'agit.

Les paroles du F. Lakeman comme les divers articles publiés par les journaux Maçonniques de la Grande Bretagne, concernant le vote de notre dernière assemblée générale prouvent surabondamment aux esprits sérieux et sans parti prisés que la modification apportée par le Grand Orient de France à sa constitution n'est pas comprise et qu'elle est surtout fort mal interprétée.

Je vous serai très reconnaissant, Monsieur et Très cher frère, de vouloir bien insérer cette lettre dans un des prochains numéros de votre estimable journal.

Agréé, Monsieur et très cher frère, l'assurance de mes sentiments fraternels les plus distingués,
Le Chef du Secrétariat,
THEVENOT.

(TRANSLATION.)

Sir and very dear Brother,—

One reads in your admirable journal the *Freemason*, No. 461, January 5, 1878, at page 10, under the article "Freemasonry in Scotland," the following passage :—

"Bro. Lakeman said that between seventy and eighty French lodges had protested against the change, and he submitted that Mother Kilwinning Lodge ought to do all in their power to support these lodges in the stand they were making for the right."

It is, sir, my duty to remark to you that the citation of Bro. Lakeman does not rest on any truthful foundation, and that nothing justifies it.

Bro. Lakeman has fallen into the most complete mistake, in announcing in the Mother Lodge of Kilwinning that 78 lodges had protested against the vote which has modified Article 1 of the Constitution of the Grand Orient of France.

Not one lodge in France has protested against this vote, and not one lodge in consequence of this vote has separated itself from the Grand Orient of France. I affirm these two facts

before universal Freemasonry, and I defy Bro. Lakeman and every other brother to cite the name of a lodge or of a Freemason who has separated from the Grand Orient of France in consequence of the vote to which reference is made.

The words of Bro. Lakeman, like the different articles published by the Masonic journals of Great Britain concerning the vote of our last General Assembly, superabundantly prove to serious and unprejudiced minds that the modifications introduced by the Grand Orient of France into its Constitution is not understood, and is very badly interpreted.

I shall be very grateful to you, Sir and very dear Brother, if you will be so good as to insert this letter in the next number of your estimable journal.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my very distinguished and fraternal sentiments,
The Chief of the Secretariat,
THEVENOT.

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.]

OUR MASONIC CHARITIES, ELECTIONS, &c.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Neither hard "leaders" nor anonymous "old stewards" will prevent me speaking the plain unvarnished truth, in season and out of season, especially when that truth has reference to our Charities, which ought to have an interest for every assembly of Masons; nor shall any vested interest of any kind ever prevent me speaking my mind upon this subject on any occasion.

I neither consider myself a "Pope" nor an "infallible" authority, but I am old enough to know the meaning of Justice and Mercy. These hard personal hits have often fallen to the lot of men who have sought to remedy known and admitted abuses, and I must expect them too.

I must take exception to the statement that I said there was "jobbery" in "all" our charities. I said, and say again, that there is more or less jobbery in all those charities that elect by vote, and permit canvassing and polling days. It is notorious that this is the case, but men don't like the odium of mentioning it in public much less bringing cases to light. Indeed this latter operation is a most difficult as well as a painful one. But the fact is well known—dozens of our brethren have in my hearing deplored it. What does your own "warning" of late mean but this, that men come into Masonry for mercenary motives, that is, amongst the rest, to get the benefit of our charities?

But I contend it is not so much at the ballot as at the entrance to the charities that you are to put a stop to this jobber's march. And yet, though you have good reason to believe in the existence of this evil leaven working in the Craft, and warn us against it, you would probably find it difficult to prove it by facts.

The work of sham charges and commissions went on many years before the case of a Manchester firm lately threw light on it.

In my humble opinion the thing to be deplored is not my speaking the plain truth on this matter, and stating it at the time and place I did, but the inconvenience of having Secretaries present at every banquet who feel it a duty to consider our charities perfect, and to take offence when any exception is taken to any course of action of which they do not approve.

Nothing I said, need have caused a single shilling to have been withheld from the charities, and I feel sure neither Bros. Terry nor Little would have so regarded it.

Be assured, dear Sir and Brother, the "hobby" I am riding to death will win the race in the long run, but will have to face many a wide ditch along which the stream of conventional benevolence flows noisily, and many a thorny fence which bold and bare-faced jobbery has created without let or hindrance.

I venture to assert I have made no mistake—have nothing to withdraw—and shall continue to uphold "the high moral line" in relation to admission into Charities so long as I hold my present definition of true charity, and act on old Shakespeare's well-known charge "Be just and fear not."

Yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

[We publish with pleasure our worthy P.G. Chaplain's letter, though we cannot admit either the facts he asserts, or assent to the charges he brings forward against our charities. We feel quite sure that he is riding his hobby to death.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The time appears to have arrived for us to unite in protesting against the remarks of the V.W. Bro. R. J. Simpson, M.A., P.G.C., and a few others, as to the "jobbery" in connection with our Masonic charities, and their objections to the present system of "elections;" and so I heartily join with you, as the Editor of the *Freemason*, and with my fellow correspondents in stating, once for all, that we are not to be meddled with as some appear to think, and be told what to do with our own properties and institutions, unless it can be proved that our Committees

and officers have forfeited their claim to our support and confidence.

I have had a considerable experience now, as manager of the votes for our "great Masonic charities," on behalf of the Province of Cornwall, and have been Steward several times for our annual festivals, as well as honorary collector for years for these institutions in my province, and so am entitled to give an opinion on the subject, especially as few—if any—take a more lively interest in their prosperity.

Now the result, so to speak, of my labours on behalf of these institutions, has been most satisfactory, (a) for not a single candidate who was unworthy of aid has been admitted from our province, (b) the expenses attending their election during the last ten years have not amounted to over three pounds per annum (and frequently even less), (c) not five pounds have been spent in printing, (d) the necessary work of the elections has not been done in any way by the mothers of the children, or the candidates seeking admission, (e) and in most cases the candidates adopted have been elected on the first application.

During this period I have received the greatest assistance from the Secretaries of the several institutions, who have during office hours and at other times been ever ready to counsel and to promote all matters affecting the interest of the institutions, and their many attentions will always be gratefully remembered by my province and myself. Every question I have had to ask to the conduct of these institutions, financially, scholastically, and domestically, have been most satisfactorily answered, and all who have partaken of their substantial benefits, or are still so doing, have spoken in the highest terms of the management generally.

As to the mode of election, so far as the provinces generally are concerned, there cannot be a better one, and in fact not another so good, according to my experience, for it is impossible for any other system in the ordinary way to have so many safeguards against imposition. 1. A Committee appointed by the "Prov. G.L. in open Prov. G.L. assembled," investigates the claims of candidates and selects the most eligible. 2. The lodge adopting the candidate by its members certifies to the worthiness of the candidate. 3. The Committee of the institution, after all the many preliminaries have been attended to, accepts the applicant for the list of candidates. 4. The Quarterly Courts, if satisfactory, agree to the same, and then (5) the appeal to the subscribers has to be made, and the election terminates the matter. I have never yet secured a candidate by the votes of our province alone, and I mention this to show that others than ourselves have had to do with the election of our candidates. Now, can there be more precautions used than those noted as at work in the Provincial Grand Lodges generally? I leave out of the question many other pre-requisites, such as the period of subscription to a lodge, the certificates of the "minister of religion" and the Grand Secretary, registers of birth, marriage, &c., and press the question home to the subscribers, for we believe that our Institutions are worthy of support, and should receive the hearty co-operation of all lovers of the Craft. I believe also that our three festivals this year will be a great success.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.G.D.
P. Prov. G. Sec. of Cornwall, Vice-Patron,
R.M.I. for Boys, &c.

A SUGGESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It has occurred to me that there must be a large number of Masons in the metropolitan lodges who are not volunteers.

Do any of the brethren think it desirable, and possible, to form a volunteer corps in the metropolis to be composed exclusively of Masons?

If considered desirable, and any brethren of influence and energy will take the question up, and bring it before Grand Lodge, I think good would result.

A circular addressed from Grand Lodge to the various suburban and metropolitan lodges, asking for a return of the names of members who would join such a corps, would readily test the question as to the probability of success of such an undertaking.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

F.

A QUESTION OF LAW.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The following query has cropped up. Its solution in the *Freemason* will be esteemed a favour. A candidate is proposed in open lodge in regular form for initiation, and a minute of the fact entered on the rough minutes, and in due course should be placed on the agenda paper for the next lodge meeting. In the meantime, the W.M. (for good reasons perhaps, in his opinion) instructs the Secretary to take no further notice of the proposition, and the result is, it is not inserted in the agenda paper for the succeeding meeting, and as a consequence the lodge is precluded from taking action in the matter, and no record of the transaction appears in the minutes. The contention is that the W.M. has no right thus to act, but that the proposition having been accepted by the lodge in accordance with the "Book of Constitutions," it rests with the lodge, and not the W.M., to say what course shall be pursued with it. The W.M. rules in opposition to this view, and ignores the right of the lodge to take action on it. The question is, which is the correct view?

Yours fraternally,

A MEMBER OF THE LODGE.

The following is a copy of a Bye-law of the lodge:—The Secretary shall keep the books of the lodge, and accurately enter the proceedings of each lodge in the minute

book, issue summonses to each member at least seven days previous to each lodge meeting, stating the business to be then transacted, and the name, profession, and residence of each candidate."

[It is quite clear to us that the W.M. has acted "ultra vires." The proposer and seconder can demand that the name be entered on the agenda paper, and submitted to the ballot. The W.M. can then state his reasons to the lodge, if he think well, but in our opinion he has no authority "proprio motu" to reject a candidate and prevent a regular motion being submitted to the lodge.—Ed.]

CONSECRATION OF THE URMSTON LODGE, No. 1730.

Masonry in Manchester and its vicinity is in an extremely flourishing condition and is rapidly extending. Whilst the city itself is in the Province of East Lancashire, many of the residential suburbs are included in the western division of the county Palatine, and it is not surprising that business men should desire to establish lodges "for the convenience of their several dwellings," near to their houses. The village of Urmston, some four miles from Manchester, has become, thanks to the recently-opened "Cheshire Line" route to Liverpool, a popular place of residence, and the strength of Masonry in the neighbourhood is evinced by the fact that the lodge consecrated on Wednesday, the 10th inst., commences with upwards of forty joining members, and eight candidates for initiation. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, had intended to perform the ceremony, but the necessity of attendance upon his parliamentary duties obliged him to delegate Bro. Horace S. Alpass, P.G. Secretary, to occupy his throne. The Consecrating Master had the valuable assistance of Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, W.M. 216, acting P.G. Chaplain; Johnson, P.G.J.D. as S.W.; Bowden, P.P.G.S.B. as J.W.; and J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., as Secretary. The beautiful ceremony of consecration has scarcely ever been more impressively performed, the whole of the P.G. Officers doing the work in the best possible manner. In the course of his inaugural address Bro. Alpass, referring to the publicity given in the newspapers to the subject of Masonic charities, said he somewhat deprecated the diffusion of such information, inasmuch as he feared that unworthy persons sometimes gained admission into Freemasonry, attracted in a great measure by the magnitude of the sums announced in the public prints as having been subscribed by brethren of the Craft, and he urged the greatest possible amount of care in the proposal of candidates. Alluding to the ballot as the means of preventing the admission of undesirable candidates, Bro. Alpass, whilst admitting the undoubted right of "black-balling," strongly recommended the members of the new lodge to avoid it as much as possible, and pointed out that a far more desirable course was to mention to the Worshipful Master privately that there was likely to be opposition, so that he could recommend the proposer to withdraw the name. The acting P.G. Chaplain delivered the following charge:—

Brethren—We regret very much the absence of the Prov. Grand Chaplain to-day, and still more regret that his absence is caused by severe illness, and I am sure you will cordially join with me in the expression of hope that it will please the Great Architect of the Universe to restore to our brother again, and that soon, the blessings of health. We are assembled here to-day for the important work of establishing and consecrating a new centre whence will be disseminated more widely in this district those principles of love and charity which form at once the foundation and keystone of the Masonic structure, and this duty, being about to be entrusted, to some extent, to new hands, guided by brethren of some experience in the Craft, it were not amiss, I think, if I briefly examined the first principles of our Order, and if I as representing the Prov. Grand Chaplain gave some few words of counsel as to these moral duties for the proper discharge of which we as Freemasons are all responsible. We are instructed in the first degree that Freemasonry is founded upon the purest principles of piety and virtue, civil, social, religious and moral. We are led to understand by this that the good Mason must be a true and loyal subject, paying due obedience to all lawfully constituted authorities, and supporting them on every occasion when properly discharging their official duties; that nothing shall be powerful enough to weaken our family affections, or draw us away from the proper discharge of those domestic duties which render English homes the national pride of our people. That not only must we be not revilers of religion, but, whatever the faith we hold, lovers of our brethren and faithful servants and worshippers of the Architect and Ruler of the Universe, who must be worshipped in spirit and in truth. Although no true religion can impose on us absolute withdrawal from the world, and from the many good and beautiful things that the Most High has given us for our use, yet all true religion and therefore Freemasonry, and even nature herself, teach us to be temperate and discreet in the use of those pleasures which are so enticing to us in our present state, and which when used to excess tend to lead us into practices which would place us outside the pale of these which may be called moral, but by a prudent well-regulated course of discipline to preserve our mental and corporeal faculties in their fullest vigour, that we may be able to utilise them to the greatest possible extent, to the honour and glory of our God, and the best welfare of our fellow-creatures. These, the very first principles of our Order, are calculated to fix upon our minds, by continued repetition, the high duties which are laid upon us children of the Most High, as citizens of the world, as heads of our respective families, and as individuals, and are intended to strengthen us in our purpose of discharging those duties with the most unremitting care and attention. Thus it is,

that we should bear ourselves in our conduct with the world, lest we bring discredit upon this most honourable fraternity, and bring a stain upon this heritage which has been handed to us pure and unsullied. We should also be careful as to our own conduct within lodge. There are those essential rules laid down for our guidance in the ancient charges of the First Degree, to which we should always pay the strictest attention and obedience; but there is one consideration to which in conclusion I must bring under your notice. It is nowhere referred to in the charges and addresses which are used in conferring the several degrees, but their truest beauty is not realised, nor their highest object attained, unless we think continually of the various lessons they inculcate, and allow them to have a proper influence to regulate our lives and actions according to the Masonic line and rule; so that as time rolls on, and the things of time pass away from our grasp, we may, on entering the dark, deep valley of the shadow of death, look forward with a reasonable hope that, on rising from the tomb of transgression we may shine like stars in that grand lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore.

After the consecration Bro. W. Goodacre, P.M. 104 and 1558, P.P. G. P. Cheshire, was installed as W.M., and invested the following Officers. Bros. George Barber, S.W.; J. R. England, J.W.; Thos. Royle Higginson, Treas.; C. F. Allison, Sec. T. A. Crompton, S.D.; M. A. B. Wheeler, J.D.; J. Wasnidge, Steward, the remaining officers being unavoidably absent.

Amongst the visiting brethren present we took the names of the following:—Bros. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec; Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, W.M. 216; W. Bowden, P.P.G.S.B.; H. Galloway, 62, P.G. Registrar; J. Skeaf, P.G. Organist; R. Baker, P.G.D.C., (Cheshire); J. R. Goepel, P.M. 155, 823, P.P.G.D.C.; W. G. Vines, P.M. 220, P.G.D.C.; H. W. Johnstone, P.G.J.D.; J. H. Shillito, P.M. 317; P.G.D.C. (East Lanc.); Thomas Newton, S.W. 287; T. A. Compton, J. W. 1588; C. F. Allison, 162; John, W. Wasnidge, 933; C. J. Bosustow, 163; G. G. Woolton, M.M. 1565; Thos. Sumner, 317; Thos. Laycock, P.M. 678; G. W. Wilson, 1009; G. F. Smith, S.W. 1009; M. A. B. Wheeler, 44; J. Hancock, P.M. 992; Geo. Barber, Sec. 1588; W. Sykes, P.M. 104, 1588; Thos. Ball, 1213; W. Alcock, W.M. 1045; J. B. Seel, 1147; J. R. England, 287; J. R. Higginson, 1588; S. Davis, W.M. 1052; W. H. Clegg, 1083; W. H. Wakefield, P.M. 104, P.M. 1588; J. Andrew, P.J.W. 268, 1213; D. Edwards, P.M. 1052; Thos. Fiddes, 54; W. Donbavand, W.M. 317; S. S. Faulkner, 1588; W. H. Pike, 663, 1588; H. Swift, 1588, and others.

The brethren afterwards partook of a most excellent banquet, and in the course of the evening the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and responded to.

This lodge will hold its regular meetings at the Lord Nelson Hotel, Urmston, on the last Monday in every month.

LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Lodge of Benevolence met on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., Senior Vice-President, was in the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, in the Senior Vice-President's chair; Bro. C. A. Cottebrunn, P.G.P., in the Junior Vice-President's chair. There were also present Bros. John Hervey, Grand Secretary; H. G. Buss, Assist. Grand Secretary; W. Dodd, and S. Rawson, P.D.G.M., for China; James Mason, P.P.S.B.; Joseph Smith, P.G.P.; H. C. Levander, C. P. Cobham, H. Garrod, John Constable, Edwd. Cox, E. F. Storr, Charles Atkins, H. Massey, (*Freemason*); H. Phythian, M. D. Loewenstark, F. Woodward, J. M. Case, Charles Greenwood, Col. Somerville Burney, Dr. Waterworth, John Sharland, William Stephens, Herbert Dicketts, and Obed Roberts.

Grants to the amount of £365 made at last Lodge of Benevolence, were first confirmed, and the brethren then proceeded with the new cases, of which there were twenty-five on the list. Of these there were two cases deferred, and the remainder were relieved as follows:—one (£50); four £40 (160); eight £20 (£160); one £15 (£15); five £10 (£50); four £5 (£20); and one £3 (£3).

Lodge was closed after having sat three hours.

THE HENRY MUGGERIDGE TESTIMONIAL.

The committee have the pleasure to announce subscriptions amounting to £215, and beg respectfully to request intending subscribers to forward (at an early date) their subscriptions to the fund, as the time is approaching when it will be advisable to close the list.

The committee feel that if the brethren will communicate this well deserved testimonial movement among their friends, many will be anxious to contribute.

Any sums forwarded to the Hon. Sec., Bro. Francis Fellows, Cleveland Villa, 19, Montague-road East, Dalston, E., will be received with thanks and immediately acknowledged.

"HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE."—We omitted to add to the notice of the election of Bro. Hughan, P.G.D., as honorary member of the Franklin Lodge, Philadelphia, U.S.A., that a similar compliment was paid our zealous Bro. James H. Neilson, P.M. 620, Dublin, P.S.G.W. of Egypt, &c. We congratulate him as we did our Bro. Hughan, on such a recognition of Masonic worth from that famous lodge.

The Baroness Burdett Coutts has become one of the lady Patrons, and has given £10 to the Provident Surgical Appliance Society, 37, Great Ormond-street Bloomsbury, W.C.

A SHAKESPERIAN MENU.

The following interesting Menu of the Wentworth Lodge, No. 1239, has been unavoidably delayed in publication. We now give it to our readers with much pleasure:—

‘Every man shift for all the rest, and let no man care for himself.’—Tempest.

‘The yearly course, that brings this day about, Shall never see it but a holiday.’—King John.

MENU.

WENTWORTH LODGE — No. 1239. Installation Banquet, 3rd December, 1877, Freemasons’ Hall, Sheffield.—Bro. W. R. Thomas, M.D., W.M.

‘We cannot all be masters.’—Othello.

‘Expectation whirls me round; the imaginary relish is so sweet that it enchants my sense.’—Troilus and Cressida.
‘Epicurean cooks sharpen with cloyless sauce his appetite.’—Anthony and Cleopatra.

‘You know your degrees, sit down:

At first and last the hearty welcome.’—Macbeth.

‘The dinner awaits you, sir.’—Merry Wives.

‘Here is everything advantageous to life.’—Tempest.
‘Bring me in the banquet quick.’—Anthony and Cleopatra.

‘I could wish my best friend at such a feast.’—Timon of Athens.

‘Labour shall refresh itself.’—Henry V.

‘Allow not nature more than nature needs.’—King Lear.

BILL OF FARE.

Soups.—Clear Gravy. Palestine.

Fish.—Turbot and Egg Sauce. Cod and Oyster Sauce. Fried Soles.

Entrees.—Stewed Kidneys. Mutton Cutlets and Tomato Sauce.

Removes.—Saddles of Mutton. Turkeys. Geese. Chickens. Ham. Tongue.

Game.—Pheasants. Wild Ducks. Grouse.

Entremets.—Plum Puddings. Mince Pies. Jellies. Creams.

Cheese.—Maccaroni. Cheshire.

Dessert.—Biscuits. Grapes. Oranges. Pears. Apples. Filberts. Almonds and Raisins.

‘Use every man after his desert.’—Hamlet.

Coffec.

‘Fail not our feast.’—Hamlet.

‘Even for our kitchens, we kill the fowl of season.’—Measure for Measure.

‘More such days as these to us befall.’—Henry VI.

‘With wine and feeding we have suppler souls Than in our priest-like fasts.’—Coriolanus.

‘A hundred thousand welcomes.’—Coriolanus.

‘Love and health to all.’—Macbeth.

‘Are we not brothers?’—Cymbeline.

‘We’ll have a speech, straight; come, give us a taste of your quality.’—Hamlet.

TOASTS.

‘Good wine is a good familiar creature, if it be well used.’—Othello.

1 Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

‘The queen of earthly queens.’—Henry VIII.

2 His Royal Highness Albert Edward Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master.

‘The immortal heir of England, the hope and expectation of the time.—It is the Prince of Wales.’—Henry IV.

3 The Right Hon. The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro Grand Master; The Right Hon. The Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Past and Present.

‘Good men and true.’—Much Ado about Nothing.

‘Take heed; be wary how you place your words.’—Henry VI.

‘Be checked for silence, but never taxed for speech.’—All’s Well that Ends Well.

‘Salutation and greeting to you all.’—As You Like It.

‘Words are a very fantastical banquet, just so many strange dishes.’—Much Ado about Nothing.

4 Lieut.-Col. Sir Henry Edwards, Bart., J.P., D.L., R.W. Provincial Grand Master.

‘In faith he is a worthy gentleman.’—Henry IV.

5 W. Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P., Dep. Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present.

‘For you must know, we have with special soul Elected him our absence to supply;

Lent him our terror, dress’d him with our love; And given his deputation all the organs Of our own power.’—Measure for Measure.

6 The Worshipful Master of the Wentworth Lodge, Bro. W. R. Thomas, M.D.

‘Worshipful Master.’—Taming of the Shrew.

‘Installed in that high degree.’—Henry VI.

7 The Installing Master, The Immediate Past Master of the Wentworth Lodge, W. Bro. S. B. Ellis.

‘You have made good work, You, and your apron-men.’—Coriolanus.

‘Their talk at table, and their thanks at end.’—Coriolanus.

‘Welcome ever smiles, and farewell goes out sighing.’—Troilus and Cressida.

8 The Sister Lodges.

‘Our hearts of brother’s temper do receive you in, With all kind love, good thoughts, and reverence.’—Julius Cæsar.

9 The Visiting Brethren.

‘Pray you bid these friends welcome; for it is a way to make us better friends, more known.’—Winter’s Tale.

‘I will visit thee at the Lodge.’—Love’s Labour Lost.

10 The Masonic Charities.

‘As much for my poor brother as myself.’—Measure for Measure.

‘The charitable duty of our Order.’—Comedy of Errors.

11 The Past Masters of the Wentworth Lodge.

‘Most potent, grave, and reverend signiors, My very noble and approv’d good masters.’—Othello.

12 The Officers of the Wentworth Lodge.

‘Bear their blushing honours thick upon them.’—Henry VIII.

‘If it will please you to show us so much gentry, and good will, as to spend your time with us awhile, for the supply and profit of our hope, your visitation shall receive such thanks as fits a king’s remembrance.’—Hamlet.

CONSECRATION OF THE KING’S CROSS LODGE NO. 1732.

The consecration of this lodge will take place on Wednesday next, January 30th, at half-past three o’clock, at the Metropolitan Club, 269, Pentonville-road, King’s Cross. The ceremonies will be performed by Bro. James Terry, P.M., Grand Director of Ceremonies, Hertfordshire, assisted by W. Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, and W. Bro. W. Clarke, P.M. 114, G.D. of C. Suffolk. The officers designate are Bros. J. J. Michael, P.M. 1107 and 1507, W.M.; W. M. Stiles, Secretary 1507, S.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M. 157, J.W. The musical portion of the ceremony will be rendered by the Masonic Quartette Party, consisting of Bros. Burgess Perry, Edwin Moss, Arthur Thomas, and George Musgrave.

A SCULPTOR’S STUDIO.

A few days back we were kindly permitted to walk through the studio of Mr. J. Rowe, the eminent sculptor, (of 157a, Buckingham Palace Road), and to inspect the numerous beautiful objects of art which have sprung from his hand. Besides numerous busts in all stages of progress from the rude lumps of clay to the exquisitely finished and life-like portraits of such eminent men as Lord Cairns, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Right Honourable W. H. Smith, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, &c.; there were beautiful statuette portraits of children in terra-cotta. One admirably finished specimen is a likeness of the royal daughter of our Most Worshipful Grand Master the Prince of Wales; another, the name of the young lady that it represents having for the moment escaped us, is exquisitely modelled, in the act of speaking to a greyhound, (also a portrait) that lies at her feet. Besides these and other examples, too numerous to mention, of realistic art, there are several pieces of ideal sculpture well worthy of attention, one that we particularly noticed being the overthrow of Satan by Our Lord in the Temptations in the Mount.

Speaking of this group leads us to mention a picture on the same subject, painted by Mr. Rosenberg, which happened to be at the time of our visit in the same studio.

As it is our intention, if permitted by the editor, to contribute shortly some sketches gleaned in art studios, to the ‘Masonic Magazine,’ we shall not further describe the numerous skilful works of Mr. Rowe’s art, but recommend our readers meanwhile to obtain his permission to see and admire them for themselves, a permission which we doubt not will be as graciously accorded to them as to us.

CLEOPATRA’S NEEDLE.

The Cleopatra, with the Alexandrian Obelisk on board was safely moored in the East India Docks. Every preparation was made for her reception by Mr. Aslett, superintendent of the East India Docks; Sir William Baynes, chairman of the East and West India Dock Company; Captains Marrable and J. Hales Dutton, dockmasters; and Colonel du Plat Taylor, secretary of the dock company. It was resolved to give her the ‘railway berth,’ the best in the whole dock, just opposite the superintendent’s office.

The following message from Her Majesty to Mr. John Dixon, through Colonel Sir Thomas Biddulph, was despatched from Osborne:—‘The Queen is much gratified at hearing of the safe arrival of the Needle.’

The Cleopatra will not occupy her present berth in the East India Docks longer than a day or two. Meanwhile it is intended to apply to Captain Burstall, secretary to the Thames Conservancy, for a convenient berth alongside one of the landing-places on the Thames Embankment, for the convenience of her being shown freely to the public, for a period of a fortnight or three weeks at least during which she will be open to everybody, under suitable arrangements.

The Prince of Wales will, on the occasion of his approaching visit to Dorset as the guest of Lord Allington, at Crichele House, be accompanied by the Princess of Wales. The visit will be of a private character, but the people of Dorsetshire are, nevertheless, bestirring themselves to make a demonstration of welcome at Wimborne.

NOT HOPING AGAINST HOPE.—‘If it wasn’t for hope, the heart would break,’ as the old lady said, when she buried her seventh husband.

HOLLOWAY’S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Coughs, Influenza.—The soothing properties of these medicaments render them well worthy of trial in all diseases of the respiratory organs. In common colds and influenza the Pills, taken internally, and the Ointment rubbed over the chest and throat, are exceedingly efficacious. When influenza is epidemic, this treatment is easiest, safest, and surest. Holloway’s Pills purify the blood, remove all obstacles to its free circulation through the lungs, relieve the over-gorged air tubes, and render respiration free, without reducing the strength, irritating the nerves, or depressing the spirits, such are the ready means of saving suffering when any one is afflicted with colds, coughs, bronchitis, and other chest complaints by which so many persons are seriously and permanently afflicted in most countries.—ADV.

THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The second meeting of the Stewards for the next festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which will be held on Wednesday, the 13th February, took place on Thursday, in the Board Room, Freemasons’ Hall. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., President, was in the chair, and there were also present Bros. Edward Cox, Treasurer; James Terry, Honorary Secretary; the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, the Rev. H. J. Hatch, C. W. Noehmer, G. Ward Verry, James K. Killick, J. Tanner, Charles Perceval, H. C. Soper, J. M. Klenck, H. Phythian, Major Barlow, Col. Shadwell Clarke, Edward Terry, Major Williams, J. J. Cattle, F. A. White, Capt. J. Wordsworth, R. B. Webster, S. Ellison, Danl. P. Holmes, T. S. Taylor, Thomas Huntley, N. Gluckstein, R. J. Smith, John F. C. Winkfield, Angus Sherrard, J. W. Zambra, Geo. Graham Bell, Edward Jones, George Corble, Wm. Clarke, Wm. Henry Farnfield, R. N. Field, F. H. Rooke, and W. E. Gamble.

Bro. James Terry having read the minutes of the last meeting, read a letter received from Grand Secretary in answer to his application for the use of the Grand Hall for a musical entertainment on the evening of the festival. Grand Secretary’s reply was, that the Board of General Purposes had much pleasure in granting the application on the usual conditions.

Bro. Terry said that those conditions were that no refreshments of any kind were partaken of in the hall.

A vote of thanks to the Board of General Purposes was then passed.

Bro. Terry then submitted the plan of the musical arrangements, which are to be under the direction of Bro. F. Lemeyer. The list of the artistes comprise some of the best known members of the musical profession.

The Ladies’ Stewards were afterwards chosen, the following brethren will serve, the Rev. James Amos, Bros. Burroughes, Edgar Bowyer, George Graham Bell, William Clarke, W. T. Gamble, N. Gluckstein, Thomas Huntley, D. P. Holmes, E. Jones, George Kenning, J. M. Klenck, C. K. Killick, E. C. Mather, John Mason, C. W. Noehmer, H. Phythian, Henry Smith, D. Steinhauer, R. J. Smith, T. S. Taylor, H. Vickery, G. Ward Verry, Captain J. Wordsworth, R. B. Webster, J. A. White, John T. C. Winkfield, and J. W. Zambra.

Bro. the Rev. Henry Hatch proposed that a chief ladies’ Steward should be appointed, and defined the duties he should have to perform. The Rev. brother said his object was to prevent confusion, and in order that the ladies might be fully informed as to the places they were to occupy.

After some discussion the meeting resolved upon the directions to be given to the Ladies’ Stewards.

Bros. the President, the Treasurer, Tanner, Verry, Capt. Wordsworth, Phythian, Corben, and T. S. Taylor, were appointed the Wine Committee.

The Reception Committee were then appointed, the brethren being the President, the Treasurer, Bros. Griffin, Webster, Major Williams, and Major Barlow.

A ballot for places was afterwards taken, and the Stewards’ banners at the table arranged.

Bro. Terry then stated that with regard to the announcement on the lists at the festival this year there were 210 Stewards; last year there were 270; and the plan adopted then was instead of announcing each Steward’s name with the subscription he brought in, to read the total of London, and the total of each province. Two days afterwards the full list with the Steward’s names and the amount of each Steward’s list was published in the report of the festival in the *Freemason* and other papers, and he would suggest that this plan should be adopted on this occasion.

The brethren agreed to this course, and the meeting was adjourned till 4 o’clock on Tuesday, the 24th February.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Bro. Jones, W.M. 192, and seconded by Bro. Gluckstein, concluded the proceedings.

GRAND LODGE OF IRELAND.

[We regret having had to leave the following over through want of space.]

At the Stated Communication of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Ireland, held at Dublin, on St. John’s Day, the 27th day of December, A.D. 1877, A.L. 5877, the following brethren were proclaimed and saluted as Grand Officers for the year 1878:—

His Grace the Duke of Abercorn	... G. Master
Robert William Shekleton, Q.C.	... D.G. Master
The Marquis of Headfort, D.L.	... S.G. Warden
Lord Dunboyne, D.L.	... J.G. Warden
Robert Warren, D.L.	... G. Treasurer
The Earl of Bandon	... G. Secretary
Rev. John J. Massorley	... G. Chaplain
Right Hon. and Most Rev. Lord Plunket, Bishop of Meath	... G. Chaplain
Alderman Joseph Manning, J.P.	... S.G. Deacon
Theophilus E. St. George	... J.G. Deacon
George A. Stevens, J.P.	... G. Sup. of Works
George Moyers, LL.D., J.P.	... G. Dir. of Cer.
Harry Hodges	... G. Steward
Humphrey Minchin, M.B.	... G. Sword Bearer
Charles O. Grandison	... G. Organist
James Creed Meredith, LL.D.	... G. Inner Guard
Samuel B. Oldham	... D.G. Sec. & Treas.

Earl Manvers has given £1000 towards the restoration of Cotgrove Church, Nottingham, which was opened on Tuesday by the Bishop of Lincoln.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

(Continued from page 46.)

GIBRALTAR.—Inhabitants Lodge (No. 153).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Friday, the 28th ult. The lodge was opened at 7 p.m., the outgoing W.M., Bro. J. Cunningham, in the chair, supported by the following Past Masters: Bros. E. J. Barker, I.P.M.; J. J. R. Morgan, Beale, 325 I.C.; Franceri, 325, I.C.; McCormick, 325, I.C.; Hollidas, 325, I.C.; Ross, 325, I.C.; and the following W.M.'s: Stanley, 278, E.C.; Jackson, 325, I.C.; and Valarino, 115, E.C. the two former of these W.M.'s being members of the lodge. It can easily be seen what an excellent and truly Masonic feeling there exists in this little world of Gibraltar, when so many old Masters, and of different constitutions, unite on an occasion of this kind. The following officers were present: Bros. J. Conroy, S.W., W.M. elect; Jackson, W.M., acting J.W.; Hunt, Treas.; Bacon, Sec.; Briggs, S.D.; Roberts, J.D.; Giles, I.G. The lodge was opened in due and ancient form, the minutes (so far as concerned the election) of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. The business was stated by the Secretary, and the lodge raised to the Second Degree (Bro. Stanley, W.M., here replaced the W.M. elect in the S.W.'s chair), when Past Masters Bros. Morgan and Barker presented the W.M. for installation. After the usual charges had been read by the Secretary, and suitably acknowledged the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and all brethren below the rank of Installing Master withdrew. The Installing Officers having placed Bro. J. Conroy, in the chair, the brethren were re-admitted and proceeded to salute the newly-appointed W.M. in the usual manner. The ceremony was performed by the outgoing W.M., who was congratulated much on the energy and perseverance displayed on this occasion, as well as through the whole tour of his office. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. E. Bacon, S.W.; W. Briggs, J.W.; H. Hunt, Treas.; B. White, Sec.; Beavon, S.D.; Button, J.D.; W. Batchelor, I.G.; J. King, Org.; W. Davis, Steward; and Ghis, Tyler. The brethren then pledged the health of the W.M. in a loving cup, most kindly and deliciously concocted by Bro. M. Baglittero, and the W.M. returned thanks and wished the whole of the brethren prosperity. The I.P.M. proposed, and P.M. Bro. Barker seconded, a vote of thanks to all the Masters, Past and Present, who had so ably assisted him, carried nem. con. P.M. Bro. Franceri proposed, and Bro. Morgan P.M., seconded, "A vote of congratulation to the I.P.M. for the finished style he had performed the ceremony," carried with eclat. Bro. Davis proposed, and Bro. H. E. Batchelor seconded that a P.M. jewel should be presented by the lodge to Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., for the untiring zeal exhibited by him during the year, carried unanimously. The lodge was then called off from labour to refreshment, and the brethren to the number of about fifty adjourned to the Friendship Lodge Rooms, so kindly lent by the W.M., Bro. Stanley, in which the banquet was laid out in the well known style of Mr. Miranda, and which the brethren did ample justice to. After the cloth had been cleared the usual toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Three Grand Masters," were given and loyally received. Subsequently the I.P.M., Bro. J. Cunningham, proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Conroy," and in so doing, alluded to the great assistance he had received from him while S.W., and he had not the slightest doubt he would shew that assiduity and proficiency which had characterised all his working since he had been in this garrison; this was received with the highest honours. In replying, the W.M. hoped he, with the able assistance of his officers, would be competent to work as his predecessor had done, who had elicited from an old P.M. of the lodge when present at his working the Third Degree that in all his numerous visits to many different lodges, he had not seen it performed in the impressive and solemn manner that the I.P.M. had worked it, and he trusted when he had completed his twelve months as Master to hand the lodge over to his successor in the same flourishing state it was now in. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Retiring Officers," congratulating them on their successful year, which was the result and reward of patient industry, coupling with it the name of P. J. W. Bro. Collins, who responded in a few select terms and called on his confederates to drink the health of the whole of the brethren. The I.P.M. now toasted "The Incoming Officers," remarking on the excellent choice the W.M. had made, and flattering each individual with a few chosen observations. The S.W., Bro. Bacon, responded in thanking the I.P.M. for the eulogiums he had given the newly-appointed officers, after which the W.M. proposed "The Health of the D.G.M., D.D.G.M., and Past Masters of 153," to which Bro. Barker, P.M., replied: the Visiting Brethren's health was proposed, by the W.M. coupling with it the names of Past Master, Bro. Ross, W.M., Bro. Valarino, and Bro. Forsdike, 960 E.C., Cardiff, each of these, in felicitous terms, had watched the great progress of Masonry in Gibraltar, and hoped this lodge would continue to prosper as it had done during the last two years. The I.P.M. could not forget to specially drink the health of P.M., Bro. Beal, who is a regularly grey-headed brother in the service, for in returning thanks he alluded to lengthened career in the Craft, and stating he had never known a better W.M. since he became a P.M. in 1849, than the late one. Other toasts succeeded, after which Bros. Bacon, Forsdike, Briggs, Batchelor, Nolan, Barker, &c., &c., contributed greatly by a few and appropriate songs to make the evening a very enjoyable one.

SWANSEA.—The Indefatigable Lodge (No. 237).—On Monday, January 14th, the installation of Bro. W. T. Canton, as W.M. of this lodge took place at the Masonic-hall, Caer-street. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, a large number of brethren being present. The W.M. elect was introduced for installation to the presiding W.M., Bro. J. Woolley, by Bro. T. R. Robinson

Prov. G. Supt. Works, and P.M. of the Indefatigable. The duties of Installing Master were fulfilled with marked ability by Bro. George Bradford, Past Prov. G. Supt. Works. The installation ceremony having been gone through, the newly-installed W.M. proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Thomas McKimm, S.W.; Henry Symons, J.W.; Thomas Powell, P. Provincial G. Dir. Cer.s, Treasurer; J. R. Gwynne, Sec.; Lewelleyn J. Powell, S.D.; John Leworthy, J.D.; Charles Levy, I.G.; G. Bradford, P.M., Dir. of Cer.; T. H. Davies and W. H. Headdon, Stewards; George Bullerwell, Tyler. "Hearty good wishes" were then conveyed to the W.M. on his installation by Bro. James Livingstone, W.M. of the Caradoc Lodge, on behalf of that lodge; by Bro. Jones Hewson, on behalf of the Talbot Lodge; by Bro. T. James, P.M. of the Cambrian Lodge, 464, on behalf of that lodge; and by Bro. E. R. Roberts, P.M. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, London, 192, on behalf of that lodge. The Immediate Past Master, Bro. J. S. Woolley, was then presented with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the very able way in which he had conducted the business of the lodge during his year of office. Bro. John Rodgers, P.M. of the Caradoc Lodge, and Prov. J.W.; Bro. W. Brown, P.M. of the Indefatigable, and other prominent members, were present. The lodge having been closed, the brethren, between 50 and 60 in number, sat down to a banquet at the "Cameron Arms" Hotel, which was served up by Bro. Clare in a way which reflected the highest possible credit on the resources of that well-known establishment. The usual list of toasts were gone through. Soon after the cloth was withdrawn, the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, accompanied by Bro. E. S. Hartland, Bro. W. J. Rees, Bro. T. M. Smith, and other brethren, who had been prevented attending earlier, owing to their being present at the presentation at Neath to Bro. E. J. Morris, late and Deputy Provincial Grand Master, entering the room, were heartily welcomed. During the evening it was stated that the Indefatigable Lodge had recently received the centenary jewel, and was consequently the oldest lodge in the province. It also possessed its own Masonic Hall—a freehold worth £2000; and that there had recently been added to the lodge, placed in a gallery erected for that purpose, a very handsome organ, built by Mr. Philip Rogers, of Swansea, who, in the construction, had displayed considerable taste and ability. In the course of the evening there was some excellent singing, in which Bros. White, Jones, Hewson, T. R. Robinson, H. W. Williams, John Burnhill, and others took part. Bro. Gilbert Legge presided with his accustomed ability at the pianoforte, and the proceedings were of the most successful and enjoyable character throughout.

LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).—The members of this lodge held an emergency meeting at the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening. Bro. George W. Starham, who was installed W.M. at the last ordinary meeting was in the chair, and there was a numerous attendance including several visitors. Three new candidates having been balloted for, Bros. Scott, Coulson, and Dr. Johnstone, (Assistant Medical Officer of Health for the borough), who had previously been passed to the degree of Craftsmen were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons, Bros. M. Alister, P.M.; and Smith, P.M. assisting the W.M. in a most able and impressive performance of the ceremony. Bro. Scott who is the Organist of Victoria Church, Leicester, was afterwards appointed Organist of the lodge, and duly invested by the W.M. At the supper which followed the business of the lodge Bro. Scott gave a spirited rendering of the Harmonious Blacksmith, and by the performance of that and several other pieces gave a very gratifying assurance of the valuable acquisition his services will be to St John's Lodge.

LEWES.—South Saxon Lodge (No. 311).—On Wednesday, Jan. 16, the annual meeting of the lodge was held at Freemason's Hall, when Bro. Thomas Reader White was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Joseph Farncomb, P.M. 311, and Prov. Grand Steward. The W.M. appointed the following officers:—Bros. S. Tanner, S.W.; J. G. Braden, J.W.; H. Freeman, I.P.M.; R. Crosskey, Treas.; Joseph Farncomb, D.C.; Rev. W. E. Richardson, Chaplain; A. Holman, Sec.; R. Blaker, S.D.; F. J. Holman, J.D.; R. A. Stock, I.G.; S. Starnes, Org.; H. Hall, Tyler. The lodge business ended, the brethren dined together at the White Hart Hotel, Mrs. Huntley providing a very enjoyable repast. Among those present in addition to the officers above-named, were Bros. W. R. Wood, P.P.G.S.W.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. Grand S.c.; W. T. Nell, Prov. Grand Steward; Rev. E. F. Cave-Brown-Cave, W.M. 40; H. Davey, W.M. 732; S. T. Feat, W.M. 315; G. Stone, W.M. 1303; H. Hacker, P.P.G.J.D., Hampshire; C. Atkins, P.M. 27; Calway, 1619; Higham, 217; J. C. Lucas, P.M.; W. W. Turner, P.M.; and several members of the lodge. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and an agreeable evening was spent.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 354).—The festival of St. John, and installation of the W.M. of this large and flourishing lodge for the year ensuing, took place on Monday, in the presence of a very full attendance of brethren, the Board of Installed Masters numbering twenty. The ceremony was performed by Bro. T. P. Payne, P.M., who subsequently received a cordial vote of thanks for officiating with more than usual impressiveness. The newly-installed Master invested the officers as follows: Bros. John Clark, I.P.M., Arthur, S.W.; G. Tilling, J.W.; J. R. Weston, P.M.; Treas.; A. J. Miller, P.M., Sec.; Andrews, S.D.; Jones Algar, I.G.; W. Walters, P.M., D.C.; Westley, Org.; Biggs, Tyler; and Vane and Astley, Assistant Tylers. The installation banquet which followed was supplied by Bro. Dartnall, who as usual gave every satisfaction. It

was attended by nearly sixty brethren, including the Masters of the Lodge of Economy, Winchester; the Royal Gloucester, the Southampton, Claudentium, and a Cape of Good Hope Lodge, and proved a most fraternal and pleasant gathering.

BRIGHTON.—Royal Clarence Lodge (No. 271).—On Friday evening, the 18th inst., the annual meeting and installation banquet of this Royal Lodge took place at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Bro. C. Raymond Burrell, son of the Prov. Grand Master, Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., being installed for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. J. H. Scott, Deputy Prov. G.M., who retired from the chair. The following officers were appointed; Bro. T. Wilkison, S.W.; Bro. P. M. Smith, J.W.; Bro. F. Sundius Smith, Secretary; Bro. P. R. Wilkinson, Treasurer; Bro. T. C. Woodman, S.D.; Bro. A. King, J.D.; Bro. Prideaux, Owen Rickards, D.C.; Bro. J. Lieubette, Organist; Bro. J. Dennant, I.G.; Bro. T. Hughes, Tyler. The brethren afterwards partook of an elegant banquet, supplied by Messrs. Mutton About 120 were present, including nearly the whole of the Prov. Grand Officers, who were specially invited in honour of the occasion. The Right W. Prov. Grand Master, in response to the toast of his health, said he regarded his visit to the Clarence Lodge as a "red letter" event, for he had seen his son pass through three offices, and finally take the W.M.'s chair of the lodge. He was especially pleased to find that his Parliamentary duties enabled him to leave London, and that no anticipated voting compelled his hasty return. Sir Walter concluded his able response with some sound practical advice as to the duties of Masonry, and expressed a hope that he should soon be again enabled to visit the Clarence Lodge. During the evening the proceedings were enlivened by some glees and songs, exceedingly well rendered by Bros. T. Baxter, G. T. Carter, Montem Smith, and T. Distin. Bro. Kuhe, Grand Organist, also played some excellent selections on the piano.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Navy Lodge (No. 492).—According to ancient custom, the installation of the Worshipful Master elect of this lodge took place on Wednesday, Jan 2nd. The choice of the brethren falling on Bro. Charles Andrews, S.W., to fill the chair of King Solomon, for the ensuing twelve months. The following Past Masters and brethren were present:—T. G. Snowden, P.M. 429, 2109, P.P.G.J.W.; L. Finch, P.M. 429, 1209, W. Winch, P.M. 429, W.M. 1209, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Emmerson, P.M. 249, P.P.J.G.D.; G. Hawkes, P.M. 127, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Call, P.M. 1209, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Hazeldine, P.M. 429, P.G.D.C.; G. Page, P.M. 1209, P.J.G.D.; W. T. C. Harrison, P.M. 429; J. Crawford, W.M. 127; J. O. Eve, S.W. 1209; and Bros. Crane, Barrett, Smith, Foat, Fenner, Bush, &c. In consequence of the heavy amount of business to be disposed of before the installation, the lodge was called for 1.30 p.m., at which hour it was opened with solemn prayer. The business consisted of three raisings and one passing. Two raisings and the passing were most ably performed by Bro. W. Harrison, P.M., 429. The remaining raising, traditional history and the ceremony of installation by Bro. W. Call, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.D.C. The impressive manner in which Bro. Call performed the important duties of Installing Master, elicited from the Past Masters and brethren the highest encomiums for the skill and ability displayed by him in performing the ceremony of installation, that a special vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the lodge. The W.M. (Bro. C. Andrews) then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bro. G. Hiller, S.W.; Bros. J. Mairable, J.W.; the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.J.W., Chaplain; L. Finch, P.M. 429, 1209, P.P.G.D.C. Treas.; J. Hazeldine, P.M. 429, P.P.G.D.C., Secretary; J. C. Hiller, S.D.; J. Jones, J.D.; J. Fenner, I.G.; Foat and Adams, Stewards; R. T. Rolfe, P.M. 429, Tyler. This concluding the business of the evening, the lodge was closed in the usual form, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, served with Bro. Hiscocks' usual good taste. The pleasure of the evening was much enhanced by the way in which the musical arrangements were carried out by Bro. Aubrey, of the Union Lodge, 127, Margate.

INSTRUCTION.

THE ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—This lodge, held at the Deptford Lecture Hall, had a meeting on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., when a large number of its members and friends assembled to testify their esteem to Bro. George Andrews, Preceptor of the lodge, for the zeal and ability displayed in the important office for nearly four years. Wines and dessert were provided, and, assisted with harmony, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present. P.S.—The above lodge opens every Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

FINSBURY PARK (Master Masons) LODGE (No. 1288).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, on Friday, the 18th inst. Present: Bros. P.M. Rogers, Preceptor; Walker, Egyptian, 27, W.M.; Dunn, jun., S.W.; Press, J.W.; Davis, S.D.; Edmunds, J.D.; Oldis, I.G.; Past Masters Davis and Piggott; and Bros. Jeffreys, W.M. 902; Campbell, and others. Lodge opened. Minutes read and confirmed. Lodge opened Second Degree. Lodge resumed to First Degree, Bro. Maudwell, W.M. elect, S.W. No. 27, candidate for passing, examined, entrusted, and retired. Lodge resumed to Second Degree, and ceremony rehearsed. Bro. P. M. Rogers presented Bro. Maudwell as W.M. elect, and Bro. Walker performed the ceremony of Installation, and Bro. Maudwell invested the officers. Proposed seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Walker, for working the installation ceremony. Bro. Dunn, jun., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Maudwell was elected a member of the lodge. Lodge closed.

Royal Arch.

STOCKPORT.—Chapter of Stone of Friendship Ezel (No. 287). The installation of Principals and investiture of Officers took place on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the "Dog and Partridge" Inn, Stockport. Companion James Hall, P.P.G.A.S., was the Installing Principal, assisted by Companion J. H. Bladen, P.Z. 516, and it is superfluous to say that the ceremony was most impressively performed. The following is a list of the Officers invested: Comp. A. W. Graham, Z.; Comp W. Shepherd, H.; Comp. John Turner, J.; Thomas Newton, P.S.; James Palin, Treasurer; Chas. Booth, E.; F. T. Tapp, N.; R. C. Blakehurst, P.A.S.; C. Robinson, 2nd A.S.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151.) The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 17th inst. The M.M.M., Bro. Thomas Mandie, P.C.R. of M. in the chair, supported by the following officers: Bros. Jos. Nicholson, P.M., P.G.M.S.W., Treas.; James Gardiner, I.P.M., P.G.M.M.O.; J. R. Banks, S.W.; J. Smith, P.P.G.M. Org.; T. Carey, Reg.; J. H. Banks, P.G.M., I.G.; T. Dixon, P.M. 1400, Chap.; P. Dodgson, P.G.M. Steward, M.O.; J. Quay, Rec., as S.O.; J. W. Robinson, J.O.; W. Stoddart, S.D.; G. W. Thompson, J.D.; R. Heatherington, I.G.; R. G. Harris, Tyler, and a number of other brethren. Bro. Young, P.G.P., and P.M. 1400; and J. Futton, J.W. 371, being in attendance, they were advanced to the honourable degree by Bro. Gardiner most impressively, and as usual, the working of the subordinate offices were perfect. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was served by Bro. J. H. Banks, who never tires in his endeavour to make all comfortable. The usual toasts were given from the chair, interspersed with numerous songs, by Bros. J. R. Banks, G. W. Robinson, J. H. Banks, and G. W. Thompson, the Tylers' toast bringing a very pleasant evening to a harmonious termination.

[The following stand over:—United Mariners Lodge, No. 30; Loyalty Lodge, No. 86; Zetland Lodge, No. 537.]

CUMBERLAND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The sixty-third annual ball in aid of the funds of this institution was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Friday evening last. The objects of the institution are to grant allowances by way of pensions to indigent natives of the county and their widows. The ball was under the distinguished patronage of the Lord Lieutenant of the county, and a long list of titled lady patronesses and ladies of the county; the whole of the county and borough members were amongst the list of Stewards. The company numbered nearly 250—amongst whom were, Mr. and Mrs. George Rawlinson and family, Mr. Graham King, and Miss Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Walton, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pattinson, Mr. Tom Studholme, and the Misses Hookway, Mr. F. Hookway, Mr. Sidney King, Mr. Bayliss, Mr. Wood, Mr. Robert James, Mr. Robert James, Mr. Robert Wrightson, and the Misses Wrightson, Miss Nuttall, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stagg, Mr. T. W. Pridmore, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jones, Mr. G. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hicklin, Mr. and Miss Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomlinson and daughter, Mr. Rickwood, (Secretary), and Mrs. Rickwood, Mr. J. Eddy, Mr. Lewis Edgar, Mr. J. Bushell, Mr. G. Woodlands, and others.

The company adjourned to the spacious and elegant supper-rooms for which the establishment is so famous, shortly after twelve o'clock. The chair was taken by Henry Nicholson, Esq., the indefatigable Honorary Secretary of the institution, who after the toast of "The Queen," proposed "Success to the Cumberland Benevolent Institution," and gave a hearty welcome, and thanked all present for their attendance. Mr. Graham King who again acted as honorary M.C., proposed "The Health of the Cumbrian Lasses," which was received with great enthusiasm, on behalf of whom Mr. Robert Wrightson returned thanks. The company then returned to the ball-room, and dancing was kept up to the admirable quadrille band of Mr. Dan Godfrey—personally conducted by that gentleman—the company retiring shortly before five o'clock, after Sir Roger and reels, which were danced with great spirit, every one expressing themselves greatly pleased with the success of this old established and excellent ball.

FREEMASONRY IN PHILADELPHIA.

It is now a well-established fact that a lawfully-warranted Masonic lodge was established in Philadelphia in 1730, and that a Grand Lodge was organised here in 1735, and these facts were first proven in *The Keystone*, in its issue of July 11th, 1874. We are now able to go fifteen years further back, and by the aid of Bro. Horace W. Smith, of this city, prove, from an original letter in his possession, that there were Freemasons in Philadelphia as early as the year 1715, and at that time they were accustomed to meet for Craft purposes. The letter we are about to reproduce is of great Masonic value and interest, and has never before appeared in print.

This letter was written by Bro. Moore, the King's Collector at Philadelphia, to James Sandelar, of Chester, Pa., and is as follows:

Philadelphia Port, in Pennsylvania, March 10, 1715. It is my design to inform you that there is in my care a small bell, which is intended for St. Paul's Church of your parish, which has been delivered at this Port free of charges or duty—likewise a rich cloth and a neat chalice,

which are the gift of Sir Jeffrey Jeffries. You will inform me by what means they shall be delivered to your hand. You will remember me kindly to ye Rev. George Ross, and to my friend Jasper Yeates, Esq. I would be pleased you would any of you stop with me, when you come to Philadelphia. I am now in my new house on ye Second street above ye new church.

Ye winter has been very long and dull—and we have had no mirth or pleasure, except a few evenings spent in festivity with my Masonic Brethren.

I subscribe myself, with all dutiful respect, Your dutiful Humble Servant,

To James Sandelands, Esq., Uplands,

John Moore.

These.

This is the letter to which Bro. Smith refers, in his article in another column of this issue of the *Keystone*, entitled "Early Masonry in Pennsylvania." We understand that Bro. Smith intends to have the letter lithographed, and then to present the original to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, for preservation in the Grand Lodge Library.

We may add that Bro. Horace W. Smith, the custodian of this letter, is the great-grandson of Bro. Rev. Dr. William Smith, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; the grandson of Bro. William Moore Smith, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and son of Bro. Richard Penn Smith, of Lodge 72, of this city; and the granddaughter of Bro. John Moore, the writer of the above letter, intermarried with Bro. Rev. Dr. Smith.

This letter is evidence that there were Freemasons in Philadelphia two years before the Revival of Freemasonry in England, and establishment of this Grand Lodge, in 1717. Massachusetts Brethren say to this?—*Keystone*.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. C. Raymond Burrell, son of Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, was installed W.M. of the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 271, on Friday, the 18th inst., by Bro. J. H. Scott, I.P.M., Deputy Grand Master.

A Grand Masonic Concert was given in the Public Hall, Aberavon, on Thursday, the 24th inst., under the patronage of Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. G. Master for South Wales. A large number of brethren were present in full Masonic costume. We shall give a full report in our next.

Bro. Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart. M.P., the D.P.G. Master of Cornwall, we are informed has been appointed the Provincial Grand Prior of Cornwall.

Bro Archibald Forbes delivered a lecture in St. James's Hall on Thursday last on his personal experiences as a Correspondent in the present war.

The twenty-five girls who were elected at the Quarterly Court in October last, on the motion of Bro. R. B. Webster, as well as the ten girls who were elected to fill vacancies created by others leaving the School, were admitted on Thursday, the 24th inst.

Mr. W. Dieseldorff tells the following story of a Picture.—In *The Times* of the 10th inst., mention is made of a Pieter de Hooghe, "Girl Feeding Chickens," in the possession of Baron Rothschild. Pictures sometimes undergo strange vicissitudes. This one, now a dweller in the gallery of the Baron, was discovered by the late Mr. S. M. Mawson, at a public sale in a dingy place in the outskirts of Paris about the year 1842. The picture was in so neglected a state that it was being passed over without a bid, when Mr. Mawson, offered toof, and it was knocked down to him. It was cleaned, framed, and then excited general admiration. Baron Rothschild showed great fondness for it, and Mr. Mawson parted with it for £800,—although purposing to hold it at £1000. It is now the Pieter de Hooghe, "a thing of beauty, and a joy for ever."

The *Deutsche Zeitung* states that Dr. Slade, the spiritualist, lately arrived in Vienna, but was not granted permission to stay there by the police authorities, owing to his inability to account satisfactorily for his profession.

DORIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—This lodge of instruction has been removed, and will be held every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock precisely, at 79, White-chapel-road, near the Pavilion Theatre.

Hospital Sunday collections in Liverpool, bad times notwithstanding, this year has been more successful than last, the result being £7608, against £7542 last year.

Neptune Lodge (No. 22).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street on Thursday last, a report of which will appear in our next.

At a special meeting of the Local Board in Committee, the official seal was attached to a deed of security to the Bank of England for the loan of £155,000 in respect to the purchase of the local gas and water undertakings for Ramsgate.

The Annual Ball on behalf of the funds of the Licensed Victuallers School will take place at St. James's Hall, on Thursday next, the 31st inst.

A somewhat remarkable volume of poetry entitled "The Lovers Curl, and other verses" has just been issued by Messrs. Remington. The poems, though crude, display a latent power of pathos and prove, at least that the author, Mr. Stickwood, possesses the tender feeling proper to all poets of whatever degree.

Lord Rosslyn was received on Monday by the King of Spain and delivered to his Majesty a letter from the Queen, and presents from the Prince of Wales. Admiral Fourichon and General Goeben were also received as the representatives of France and Germany.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—On Monday the Lord Mayor received a draft for £1,000. from the Mayor of Hobart Town, being the second contribution from that city in aid of the Indian Famine Fund. The former donation of a like amount had been remitted direct to Madras, but it had been found cheaper to forward the remainder through the Mansion House. A communication was also received from the Mayor of Brisbane, stating that £1500 had been collected there and sent to Madras, and adding that the long drought under which a large portion of the colony had been suffering had greatly militated against the success of the appeal. A letter, giving particulars of the collection of £4000 at Dunedin likewise came, as well as a despatch from the Mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand, stating that £5000 had been collected there, among a population of 72,000 and remitted to India. On Saturday Lord Derby forwarded to the Lord Mayor a draft for £38 9s. 6d., collected among British subjects in the Province of Coquimbo, and a sum of £15 16s. 2d., the balance of Masonic contributions at Hong Kong has also been received. The fund now amounts to £504,000.

A prospectus has been issued of a company entitled the "Mont de Piété of England," with a capital of one million, divided into certificates of £10 each. The object is to establish here large pawnbroking institutions based on the principle that has been current for many years abroad. The rate of interest to be charged to borrowers is 12½ per cent., being a considerable reduction on the present authorised and legal charges made by pawnbrokers. It is supposed to pay the certificate holders 7 per cent., and from the balance pay expenses, &c., and form a sinking fund for the redemption of the certificates at £20 by annual drawings. The originator of the scheme is to be paid for all "his claims, past, present, or future," 3 per cent., and presumably (although the prospectus does not mention it) this is to be on the capital subscribed.

THE FORGERY BY A CHINAMAN.—At the Hampshire Assizes on Monday, Tom Fat, a young Chinaman, was indicted before Mr. Justice Mellor on several charges of forgery, with intent to defraud his master, Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, commander of H.M.S. Thunderer. It appeared that the prisoner was bought of his father in China by Lord Charles some nine years ago for twenty-five dollars. He proved an apt servant, and under his master's tuition became an expert penman, and his duties included the care of Lord Charles' cheque-book. He began forging in 1874, since which time he has defrauded his master of upwards of £14,000, his plan being to tear out a cheque and counterfoil, and make the former payable to self, and signing Lord Charles's name, the forgery being such as almost to defy detection. He would destroy the vouchers as they were returned from the bank, and it was only by an accident that the frauds were discovered. He pleaded guilty to three charges, and sentence was deferred.

Bro. Farmaner will be installed as W.M. of the Old King's Arms Lodge on Monday. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

Full particulars of the public night for Royal Arch Masons under the auspices of the Chapter of Prudent Brethren, briefly referred to in our last, will be found in the advertisement at the top of centre column on front page.

We are asked to state that the Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction, No. 73, is now held at the Horse Shoe Tavern, Stones-end, Borough-road, on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock.

The Prince of Wales has returned a reply to the address presented to him by the Corporation of Cambridge, in which he expresses the gratification it gave him to visit the scenes of his happy undergraduate days.

The consecration of the Star Chapter, No. 1275, took place at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Wednesday last, the ceremonies being performed by Comp. James Terry, in his usual eloquent and able manner. We shall give an account of the proceedings in our next.

A drawing room entertainment by the employes of Messrs. J. C. Boyd and Co. was given on behalf of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at St. George's Hall on Thursday last, the 24th inst. [By a misprint we stated that the entertainment took place on Thursday, the 17th inst]. A report will appear in our next.

Bro Wingham, P.M., of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, will work the 15 sections in the Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction, on Wednesday, the 27th proximo.

The directors of the Hull Tramway Company will recommend a dividend for the past half year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and to raise the reserve fund to £1000, carrying forward £280.

The Queen has subscribed £100 towards towards the Turkish Compassionate Fund.

At Madame Tussaud's has just been produced a representation of the "Lying in state of Victor Emanuel."

The official report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire is to hand, too late for this week. We will allude to it in our next.

The Duke of Connaught attended Divine Service at the Temple Church on Sunday, when the Rev. Dr. Vaughan preached. His Royal Highness occupied the Middle Temple benchers' pew. After the service he was conducted to the Middle Temple Hall, and spent a short time in the gardens. The American Minister and other distinguished persons were amongst the congregation.

A State Ball was given on Wednesday night, at Dublin Castle, by the Lord Lieut., and the Duchess of Marlborough. The Crown Prince of Austria was among the guests.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

(Continued from page 46.)

GIBRALTAR.—Inhabitants Lodge (No. 153).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Friday, the 28th ult. The lodge was opened at 7 p.m., the outgoing W.M., Bro. J. Cunningham, in the chair, supported by the following Past Masters: Bros. E. J. Barker, I.P.M.; J. J. R. Morgan, Beale, 325 I.C.; Franceri, 325, I.C.; McCormick, 325, I.C.; Holliday, 325, I.C.; Ross, 325, I.C.; and the following W.M.'s: Stanley, 278, E.C.; Jackson, 325, I.C.; and Valarino, 115, E.C. the two former of these W.M.'s being members of the lodge. It can easily be seen what an excellent and truly Masonic feeling there exists in this little world of Gibraltar, when so many old Masters, and of different constitutions, unite on an occasion of this kind. The following officers were present: Bros. J. Conroy, S.W., W.M. elect; Jackson, W.M., acting J.W.; Hunt, Treas.; Bacon, Sec.; Briggs, S.D.; Roberts, J.D.; Giles, I.G. The lodge was opened in due and ancient form, the minutes (so far as concerned the election) of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. The business was stated by the Secretary, and the lodge raised to the Second Degree (Bro. Stanley, W.M., here replaced the W.M. elect in the S.W.'s chair), when Past Masters Bros. Morgan and Barker presented the W.M. for installation. After the usual charges had been read by the Secretary, and suitably acknowledged the lodge was raised to the Third Degree, and all brethren below the rank of Installing Master withdrew. The Installing Officers having placed Bro. J. Conroy, in the chair, the brethren were re-admitted and proceeded to salute the newly-appointed W.M. in the usual manner. The ceremony was performed by the outgoing W.M., who was congratulated much on the energy and perseverance displayed on this occasion, as well as through the whole tour of his office. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. E. Bacon, S.W.; W. Briggs, J.W.; H. Hunt, Treas.; B. White, Sec.; Beavon, S.D.; Button, J.D.; W. Batchelor, I.G.; J. King, Org.; W. Davis, Steward; and Ghis, Tyler. The brethren then pledged the health of the W.M. in a loving cup, most kindly and deliciously concocted by Bro. M. Baglietto, and the W.M. returned thanks and wished the whole of the brethren prosperity. The I.P.M. proposed, and P.M. Bro. Barker seconded, a vote of thanks to all the Masters, Past and Present, who had so ably assisted him, carried nem. con. P.M. Bro. Franceri proposed, and Bro. Morgan P.M., seconded, "A vote of congratulation to the I.P.M. for the finished style he had performed the ceremony," carried with eclat. Bro. Davis proposed, and Bro. H. E. Batchelor seconded that a P.M. jewel should be presented by the lodge to Bro. Cunningham, I.P.M., for the untiring zeal exhibited by him during the year, carried unanimously. The lodge was then called off from labour to refreshment, and the brethren to the number of about fifty adjourned to the Friendship Lodge Rooms, so kindly lent by the W.M., Bro. Stanley, in which the banquet was laid out in the well known style of Mr. Miranda, and which the brethren did ample justice to. After the cloth had been cleared the usual toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Three Grand Masters," were given and loyally received. Subsequently the I.P.M., Bro. J. Cunningham, proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Conroy," and in so doing, alluded to the great assistance he had received from him while S.W., and he had not the slightest doubt he would shew that assiduity and proficiency which had characterised all his working since he had been in this garrison; this was received with the highest honours. In replying, the W.M. hoped he, with the able assistance of his officers, would be competent to work as his predecessor had done, who had elicited from an old P.M. of the lodge when present at his working the Third Degree that in all his numerous visits to many different lodges, he had not seen it performed in the impressive and solemn manner that the I.P.M. had worked it, and he trusted when he had completed his twelve months as Master to hand the lodge over to his successor in the same flourishing state it was now in. The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the Retiring Officers," congratulating them on their successful year, which was the result and reward of patient industry, coupling with it the name of P. J. W. Bro. Collins, who responded in a few select terms and called on his conferees to drink the health of the whole of the brethren. The I.P.M. now toasted "The Incoming Officers," remarking on the excellent choice the W.M. had made, and flattering each individual with a few chosen observations. The S.W., Bro. Bacon, responded in thanking the I.P.M. for the eulogiums he had given the newly-appointed officers, after which the W.M. proposed "The Health of the D.G.M., D.D.G.M., and Past Masters of 153," to which Bro. Barker, P.M., replied: the Visiting Brethren's health was proposed, by the W.M. coupling with it the names of Past Master, Bro. Ross, W.M., Bro. Valarino, and Bro. Forsdike, 960 E.C., Cardiff, each of these, in felicitous terms, had watched the great progress of Masonry in Gibraltar, and hoped this lodge would continue to prosper as it had done during the last two years. The I.P.M. could not forget to specially drink the health of P.M., Bro. Beal, who is a regularly grey-headed brother in the service, for in returning thanks he alluded to lengthened career in the Craft, and stating he had never known a better W.M. since he became a P.M. in 1849, than the late one. Other toasts succeeded, after which Bros. Bacon, Forsdike, Briggs, Batchelor, Nolan, Barker, &c., &c., contributed greatly by a few and appropriate songs to make the evening a very enjoyable one.

SWANSEA.—The Indefatigable Lodge (No. 237).—On Monday, January 14th, the installation of Bro. W. T. Canton, as W.M. of this lodge took place at the Masonic-hall, Caer-street. The lodge was opened at four o'clock, a large number of brethren being present. The W.M. elect was introduced for installation to the presiding W.M., Bro. J. Woolley, by Bro. T. R. Robinson

Prov. G. Supt. Works., and P.M. of the Indefatigable. The duties of Installing Master were fulfilled with marked ability by Bro. George Bradford, Past Prov. G. Supt. Works. The installation ceremony having been gone through, the newly-installed W.M. proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Bros. Thomas McKimm, S.W.; Henry Symons, J.W.; Thomas Powell, P. Provincial G. Dir. Cer.s, Treasurer; J. R. Gwynne, Sec.; Llewellyn J. Powell, S.D.; John Leworthy, J.D.; Charles Levy, I.G.; G. Bradford, P.M., Dir. of Cer.; T. H. Davies and W. H. Headdon, Stewards; George Bullerwell, Tyler. "Hearty good wishes" were then conveyed to the W.M. on his installation by Bro. James Livingstone, W.M. of the Caradoc Lodge, on behalf of that lodge; by Bro. Jones Hewson, on behalf of the Talbot Lodge; by Bro. T. James, P.M. of the Cambrian Lodge, 464, on behalf of that lodge; and by Bro. E. R. Roberts, P.M. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, London, 192, on behalf of that lodge. The Immediate Past Master, Bro. J. S. Woolley, was then presented with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the very able way in which he had conducted the business of the lodge during his year of office. Bro. John Rodgers, P.M. of the Caradoc Lodge, and Prov. J.W.; Bro. W. Brown, P.M. of the Indefatigable, and other prominent members, were present. The lodge having been closed, the brethren, between 50 and 60 in number, sat down to a banquet at the "Cameron Arms" Hotel, which was served up by Bro. Clare in a way which reflected the highest possible credit on the resources of that well-known establishment. The usual list of toasts were gone through. Soon after the cloth was withdrawn, the Worshipful the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, accompanied by Bro. E. S. Hartland, Bro. W. J. Rees, Bro. T. M. Smith, and other brethren, who had been prevented attending earlier, owing to their being present at the presentation at Neath to Bro. E. J. Morris, late and Deputy Provincial Grand Master, entering the room, were heartily welcomed. During the evening it was stated that the Indefatigable Lodge had recently received the centenary jewel, and was consequently the oldest lodge in the province. It also possessed its own Masonic Hall—a freehold worth £2000; and that there had recently been added to the lodge, placed in a gallery erected for that purpose, a very handsome organ, built by Mr. Philip Rogers, of Swansea, who, in the construction, had displayed considerable taste and ability. In the course of the evening there was some excellent singing, in which Bros. White, Jones, Hewson, T. R. Robinson, H. W. Williams, John Burnhill, and others took part. Bro. Gilbert Legge presided with his accustomed ability at the pianoforte, and the proceedings were of the most successful and enjoyable character throughout.

LEICESTER.—St. John's Lodge (No. 279).—The members of this lodge held an emergency meeting at the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening. Bro. George W. Starham, who was installed W.M. at the last ordinary meeting was in the chair, and there was a numerous attendance including several visitors. Three new candidates having been balloted for, Bro. Scott, Coulson, and Dr. Johnstone, (Assistant Medical Officer of Health for the borough), who had previously been passed to the degree of Craftsmen were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons, Bros. M. Alister, P.M.; and Smith, P.M. assisting the W.M. in a most able and impressive performance of the ceremony. Bro. Scott who is the Organist of Victoria Church, Leicester, was afterwards appointed Organist of the lodge, and duly invested by the W.M. At the supper which followed the business of the lodge Bro. Scott gave a spirited rendering of the Harmonious Blacksmith, and by the performance of that and several other pieces gave a very gratifying assurance of the valuable acquisition his services will be to St. John's Lodge.

LEWES.—South Saxon Lodge (No. 311).—On Wednesday, Jan. 16, the annual meeting of the lodge was held at Freemason's Hall, when Bro. Thomas Reader White was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Joseph Farncomb, P.M. 311, and Prov. Grand Steward. The W.M. appointed the following officers:—Bros. S. Tanner, S.W.; J. G. Braden, J.W.; H. Freeman, I.P.M.; R. Crosskey, Treas.; Joseph Farncomb, D.C.; Rev. W. E. Richardson, Chaplain; A. Holman, Sec.; R. Blaker, S.D.; F. J. Holman, J.D.; R. A. Stock, I.G.; S. Starnes, Org.; H. Hall, Tyler. The lodge business ended, the brethren dined together at the White Hart Hotel, Mrs. Huntley providing a very enjoyable repast. Among those present in addition to the officers above-named, were Bros. W. R. Wood, P.P.G.S.W.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. Grand S.c.; W. T. Nell, Prov. Grand Steward; Rev. E. F. Cave-Brown-Cave, W.M. 40; H. Davey, W.M. 732; S. T. Feat, W.M. 315; G. Stone, W.M. 1303; H. Hacker, P.P.G.J.D., Hampshire; C. Atkins, P.M. 27; Calway, 1619; Higham, 217; J. C. Lucas, P.M.; W. W. Turner, P.M.; and several members of the lodge. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and an agreeable evening was spent.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 354).—The festival of St. John, and installation of the W.M. of this large and flourishing lodge for the year ensuing, took place on Monday, in the presence of a very full attendance of brethren, the Board of Installed Masters numbering twenty. The ceremony was performed by Bro. P. P. Payne, P.M., who subsequently received a cordial vote of thanks for officiating with more than usual impressiveness. The newly-installed Master invested the officers as follows: Bros. John Clark, I.P.M., Arthur, S.W.; G. Tilling, J.W.; J. R. Weston, P.M.; Treas.; A. J. Miller, P.M., Sec.; Andrews, S.D.; Jones Algar, I.G.; W. Walters, P.M., D.C.; Westley, Org.; Biggs, Tyler; and Vane and Astley, Assistant Tylers. The installation banquet which followed was supplied by Bro. Dartnall, who as usual gave every satisfaction. It

was attended by nearly sixty brethren, including the Masters of the Lodge of Economy, Winchester; the Royal Gloucester, the Southampton, Clausentium, and a Cape of Good Hope Lodge, and proved a most fraternal and pleasant gathering.

BRIGHTON.—Royal Clarence Lodge (No. 271).—On Friday evening, the 18th inst., the annual meeting and installation banquet of this Royal Lodge took place at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Bro. C. Raymond Burrell, son of the Prov. Grand Master, Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., being installed for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. J. H. Scott, Deputy Prov. G.M., who retired from the chair. The following officers were appointed; Bro. T. Wilks, S.W.; Bro. P. M. Smith, J.W.; Bro. F. Sundius Smith, Secretary; Bro. P. R. Wilkinson, Treasurer; Bro. T. C. Woodman, S.D.; Bro. A. King, J.D.; Bro. Prideaux, Owen Rickards, D.C.; Bro. J. Licubette, Organist; Bro. J. Dennant, I.G.; Bro. T. Hughes, Tyler. The brethren afterwards partook of an elegant banquet, supplied by Messrs. Mutton About 120 were present, including nearly the whole of the Prov. Grand Officers, who were specially invited in honour of the occasion. The Right W. Prov. Grand Master, in response to the toast of his health, said he regarded his visit to the Clarence Lodge as a "red letter" event, for he had seen his son pass through three offices, and finally take the W.M.'s chair of the lodge. He was especially pleased to find that his Parliamentary duties enabled him to leave London, and that no anticipated voting compelled his hasty return. Sir Walter concluded his able response with some sound practical advice as to the duties of Masonry, and expressed a hope that he should soon be again enabled to visit the Clarence Lodge. During the evening the proceedings were enlivened by some glees and songs, exceedingly well rendered by Bros. T. Baxter, G. T. Carter, Montem Smith, and T. Distin. Bro. Kuhe, Grand Organist, also played some excellent selections on the piano.

RAMSGATE.—Royal Navy Lodge (No. 402).—According to ancient custom, the installation of the Worshipful Master elect of this lodge took place on Wednesday, Jan 2nd. The choice of the brethren falling on Bro. Charles Andrews, S.W., to fill the chair of King Solomon, for the ensuing twelve months. The following Past Masters and brethren were present:—T. G. Snowden, P.M. 429, 2109, P.P.G.J.W.; L. Finch, P.M. 429, 1209, W. Winch, P.M. 429, W.M. 1209, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Emmerson, P.M. 249, P.P.J.G.D.; G. Hawkes, P.M. 127, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Call, P.M. 1209, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Hazledine, P.M. 429, P.G.D.C.; G. Page, P.M. 1209, P.P.J.G.D.; W. T. C. Harrison, P.M. 429; J. Crawford, W.M. 127; J. O. Eve, S.W. 1209; and Bros. Crane, Barrett, Smith, Foat, Fenner, Bush, &c. In consequence of the heavy amount of business to be disposed of before the installation, the lodge was called for 1.30 p.m., at which hour it was opened with solemn prayer. The business consisted of three raisings and one passing. Two raisings and the passing were most ably performed by Bro. W. Harrison, P.M., 429. The remaining raising, traditional history and the ceremony of installation by Bro. W. Call, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.D.C. The impressive manner in which Bro. Call performed the important duties of Installing Master, elicited from the Past Masters and brethren the highest encomiums for the skill and ability displayed by him in performing the ceremony of installation, that a special vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes of the Lodge. The W.M. (Bro. C. Andrews) then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bro. G. Hiller, S.W.; Bros. J. Mairable, J.W.; the Rev. G. W. Sicklemore, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.J.W., Chaplain; L. Finch, P.M. 429, 1209, P.P.G.D.C. Treas.; J. Hazledine, P.M. 429, P.P.G.D.C., Secretary; J. C. Hiller, S.D.; J. Jones, J.D.; J. Fenner, I.G.; Foat and Adams, Stewards; R. T. Rolfe, P.M. 429, Tyler. This concluding the business of the evening, the lodge was closed in the usual form, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, served with Bro. Hiscock's usual good taste. The pleasure of the evening was much enhanced by the way in which the musical arrangements were carried out by Bro. Aubrey, of the Union Lodge, 127, Margate.

INSTRUCTION.

THE ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—This lodge, held at the Deptford Lecture Hall, had a meeting on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., when a large number of its members and friends assembled to testify their esteem to Bro. George Andrews, Preceptor of the lodge, for the zeal and ability displayed in the important office for nearly four years. Wines and dessert were provided, and, assisted with harmony, a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present. P.S.—The above lodge opens every Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

FINSBURY PARK (Master Masons) LODGE (No. 1288).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Finsbury Park Tavern, Holloway, on Friday, the 18th inst. Present: Bros. P.M. Rogers, Preceptor; Walker, Egyptian, 27, W.M.; Dunn, jun., S.W.; Press, J.W.; Davis, S.D.; Edmunds, J.D.; Oldis, I.G.; Past Masters Davis and Piggott; and Bros. Jeffreys, W.M. 902; Campbell, and others. Lodge opened. Minutes read and confirmed. Lodge opened Second Degree. Lodge resumed to First Degree, Bro. Maudwell, W.M. elect, S.W. No. 27, candidate for passing, examined, entrusted, and retired. Bro. P. M. Rogers presented Bro. Maudwell as W.M. elect, and Bro. Walker performed the ceremony of Installation, and Bro. Maudwell invested the officers. Proposed seconded, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bro. Walker, for working the installation ceremony. Bro. Dunn, jun., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Maudwell was elected a member of the lodge. Lodge closed.

Royal Arch.

STOCKPORT.—Chapter of Stone of Friendship Ezel (No. 287). The installation of Principals and investiture of Officers took place on Thursday, the 16th inst., at the "Dog and Partridge" Inn, Stockport. Companion James Hall, P.P.G.A.S., was the Installing Principal, assisted by Companion J. H. Bladen, P.Z. 516, and it is superfluous to say that the ceremony was most impressively performed. The following is a list of the Officers invested: Comp. A. W. Graham, Z.; Comp W. Shepherd, H.; Comp. John Turner, J.; Thomas Newton, P.S.; James Palin, Treasurer; Chas. Booth, E.; F. T. Tapp, N.; R. C. Blakehurst, P.A.S.; C. Robinson, 2nd A.S.

Mark Masonry.

MARYPORT—Whitwell Lodge (No. 151). The regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 17th inst. The M.M.M., Bro. Thomas Mandie, P.G.R. of M. in the chair, supported by the following officers: Bros. Jos. Nicholson, P.M., P.G.M.S.W., Treas.; James Gardiner, I.P.M., P.G.M.M.O.; J. R. Banks, S.W.; J. Smith, P.P.G.M. Org.; T. Carey, Reg.; J. H. Banks, P.G.M., I.G.; T. Dixon, P.M. 1400, Chap.; P. Dodgson, P.G.M. Steward, M.O.; J. Quay, Rec., as S.O.; J. W. Robinson, J.O.; W. Stoddart, S.D.; G. W. Thompson, J.D.; R. Heatherington, I.G.; R. G. Harris, Tyler, and a number of other brethren. Bro. Yeung, P.G.P., and P.M. 1400; and J. Futton, J.W. 371, being in attendance, they were advanced to the honourable degree by Bro. Gardiner most impressively, and as usual, the working of the subordinate offices were perfect. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, which was served by Bro. J. H. Banks, who never tires in his endeavour to make all comfortable. The usual toasts were given from the chair, interspersed with numerous songs, by Bros. J. R. Banks, G. W. Robinson, J. H. Banks, and G. W. Thompson, the Tylers' toast bringing a very pleasant evening to a harmonious termination.

[The following stand over:—United Mariners Lodge, No. 30; Loyalty Lodge, No. 86; Zetland Lodge, No. 537.]

CUMBERLAND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The sixty-third annual ball in aid of the funds of this institution was held at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Friday evening last. The objects of the institution are to grant allowances by way of pensions to indigent natives of the county and their widows. The ball was under the distinguished patronage of the Lord Lieutenant of the county, and a long list of titled lady patronesses and ladies of the county; the whole of the county and borough members were amongst the list of Stewards. The company numbered nearly 250—amongst whom were, Mr. and Mrs. George Rawlinson and family, Mr. Graham King, and Miss Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Walton, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pattinson, Mr. Tom Studholme, and the Misses Hookway, Mr. F. Hookway, Mr. Sidney King, Mr. Bayliss, Mr. Wood, Mr. Robert James, Mr. Robert James, Mr. Robert Wrightson, and the Misses Wrightson, Miss Nuttall, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stagg, Mr. T. W. Pridmore, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jones, Mr. G. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hicklin, Mr. and Miss Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomlinson and daughter, Mr. Rickwood, (Secretary), and Mrs. Rickwood, Mr. J. Eddy, Mr. Lewis Edgar, Mr. J. Bushell, Mr. G. Woodlands, and others.

The company adjourned to the spacious and elegant supper-rooms for which the establishment is so famous, shortly after twelve o'clock. The chair was taken by Henry Nicholson, Esq., the indefatigable Honorary Secretary of the institution, who after the toast of "The Queen," proposed "Success to the Cumberland Benevolent Institution," and gave a hearty welcome, and thanked all present for their attendance. Mr. Graham King who again acted as honorary M.C., proposed "The Health of the Cumbrian Lasses," which was received with great enthusiasm, on behalf of whom Mr. Robert Wrightson returned thanks. The company then returned to the ball-room, and dancing was kept up to the admirable quadrille band of Mr. Dan Godfrey—personally conducted by that gentleman—the company retiring shortly before five o'clock, after Sir Roger and reels, which were danced with great spirit, every one expressing themselves greatly pleased with the success of this old established and excellent ball.

FREEMASONRY IN PHILADELPHIA.

It is now a well-established fact that a lawfully-warranted Masonic lodge was established in Philadelphia in 1730, and that a Grand Lodge was organised here in 1735, and these facts were first proven in *The Keystone*, in its issue of July 11th, 1874. We are now able to go fifteen years further back, and by the aid of Bro. Horace W. Smith, of this city, prove, from an original letter in his possession, that there were Freemasons in Philadelphia as early as the year 1715, and at that time they were accustomed to meet for Craft purposes. The letter we are about to reproduce is of great Masonic value and interest, and has never before appeared in print.

This letter was written by Bro. Moore, the King's Collector at Philadelphia, to James Sandelar, of Chester, Pa., and is as follows:

Philadelphia Port, in Pennsylvania, March 10, 1715.
It is my design to inform you that there is in my care a small bell, which is intended for St. Paul's Church of your parish, which has been delivered at this Port free of charges or duty—likewise a rich cloth and a neat chalice,

which are the gift of Sir Jeffry Jeffries. You will inform me by what means they shall be delivered to your hand. You will remember me kindly to ye Rev. George Ross, and to my friend Jasper Yeates, Esq. I would be pleased you would any of you stop with me, when you come to Philadelphia. I am now in my new house on ye Second street above ye new church.

Ye winter has been very long and dull—and we have had no mirth or pleasure, except a few evenings spent in festivity with my Masonic Brethren.

I subscribe myself, with all dutiful respect, Your dutiful Humble Servant,

To James Sandelands, Esq.,
Uplands,

These.

This is the letter to which Bro. Smith refers, in his article in another column of this issue of the *Keystone*, entitled "Early Masonry in Pennsylvania." We understand that Bro. Smith intends to have the letter lithographed, and then to present the original to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, for preservation in the Grand Lodge Library.

We may add that Bro. Horace W. Smith, the custodian of this letter, is the great-grandson of Bro. Rev. Dr. William Smith, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; the grandson of Bro. William Moore Smith, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and son of Bro. Richard Penn Smith, of Lodge 72, of this city; and the granddaughter of Bro. John Moore, the writer of the above letter, intermarried with Bro. Rev. Dr. Smith.

This letter is evidence that there were Freemasons in Philadelphia two years before the Revival of Freemasonry in England, and establishment of this Grand Lodge, in 1717. Massachusetts Brethren say to this?—*Keystone*.

Masonic and General Tidings.

Bro. C. Raymond Burrell, son of Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, was installed W.M. of the Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 271, on Friday, the 18th inst., by Bro. J. H. Scott, I.P.M., Deputy Grand Master.

A Grand Masonic Concert was given in the Public Hall, Aberavon, on Thursday, the 24th inst., under the patronage of Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. G. Master for South Wales. A large number of brethren were present in full Masonic costume. We shall give a full report in our next.

Bro. Sir Frederick Martin Williams, Bart. M.P., the D.P.G. Master of Cornwall, we are informed has been appointed the Provincial Grand Prior of Cornwall.

Bro. Archibald Forbes delivered a lecture in St. James's Hall on Thursday last on his personal experiences as a Correspondent in the present war.

The twenty-five girls who were elected at the Quarterly Court in October last, on the motion of Bro. R. B. Webster, as well as the ten girls who were elected to fill vacancies created by others leaving the School, were admitted on Thursday, the 24th inst.

Mr. W. Dieseldorff tells the following story of a Picture:—In *The Times* of the 10th inst., mention is made of a Pieter de Hooghe, "Girl Feeding Chickens," in the possession of Baron Rothschild. Pictures sometimes undergo strange vicissitudes. This one, now a dweller in the gallery of the Baron, was discovered by the late Mr. S. M. Mawson, at a public sale in a dingy place in the outskirts of Paris about the year 1842. The picture was in so neglected a state that it was being passed over without a bid, when Mr. Mawson, offered 100f., and it was knocked down to him. It was cleaned, framed, and then excited general admiration. Baron Rothschild showed great fondness for it, and Mr. Mawson parted with it for £800,—although purposing to hold it at £1000. It is now the Pieter de Hooghe, "a thing of beauty, and a joy for ever."

The *Deutsche Zeitung* states that Dr. Slade, the spiritualist, lately arrived in Vienna, but was not granted permission to stay there by the police authorities, owing to his inability to account satisfactorily for his profession.

DORIC LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—This lodge of instruction has been removed, and will be held every Friday evening, at 8 o'clock precisely, at 79, White-chapel-road, near the Pavilion Treatre.

Hospital Sunday collections in Liverpool, bad times notwithstanding, this year has been more successful than last, the result being £7608, against £7542 last year.

Neptune Lodge (No. 22).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street on Thursday last, a report of which will appear in our next.

At a special meeting of the Local Board in Committee, the official seal was attached to a deed of security to the Bank of England for the loan of £155,000 in respect to the purchase of the local gas and water undertakings for Ramsgate.

The Annual Ball on behalf of the funds of the Licensed Victuallers School will take place at St. James's Hall, on Thursday next, the 31st inst.

A somewhat remarkable volume of poetry entitled "The Lovers Curl, and other verses" has just been issued by Messrs. Remington. The poems, though crude, display a latent power of pathos and prove, at least that the author, Mr. Stickwood, possesses the tender feeling proper to all poets of whatever degree.

Lord Rosslyn was received on Monday by the King of Spain and delivered to his Majesty a letter from the Queen, and presents from the Prince of Wales. Admiral Fourichon and General Goeben were also received as the representatives of France and Germany.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.—On Monday the Lord Mayor received a draft for £1,000, from the Mayor of Hobart Town, being the second contribution from that city in aid of the Indian Famine Fund. The former donation of a like amount had been remitted direct to Madras, but it had been found cheaper to forward the remainder through the Mansion House. A communication was also received from the Mayor of Brisbane, stating that £1500 had been collected there and sent to Madras, and adding that the long drought under which a large portion of the colony had been suffering had greatly militated against the success of the appeal. A letter, giving particulars of the collection of £4000 at Dunedin likewise came, as well as a despatch from the Mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand, stating that £5000 had been collected there, among a population of 72,000 and remitted to India. On Saturday Lord Derby forwarded to the Lord Mayor a draft for £38 9s. 6d., collected among British subjects in the Province of Coquimbo, and a sum of £15 16s. 2d., the balance of Masonic contributions at Hong Kong has also been received. The fund now amounts to £504,000.

A prospectus has been issued of a company entitled the "Mont de Piété of England," with a capital of one million, divided into certificates of £10 each. The object is to establish here large pawnbroking institutions based on the principle that has been current for many years abroad. The rate of interest to be charged to borrowers is 12½ per cent., being a considerable reduction on the present authorised and legal charges made by pawnbrokers. It is supposed to pay the certificate holders 7 per cent., and from the balance pay expenses, &c., and form a sinking fund for the redemption of the certificates at £20 by annual drawings. The originator of the scheme is to be paid for all "his claims, past, present, or future," 3 per cent., and presumably (although the prospectus does not mention it) this is to be on the capital subscribed.

THE FORGERY BY A CHINAMAN.—At the Hampshire Assizes on Monday, Tom Fat, a young Chinaman, was indicted before Mr. Justice Mellor on several charges of forgery, with intent to defraud his master, Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, commander of H.M.S. Thunderer. It appeared that the prisoner was bought of his father in China by Lord Charles some nine years ago for twenty-five dollars. He proved an apt servant, and under his master's tuition became an expert penman, and his duties included the care of Lord Charles' cheque-book. He began forging in 1874, since which time he has defrauded his master of upwards of £14,000, his plan being to tear out a cheque and counterfoil, and make the former payable to self, and signing Lord Charles's name, the forgery being such as almost to defy detection. He would destroy the vouchers as they were returned from the bank, and it was only by an accident that the frauds were discovered. He pleaded guilty to three charges, and sentence was deferred.

Bro. Farmaner will be installed as W.M. of the Old King's Arms Lodge on Monday. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next.

Full particulars of the public night for Royal Arch Masons under the auspices of the Chapter of Prudent Brethren, briefly referred to in our last, will be found in the advertisement at the top of centre column on front page.

We are asked to state that the Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction, No. 73, is now held at the Horse Shoe Tavern, Stones-end, Borough-road, on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock.

The Prince of Wales has returned a reply to the address presented to him by the Corporation of Cambridge, in which he expresses the gratification it gave him to visit the scenes of his happy undergraduate days.

The consecration of the Star Chapter, No. 1275, took place at the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, on Wednesday last, the ceremonies being performed by Comp. James Terry, in his usual eloquent and able manner. We shall give an account of the proceedings in our next.

A drawing room entertainment by the employes of Messrs. J. C. Boyd and Co. was given on behalf of the Royal Hospital for Incurables at St. George's Hall on Thursday last, the 24th inst. [By a misprint we stated that the entertainment took place on Thursday, the 17th inst]. A report will appear in our next.

Bro. Wingham, P.M., of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, will work the 15 sections in the Mount Lebanon Lodge of Instruction, on Wednesday, the 27th proximo.

The directors of the Hull Tramway Company will recommend a dividend for the past half year at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and to raise the reserve fund to £1000, carrying forward £280.

The Queen has subscribed £100 towards the Turkish Compassionate Fund.

At Madame Tussaud's has just been produced a representation of the "Lying in state of Victor Emanuel."

The official report of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire is to hand, too late for this week. We will allude to it in our next.

The Duke of Connaught attended Divine Service at the Temple Church on Sunday, when the Rev. Dr. Vaughan preached. His Royal Highness occupied the Middle Temple benchers' pew. After the service he was conducted to the Middle Temple Hall, and spent a short time in the gardens. The American Minister and other distinguished persons were amongst the congregation.

A State Ball was given on Wednesday night, at Dublin Castle, by the Lord Lieut., and the Duchess of Marlborough. The Crown Prince of Austria was among the guests.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, February 1, 1878.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26.

Audit Com., Boys' School.
Lodge 1293, Burdett, Mitre Hot., Hampton-et.
" 1679, Henry Muggerridge, Prince George, Park-rd. E
" 1686, Paxton, Crystal Palace.
Red Cross Con. 6, Roman Eagle, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

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.
Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28.
Lodge 4, R. Somerset Ho. and Inverness, F.M.H.
" 26, Castle of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, W.
" 28, Old King's Arms, F.M.H.
" 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
" 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
" 902, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 905, De Grey and Ripon, F.M.H.
" 1608, Kilburn, Queen's Arms Hot., Kilburn Gate.
" 1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq.
" 1632, Stuart, Surrey M.H.
Chap. 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.

" 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
Mark Lodge 5, Mallet and Chisel, Bridge House Hot.
LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.
Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
Camden, Stanhope Arms, Up. James-st., Camden Town.
Tredegar, 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.
West Smithfield, New Market Hot., West Smithfield.
Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich.
London Masonic Club, at 101, Queen Victoria-st. E.C.,
2nd and 4th Monday every month, at 6 o'clock.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29.
Audit Com. Girls School at 4.
Lodge 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Metropolitan, 269, Pentonville-rd.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
Domatic, 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.
Florence Nightingale, F.M.H., William-st., Woolwich.
Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.
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, 23, Gresham-st.
Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
Mount Edgcombe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30.
Lodge 898, Temperance-in-the-East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.
" 1732, King's Cross, 269, Pentonville-rd. (Cnsrtn.)
Chap. 435, Mount Lebanon, Ship & Turtle, Leadenhall-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-st., W., at 8
Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich.
New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.
La Tolerance, Horse and Groom, Winsley-st., Oxford-st.
Peckham, Malsmore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anclrey.
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, at 8.
Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31.
Gen. Com. Girls' School at 4.
Muggerridge Testimonial Com., M.R., Little Britain.
Lodge 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
" 1524, Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., E.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
Union Waterloo, Chatham Arms, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
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.
Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Milbank.
Hghgate, Bull and Gate, Kentish-town.
The Great City, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-road, Tottenham.
Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
Southern Star, Crown Hot., Blackfriars-rd.
Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1.
Lodge 706, Florence Nightingale, M.H., Woolwich.
" 890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
" 1489, Marquis of Ripon, Balls-Pond-rd., N.
" 1613, Cripplegate, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
" 1627, Royal Kensington, F.M.H.
" 1716, All Saints, Town-hall, Poplar.
Chap. 8, British, F.M.H.
" 259, Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

Mark 8, Thistle, 2, Westminster Chambers, S.W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.
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., at 7.
St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
Westbourne, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood.
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, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
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.
William Preston, Feathers Tav., Up. George-st., Edgware-rd.
Hervey, 99, Fleet-street, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Mitre Ho., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill
Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Ho., London-st., Greenwich.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, February 2, 1878.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28.
Lodge 148, Lights, M.R., Warrington.
Chap. 241, Friendship, M.H., Liverpool.
Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29.
Chap. 721, Grosvenor, M.R., Chester.
Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30.
Lodge 730, Ellesmere, Royal Oak, Chorley.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31.
Lodge 1313, Ferman, M.H., Southport.
Mariners L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1.
Lodge 680, Sefton, Adelphi Hot., Liverpool.
" 1375, Architect, Didsbury Hot., Didsbury.
" 1387, Chorlton, M.R., Chorlton-cum-Hardy.
Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

For Masonic Meetings throughout Scotland see *Scottish Freemason*, which can be obtained at the Office of this journal, 198, Fleet-street, London.



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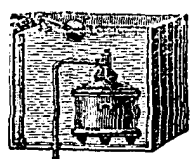
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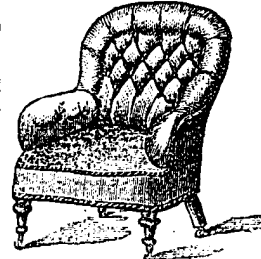
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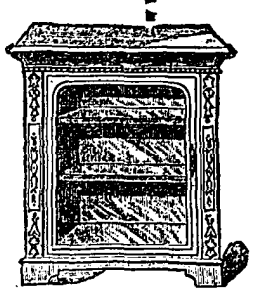


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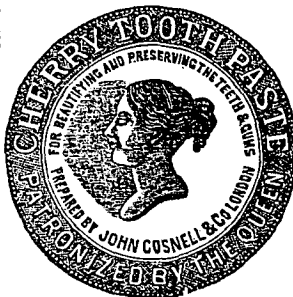
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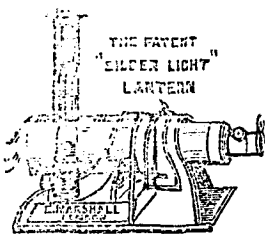
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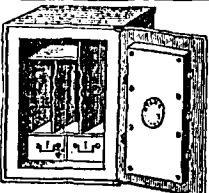
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