

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—  
 Craft Masonry ..... 111  
 Instruction ..... 113  
 Royal Arch ..... 113  
 Mark Masonry ..... 114  
 Knight Templars ..... 114  
 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution ..... 114  
 Swedenborgian Rite ..... 114  
 Notes on Art, &c. .... 114  
 Langhorne Masonic Charitable Association ..... 115  
 Masonic Thinker ..... 116  
 Masonic and General Tidings ..... 116  
 United Grand Lodge ..... 117  
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls ..... 117  
 Reviews ..... 117  
 The Next Quarterly Communication ..... 118  
 Bro. Thevenot and the "Freemason" ..... 118  
 The Election of a New Pope ..... 118  
 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution ..... 119  
 CORRESPONDENCE:—  
 The Present Position of the Grand Orient of France ..... 119  
 Provincial Educational Institutions ..... 119  
 The Grand Master of Sweden ..... 120  
 Our Charities ..... 120  
 Dr. Moon's Work for the Blind ..... 120  
 Coincidence or Design—Which? ..... 120  
 Kenning's Masonic Cyclopaedia ..... 120  
 Bro. Desmons' Report ..... 120  
 Consecration of the Francis Burdett Chapter No. 1502 ..... 121  
 Provincial Grand Chapter of Middlesex ..... 121  
 Provincial Grand Chapter of Suffolk ..... 121  
 Consecration of the Weyside Chapter, No. 1095 ..... 122  
 The Bible—Its Masonic Authority ..... 122  
 St. James Union Lodge Ball ..... 123  
 Masonic Ball at Birmingham ..... 123  
 Earl of Carnarvon Lodge Ball ..... 123  
 The Installation Engraving ..... 123  
 The Charity Voting Reform Movement ..... 123  
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week ..... 123  
 Advertisements ..... i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, 124

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

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY (No. 2).—The monthly meeting of this ancient and distinguished lodge took place at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 27th ult. There was a numerous attendance of brethren and visitors. The election of Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold was unanimously confirmed as W.M., who would have been present, but had left for the Continent. A letter from his equerry, the Hon. A. Yorke, was read. Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., and P.S. Warden of the lodge, was appointed by H.R.H. as the Deputy Master for the year, and was installed by the Immediate P.M., Bro. Philbrick, in a most strikingly effective manner, so much so as to impress all present, and obtain the emphatic approval of the Grand Secretary. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Philbrick by the newly-installed D.W.M., in appropriate terms, and amid the hearty applause of the lodge. The brethren adjourned to the "festive board" at the conclusion of the business, and enjoyed one of those pleasant and fraternal gatherings of reasonable if abundant hospitality, for which the Lodge of Antiquity has always been famed, under the ever admirable catering of Bro. Colonel Creaton, the permanent adviser of the lodge in matters æsthetic and convivial, and greatly to the praise of Bro. Best. The brethren present passed a most pleasant evening, which was more than once alluded to in some of the admirable speeches which were made. The lodge numbers amongst its officers some most excellent Masons, as Bro. Tomkins, the worthy and kindly Treasurer of the lodge and Grand Treasurer; Bro. E. J. Barron, the indefatigable Secretary; Bro. Hope, M.D., Senior Warden; Bro. Parker Deacon, Junior Warden; Rev. Bro. Duckworth, Chaplain; Bro. Hilary Skinner, Bro. Greetham, Bro. Twynam, Bro. Col. Creaton, and its immediate P.M., Bro. Philbrick. Among the P.M.'s may be mentioned Bro. Col. Stuart, Bro. Wharton Hood, M.D.; Bro. John Sampson Pierce, Bro. W. F. Rac, Bro. Fordati, Bro. G. Scharf, Bro. C. A. Swinburne, Bro. R. A. Holmes, and Bro. Dr. Erasmus Wilson. Among the visitors present were Bro. Hervey, G.S. of England; Bro. Head, P.G.D.; Bro. Percy Leith, Bro. Rev. Dr. Brette, Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.D.; Hopwood, 263; Bro. George Kenning, Bro. Goodden, and many more. The brethren separated at an early hour, greatly gratified with the gathering, and deeply impressed, alike with the "labour and refreshment" of this most ancient and eminent lodge.

BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—The installation meeting of this highly popular lodge—and if popularity can be gauged by extensive and ready acceptance of its hospitalities, the adjective is strictly applicable—was held at Anderton's Hotel on Monday evening last. Following the very commendable custom never departed from of late years in this lodge, the outgoing Master, Bro. H. C. Jefferys, W.M., personally installed his successor, and performed the interesting ceremony in a manner almost faultless. Bro. S. J. Byng, the ci-devant S.W., whose election to the chair at the former meeting had been unanimous, having been thus regularly inducted into the chair of K.S., amid the applause of the select but comparatively numerous Board of L.M.'s who had assembled to do him honour, proceeded on the re-admission of the brethren to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bro. Pockock, S.W.; Taylor, J.W.; Rogers, Sec.; Wale, S.D.; Gubb, J.D.; Turner, I.G.; Bundy, M.C.; Wilkins, S.; and Grant, Tyler. Bro. S. Poynter, P.M., who had been for the twelfth or thirteenth time unanimously elected Treasurer of the lodge at the former meeting, was likewise invested with the collar and jewel of that office. Judging from the applause which greeted each of these brethren as he approached the pedestal, these appointments would appear to be highly popular in the lodge, and to reflect great credit on the discrimination of the new W.M., whose credit for good working is very wide-spread, and who

would appear to be also highly esteemed in the lodge of which he is an elective and not an initiated member being the second joining member who has attained the honour of the chair in the Burgoyne. The other was P.M. Field, and it speaks volumes for the fair appreciation of merit among these brethren, as likewise for the popularity of the individual himself, that this joining member achieved the exceptional honour of being elected W.M. twice consecutively. The lodge having been closed, the brethren proceeded to banquet, which was numerously attended, no less than twenty-four visitors being present. Of such a number, all of considerable distinction in the Craft, it is impossible to particularize more than a few of the most eminent, among whom we noticed the W. Bros. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.J.D.; Augs. J. Fabian, P.M., Portsmouth, 487, P.P.S.G.W. Hants; Thomas E. Taylor, P.M. Temple, 101; John Walker, I.P.M. Egyptian, 27; W. F. Wuest, P.M., and J. Pizer, P.M. Prince Frederick William, 753; Fredk. Dunn, P.M.; and Joseph Pigot, P.M. New Concord Lodge, 813; and several other bright and shining lights in the Craft. The new W.M. presided with the most polished urbanity, and gave the various toasts, which were heartily honoured, with considerable oratorical ability. The toast of the Grand Officers was responded to by the W. Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.J.D., who expatiated upon the importance of brethren taking a warm interest in the general politics of the Craft by following the proceedings of Grand Lodge and of the various boards, and alluded to one or two questions of interest now under discussion by, or soon likely to be brought under the notice of, the legislative assembly of the Order. The toast of "The Visitors" was numerously, and in warm terms of appreciation responded to. In replying to the toast of "The Treasurer," given by the W.M. in very affectionate and flattering terms, Bro. S. Poynter, P.M. and Treasurer, said he ventured to follow, and if possible, to emphasise the remarks of their illustrious visitor, Bro. Hogg, and to draw the attention of the brethren to the advisability—he might say, the duty—of each member of the lodge sometimes to extend his attention upward from their merely local concerns to the graver matters that should engage the interest of the Craft at large. Their own immediate business should of course be attended to, but the great and burning questions of the entire Order should be examined also by every individual brother. "This should ye do, and not leave the other undone." Parochial politics were indispensably engrossing, but he (the speaker) ventured to think that imperial legislation was not less important. The Treasurer's remarks appeared, by the applause which greeted him as he resumed his seat, to meet with the approbation of the lodge. "The Health of the Officers" was drunk with much cordiality, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings of a very enjoyable evening, the pleasures of which had been much enhanced by some admirable vocalisation, more especially contributed by Bros. Rogers, Gabb, and Bundy, and Bro. Chappell, a visitor, to a timely conclusion.

WANDSWORTH LODGE (No. 1044).—A meeting of this lodge, which is now the largest in the district, was held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Wandsworth, on the 20th ult. Bro. H. R. Jones, the W.M., presided. Amongst those present were Bros. W. A. Morgan, S.W.; A. N. Newens, J.W.; W. J. Huntley, J.D.; J. J. Holland, I.G.; Wilson, Treas.; J. Frost, Sec.; J. G. Carter, P.M.; J. G. Kewney, P.M.; E. H. Boidy, P.M.; F. Reed, S. C. Landon, R. H. Walker, H. J. Newens, G. W. Smith, J. W. Haines, G. Clark, H. Price, G. Fortescue, and others. The ballot was taken, and proved unanimous for Mr. J. W. Marshall, of Balham. Bro. H. J. Newens was passed to the Second Degree. Mr. Percy V. Denham, proposed by Bro. A. A. Denham, and seconded by Bro. J. J. Holland, was then ably initiated by the W.M. Bro. W. Price was raised to the degree of W.M. The motion by Bro. P. Cooke, P.M., to alter bye-law No. 2, was withdrawn, (Bro. Cooke being unavoidably absent. After some formal business was transacted, the members adjourned for refreshment.

PECKHAM LODGE (No. 1475).—The installation meeting of this young and prosperous lodge was held on Thursday, the 21st ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell. The W.M., Bro. George Duck, opened the lodge at 4.30, and having disposed of the usual business, at once proceeded to instal Bro. Thomas Stephens, the S.W., who had been unanimously elected, into the chair of K.S., in the presence of an unusually large Board of Installed Masters. The W.M. having been duly proclaimed and saluted, appointed and invested the officers for the year: Bros. J. W. Jackson, S.W.; H. Vickery, J.W.; W. G. Warren, P.M., Treas.; W. E. Gompertz, P.M., Secretary; E. A. Whitby, S.D.; D. Channon, J.D.; G. Harrison, Tyler; D. Rose, P.M., D.C.; A. Stribling, O.; A. H. Watkins, P.M., W.S. The newly-installed Master at once gave proof of his qualification for the high position to which he had been called by initiating three gentlemen into the light of Freemasonry, in a manner which called forth expressions of the highest approval from all present. It is but fair to say that the credit of the very perfect working of of this lodge is due to Bro. Rose, the Preceptor of the instruction lodge, who had spared neither time or pains in perfecting the several officers for their respective duties, specially the I.P.M., Bro. Duck, who rendered the installation ceremony in a most perfect and faultless manner. Our brethren in the South-Eastern district may be glad to know that the Peckham Lodge of Instruction meets on Wednesday evenings at the Maismore Arms Tavern, Peckham Park-road. The business of the lodge having been disposed of, the brethren adjourned to the large hall to a well served banquet, which perhaps no one knows better how to appreciate than do Masons. The usual loyal Masonic and complimentary toasts were given in well-chosen words, and duly responded to; the W.M. then presented a handsome ten-guinea P.M. jewel to the I.P.M., Bro. George Duck, as a mark of the brethren's apprecia-

tion of the able manner in which he had discharged the duties of the chair. Bro. Duck expressed his grateful acknowledgement of the efficient and harmonious way the officers and brethren had worked with him during his year of office. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the Visitors," (over thirty of whom were present), said it was a great pleasure to see so many, as it shewed the estimation in which the Peckham Lodge was held for its hospitality and cordial reception of visitors, yet notwithstanding that they were famed for good banquets, but he was happy to say, besides cultivating all the enjoyments derived from social intercourse and festivities, they had not neglected the higher duties of Masonry, and that in the four years the lodge had been established, they had sent up three Stewards, and at the last festival of the Benevolent Institution the list from the Peckham Lodge was the third highest of all the London lodges. Bro. John E. Grocott, P.M. 869, P.G.S.W. of Hertfordshire, and Bro. James Garner, W.M. of the Rose Lodge, responded, both expressing the great pleasure they had experienced in witnessing the admirable manner the whole of the business of the lodge had been conducted, and to hear the rising prosperous condition the lodge had attained. Other complimentary toasts followed, interspersed with some capital music and singing contributed by some of the members whose vocal and instrumental talents at all times largely contributed to the enjoyment of the brethren. Bro. Past Master Dalby, in the course of his remarks in response to the toast of the Past Masters, made an earnest appeal to the brethren and visitors present for their support to secure the election of one of the children of Bro. Tracey, (who had died since the last regular meeting), who is a candidate for the Boy's School. Amongst the visitors were Bros. S. W. Wagstaff, P.M. and Z. of 1216; J. T. Neilson, P.M. 28; G. T. Bickerton, S.W. 1329; H. Keeble, W.M. 1559; W. Thue, J.W. 1622; J. Garner, W.M. 1622; F. Binland, P.M. 3; A. Alworth, P.M. 1261; W. H. Lee P.M. 975; J. Pemin, P.M. 1056; H. W. Gompertz, S.W. 1364; R. Kearne, P.M. 1507; W. H. Barber, Sec. 1201; W. Cowley, 1554; W. Choat, 1201, H. Smith, 205, A. Gaink, 1056; J. E. Lloyd, 28; E. Tholander, 8; S. E. Blidberg, 2; E. Taylor, 227; J. Rush, 1201; C. B. Cheese, J.D. 869; W. Hamlyn, 1622; R. Voisey, S.D. 1641; S. H. Goldsmith, 1329; Robert Bruce, P.M. 869, P.G.S.D. Herts; J. E. Smith, 185; H. Appleby, 174; J. Mabe, 869; and J. Oliver, P.M. 1539.

TEMPLE BAR LODGE (No. 1728).—This flourishing new lodge that was only consecrated about two months ago, held its regular meeting on Thursday evening, the 21st ult., at the "London," Fleet-street, with a long agenda of business to be disposed of, consisting of four passings, four initiations, and the admission of two joining members. At the formation of this lodge it was distinctly understood that, to avoid an evil which often arises in large assemblies, it should be limited to 50 members, and if it should go on at the rate at which it has at present proceeded, the required number will be soon obtained, and as the W. Master expressed himself in the course of the evening, "the perfect arch will be completed. Bro. John Dixon, W.M., was in his place at the appointed time, and all his officers with one exception (Bro. Staley), who was on his way from Germany and arrived during the evening, were present at the opening of the lodge. The officers are Bros. C. Butcher, S.W.; T. W. C. Bush, J.W.; G. Adamson (a veteran of the Order), Treasurer; Nelson Reed, W.M. 1671, Secretary; A. B. Staley, S.D.; K. Harris, J.D.; D. M'Niven, I.G.; B. Buckworth, D.C.; J. Kimpton, W.S. The following visitors were present; Bros. E. G. Webster, 72; Boyton, 72; T. Morgan, 1572; H. Thompson, 1426 and P.M. of 177 and 1158 (Freemason); Morden, 1671; Coombe, 1185; and Barton, 15. The lodge having been opened and the minutes read, Bros. Recknell, Rayner, Kimpton, and Rexworthy were questioned as to the progress they had made in the early stage of the Order, and their answers being deemed satisfactory, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and they were each most impressively admitted to that advanced degree, the whole of the ceremony being rendered in a very perfect manner. Favourable ballots having taken place, the lodge was lowered to the First Degree, when Mr. Patrick Lehany, Mr. William James Charles, Mr. Charles Arthur Mackrell, and Mr. Edwin Nathaniel Carter were separately introduced and initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the ceremony in each case being gone through in a most careful and painstaking manner, and each of the initiates evidently felt deeply impressed with the important step he had taken. Before the closing of the lodge a most interesting episode occurred in its proceedings. It has already been announced that the Temple Bar Lodge was established in something of a memorial character, having its first meeting on the very day the old arch was finally removed, and this occurrence was most ably desecated upon by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, who performed the duty of Chaplain on that occasion. To give something like perpetuity to this event, the W. Master had communicated with the City authorities, and the result was an announcement from him that the City Lands Committee had kindly sent to the lodge two pieces of stone forming part of the old Bar, to be used for the rough and perfect ashlar, and additional pieces to be presented to every one of the founders of the lodge. To each of the ashlar are affixed silver plates, suitably engraved, recording the gift and the place from which the stone was taken. The brethren accepted the gifts with great satisfaction, and they promised to carefully preserve them. There being no further business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned after their labour for refreshment. The cloth having been cleared and the usual preliminary toasts given, the W. Master said he had a most important toast and one most pleasing to every W. Master, as it was that of "The Initiates." He had that evening the pleasure to lay four foundation stones, and four last month, and he hoped soon to complete the perfect arch, and see the Temple Bar Lodge prosperous, and make it one of the most important in the

City of London. When the last stone of Child's Bank was swept away and no trace of Temple Bar was to be seen, when the place was pointed out to those who might come after them in alter ages as the spot where the Bar stood, many no doubt would say how much they wished that they had lived in the time when they might have seen Temple Bar. As Bro. Simpson had said, when the old Temple Bar was removed another structure had taken its place which he trusted would be placed on a sound foundation and be a honour to the builders. He concluded by giving the health of Bros. Lebane, Charles, Mackreil, and Carter, and he hoped that they would for ever feel proud of being the second batch of initiates admitted to the Temple Bar Lodge. Bro. Charles, in responding, said on behalf of his fellow initiates and himself, he begged to thank the W. Master for the very flattering terms in which their health had been proposed, and the brethren for the very cordial manner in which they had received it. He assured them that he felt much impressed with the ceremony he had gone through that night, and he trusted to become a worthy brother of their noble and honourable Craft. He believed that it was a happy thought to start that lodge on the decease of Temple Bar, and he hoped that, phoenix-like, another edifice would rise out its ashes. The other initiates, on being called upon, said each a few words in acknowledgment of the toast. Bro. Reed, the Secretary, rose and said that, as the brethren would see, the W. Master had placed the implement of power in his hands, they would know for what purpose he should use it. He was sure that every member and every visitor must be delighted with the kind and able manner in which the W. Master had fulfilled his duties that evening, and he (Bro. Reed), must say that it had given him great pleasure to witness it. He had been to a great number of lodges, more than the years he had been a Mason, and he must say that the W. Master had acquitted himself in a most creditable manner, and had reflected honour on the Temple Bar Lodge. He wished him God Speed, for he was sure that he had the harmony and prosperity of the lodge at heart, and being the first Master they looked upon him as their father, and he trusted that not only his children but his grandchildren would follow in his footsteps. He therefore asked the brethren to join him in drinking the health of Bro. John Dixon, their first Worshipful Master, a request that was enthusiastically responded to. The W. Master said: Brethren and Bro. Secretary,—I beg to return you my most sincere thanks for the kind manner in which you have spoken of me, and you, brethren, for the hearty and cordial manner in which you have responded to the toast. I am but a young Mason, but as I go along I hope to become more experienced, and I shall be influenced to do so by the very hearty response with which you have received the toast of my health to-night. When I founded this lodge I hoped to make it one of the first in the City of London, but I must say that it has far exceeded my expectations. The fee at present for admission is small, but in a short time it will not be ten guineas, but fifty guineas, and any one will be proud to say that he belonged to it. In conclusion, he thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. The W. Master said the next toast was that of "The Visitors," a toast which was a very pleasant one for him to give, and he trusted that the Temple Bar Lodge would never be without visitors. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Barton, P.M. of the Kent Lodge, No. 15. Bro. Barton, P.M. No. 15, on behalf of the visitors, expressed the gratification they had derived, not only in having witnessed the excellent working of the lodge, but at the splendid hospitality with which they had been entertained. The W. Master next gave "The Press," which he said was the ruling power of Great Britain, and alluded to the multifarious subjects which were from time to time conveyed to them. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Henry Thompson, (*Freemason*.) Bro. Thompson, in reply, said he was altogether unprepared for his name being singled out to the brethren in a special toast, as he expected to have quietly slid down under that of "The Visitors," but as it was the W. Master's pleasure so far to honour him, as a good Mason he was bound to obey his call. Having alluded to the Temple Bar Lodge, and its future destiny, he reverted to the matter more intimately connected with the toast. The press, he said, was a mighty engine of power, and to its honour that power was rarely exercised but in the advocacy of their liberties, and the welfare and happiness of all mankind. It was also the great channel through which ills were made known, and wants were relieved, and he remarked that but for the harrowing details which were made known by the press of the horrible condition of the poor natives of India the magnificent sum of about half-a-million sterling would never have been raised in this country for their relief. Some other toasts were given, many songs were sung by the brethren, and a truly harmonious meeting was enjoyed by every member of the Temple Bar Lodge.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**—Southampton Lodge (No. 394).—The Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Bro. R. J. W. Walker, was last week installed by the W. Bro. W. Hickman, P.M., and Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, who, following the installation, received the cordial thanks and recognition of a good attendance of brethren, the Board of Installed Masters numbering twenty. Following the ceremony, the W. Master invested the following as the officers for the year:—Bros. G. M. Passenger, jun., I.P.M.; W. Bone, S.W.; A. L. McCalmont, (Mayor of Southampton), J.W.; W. Furber, P.M., Treasurer; E. T. Howell, P.M., Sec.; Rev. S. Scott, Chap.; F. H. Candy, S.D.; Newton Jones, J.D.; C. Cox, P.M., I.G.; H. P. Aslatt, D.C.; and Biggs, Tyler. The subsequent banquet was served by Bro. Dartnall, of the High-street, and proved a very agreeable gathering.

**FILEY.**—Royal Lodge (No. 643).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at Foord's Hotel, Filey, on the

11th ult., for the purpose of installing Bro. J. Johnson Field, 643 and 57. The ceremony was most ably performed by Bro. John Pearson Bell, D.P.G.M. N. and E. Yorks, assisted by Bros. George Hardy, P.M. 250, P.S.P.G.D., and W. H. Porritt, P.M. 734; a Board of 28 Installed Masters being present. There had not been so large and influential a meeting of the brethren since its institution in 1855. At the conclusion of the ceremony the W.M. proceeded to invest his officers for the year as follows: Bros. J. Johnson Field, W.M.; W. Budd, I.P.M.; J. Winfindale, S.W.; J. Varley, J.W.; Rev. R. M. Taylor, P.M., Chaplain; W. G. Long, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; W. Fisher, P.M., Sec.; W. Watts, S.D.; V. Fowler, J.D.; C. W. Scrivener, P.M., D.C.; F. M. Herring, P.M., Org.; R. Dobson, P.M., and R. B. Simpson, P.M., Stewards; J. Welborn, I.G.; W. Jefferson, Tyler. At the conclusion of the ceremony, and before closing the lodge, the W.M. returned thanks for his appointment in very eulogistic terms, and the Installing Master gave a most beautiful and luminous address to the brethren, which was most highly and deservedly applauded. The brethren then adjourned to the Spa Saloon, where a most splendid banquet was provided by Bro. Welborn, the worthy host of Foord's Hotel. Between fifty and sixty sat down to the repast, the W.M. occupying the chair. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal toasts were given, and the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Installing Master," which was most enthusiastically received and responded to in a lengthy speech replete with Masonic feeling and instruction. The Installing Master then gave "The Health of Bro. Field," the newly-installed Master, pointing out to him in the most lucid manner the duties appertaining to his office, and wishing him every success during his occupation of King Solomon's chair. The W.M. returned thanks in a masterly and feeling speech, which was greatly appreciated by all the brethren. Several other toasts were given and ably responded to, and the proceedings were much enlivened by songs from Bros. Winfindale, Watts, Foster, and others, most ably accompanied on the pianoforte by Bro. G. W. Stony, the accomplished Organist of Humber Lodge, 57. The whole of the proceedings were of the most satisfactory nature, and were finally brought to a close amidst peace and harmony. Special trains from both Hull and Scarborough were provided for the accommodation of the brethren; from those places, as also for the intervening lodges.

**WOOLWICH.**—Nelson Lodge (No. 700).—The winter banquet of the above lodge took place on Wednesday, the 20th ult., at Bro. Plaisted's fine Hall on Anglesea Hill, Plumstead, and was as usual honoured by a numerous assemblage of both the brethren of the lodge and visitors of the neighbouring lodges. The lodge meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, William-street, and was opened by the W.M., Bro. S. Waters, supported by the following officers:—T. Butt, I.P.M., Past Masters G. Crawford, W. Graham, Bowles, C. Norman, C. Hobson, Treas.; T. Ward, J. Henderson, Sec.; A. W. Woodley, S.W.; J. Warren, J.W.; J. Wilkins, S.D.; E. B. Hobson, J.D.; C. Cooke, Org.; W. McCoy, I.G.; G. Beaver, D.C.; and B. Norman, Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. C. Coupland, P.M. 913, and P.P.G.J.W. Kent; G. Spinks, W.M. 1536; W. Weston, P.M. 1536; G. Davies, P.M. 13; E. C. Edwards, P.M. 1185; T. D. Hayes, S.W. 913; H. Shaw, J.W. 1536; E. Farwig, S.W. 180; W. Rees, 913; H. J. Ansell, 1305; W. Osborne, 1536; R. J. Colyer, 220; W. Tucker, 913; A. Saunders, 1536; J. Thorne, 1536; W. Hollyman, 1536; E. A. Turbeck, 1448; and C. Jolly, 913 (*Freemason*). The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. West, and upon approval, that gentleman was initiated into the Craft, the impressive ceremony being worked by the W.M. and his officers without a single hitch. That being the whole of the business before the lodge, it was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the above rendezvous, where a superb banquet awaited them; a large staff of waiters, headed by Bro. Moulder and superintended by Bro. Plaisted himself, securing a most efficient service. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily responded to, a verse each of the "National Anthem," and "God bless the Prince of Wales" following the two first. Bro. Butt, in proposing that of "The W.M.," said the duty he had to perform was a most important one. They all knew that meeting was looked upon as the meridian of the year through which their W. Masters had to pass in the principal chair of their lodge, and when he looked back to the half that had already gone, he felt sure they might congratulate the W.M. upon the excellent manner in which he had conducted the business of the lodge during that time. (Cheers.) He, from the past, and they, might rest assured that for the next half their interests were safe in the hands of their excellent Master. He could not help wishing however, that he (the W.M.) might have more work to do during the remainder of his time, they did not want everyone to become members who offered themselves, but those who would be a credit and honour to it. He then concluded by saying that when the W.M. vacated the chair to his successor, he would leave it with the respect and good wishes of all. (Cheers.) The W.M., in reply, tendered his most grateful thanks for the enthusiastic manner in which his health had been received by them. He was glad to know that his endeavours to do his duty had given them satisfaction. He quite endorsed the remarks of P.M. Butt, when he hoped there might be more for him to do in the next half of his year of office, but whatever might come, he should always endeavour to do his duty in such a manner as to at least sustain the high prestige that had been gained for it by the preceding Masters of the Nelson Lodge. (Cheers.) In proposing the next toast, that of "The Visitors," the W.M. spoke of the pleasure it gave them at all times to see the lodge well attended by visitors. They had among them that evening many brethren from their neighbouring lodges, and among them a P.P.G. Officer for Kent, who

had held a distinguished position in that province. He had received a letter of regret from Bro. Reed, the W.M. of the "Union Waterloo Lodge," at not being able to attend. To those who were present he asked the brethren of the Nelson Lodge to give a warm reception, and coupled the toast with the names of Bros. Coupland, Spinks, and Hayes. Bro. Coupland expressed the great pleasure it gave him to be the guest of the Nelson Lodge, and more especially on this occasion, when they came to enjoy themselves in the province to which he had the honour to belong. He congratulated the lodge upon the attendance of so many of their Past Masters, who were an honour to the lodge. He regretted that in many lodges as soon as that position had been attained they fell off. He then introduced the cause of the charities, saying charity was the predominant wish of every Mason's heart; it was brought before them every day that their noble Craft was increasing in numbers, and as well he felt sorry to say in the number of those who were seeking aid from its charities, both the Boys' School, the Girls' School, and the old men and women's institutions, and he especially wished to bring before them the claims of those charities. He had become a Steward for the Girls' School Festival, and felt it his duty to bring it before them, and with the more pleasure because he remembered upon one occasion that the Nelson Lodge subscribed liberally when he stood for the Boys' School. He then again expressed how much he had enjoyed himself, and resumed his seat amid applause. Bro. Spinks, W.M. of the United Military Lodge, trusted that all the lodges in the neighbourhood would become as the sister services the Army and Navy, were, firmly united, and Bro. Hayes who responded for the Pattison Lodge, No. 913, regretted the absence of Bro. Butters, the W.M. of that lodge. For himself he thanked them both for their good labour and kind hospitality. He felt gratified at the fraternal feeling that evidently existed between them. Bro. Butt had spoken about the W.M. being now at the meridian of his office, but it struck him that the Nelson Lodge was always at its meridian, both for excellence of working and good feeling. (Cheers.) It had had a good effect upon the working of the Pattison Lodge, and he believed that it had done so in every lodge in the district, and was a pattern for Freemasonry among them all. (Applause.) The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and after Bro. Butt has expressed his delight at the manner in which the business of the lodge was conducted, and the obedience of the brethren, P.M. Crawford said it had been remarked that the W.M. had not had so much to do this year as many of his predecessors, but of course that was no fault of his. If the brethren would only put their shoulders to the wheel, and while it was no business of theirs to persuade any-one to join the lodge against their own inclination, yet for the honour of the W.M. and the interest of the lodge, it would be well if the brethren could, consistently with their duty, introduce some new members: it would be better than letting the W.M. pass the rest of the year without work. (Hear hear.) P.M. Graham strongly advised the young members if they wished for office to join the lodges of instruction in the district, and P.M. Goddard followed in the same strain. "The Initiate" was then toasted, and then "The Officers," and after the Tyler had done his duty in that respect, "God Save the Queen" concluded a most enjoyable evening.

**TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**—Holmesdale Lodge (No. 874).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Sussex Hotel on the 20th ult., when there were present Bros. B. S. Wilmot, W.M.; W. Delves, P.M.; W. B. Bacon, S.W.; A. D. Williams, J.W.; J. F. Bates, Sec.; Hotchkin, S.D.; Spencer, J.D.; Dunkley, I.G.; G. Deadman, Org.; G. Strange, Tyler; J. Burton, E. Elliott, Albert Arnold, Graham, T. Waterman, J. J. Marshall, J. G. Whitehead, M. Williams, Standford, J. K. Pain, and P.M. Elers. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. A. Arnold and M. Williams being candidates for passing, having answered the usual questions in a satisfactory manner, they were entrusted and withdrew. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and they were duly passed. Bro. E. Elliott being a candidate for raising, was entrusted and retired. The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the work being done in a careful manner. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was unanimous in favour of Bro. W. B. Bacon, and Elers, P.M., re-elected Treasurer. The elected Auditors in addition to those provided in the bye-laws are Bros. Waterman and Graham. The usual gratuities were given to the Tyler and waiter, also £5 voted out of the lodge funds to a distressed brother. P.M. Elers proposed, and Bro. Graham seconded, "That a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes for the indefatigable services rendered by Bro. Bates as Secretary," which was carried unanimously. Several other propositions having been brought forward, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

**LANCASTER.**—Duke of Lancaster Lodge (No. 1353).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place on the 20th February, when the following members attended: Bros. F. G. Dale, W.M.; R. Wolfenden, S.W.; J. Ellershaw, J.W.; J. Bell, P.M., Hon. Treas.; J. Acton, P.M., Hon. Sec.; W. Parker, S.D.; H. Hartley, J.D.; R. Cleminson, I.G.; J. E. Ogleshorpe, Org.; J. D. Bell, S.S.; C. J. W. Stork, J.S.; James Conton, I.P.M.; J. Barrow, P.M.; W. Heald, P.M.; W. Stewardson, I.P.M. 940; John Simpson, R. Woods, P. Dutton, W. Huntingdon, H. Stizaker, Thos. Dodgson, P.M. 995, 1339, P.P.G. Purst. Cumberland and Westmorland; W. King, E. Huntingdon. F. Amisted, L. S. Lacey, J. Proctor, W. Huthersall, Wm. Bell, G. Bezzard, J. Wilson, J. Hartley, K. A. Stansfield, S.D. 1561; J. Bannister, P.S.D.; W. Scott, W. Drinkall, J. M. Bell, P.S.S.; A.

Beckett, W. Howson, Allison, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. E. Simpson, P.M. 281, S. Hall, 1070, Kirkam; B. Gregson, 281; J. Robinson, 291, Fidelity, Blackburn; R. Stanton, 281. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M. the minutes of the former meeting, together with the emergency meeting, were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bros. King, Huntingdon, and Dutton presented themselves, were questioned, proved efficient, and were individually entrusted and retired, when the lodge was raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., Bro. King was admitted and raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. The W.M. resumed the chair, when Bro. Dutton was also raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Bro. Dodgson again took the chair and presented the working tools, he also imparted the historical lecture of this degree in a most efficient manner. The lodge was now resumed to the First Degree, when Bro. Howson was admitted, questioned, entrusted, and retired. The lodge was advanced to the Second Degree, when Bro. Howson was admitted, and passed as F.C. The lecture on the tracing board of this degree was also rendered by Bro. Dodgson in a most polished manner. The working tools were presented by the S.W. The W.M. again resumed the chair, and lowered the lodge to the First Degree, he also proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Dodgson for his kindness, and the great trouble it must have been to him to come from his home in Ulverston at his invitation to attend and assist in the working of the lodge; that he spoke for the whole lodge in saying they were all pleased as well as gratified to listen to Bro. Dodgson in the polished as well as the sincere manner he rendered the degrees, and concluded by personally thanking him for his kindness. Bro. Wolfenden S.W., seconded, Bro. Conlon, I.P.M., and Bro. Heald, P.M., supported it, the latter remarking that the lodge was under a deep debt of gratitude to the W.M., for inviting Bro. Dodgson. The usual proclamations were then given, and hearty good wishes offered to the W.M., from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed according to ancient custom.

**WIDNES.—Lodge of Equity (No. 1384).**—The annual celebration of the festival of St. John in connection with this lodge took place on Thursday, the 21st ult., at Alford Chambers, Widnes, near Liverpool, where there was a good attendance of members and visitors. Hitherto the usual meetings of this lodge have been held at the Commercial Hotel, Widnes, and as this was the first important occasion on which the brethren assembled in their new Masonic headquarters, the interest in the meeting was all the greater. Moving with the spirit which now fortunately characterises the members of lodges, which wisely endeavour to have the business conducted in specially appropriated buildings, the Equity has taken a step in the right direction, and there is little doubt that good will result. Bro. J. W. Wareing, W.M., presided at the opening of the lodge; and, besides a large muster of officers and members, there were present the following visitors: Bros. S. Tickle, W.M. 220; G. Parnell, W.M. 786; L. H. Kenerick, P.M. 573 and P.P.G.S. of W., Worcester; E. C. Cooper, P.G.S., P.M. 484; W. R. Wass, W.M. 758; Wheather, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Wood, 220; and G. Barton, 897. After some preliminary business, Bro. William Newsome was installed as W.M. in a most effective manner by Bro. J. W. Wareing, his predecessor in the chair. The following were invested officers of the lodge for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. W. Wareing, I.P.M.; H. S. Oppenheim, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Thomson, S.W.; J. White, J.W.; J. W. Carlile, Treasurer; A. Tebbutt, Secretary; F. A. Neill, S.D.; A. G. Kyle, J.D.; W. Holt, I.G.; W. Copland and J. W. M'Fear, Stewards; J. Foster, Organist; and Bro. Taylor, Tyler. Hearty good wishes were given to the W.M. (Bro. Newsome) from the brethren of about a dozen lodges, and letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Bro. the Rev. Dr. Hyde, Bro. the Rev. G. Holloway, Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.J.D., Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., Bro. C. G. Moratta, Bro. J. E. Rayner, Bro. J. C. Lunt, Brother J. Smith (Wigan), Bro. Robinson (1035), &c. The brethren subsequently dined at the Central Hotel, where an excellent banquet was served by Bro. Fowler. During the evening's proceedings a valuable P.M.'s jewel was presented to Brother J. W. Wareing, I.P.M., in recognition of his eminent services to the lodge. A pleasant evening was spent, the musical portion of the after-dinner proceedings being greatly enhanced by the splendid singing of Bro. G. Barton, 897 (St. Helen's), one of the most popular local artists.

**LIVERPOOL.—Lodge of Israel (No. 1502).**—The usual monthly meeting of this excellent lodge was held on Monday evening, the 18th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, where there was a very large attendance. Bro. A. Jones, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. M. Hart, I.P.M., Secretary; A. J. Henochsberg, P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M., D.C.; S. Schonstadt, S.W.; Rev. H. D. Marks, J.W.; I. De Frece, Treasurer; S. J. Wareing, S.D.; S. J. Henochsberg, J.D.; M. T. Tueski, I.G.; J. Saber, S. Amongst the members present were Bros. H. A. Tobias, S. Jacobs, S. J. Jordan, A. Hart, E. J. Hart, B. Woolf, H. Sagar, H. Henochsberg, L. Simmons, J. S. McCabe, M. Baum, S. Levy, W. Levy, J. R. Grant, E. Myers, A. Isaacs, A. Levy, A. M. Lyons, J. Franks, H. L. Stern, D. Gabrielson, J. L. Levy, A. Rabow, E. J. Fraser, and B. Levy. The visitors included Bros. J. Bowes, P.P.G.J.W.; T. Tunstall, P.M. 148; M. N. Blair, 815; T. Moore, R.N., 241; Dr. Bailey, J.W. 786; J. Hayes, P.M. 249; J. Hardie, P.M. 1045; J. A. Armstrong, W.M. 1250; and J. Jacobs, 724. The lodge having been duly opened, Bro. Jones, W.M., afterwards proceeded to pass Bro. S. Levy to the degree of F.C., in a very efficient style. At the conclusion of the business, the brethren dined in the large room of the hall, and during the evening the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, several excellent songs being given by Bros. Isaacs, M. Hart, and other brethren.

**HAMPTON.—Hemming Lodge (No. 1512).**—The last meeting of this lodge was convened at the Lion Hotel, Hampton, on the 21st ult., when there were present Bros. J. Hammond, W.M.; Fox, S.W.; Jessett, J.W.; E. Hopwood, P.G.S.B. of Middlesex, &c., Treasurer; W. Hammond, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, &c., Secretary; Hurst, I.P.M.; Oekenden, S.D.; Walls, P.G.O. Middlesex, &c., J.D. (Freemason); Kent, I.G.; Moody, A.W.S. The visitors were Bros. Court, jun., Assist. Org. 1502; Stokes, No. 2, Ireland. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. most ably initiated Messrs. Robert Bray and David Passworth, and passed Bro. W. C. Davey. The R.W. P.G.M. of Middlesex was unanimously elected an honorary member, and Bro. W. Kay, of No. 1326, was also unanimously elected as a joining member. Notice of motion having been given that the sum of ten guineas should be placed on the list of the I.P.M., as representing the lodge at the ensuing festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren partook of a collation, which was well served by the caterer, Bro. Murphy. The customary preliminary toasts having been disposed of, the W.M. gave "The R.W.P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Past and Present." He said that the Masons of Middlesex were to be congratulated upon possessing so able and genial a chief as Bro. Colonel Burdett was universally acknowledged to be. It had afforded him very great pleasure that evening to propose that their R.W. brother should be elected an honorary member of their lodge, and he hoped that the members of the Hemming would have an early opportunity of welcoming him amongst them. This toast having been received, and Bro. Hopwood having responded on behalf of the Prov. Grand Officers with great warmth, the I.P.M. proposed in very hearty terms "The Health of the W.M." He said that he felt he could not speak too highly of Bro. John Hammond. He (the W.M.) not only did the work of the lodge efficiently, but he behaved at the festive board in a manner that charmed all their hearts. The W.M. in his reply expressed a hope that he had redeemed the promise he had made to the members when elected, namely, to do his duty to the Hemming, by endeavouring to further the interests of its members both individually and collectively. "The Initiates" followed, and having been duly acknowledged, the W.M. gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Stokes, who immediately responded by expressing his thanks to the members, not only of 1512, for their hospitality; but to the brethren of other lodges whom he had been brought into contact with since he left his home in the distant mountains of Wales, kindness which proved beyond doubt that Freemasonry was one of the most excellent institutions in the universe as it enabled those members of the fraternity hitherto, perhaps, strangers to each other, to meet on the most easy and genial terms. "The Charities" came next, and gave Bro. Hurst an opportunity of expatiating upon the great merits of those excellent institutions, and to express a hope that the particular charity which he intended to represent would be well supported by his brethren of the Hemming Lodge. "The Past Masters" and "The Officers" brought the list of toasts to a conclusion. During the proceedings Bros. Hammond, Hurst, Jessett, Wales, Knowles, and others entertained the brethren, who separated at a comparatively early hour until the third Thursday in the ensuing month.

#### INSTRUCTION.

**ELEANOR LODGE (No. 1707).**—At a meeting held at the Angel Hotel, Edmonton, on Wednesday, the 20th ult., the Fifteen Sections were worked at this lodge of instruction by the following brethren:—Bros. Turquand, P.M. 1556, W.M.; Pinder, P.M. 15 and 1662, S.W.; Christian, W.M. 1662, J.W.; Tanner, W.M. 1707, I.P.M.; Garnett, J.D.; Rumsey, I.G. First Lecture: First Section, Bro. Hunt, 1662; Second Section, Bro. Pringle, 781; Third Section, Bro. Francis, S.D. 1685; Fourth Section, Bro. Christian, W.M. 1662; Fifth Section, Bro. Killick, W.M. 1693; Sixth Section, Bro. Andrews, S.D. 1227; Seventh Section, Bro. Hewlett, 141. Second Lecture: First Section, Bro. Brasted, 1524; Second Section, Bro. Powell, J.W. 184; Third Section, Bro. Garrod, 785; Fourth Section, Bro. Pinder, P.M. 15 and 1662; Fifth Section, Bro. Garnett, J.D. 1707. Third Lecture: First Section, Bro. Tanner, W.M. 1707; Second Section, Bro. Garnett, J.D. 1707; Third Section, Bro. Taylor, D.C. 554. The working throughout was marked by the proficiency of each brother who took part on this occasion. At the close, Bro. Turquand was complimented (and that deservedly), for the efficient manner in which he had conducted the lectures, and as a mark of respect was elected an honorary member, as also was Bros. Pinder and Christian, who ably assisted him, and a vote of thanks was recorded to the remainder of the brethren. There was a good attendance, and several brethren present expressed the pleasure they had experienced in being present, thus terminating a most enjoyable evening.

**LONDON MASONIC CLUB LODGE OF INSTRUCTION** held their usual fortnightly meeting at (the club) 101, Queen Victoria-street, E.C., on Monday, 11th ult., at 6 o'clock p.m. The next meeting will be Monday, March 11th, when arrangements will be made for working the Fifteen Sections (at an early date), for the first time at the club. Members desirous of assisting in the work are requested to communicate with the Preceptor, Bro. W. Smallpeice, (who will act as W.M.) or to the Secretary, Bro. J. E. Shand.

Kenning's Masonic Cyclopaedia is now ready, and may be obtained at the office of this paper (108, Fleet-street.) Price 10s. 6d.—ADVT.

#### Royal Arch.

**HEREFORD.—Palladian Chapter (No. 120)**—At the regular annual convocation of this chapter, held at the Green Dragon Hotel, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., the following officers were installed, appointed and invested:—Henry Gurney, Z.; Rev. John Buckle, P.Z., H.; Rev. T. Thistlethwaite Smith, J.; Theophilus Lane, S.E.; Grenville Myer, S.N.; Thomas Smith, P.S.; Wm. Rowe, 1st A.S.; Richard Hayes, 2nd A.S.; Orlando Shellard, P.Z.

**PRIORY CHAPTER (No. 1000).**—The last meeting of the year of this flourishing chapter took place at the Middleton Hotel, Southend, on Wednesday, the 20th ult. Amongst those present were Comps. A. Lucking, M.E.Z.; J. A. Wardell, H.; Jas. Willing, jun., J.; Rev. S. R. Wigram, P.Z., P.G. 1st Assistant Soj.; S. J. Weston, Treas.; J. C. Johnson, Scribe E.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, Scribe N.; W. Pissey, P. Soj.; E. Judd, 1st. Assistant Soj.; J. R. Hemmann, 2nd Assistant Soj. Bro. Childs, the candidate for exaltation, being unavoidably absent, the companions proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result viz., Comps. J. A. Wardell, M.E.Z.; Jas. Willing, jun., H.; Rev. H. J. Hatch, J.; S. J. Weston, Treas. (re-elected); J. C. Johnson, Scribe E., (re-elected); W. Pissey, Scribe N.; E. Judd, P. Soj. A P.Z.'s jewel having been unanimously voted to the outgoing 1st Principal, the chapter was duly closed, and the companions adjourned to refreshment.

**BARNET.—Gladsmuir Chapter (No. 1385).**—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on 21st February. The companions present were E. Comps. Terry, Prov. G.P.S. M.E.Z.; H. H. Edwards, II.; J. Livingston, Prov. G.S.B., J.; T.S. Carter, Prov. Grand H., S.E.; J. Lowthin, P.P., 2nd A.S. Treas.; G. Neall, P.Z.; F. H. Wilson Iles, Prov. G.S.E.; Comps. Cussans, S.N.; W. J. Crutch, P.S.; R. F. Young, 2nd A.S.; J. Parrott, D.C.; W. Marks, J. Cutbush, F. Venables, Kortar, C. P. Cobham, 403; and others. E. Comp. Verry installed E. Comp. H. Edwards, as M.E.Z., E. Comp. Iles installed E. Comp. Livingston as H., and Comp. Cussans as J. The other officers appointed were E. Comps. Carter, S.E.; Crutch, S.N.; Lowthin, Treas.; J. Cutbush, D.C.; J. Parrott, Steward. E. Comp. Verry was presented with a P.Z.'s jewel, which had been subscribed for by the companions. The companions afterwards dined together, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

**BATH.—Royal Cumberland Chapter (No. 41).**—The regular meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday Feb. 19, at the Masonic Hall, Bath, and in the unavoidable absence of the M.E.Z. Robert Carey, Ex. Comp. Dr. H. Hopkins P.Z., kindly took the first chair; the second chair was taken by Ex. Comp. Hill, and that of J. by Ex. Comp. Hearne. The Board of Installed Principals was opened at 7.50. The companions were admitted, being F. J. Brown as E.; Hill, H.; Hearne, J.; Moutrie, P.Z. as Treas., Dutton, Walls, B. Packer. Comp. Williamson took his collar as P. Soj.; appointing Comp. L. Howes as 1st. A. S.; J.; William Hunt 2nd. A. Soj. The chapter was then duly opened, the minutes of the last chapter read and confirmed. A donation of £5 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution from Ex. Comp. Thompson, P.Z., was ordered to be acknowledged, and a further grant of £5 from the funds of the chapter was confirmed to secure votes in perpetuity for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. A ballot was taken for the exaltation of Bros. F. Wilkinson and C. W. Radway, which proved unanimous. Bros. Jesse Hayward and James Stuckey were then duly exalted in the most impressive manner by P.Z. Dr. H. Hopkins, after which on their re-admission he kindly gave the Three Lectures connected with this Sublime Degree, in the most clear and solemn manner, to which the newly exalted and the whole of the companions paid marked attention, and thanked the Dr. for his kindness, especially as he was labouring under severe indisposition all the evening. He then begged the chapter to release him from further duties, and Ex. Comp. Moutrie, P.Z., took the M.E.Z. chair, presented the new companions with copies of the bye-laws, and closed the chapter in solemn form at 9.50.

#### Mark Masonry.

**JERSEY.—Caesarean Lodge (No. 74).**—The above lodge held its quarterly meeting at the Masonic Temple, on Wednesday, the 20th inst. Bro. J. Oatley, W.M., opened the lodge, supported by Bros. Dr. T. J. Aubin, S.W.; J. O. Le Sueur, J.W.; P. W. Bonham, I.P.M.; A. Schmitt, Hon. Sec.; C. D. Bishop, Assistant Sec.; C. Kingnorth, M.O.; Wm. McHovell, S.O.; Jos. O'Flaherty, J.O.; W. Z. Pugsley, Reg.; T. Leat, S.D.; W. H. Chapman, J.D.; J. Huelin, I.G.; E. Martel, P.S.W., and there was also a goodly muster of the members of the lodge. The visitors who honoured the lodge were Bros. Col. J. Gallienne, P.D.P.G.M. for Guernsey; H. W. Wallen, P.M. 1003; and J. Le Jeune, Keystone, 72, Canada. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, ballots were taken, and proved unanimous in each case in favour of the admission of Bros. H. Wilkins, P.M. 84; E. K. Corbin, W.M. 84; H. W. G. Layard, P.Z. 84; P. Le M. Nicolle, 84; P. Le Page, P.M. 243; Fredk. Clarke, P.M. 168; A. Gallienne, J.W. 890; and G. H. Elliott, 275, and being in attendance they were duly advanced to the ancient and honourable Order. Bros. Col. J. Gallienne and H. W. Walden were balloted for, and unanimously admitted as joining members. The lodge was closed in love and perfect harmony. Refreshment followed labour, and an hour was harmoniously wiled away in toast, song, and sentiment, the newly affiliated and advanced brethren expressing themselves highly gratified with the position and progress of the lodge.



## Knights Templar.

**BURY.**—Edmund Plantagenet Preceptory.—This new encampment was opened on Tuesday, the 21st ult., at the Co-operative Hall. About three o'clock in the afternoon, the encampment was opened under the command of Sir Knight Clement Robert Nuttall Beswicke-Royds, the Provincial Grand Prior of Lancashire, assisted by Lieut.-Colonel Birchall, Provincial Grand Sub-Prior, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers. The installation of Sir Knight W. O. Walker as the Eminent Commander took place, by Lieut.-Colonel Shadwell Clarke, the Great Sub-Prior of England, assisted by other Grand Officers. There were present representatives from many of the Provincial Grand Lodges of England, about eighty Sir Knights being in attendance. At the completion of the imposing ceremony, which occupied nearly three hours, the Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Officers, and Sir Knights adjourned to the Knowsley Hotel to a grand banquet.

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The final meeting of the Stewards for the Festival of this Institution of 1878, was held on Tuesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Edward Cox, Treasurer, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Joseph Smith, President, presided. There were also present Bros. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C.; G. Ward Verry; C. J. Perceval, J. E. Walford; R. B. Webster; C. W. Noehmer; Edward Terry; Thos. Huntley; T. S. Taylor; W. Hicks; F. C. White; R. Y. Barton; J. Newton; C. A. Murton; J. M. Klenck; H. Massey (*Freemason*), and Jas. Terry, Secretary.

Bro. Terry, after reading the minutes of the last meeting said that the Festival had been a great success, and that a much larger number of brethren and ladies attended than he at first expected. At first he gave orders to Bro. Best, proprietor of the Freemason's Tavern to prepare for 350 gentlemen and 160 ladies; but applications for tickets came in so much in excess of what he expected, that he got Bro. Best to be prepared for 400 gentlemen and 200 ladies. In the end he found that his anticipations were correct, for 364 gentlemen attended, and 182 ladies. The total collections announced at the festival was £11,126 13s. 6d., with nine lists to come in. Since then seven of these outstanding lists had reached him, with a total of £230 additional to what had already been announced, making the sum realized by the festival above £11,350. He did not think the remaining two lists would produce very much, but if they were anything like the others, he might expect a total result of the festival something like £11,500. Last year the amount announced at the festival was £12,836, with five lists to come in, and when they had come in, the total was £13,320; but it must be remembered that this year they had but 225 Stewards, to last year's 272, or nearly 50 less. (Cheers.)

The Chairman said the first duty of the meeting would be to pass a vote of thanks to his Grace the Duke of Manchester.

Bro. Terry said that at the last meeting of the Committee of the Institution on the 14th inst., a similar vote had been carried, as well as a vote of thanks to the President of the Board of Stewards, to the Treasurer, and to the Board of Stewards. At that meeting the votes were carried by acclamation.

Bro. G. W. Verry moved, and Bro. R. B. Webster seconded,

"That the cordial thanks of this Board are due and are hereby given to his Grace the Duke of Manchester, Prov. G.M. for Norths and Hunts, for his great exertions in promoting the interests of this Institution by his powerful advocacy of its claims whilst acting as Chairman of the annual Festival held on the 13th inst., in which he was nobly supported by the brethren from all parts of the country, resulting in the munificent sum of £11,126 13s. 6d., being announced on the occasion. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his Grace."

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman said that perhaps the brethren would allow him to state that he knew his Grace the Duke of Manchester felt himself highly complimented by being asked to preside as Chairman at the late Festival, and he worked indefatigably in his province on behalf of the Institution. He believed that these efforts would tend very much to the benefit of the other Masonic Institutions.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., then moved,

"That the best thanks of the Board of Stewards be given to the W. Bro. Joseph Smith, P.G.P., the President of the Board, for the very admirable manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office, and for the kind courtesy he has evinced towards the brethren when presiding at their various meetings." He said he was sure no words of his were necessary to commend this motion to the brethren, and he was very happy to find that it had been placed in his hands to propose it. They all knew Bro. Joseph Smith, and were all witnesses of his kindness, courtesy, and assiduity on all occasions. He would, therefore, simply move the resolution he had just read.

Bro. White seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously.

Bro. R. B. Webster moved: "That a vote of thanks of the Board of Stewards be given to W. Bro. Edward Cox, Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden Norths and Hunts, Treasurer to the Board, for the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office, and for the courtesy he has evinced towards the brethren.

Bro. C. J. Perceval seconded the motion.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman said he felt highly complimented by the vote which had been passed, and he begged to thank the

Bro. C. J. Perceval said there was one motion which did not appear on the agenda paper which he wished to move. He thought they would not be doing justice to the host of the Freemasons' Tavern if they did not convey to him a mark of their appreciation of the very admirable manner in which he had provided for the ladies and gentlemen who attended the Festival. As a ladies' Steward he could himself speak of the excellent way in which the ladies were provided for. Everything provided was very good, and the attendance was all that could be wished or desired. He had been asked to express these views by several ladies who were at the Festival.

Bro. R. B. Webster, in seconding the motion said the festival was, in the way in which everything was done by the Tavern, a great improvement upon any previous festival.

The motion was carried nem. dis.

Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, P.G.C., said there was another motion which did not appear on the agenda paper, but he thought that the sense of justice of every Steward would prompt them to agree with him that they ought not to separate before they put on their books, not as a mere matter of form, but as the sincere feeling of them all, a vote of thanks to all those connected with the Institution, who had shewn the greatest care, zeal, and assiduity in carrying out the wishes of the Stewards and furthering the success of the Festival. He would, therefore, without any additional remarks, move

"That the thanks of the Board of Stewards be offered to Bro. Terry and the employes in the office, for the great zeal, courtesy, kindness, and assiduity with which all the needful arrangements for the late Festival have been carried out."

The motion having been seconded,

The Chairman said he agreed most heartily with Bro. Woodford's remarks, which embodied his own feelings, though they expressed them much more forcibly than he could have expressed them himself. It was a source of immense gratification to the Stewards that they had such officers to assist them.

The motion was then put and carried.

Bro. Terry said it was very kind of the brethren to have passed this resolution, which had come quite unexpectedly upon him. He certainly could say of his collector and of the clerk in the office that they had worked very hard, very zealously and assiduously in assisting him. It had not mattered to him what time he had asked them to attend at the office; he had only had to ask them, and they attended and gave him their services ungrudgingly and willingly. For himself he could only add that it was his duty to do the best he could to further the success of the Festival and the interests of the Institution, besides endeavouring to second the efforts of the Stewards. How zealously the Stewards had worked was evidenced by the result of the festival. It had produced £200 more than he would have contemplated, and he thanked the Stewards very heartily and sincerely for the efforts which they had made, and which had been so successful, as well as for the kindness and courtesy which they had ever displayed towards himself.

The following balance sheet was then read, received and adopted:—

	£	s.	d.
To 225 Stewards' Fees at £2 2s. ...	472	10	0
To 113 Dinner Tickets at £1 1s. ...	118	13	0
To 168 Ladies " at 10s. 6d. ...	88	4	0
	£679	7	0

Feb. 26th. By Tavern Bill:—

364 Gentlemen at £1 1s. ...	382	4	0
182 Ladies at 9s. 6d. ...	86	9	0
Stewards' Favours ...	55	8	0
John Wills for decorating Hall ...	10	0	0
Baylis and Verry, Scent ...	10	16	0
S. Lehmyer for Music ...	26	5	0
" Books of Words ...	1	10	0
Crutch, printing, &c. ...	42	9	3
Secretary for postages, petty disbursements, Telegrams, and other expenses ...	56	1	6
Balance ...	8	4	3
	£679	7	0

The balance of £8 was unanimously voted to Bro. Terry, "To be disposed of as he thought fit."

Bro. Terry remarked that the item of £10 to Bro. Wills for decorating the large hall with shrubs and flowers was for the conveyance by waggon of these articles to the hall, and for the men's labour and time in arranging them, but Bro. Wills generously gave the use of the decorations free of expense, and everybody admitted that the hall never looked so well before.

Cheques were then given for the different accounts named in the balance sheet, and the final act of the Festival of 1878 was brought to a close with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman of this Stewards' meeting for presiding.

## SWEDENBORGIAN RITE.

The Supreme Grand Council has approved and the Supreme Grand Secretary has issued proper forms for making occasional and annual returns of members in this Rite, which is steadily increasing. Bro. Samuel Beswick, whose work on Swedenborgian Freemasonry is familiar to most Masonic students, has been elected an honorary member of the Hermes Lodge, No. 8, London, and appointed Grand Representative at the Supreme Grand Lodge and Temple of Canada, of which Bro. Col. McLeod Moore is the Supreme Grand Master. We understand that Bro. Beswick has an important work in the press in connection with the true length of the Egyptian cubit and the proportions of the Great Pyramid.

## NOTES ON ART, &amp;c.

Herr Schütt, who has been dispatched by the Deutsche Afrikanische Gesellschaft to equatorial Africa, has safely arrived in San Paul de Loando, and starts at once for the interior to complete the work of exploration commenced by Edward Mohr, whose untimely fate was lately recorded.

The late George Cruikshank had, we are informed, made considerable progress with an autobiography, comprising his recollections of many literary men, commencing from a date of nearly 80 years ago. He had also executed a number of illustrations, in his well-known style, expressly for this work. We understand that arrangements have already been made for its publication, and that it will appear under the editorship of his widow, Mrs. Eliza Cruikshank, who had been assisting him before his death in the preparation of the book.—*Academy*.

The scientific world have been deprived of a most valuable servant by the death of Mr. John Mabey, to whom as a special compositor is owing the creation of a font of type by means of which the results of the researches of uniform scholars can be conveyed to the general public. Mr. Mabey was also celebrated for the publication of the famous "Harris Papyrus" for the trustees of the British Museum, as well as for the manufacture of a font of type by which the Cypriote writing was made known.

An expedition recently organised for exploration in the northern territory of South Australia has returned to Port Darwin, after tracing a portion of the course of the Victoria River, which runs into the sea in Queen's Channel, on the west coast of the territory. Mr. Sergison, the leader of the party, reports that on this river, as well as near the Fitzmaurice River, flowing further north, and on the banks of the Daly River—or Daly waters—which runs into Anson Bay, a fine country exists, well watered with the peculiar "creeks" so characteristic of Central Australia, and possessing very rich soil and a comparatively cool climate. The district explored lies principally between 130 deg. and 135 deg. E. and 12 deg. and 17 deg. S.—*The Colonies and India*.

The British Archaeological Association is expected to visit Wisbeach in the summer, and the Prince of Wales will probably be the President on the occasion.

GROSVENOR GALLERY.—We are informed that, in compliance with a very general request, Sir Coutts Lindsay has obtained the consent of the contributors to retain their drawings until March 15, and that the Exhibition will in consequence remain open until that day.

The French African traveller and missionary, the Abbé Debès, is about to undertake a journey across Africa, from Zanzibar, via the Congo, and a grant of 100,000 francs (4,000) has been made by the French Chamber in aid of the undertaking. The two German African Exploration societies have amalgamated, and the united body is about to despatch another expedition to the interior of Africa. It has resolved to devote its attention to the development of commercial enterprise in that continent, and calls on German merchants, manufacturers, and others to aid in opening up the country to German trade. The German Government has promised the sum of £5000 in aid of the objects thus indicated by the society.

M. de Flotow has brought two new operas to Paris for production this year. "The Enchantress" is to be brought out during the Exhibition, and "Rosellana" will be produced in the winter.

The Annual Exhibition of the Royal Scottish Academy opened on Saturday week. The exhibition contains 1082 works, and is considerably above the average. The productions of local artists show a noticeable improvement, and there are numerous contributions from London painters.

Wagner's "Rheingold," the first part of the "Nibelungen Ring," has been produced at the Vienna Opera with great success.

An Industrial Exhibition has been opened at Ballarat by the Governor of Victoria.

The fine reception rooms of the Government House at Bruges were completely consumed on the 20th ult. by fire, which is supposed to have originated from the over-heating of flues preparatory to a magnificent ball which was to have been given by the recently-appointed Governor of West Flanders, and which was to have been attended by the élite from all parts of Belgium and by the principal English residents at Bruges. The destruction of property is very great, including all the splendid furniture, plate, library, and paintings, which have been entirely destroyed with the building.

The Atkinson Free Library and Art Gallery at Southport has been opened by the Mayor, and the event was celebrated by a popular demonstration. The new building has been erected at the sole expense of Mr. W. Atkinson, D.L., at a cost of over £8000. In the evening there was a banquet.

The St. Gothard Tunnel is getting on very slowly as the work is just now very difficult. "For the last three months," says *Engineering*, "the boring has passed through serpentine rock on the north side and broken rock on the south, which has required the greatest possible precaution. The mean progress lately has not exceeded thirteen feet per diem, and up to the 1st inst., 321,108 feet had been perforated.

MASONIC SONGS.—A selection of Masonic Songs, set to popular airs, written by Bro. E. Philpots, M.D., F.R.G.S., is now ready, forming a handsome volume, bound in cloth, with gilt edges, 3s. Sent post free from the office of this paper on receipt of stamps or post-office order value 3s. 2d.—ADVT.

THE LANGTHORNE MASONIC CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The second annual meeting of this association was held on Wednesday evening at the Swan Hotel, Stratford. Bro. Thorp presided, and there were present besides, Bros. F. Binckes, J. Terry, G. Jones, T. S. Taylor, R. W. Biggs, Bright, Medwin, Anning, H. Massey (*Freemason*), W. W. Morgan, Land, Cassleton, Mole, Dix, Tucker, Doulton, Claridge, Hollington, Proctor, H. W. Taylor, J. Hunt, Hobbs, Triggs, and Alloway. The report of the association for the year stated that the amount of subscriptions, £288 11s. 6d., had enabled the committee to have 26 appropriations of life governorships to the different charities as enumerated in the balance sheet, against 24 of the previous year, making a total of 50 since the establishment of the association. The following is the balance sheet:—

To balance brought forward from last account ... ..	14	2	0
„ Cash received from members ... ..	288	11	6
	302	13	6
By stationery, printing, postages ... ..	1	18	6
„ Life Governorships paid—			
Bro. G. Verry ... .. Aged.	10	0	0
„ J. G. Stevens ... ..	10	0	0
„ G. Dawson ... .. Girls.	10	10	0
„ A. Harcourt ... ..	10	10	0
„ F. D. Barnes ... ..	10	10	0
„ C. W. Ashdown ... .. Boys.	10	10	0
Mrs. Williams ... ..	10	10	0
Bro. J. J. Berry ... ..	10	10	0
„ F. D. Barnes ... ..	10	10	0
„ Life Governorships upon (T. S. Taylor) Stewards' List for Festival, 13th Feb., 1878—			
Bro. G. Jones ... .. Aged.	10	0	0
„ J. White ... ..	10	0	0
„ E. Walter ... ..	10	0	0
„ J. Dorton ... ..	10	0	0
„ J. F. Proctor ... ..	10	0	0
„ R. J. Tucker ... ..	10	0	0
„ J. W. Tait ... ..	10	0	0
„ H. W. Clark ... ..	10	0	0
„ T. T. Taylor ... ..	10	0	0
Mrs. Taylor ... ..	10	0	0
Bro. Cohu ... ..	10	0	0
„ J. H. Guernsey ... ..	10	0	0
Balance ... ..	87	5	0
	£302	13	6

Bros. R. E. Baugh, W. E. Farrington, and E. Williams were the winners of the three ballots, and after these had been declared, the following brethren were elected as officers of the association for the year:—Bros. J. G. Stevens, P.M. 554, 933, P.Z. 933, President; W. A. Sharp, P.M. 49, 1228, Z. 55, Vice-President; Charles Lacey, P.P.G.D. Herts., P.M. 174, 1327, 1421, Treasurer; E. J. Anning, 1464; C. Ashdown, P.M. 1076; J. J. Berry, P.M. 554; R. W. Biggs, I.G. 1421; J. Boulton, I.G. 1056; W. G. Durrant, J.W. 1056; J. H. Guernsey, 749; H. B. Holliday, P.M. 1076; G. Levick, P.M. 1227; J. F. Proctor, J.D. 1421; H. N. Taylor, J.W. 1421; and R. J. Tucker, W.M. 933, Committee; and Bro. T. S. Taylor, S.W. 1421, Hon. Sec. Votes of thanks were passed to all these officers, and a special vote of thanks to Bro. T. S. Taylor. The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent supper, after which the customary toasts were proposed. A letter was first read from Bro. J. G. Stevens, who was unable to be present on account of illness, but wishing the Association every success, and the brethren a happy evening. Bro. W. A. Sharp presided in his absence, and in proposing "Success to the Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association," said the Association was originally suggested and brought into due form by Bro. T. S. Taylor for the purpose of enabling brethren to become life governors of the various Masonic Charities. Two of these institutions were, he was happy to say, represented that evening by Bros. Binckes and Terry, and he was sorry that the Secretary of the other institution was not also present; more especially was he sorry that illness was the cause of his absence. He (Bro. Sharp) remembered that some ten or eleven years ago, when he was a member of a Lodge of Instruction, under the Charter of the Victoria Lodge, and meeting at the George, Aldermanbury, when he suggested to some few of its members the propriety of forming an association identical with the present; the idea was supported strongly, and his motion to that effect carried at one meeting; but at a subsequent result, it was coughed and laughed down and ridiculed. Some of the brethren designated it a goose club; but from the success of this association he was able to say now that those brethren who opposed his proposition were the geese. After some years the present association was brought forward by Bro. Taylor, and it had met with very great success. To his unwearied exertions that success was due. Had they not had a man who was not to be put down, ridiculed, and coughed down, and laughed at, this association might have been treated in the same way as the association which he (Bro. Sharp) had suggested. In Bro. Taylor they had had a most indefatigable man, who had been able to gather round him a lot of friends, who had assisted him in making this association a success. In two years over £500 had been voted; and he ventured to say that but for an association like this not a fifth, perhaps not a tenth of that sum would ever have been given to the Masonic Charities. It was very well for people in the higher walks of life to say they could afford to give their five or ten guineas to this or that Institution; they did it sometimes, but by the aid of societies like this,

members involuntarily parted with their money, and found themselves at the end of four years—sometimes much earlier—life-governors of some of the Institutions. The Langthorne Masonic Charitable Association spoke for itself, and saved him the trouble of explaining its objects. Its Secretary was deserving of the brethren's utmost thanks, and therefore he should couple his name with the toast. Bro. T. S. Taylor in reply rejoiced to see so many brethren present. As the chairman had referred to what he had done he might inform the brethren that certainly with 114 or 115 members it would be no light task to do the work of the association. Fortunately he had at his elbow a great many brethren to assist him. He then narrated how the association was suggested one night as he and some other brethren were coming home from the Doric Lodge, and went on to say that down in the East End of London such a society as this was very successful. There had been fifty ballots in this association, and they had £37 in hand. Next meeting he expected they would have three more ballots. Last month they had six, so that the association was going on well. The brethren had stuck to the society well, and they deserved hearty thanks. He was very glad to see two of the Secretaries of the Institutions present: the brethren were all pleased to see them, but they knew, these secretaries, brethren, did not come for nothing. For what their institution had benefitted by this association they would presently say a few words. They came to support their respective charities, and why should they not? On behalf of himself he begged to thank the brethren, but for what he had done he took no praise to himself. He was well pleased to do what he could for the cause of Masonic charity. He had been Steward at the last Festival of the Benevolent Institution. That was his maiden attempt at a stewardship, but he took up £50 more than any steward at the East End of London ever did; besides which he was the highest of all the London lists. Bro. Hollington proposed "The Health of the Chairman." Bro. Sharp in replying, regretted the absence of Bro. J. G. Stevens, but thanked the brethren for having proposed his health. He then proposed "The Vice-Chairman," who he said had been a supporter of the various Masonic Institutions, and was now the W.M. of the Langthorne Lodge. He had condescended on the present occasion to take the vice chair: he had worked hard in the different offices he had held in lodge, and now that he had obtained the highest position he graced and adorned it. Bro. Hollington replied, and said that whenever the chairman commanded his services they were always at his disposal. He was the first life governor elected by this association, and he selected the Boys' School. He had, however, endeavoured to make it up to the Benevolent Institution by subscriptions.

The Chairman then proposed "The Masonic Charitable Institutions." These Institutions offered the best apology to a man who wanted an apology for being a Mason; The Institutions were represented by most efficient officers, two of whom, as he had said, were present. Bro. Morgan, however, would reply for Bro. Little. Bro. W. W. Morgan, replying for the Girls' School, said, that institution was well known, and when he said that it was founded for the education and support of decayed or deceased Freemasons, he thought that was a sufficient claim on the benevolence of the Craft in its behalf. He hoped that the brethren would rally round the Girls' School at its next Festival, and not allow it to suffer because Bro. Little was afflicted with ill health.

Bro. Binckes replied for the Boys' School, and remarked that for twenty-five years it had been his lot to travel over England to induce brethren to organise themselves to give a more general support to the Masonic Institutions. They were now enjoying an enormous amount of success contrasted with what they did when he first took the matter in hand. Associations like the Langthorne were enjoying great success. The Institution could now justifiably point with pride to 700 or 800 persons whom they were benefitting, and they had to thank the Charitable Associations of Masons for what they were able to do. Though he had endeavoured to bring about these organisations, by some extraordinary twist he was looked upon as an opponent of them. He did not know by what unfortunate misunderstanding of anything he had said or done that this charge was laid to him, for he had over and over again said that it was the best thing that could be done. These Associations were the means of doing a large amount of good, and he, as one of the Secretaries, was grateful for what they did. He wished them every success, for Freemasonry was increasing, and great strains were put on the Institutions. Those who were charged with the executive duties of the Institutions well knew how great the claims on those Institutions were. Speaking of the Girls' School, and thanking the brethren who had so gracefully alluded to the ill-health of Bro. Little, he said that the new wing of the Girls' School would shortly be inaugurated by the Prince and Princess of Wales, and he had no doubt it would be a very successful meeting. When the wing was opened they would have 199 girls in the School. By August the Boys' School will have 220 boys in it. This was a great work, but the brethren were not to think that the Secretaries sought any self aggrandisement when they appealed urgently for support. It was not on behalf of themselves but for the relief of distress. After alluding to an opinion held by a Past Grand Officer that it should not be considered part of the Secretaries' duties to go round to lodges and press the claims of their Institutions, he said that if they did not there might be some young members present who would know nothing about the Institutions. For himself he would be exceedingly pleased if instead of having to go so often to lodge he could have a quiet evening at home; but he felt it his duty to attend and to thank the brethren for what these organizations had done. These meetings were always pleasant, and nothing was

more delightful than a mutual interchange of friendly feelings, and the knowledge that at the same time great efforts were being made to relieve distress. Bro. James Terry also responded, and referred to the fact that Bro. Taylor took up over £260 at the last Festival of the Benevolent Institution. He would leave it to the brethren to imagine how hard Bro. Taylor must have worked to produce this result. Tracing the large amounts given by this association, according to the balance sheet above set out, he said this showed that the association was a most deserving one. The Institutions had very much to thank this association for. He knew what the work was, having for eleven years been Secretary of three of them. In four years one of these associations paid in £4,080. In seven years £7,000 had been paid by these associations to one Institution, and if it had not been for them, not £1,000 of this amount would have come into the coffers, of the Institution. It was all very well to say that you could go to a man and say you wanted ten guineas or £10; they could not afford to pay that sum all at once, but they would not mind giving it in small sums, spread over a long period. Bro. Terry expressed the great pleasure he had in coming to these friendly meetings, and believed that if the Secretaries did not do so the very brethren who objected now would be the first to find fault with them for not letting them know how the Institutions were progressing. Referring to the remarks of Bro. Binckes as to his constantly having to visit lodges, he (Bro. Terry) said that from the 1st Oct. last till now, with the exception of Sundays, and the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Christmas week, he had not had an opportunity of spending an evening at home. He ventured to say that the Secretaries of no other Institutions could say the same thing. The Secretaries of the Masonic Institutions had to travel hundreds and hundreds of miles to their own inconvenience in discharge of their duties. Their attendance at their offices from ten to four every day was the minor portion of the time they devoted to the interests of the Institutions. The major part was given after the official duties had ended for the day, but if they had been successful in bringing the Institutions before the brethren they were amply rewarded. He was sure that when they were invited to lodges the brethren would very much regret to receive for answer that the Secretaries considered their duties were over at four o'clock in the afternoon, and that they must decline the invitation. He believed that if such a course were adopted the Institutions would suffer, and that the subscriptions would fall off at least one half. It was not their own comfort and convenience the Secretaries sought in attending these meetings, but the good cause which they supported, and he hoped and trusted that there were but few members of the Craft who thought the presence of the Secretaries was undesirable at these meetings. When he came to the East-end of London, he came among a body of large-hearted men who appreciated the services the Secretaries rendered, and he well knew that when the hour of distress arrived, if it ever did, he would be sure to find the warmest sympathy at the East-end of London. If there was any objection to the administration of the Institutions, it only required a representation to that effect to be made to the Committee, and it would receive the best consideration. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Bros. Alloway, Triggs and Hobbs. Bro. Tucker, W.M. 933, replied for "The Committee of Management," and the toast of "The Press" brought the proceedings to a close.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The General Committee of the subscribers to this Institution met on Thursday afternoon at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, in the chair. There were also present Bros. John Boyd, Col. Peters, H. Massey (*Freemason*), T. W. White, R. B. Webster, Thos. Massa, Griffiths, Smith, Thos. Francis Peacock, J. A. Rucker, H. A. Dubois.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, a motion of Bro. Col. Creaton for raising the salary of the Junior Clerk of the Institution from £50 to £60 was carried.

A letter from Grand Secretary was read, replying to an application for the use of the Temple for the elections to this school. In it Grand Secretary conveyed the resolution of the Board of General Purposes, in which they stated they were unable to comply with the request of the Committee.

Two candidates were placed on the list for the October election, and the Committee then adjourned.

At the weekly meeting of the School Board for London held on Wednesday last, Sir Charles Reed presiding, Mr. Freeman, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the estimate of expenditure from March 25th, 1878, to March 25th, 1879, and gave an explanation of the principal items. The estimate for the year to be ended next month was £506,353 4s. 8d., and the estimate for next year is £506,305 18s. 9d., showing a decrease of £47 5s. 11d. The rate for next year is something less than it was during the year just ending. After a discussion, recommendations of the Finance Committee in keeping with Mr. Freeman's statement were agreed to nem. con.

The Duke of Abercorn and suite waited on the King of Italy on Wednesday. The investiture of the Garter takes place to-day (Saturday.)

A proposition is before the Paris Municipal Council to offer a prize of 100,000fr. to the inventor of a means of manufacturing better bread at a lower price than that sold in Paris.

The Rev. Mr. Barston, whose extraordinary conduct caused some excitement at St. Paul's Church, Clapham, last Sunday morning, has been removed to a lunatic asylum.

## MASONIC THINKERS.

By W. W. HIBBEN.

An intelligent member of the Masonic Fraternity, who ranks among the first of the Craft in the Queen City, said to us a few weeks ago: "Masons, as a body, are not a reading people." The expression was sincere, and was evidently uttered with reluctant regret.

We passed from his presence with the reflection that his assertion was probably true, notwithstanding the general intelligence of the body in business affairs, and in the general interests of the country. The conviction is doubtless too common, that the communication of the degrees in the lodge rooms of the Craft, is the chief thing necessary to make one a Mason. But however common this conception, the very idea is erroneous, because it tends to the building up of communities of mere Masonic automatons, who never know anything more of the Craft than that it is an old secret society. It is a pity that any such Masons are ever made and turned out upon the world as the representatives of the Fraternity. They misrepresent the true animus of its philosophic antiquity, and never learn the great mystic fact that no better foundation of fraternal and intelligent society has ever been laid than is comprehended in the moral teachings and philosophic principles of Ancient Craft Masonry. To them ignorance and indifference are most unfortunate, for these hold all such in the outer courts, where even Masters compare only with Entered Apprentices, and where they are never able to work, save where more competent Masters prepare the trestle-board.

To teach them to think, to act, and to feel, not for themselves alone, but for their fellow men, is the true Masonic philosophy, which makes known to the Craft the higher trestle-board—the grander and more noble work of the moral and social men, where intelligence distinguishes the good from the bad among the sons of humanity, and where the rewards of virtue add to the distinctions of life and give happier sunsets to its dying scenes. All men may not read, yet they should all think, for thought makes the great differences between man and man, and distinguishes him from the brute and from all lower animals. This, indeed, is an obligation which is imposed on us by nature itself, and we cannot ignore it without driving from our presence our higher manhood, and sacrificing the lifetime luxury of delightful travel through the mystic regions of what may be truly termed the Masonic heaven of light and knowledge.

If man had not been a thinking being, then it would not have been necessary to have placed in his hands any revelation of God or of himself. The primitive elements of his nature might have served him for all time, and he could have been left to run the race of his generation without an effort of thought or an act of morality. But this is not the animus of our endowment or the order of our being. We were constituted in the beginning creation's capstone—nature's lords—and to us have been committed the oracles of God, which obligate us to "read, think and inwardly digest" the Word of Life, and best basis of human civilisation the world has yet received.

To the intelligent Mason this book is the more valuable because he remembers that when he received his first ray of Masonic light the sacred writings were before him. The book was open for him to read, and the compass and square pointed him to the significant passages of truth which constituted his first lesson in the mystic philosophy of life. Here is where every Mason must meet us and have his memory refreshed; but, alas, how many stop just there! They go no further, only as they are led, as it were, by a cable-tow. They never learn to walk alone, and the obstacles in their way appear to be of their own erection. They bear on their persons the insignia of the Craft, while the inner man knows nothing, comparatively, of that higher life, where thought kindles its fires and throws the bright glare of its mystic effulgence everywhere along the corridors of the future.

To think, to reflect and to investigate are the many duties which alone can elevate us in the world of intellectual life, and he who never enters there may bear physical affinity with our race; but he knows nothing of that sun that makes the higher, broader and more beautiful sphere where philosophy strews its flowers, and where moral and social activities find the true basis of their enjoyment. Ignorance and Masonry can never travel together; the one is light and the other is darkness. This lives by progression, while that finds its home only in the dullness of stagnation. The one demands the elevations of intelligence while the other is pleased to sit down anywhere and listen to the songs of idle pantomimes.

Every element of ignorance is anti-Masonic. The bigotry that breathes intolerance—the pride that makes distinctions—the tyranny that is cruel and oppresses the poor—the arrogance that inaugurates its own monopolies, and the selfishness that plants itself within the narrow confines of sectarianism, as well as the devilish nature that lives and dies ignorant of humanity and charity, are all anti-Masonic. The Craft cannot recognize them in any shape or form, and if any of them ever show their heads in a lodge-room, the spirit of Masonry vanishes like ember fires before the destructive avalanche. No, the very first element of Masonry is light, and he that will comprehend it and enjoy its beauties must become a Masonic thinker.—*Ia. Advocate*

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Dropsical Swellings.—Whatever may be the remote cause of collections of water in the human body, it must be prudent to disperse them as soon as possible. The readiest means of accomplishing this end are supplied by using Holloway's Ointment, to increase the activity of the absorbents. When this Ointment is well rubbed upon the skin, it removes all venous congestion, overcomes all mechanical obstruction to the free return of the blood and prevents the deposit of serum and water. Holloway's Pills likewise augment that absorbing power; they act powerfully on the capillaries through the circulation, while this Ointment acts directly through the skin. Both should be employed in dropsies and diseases of the kidneys.—*ADVT.*

## Masonic and General Tidings.

The report of the North London Railway Company, adopted at the meeting held on Friday week, at Euston Station, Bro. J. Bancroft in the chair, stated that after payment of interest on the debenture capital, a net balance remains to the credit of revenue of £94,343 6s. 11d., from which the directors recommend the declaration of dividends for the half-year as under: First preference stock, 1866 (created 1861), 2½ per cent., making the dividend for the twelve months at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum; second preference stock, 1875 (created 1871), 2½ per cent., making the dividend for the twelve months at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum; ordinary stock, 3½ per cent., making the dividend for the twelve months at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum, leaving a balance of £2812 1s. 11d. to be carried forward to the current half-year.

The annual assembly of the General Grand Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday next, at half-past five o'clock. The banquet, at which Col. Burdett, Grand Sovereign, will preside, will be provided at half-past six.

Bro. Arthur Swanborough (Lodges 189 and 1319), will preside at the Twenty-Second Anniversary Festival of the Dramatic, Equestrian and Musical Sick Fund Association, which will take place at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on the 6th inst. (Ash-Wednesday.)

Bro. H.R.H. Prince Leopold, attended by the Hon. A. Yorke, Bro. Collins, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Royle and suite, left the Victoria terminus of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway on Wednesday morning at 7.45 for Dover, and embarked at 9.30 on board the company's special mailpacket Samphire, Captain Pittock, en route for Paris.

An appeal is about to be made on behalf of the family of that admirable official and much respected brother, Superintendent Mott, who died suddenly a short time ago. A provisional committee, comprising Lieut.-Col. C. H. Gregory, C.M.G., Mr. F. West, Mr. G. E. Collette, Mr. A. C. Simmons, Mr. A. Austin, and Mr. Wentworth L. Cole, has been formed, and it is decided to give a concert at the Royal Albert Hall, on the 1st of May. So many artists have volunteered their assistance in this good cause, that the committee have been compelled to inform several of those who had generously proffered their assistance that their kindly offers of help must necessarily be declined. Mr. Wentworth Cole and Mr. A. C. Simmons have consented to act respectively as honorary secretary and honorary treasurer; a working sub-committee has been formed, and the following gentlemen, among others, have been requested, and will doubtless consent to join the committee:—Col Fraser, Dr. T. Bond (the well-known Metropolitan Police Surgeon), Sir James McGarel Hogg, Bart., M.P., Mr. Walter Clifford, Mr. Arthur Chappell, Mr. Frederick Cowen, Sir Julius Benedict, and Sir Michael Costa. The Council of the Albert Hall have offered the use of the building free of cost, and that offer has been accepted.—*Whitehall Review*

Bro. F. B. Chatterton's complimentary benefit will take place on Monday morning next at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane. As the present lease of this noble theatre shortly expires, it has been thought by an influential committee, a fitting opportunity for professionally and publicly marking the estimation in which this popular lessee and manager is held. Many of the most distinguished members of the theatrical profession have offered their services, and we doubt not a most successful result will ensue.

The Medical Society of Antwerp has established a "black book" in which the members are invited to enter the names of patients, who, without sufficient reason, such as poverty or the like, fail to pay their bills. Doubtless there are not a few English towns in which a similar book would form a very useful guide to general practitioners.—*Medical Examiner.*

We deeply regret to learn that Mr. Chapman, for many years associated with Mitchell's Library, whose courtesy was well known and widely appreciated, has been struck with paralysis, whereby he has lost the use of his limbs and the power of speech. It has been felt that, under this severe affliction, the opportunity suggests itself for offering him a testimonial purse. Contributions, which are earnestly solicited, will be thankfully received by Mr. Mitchell, of 33, Old Bond-street; or Mr. Burrage, 45, Tregunter-road, S.W.—*Morning Post.*

The Duchess of Abercorn, accompanied by Lady Georgiana Hamilton, leaves at the end of the week for Biarritz for a few weeks. The Duke, after completing his mission to Rome, will join the Duchess at Biarritz.

The "Whitehall Review," of to-day contains a crayon portrait with a biographical sketch of Bro. the Right Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., R.W.P.G.M. Derbyshire.

At a meeting at the Mansion House on Wednesday last a resolution, recommending the raising of a fund of £25,000, for the erection of new premises on a central site, suitable to the growing requirements of the Birkbeck Institution, was adopted on the motion of the Earl of Northbrook. A committee was formed to solicit subscriptions.

The Stock Markets on Thursday were heavy at the close, and prices showed a fall all round ranging from ¼ to ¾ per cent., chiefly upon the unfavourable Bank return, showing a fall in the proportion of reserve to liabilities of 5 per cent., to 42½. Consols closed ¼ per cent. lower, at 95 to 95½ for money and the account, after being quoted 94½ to 95. At the Bank £16,000 in gold was withdrawn for South America.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. Major George Barlow, which sad event occurred on Tuesday last at his residence, 76, Colleshill-street, Eaton-square. The deceased brother was a P.M. of Lodge 321, Past Grand Mark Master Overseer, a member of the 33°, of the Studholme Mark Lodge, No. 197, and a Comp. of the Royal Arch.

Reform in the length of ladies' dresses is being attempted in Vienna, where some of the principal ladies of the Court recently organised a ball at which short costumes were compulsory. Extravagance being another object of reform, all the toilettes were of calico, and the ball proved the most successful of the season. Calico balls are familiar features in England, but the innovation of short dresses for dancing might well be introduced into our ball-rooms, where the absurdly long trains of the present day are damaging alike to tempers, comfort, and pockets.

The study of cookery in Scotland was taken up with great vigour last year. According to the report of the Edinburgh School of Cookery, the classes held in the capital, Leith, and other towns for demonstration and practice, were almost universally successful, particularly the evening classes for cheap cookery, where in many towns the attendance varied from 500 to 700, and in three cities reached 1000. Branch classes were established in forty-one places, and applications for similar institutions have been received from all parts of Scotland, while considerable improvement in cookery and economy in the homes of the working people is reported from the district where these classes have been held.

The Newspapers published in the United Kingdom now number 1744—of which England claims 1352; Scotland, 173; Ireland, 141; and the Isles 19. Of these London alone publishes 336 journals, while the daily papers amount to 112, in England, 21 in Scotland, 19 in Ireland, 3 in Wales, and 3 in the smaller islands. The Press of the country has more than doubled in the past twenty years, according to the "Newspaper Press Directory for 1878," which notes that only 868 journals were issued in 1858, while the increase is specially notable in the daily papers, which now number 158 against 37 in 1858. There are now 839 Magazines and Quarterly Reviews published in the year, and of these 264 are of a decidedly religious character.

The Paris Press is thus divided among the political parties:—The Republican party possess 22 newspapers, with a circulation of 200,000 copies; the Legitimists, six newspapers, with a circulation of 25,000 copies; the Orleanists, five newspapers, with a circulation of 30,000 copies; the Bonapartists, seven newspapers, with a circulation of 70,000 copies. The *Figaro*, which has the largest circulation of any Paris newspaper, cannot be classed under any head.—*Athenaeum.*

The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught left Berlin at ten o'clock on Monday evening for Darmstadt, on a visit to the Grand Duke. The German Crown Prince and Crown Princess saw their brothers to the station. Lord Odo Russell was in attendance. Three Adjutants-General of the Emperor were likewise present. As the Prince of Wales entered the waiting-room Miss Katie Gill, daughter of Mr. James Gill, stepped forward from the throng of English residents assembled in an adjacent room, and presented a beautiful bouquet, wishing the Prince of Wales a happy journey.

An annotated edition (with glossary) of Milton's "Comus," by Bro. B. Montgomerie Ranking, Inner Temple (sometime Secretary of the Royal Archaeological Institute), author of "Fair Rosamond," and other poems. "Streams from Hidden Sources," &c., and Bro. D. Fearon Ranking, M.A., Hertford Coll., Oxon., Head Master of Wallasey Free Grammar School, Cheshire (both of the Prince of Wales's Lodge, 959, Ipswich), with Introductory Essays on the Masque as an entertainment, and on the history and sources of this particular poem, is in the press, and will be published shortly by Mr. Henry West, 301, Mare-street, Hackney.

The consecration of the Jordan Lodge, (No. 1726), is fixed to take place at Bognor on Wednesday, March 13th. The ceremony will be performed by Bro. J. H. Scott, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Sussex. Bro. John St. Clair, P. Prov. Grand Purst., and P.M. 38, is to be the first W.M.

The Past Masters' Centenary Club attached to the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, held its ninth anniversary at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 28th inst., Bro. Daniel Nicholson, P.M., in the chair, supported by Bro. John Charles, W.M., and many of the Past Masters of the lodge. Bro. Alexander T. Hollingsworth having completed his year of office as W.M., was formally introduced as a member of the club, and invited by the President to partake of the loving cup, (the gift of Bro. W. M. Bywater, P.M.) Bro. George Champion, P.M., was unanimously elected as Chairman of the club for the ensuing year 1878. The banquet, served by Bro. Best, proprietor of the Freemasons' Tavern, was everything that could be desired.

The installation meeting of the Wolsey Lodge, 1656, will take place at the White Hart Hotel, Hampton Wick, on Monday next, the 4th inst., at 4.30, when Bro. Bernard Sharp, P.M. 168, will be installed by Bro. Wm. Hammond (the retiring W.M.), into the chair of K.S.

Constitutions of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, containing the Charges, Regulations, E.A. Song, &c. A copy should be in the possession of every brother. It may be obtained for 2d. at the office of the *Freemason*, or will be sent free to any part of the United Kingdom, on receipt of twenty-five penny stamps. Address, Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.—*ADVT.*



educated at a college in Rome, and was admitted deacon and ordained a priest at the usual age. In 1843, when only 33 years of age, he was made Bishop of Damietta, and afterwards sent as Papal Nuncio to Brussels. Three or four years later he was translated to the archiepiscopal see of Perugia, which he has held to the present time. He was appointed "Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church" in September last. His baptismal name he received from his parents after St. Joachim, who is traditionally said to have been the father of the Blessed Virgin. In the "Catholic Directory" for the present year his name stands eleventh upon the list of "Cardinals," and fifth upon that of "Cardinal Priests." The Cardinal Bishops are:—1, San Filippo e Sorso; 2, Di Pietro; 3, Sacconi; 4, Guidi; 5, Bilio; and 6, Morichini. The Cardinal Priests senior to Pecci are:—1, Von Schwartzberg; 2, Asquini; 3, Di Traetto; and 4, Donnet, Archbishop of Bordeaux. Two out of the ten cardinals above Pecci in the list of the members of the Sacred College are his juniors in point of years. The new Pope, we may observe, has four brothers, the eldest of whom is 86. The second has four sons, two of them volunteers in the Italian army. The third brother of the Pope is a Divinity Professor, formerly a Jesuit, but now he has quitted the Order. The Pope has also two married sisters. He seems to have been an able ruler, a zealous archbishop, and a good man, but not favoured by Antonelli, or the Ultramontane party. After the death of Antonelli, Pius IX. recalled him from Perugia and made him "Camerlengo," and he is now Leo XIII. The Italians seem to have hailed his election with much satisfaction, and everything seems to point to a "regime" of religious earnestness and common sense. It is said that the Ultramontane party are displeased, and wished for the election of Cardinal Bilio—not a bad name, by the way, for an unhealthy-minded Ultramontane—but we congratulate the Roman Catholic Church on their selecting the "right man" clearly for the time and for religion. We have always deplored the unwise and abnormal struggle going on between the Roman Catholic Church and civil authority and legislative enactments. It would seem, that Leo XIII. is wishful to make the situation calmer, and easier, and happier in every way. Two little facts are noted by the *Times* which seem to indicate a salutary change for the better. The one is—that "The *Voce della Verità*, a Clerical organ, in an article evidently inspired, highly eulogises the Italian Government and nation for the faithful observance of the laws of Papal guarantees, insuring the perfect security and independence of the Conclave. The nation and Government, it says, have worthily acquitted themselves of their duties to the Church. In another article, even more significant, the same journal moderates and reproves the excessive zeal of the Ultramontane Party. Such utterances from the *Voce* reveal an altogether new spirit prevailing in the Vatican. The other is, that a programme of the new Pope, bearing the date of the 10th inst., just three days after the death of Pius IX., and published at Rome, is addressed to the people of Perugia as a Lent Pastoral, and entitled "La Chiesa, e la Civiltà." It is a perfectly Christian enumeration of the titles the Church is entitled to put forward as a promoter of civilization, and the founder of a moral society based on the sacredness of the family, on the meekness, purity, and self-denial of the Christian character, and on the authority exercised by a Church modelled on the faultless type of her Divine founder. There is nothing aggressive in this homily, no allusion to the Temporal Power as a necessary basis of Papal independence, nothing whatever to which an English or German divine of the Reformed Churches could not freely subscribe." All this is very hopeful. There is one good story of the Pope as delegate which we must give to our readers, on the authority, as before, of the *Times*. He was twenty-seven years old when he was sent a delegate, or, as we should now say, sub-prefect, to Benevento, a Papal *enclave* on the frontier within the Neapolitan territory, at that time infested by a brigandage exhibiting all the features it now has in the provinces of Palermo

and Girgenti, flourishing under the patronage of the petty nobles and landowners of the district. The Cardinals Pacca, Pedicini, and De Simone, who belonged to Benevento, appealed to the Pope, condemning the too severe and resolute measures by which the delegate was providing for the public security. Pecci fought the brigands tooth and nail, pursued them in their mountain fastnesses, and stormed them regardless of the complaints of the landowners, who stood upon the inviolability of their domiciles and domains. One of these, the most powerful, called upon the delegate, telling him he was going to Rome, where he had interest enough to remove him from his office. "It is very well, my lord marquis," quoth Pecci, "but meanwhile I will shut you up in gaol for three months, where I will keep you on bread and water with your friends the brigands." And he was as good as his word, and during the nobleman's imprisonment his castle was taken by storm, the brigands were all killed or taken, and the people blessed the brave delegate. We are not among those Freemasons, happily few, who think it a proof of good Masonry, to be always attacking the Church of Rome qua the Church of Rome. As Freemasons we have nothing to do with the Church of Rome, and if left alone, would treat it, as a great religious body, with proper respect on all occasions. We, therefore, trust that under Leo XIII. the ceaseless and childish "anathemata" against Freemasons and Freemasonry may cease, and that Freemasonry may do its work, and the Church of Rome do its work, without perpetual contests and angry censures. Hopeful for the future, we are glad to note the election of Joachim Pecci, Leo XIII.

#### ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We congratulate Bro. Terry on the result of the proceedings of the last meeting of the Board of Stewards, of which we give a report elsewhere. Bro. Terry, as it will be seen, reports that £679 has been received, and £671 expended, and the small balance of £8 was voted with hearty unanimity to Bro. Terry to dispose of as he thought best. This seems to us to be the fitting sequel of a successful Stewardship. We only regret that the balance was not larger, and we beg to offer Bro. Terry our hearty good wishes, and we hope for an equally successful meeting on the next occasion. We are happy to announce that £11,300, in round numbers, has been received for the festival.

#### 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.—E.D.]

#### THE PRESENT POSITION OF THE FRENCH GRAND ORIENT.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

Having had my attention called to Bro. Thévenot's letter in your last, and his remarks on my humble words in the *Freemason*, I think it well to send you a few lines to-day, though I shall be chary both of your space—very valuable just now—and of your readers' patience. Though I note that Bro. Thévenot terms my view of the present position of the French Grand Orient "fantastic," he carefully avoids pointing out how it is so. I am afraid that my real offence in good Bro. Thévenot's eyes is that I have spoken the truth. It was not likely, a priori, that the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient would approve of my letter, and I am only very sorry to find that so estimable and educated a Freemason as Bro. Thévenot is, does not yet see the position in which the Grand Orient of France is placed, "envers" Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, and where French Freemasonry is drifting to. Bro. Thévenot uses some words to which I feel bound to object strongly. He says that all "educated" Masons will realise the "fantastic" character of my words. I do not know who they are whom Bro. Thévenot terms "educated" Masons, but if Bro. Thévenot means that educated men will reject the fantastic assertions of an uneducated person, (as would seem to be the inference), then such a remark is altogether unworthy of Bro. Thévenot as a man or a Mason. But I forbear saying more, as I detest personalities and always avoid them myself.

I wish Bro. Thévenot would be correct in his quotations. I have used no words which he can fairly translate "sanglante injure," nor have I asked the question he gives as a distinct quotation of my words. The only passage approaching to it is as follows, which your readers will see is quite a different matter: "I am now simply arguing as a French Freemason on the "dicta" of the Grand Orient

itself, and I leave out of the case 'pour le moment' the heavy blow inflicted by the recent decision of the French Grand Orient on French Freemasonry." Where Bro. Thévenot finds many of the words he alleges I used in my letter in the *Freemason* I know not. Though I may be wrong, I see no ambiguity or absurdity in the words "inflicted by the recent decision of the French Grand Orient on French Freemasonry." Bro. Thévenot's argument that the French Grand Orient is a convertible term for French Freemasonry does not affect the "gist" of my contention, that by its recent decision the French Grand Orient has inflicted a heavy blow on French Freemasonry in the eyes of the Cosmopolitan Order, in that it has undermined its very foundation and placed it in entire isolation, with respect to the great majority of the Masonic world.

I do not see the use of saying any more to-day, except to observe that, as our old English proverb has it, "hard words butter no parsnips," so I, for one, am not to be deterred from expressing my opinion, though Bro. Thévenot may not consider me educated or reasonable, because I venture to speak openly and manfully, as every loyal and educated English Freemason ought to do.

Time will show whether Bro. Thévenot or I be right as to our estimate of the present position of French Freemasonry, and there I leave the matter as far as I am concerned. I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,

MASKELYNE.

#### PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Your correspondent "P.M. Linc.," assumes to endorse my views when he advocates the institution of schools that are to receive the orphans of "one, two, or three provinces." I must, however, trespass upon your good nature to permit me to point out that a very wide difference holds between his proposal and my suggestion. While a movement that would satisfy the former partakes of an almost national character, the latter merely seeks to graft a little branch on to our own provincial tree, that has borne hitherto such abundant and good fruit, and which appears flourishing enough to afford support to another little cause. Before briefly stating the object in view, and the *modus operandi*, I must most earnestly repudiate any intention of interfering with the existing charitable agencies. I must also deprecate any allusion to the powers above alluded to in last week's letter, if by such term our provincial superiors are meant; for the scheme proposed has merely been presented to their notice in a crude form, and that so recently as to render it impossible for them to have expressed any decided opinion upon its merits. Their offhand support is not expected; their consideration only is now requested, and it must leave events to work out their own course.

The present idea emanated at that time when an important discussion was going on as to the best mode of showing our appreciation of the character and works of our late worthy neighbour, Bro. Dr. Oliver, who was, as the majority of old Masons know, the most prolific of Masonic authors, and a Lincolnshire rector. It was eventually decided to raise a sum of one thousand guineas to secure the constant attendance in the Boys' School of a Lincolnshire boy, who was to be known as the "Oliver Memorial Boy." The amount is now, or shortly will be, wholly collected, with a surplus to go to the Girls' School.

An amount of £200 was at that time in hand, and amongst the suggestions as to its appropriation was one to the effect that it should be set apart as a nucleus of a fund to perpetuate the memory of such a worthy Mason within the province where he had so ardently and so lovingly bestowed the result of his learned researches. In every community there are constantly recurring instances of the presence of the grim hand of death, and in the natural course of things we have frequently to call to mind the charitable intentions of our Craft that are so forcibly impressed upon us at our initiation. No more appropriate means of practically carrying out this object appeared adapted to the circumstances of the case than a provision for the orphan children in the province who were not successful in obtaining admission to the Schools. We as a province are proud to be able to enjoy the benefits of those Institutions and anxious to secure them, but it is not possible that our candidates can be invariably successful, nor is it well that advantages shall be confined to particular provinces, and with that view it was considered within the bounds of practicability to afford immediate assistance to orphans of a somewhat similar nature to that already rendered to widows or indigent brethren by the provincial benevolent funds, with this exception, that this relief should be permanent and increasing, instead of being casual. Thus, if a fund were raised sufficient to defray the annual cost of education of orphans at schools near their own homes they would in after life have reason to remember the good works of the brotherhood, whereas at present Masonry is merely a name to many. Several children might in this manner receive benefits who at present experience none, and the same chance of admission to the schools would be available as is now open to candidates whose friends are disposed to interest themselves on their behalf. Even if unable through age or insufficient canvassing to secure admission to one school or the other, they would be recognised protégés to the Craft equally with those who have received the superior advantages of the great charities, and would be the additional proofs of the goodness inherent in our principles. A very small annual contribution per member would suffice to provide this education, so small that I feel convinced the central charities would sustain no diminution of support, while for the sake of getting one of the orphans in, the liberality of the brethren would then, as it ever has been, be assuredly relied upon. So that the intention may be stated to be a con-

tribution by brethren of a small sum per annum towards a provincial fund, to provide for the education of orphan children of the province at schools in the immediate neighbourhood of their homes until their election to the schools, or the time when an opportunity shall occur for enabling them to earn their own living. In this there is nothing antagonistic to existing institutions, nothing subversive of the landmarks of Masonry. Neither novelty nor originality is claimed for the idea, as the similar machinery is at work in other provinces. Priority was yielded to the Oliver Memorial. I now venture to think, that the suggestions thrown out in your leader of January 12th may reasonably be acted upon in our province, and with that view I pen these lines in the hope that our brethren will, as P.M. says, be "stirred up," not only in this matter, but in all others where their zeal may be flagging.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
A LINCOLNSHIRE W.M.

#### THE GRAND MASTER OF SWEDEN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to the communication to the *Sunday Times*, quoted in your most valued journal of the 19th of Jan., may I be permitted to observe that our Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Denmark was not re-elected on the 7th of January, for the simple reason that, in accordance with the Swedish Rite, which is the system strictly observed in Denmark, the Grand Master, being once elected, retains his throne in the Orient, until the Grand Architect of the Universe calls him to enter that lodge where the light of truth shineth for ever.

Fraternally yours,

ROBERT D. L. LAING.

Representative of the Grand Lodge of England  
in the Grand Lodge of Denmark.

#### OUR CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In your last week's paper I see a letter signed "Vice-President." My opinion is that every lodge, both town and country, should subscribe every year to the three Charities—there surely cannot be any difficulty in an arrangement of this kind being carried out; the Charities would not then require to be benefitted by the very questionable mode of lotteries, which we have heard so much about lately.

Yours faithfully,

M.M.

#### DR. MOON'S WORK FOR THE BLIND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,—

Enclosed is a summary of our labour for the Blind during the year 1877. You will see that I have now adapted my type to 131 languages, and we expect demands will be made during the present year for many of our specimens not yet brought into use.

We have lately sent away a large number of books in the Armenian language, and are preparing a quantity to send to Japan as a present from Sir Charles Lowther. They will form the first Free Lending Library for the Blind of Japan, that has yet been initiated. We have commenced stereotyping Isaiah in the Swedish language, and the Pilgrims Progress in the Arabic language.

A large order for books has just come from Australia, where we sent a great quantity last year.

I remain, yours very truly,

W. Moon.

[We are much pleased in being permitted to publish this truly interesting letter. The Summary alluded to will appear in the Masonic Magazine for April.—Ed.]

#### COINCIDENCE OR DESIGN—WHICH?

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Was Raffaele d'Urbino a Freemason? Had he passed the chair? Was there an analogous degree to the present one of I.M. conferred in his day? If so, were the s's and g's similar to those now communicated?

I must be very guarded in raising the question, remembering that I am an I.M., but the point, I venture to think, will prove not uninteresting to those who love to examine the history and antiquities of the traditions of the Order.

I have recently had occasion to make a close examination of the celebrated cartoons by Raffaele in the Museum of South Kensington—at least I believe they are there; they were formerly at Hampton Court. My investigation was made by the aid of good engravings, which are numerous and pretty generally diffused, and I wish, if you would kindly afford me the opportunity, to appeal to the brethren of the degree of I.M. who love researches in Masonic antiquarian lore, to inspect these cartoons, either in themselves or their well-known reproductions (there are seven of them preserved out of the eleven originally executed), and let your readers know, if you will courteously lend yourself to the promulgation of the speculations of the enquirers, whether anything in any one of the designs (for the reason I have alluded to above I dare not be more explicit, and, therefore, shall not indicate the particular one that has suggested this communication) recalls the impressive ceremonial when any one individual enquirer among the worshipful brethren was first qualified to "pass the chair."

The well-known dialogue recorded by Elias Ashmole as having been current in the reign of Henry VI.—"Are Freemasons gudher (sic) than other men?" is now generally regarded as spurious, but it is at least curious, if only as a coincidence, to trace within half a century of the assumed date of this concoction—a—something that exactly resembles—a—something else—if it be something else—in the degree every P.M. has taken.

The field of investigation is narrowed in point of date. Leo X. succeeded Julius II., in 1513 (tem. Hen. VIII. Ang.) This Pope commissioned the then already eminent artist, Raffaele d'Urbino, to design eleven sketches of subjects from sacred history, to be worked up and completed in tapestry, for the purpose of decorating the lower walls of the Sistine Chapel. The work was completed and the tapestry itself hung in its appointed place on St. Stephen's Day, December 26th, 1519. But previously to this the completed pictures, as cartoons, had been for about two years in the hands of the Dutch artist Bernard Van Orley, a pupil of the designer, for the purpose of reproduction in needlework. Assuming then that the commission was given one year from the accession of the holy patron, we get a limit to our enquiry of three years, or may formulate the question thus: Between 1514 and 1517 were the aporetta of an I.M. the same as those in use at present? Was, in short, what I allude to (and I hope that any brother whose views and conclusions of his investigations into the subject you may be courteous enough to allow to appear in your columns will be as cautious in his communication as I have endeavoured to be) the result of an accidental coincidence or of a design to manifest the possession of occult knowledge? Verbum sap.

Yours fraternally, S.P., P.M. No. 902 and 1491.

#### KENNING'S MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA.

Dear Bro. Kenning,—

I rejoice to think that your gallant literary venture is now fairly launched on the somewhat uneasy sea of Masonic criticism, and can only congratulate you on the completion of the undertaking, which has required alike time and labour on the part of the Writer, and patience and forbearance on the part of the Subscribers.

All will agree, I think, how well the work is printed and "got up," but I must apologise for many unavoidable errata, especially in the German words, which are an almost insurmountable "crux" to English printers to-day.

I am annoyed by reading that at page 428, under "Literature of Masonry," the reference to "Masonic Literature" is in vain. That is one of those errors which will occur in a work, especially when the "text" is arranged by letters. I also see that at page 311, under "Hiram" are the words, "see supplement." It was intended to have a "supplement" when those words were written, but the advisability of publishing the work made me at the last moment, (to save time, and to soothe the complaints of subscribers), give the idea of a supplement.

I shall be happy to receive friendly information of any slips of the pen or actual errata, and shall hope to amend them in a second edition.

In the meanwhile, I beg to anticipate, by this frank confession, all complaints as to possible mistakes and special shortcomings.

I am, dear Bro. Kenning, yours fraternally,

A. F. A. WOODFORD.

10, Upper Porchester-street, Hyde Park-square.  
Feb. 23rd, 1878.

#### BRO. DESMONS' REPORT.

As many allusions have been made to this report, we think it well to give a careful translation of it, for the information of our brethren:—

My Brethren,—Your commission before studying the "Vœu," which has been submitted to its appreciation has pre-occupied itself with a precedent question.

It has asked this question:—If the study of the "Vœu" was altogether opportune in this year's Convent?

It has heard successively the delegates of the nine "Bureaux," who, by six voices against three, have pronounced the affirmative.

Each of these members has recalled the different objections which had been presented in his separate bureau. Permit me, my brethren, to make them pass rapidly under your eyes, and to follow them with the observations which they have raised in the body of the commission.

Take care, it has been said to us, if you actually suppress the article of your Constitution, you are about to separate the Grand Orient of France from all the Masonic powers in the world. You are about to isolate it in the midst of Universal Freemasonry. If you suppress this article,—it was added,—you will cause a mournful agitation to spring up in our lodges, and provoke even in the Grand Orient of France itself, a regrettable situation.

Lastly, if you suppress this article, are you not afraid that the declared enemies of our Order will profit by our decision to spread calumnies on all Masons, denouncing them to the profane world, as Materialists or Atheists?

And under present circumstances, must not this denunciation be injurious to Masonry itself; and above all to these noble and generous ideas which are its mission to defend and propagate.

Such are, my brethren, if I do not deceive myself, the principal objections which the partisans of the adjournment of the discussion have addressed to us. There is no need, my brethren, for us to say how unanimously the members of the commission have recognized not only the incontestable sincerity of these objections which have been submitted to us, but also the importance of each of them.

There is no need to say, above all, with what legitimate deference the commission has received the altogether fraternal objections of him, who for so many years represented the Grand Orient of France, and to whose indefatigable devotion the Assembly again this year has just rendered so striking and so legitimate an acknowledgment. Nevertheless, my brethren, in virtue of that adage which is our device for all.

"Amicus Plato, sed magis amica veritas,"

Your commission, with a sentiment of respectful independence has successively studied each of these objections, and here is the reply, which it has thought its duty conscientiously to give to them. You fear, you say, if we actually

suppress this article, the isolation of the Grand Orient in the midst of universal Freemasonry. But is not this argument the same which was invoked scarcely seven years ago, against the suppression of the Grand Mastership, which was made use of formerly against the admission in our lodges of men of colour, and against the representation of the High Grades in our annual Convent? Well, what has arrived nevertheless? Our Masonic Assemblies have not allowed themselves to be stopped by this obstacle which they were made to anticipate, and to-day our relations with other Masonic powers are, as far as I know, neither less cordial nor less extended.\*

Besides, my brethren, I would say to those who from an excessive prudence, perhaps, or from the fear of seeing the Grand Orient of France too much isolated, reject this innovation as dangerous, I would say to them, I repeat; we are not either the only ones, nor the first to enter into the way we propose. Already in the Grand Lodge of Buenos Ayres, the reform has been effected. Already, the lodge which has been formed in Hungary has adopted a Constitution which is based on ours, but from which it has taken care to banish the article which occupies us at this hour; and nearer to us, lastly, the Grand Orient of Italy has adopted a like resolution.†

Therefore, be reassured, my brethren. Do not fear for our Order its isolation in the Masonic world. There are already intrepid pioneers who have advanced before us on this path. Be assured that we shall soon have numerous imitators.‡

Again, my brethren, you who think, perhaps, that this formula has been printed on the frontispiece of our Constitution for all time, you will not be, perhaps, slightly astonished to hear that it is on the contrary of very recent date. I had the opportunity only yesterday of running through the different Constitutions which have ruled our Order.

Well, do you know at what epoch it was introduced? There is no need of any kind to ask for that of the prehistoric times, or even to go back to the deluge. It was only in 1849 that we see it for the first time make its appearance in the bosom of our Constitution.§

You see then, my brethren, that that which we ask of you is not a dangerous innovation, but purely and simply a return to a previous situation. But it has been said to us, in addition, do we not risk, in voting the suppression of this article, casting trouble and division in the midst of our lodges? It appears to your commission that this fear is chimerical.

If, indeed, the Convent of this year was occupied for the first time with this question; if without having previously considered it, this assembly, by an act of authority, and as if by a kind of "coup d'état," if this assembly, I say, suddenly decreed its suppression, I understand that we might be stayed by the fear of seeing trouble and agitation introduced into our lodges, but you all know that this is not so. You are not ignorant, that this question has been, as an order of the day for some ten years. You are not ignorant, above all, that this year each of our lodges has been invited specially to study this question, and that of the 211 lodges which have remitted the result of their deliberations, to the Grand Orient, two-thirds are favourable to the adoption of the "Vœu." Again, my brethren, that which could cause trouble and agitation to arise amongst our lodges, was the fear not so much to see this "Formula" suppressed as to see it replaced by a Materialistic or Atheistic Formula. Who does not know, now, that no one among us, by proposing this suppression understands making a profession of Materialism or Atheism?

In this respect is not every misconception dispelled from our minds?

And if in some lodges there still can remain some doubt on the subject, let them know that your Commission declares loudly, that in adhering to Vœu IX., it proposes no other end, but that of proclaiming absolute liberty of conscience.

How then, my brethren, I ask you, can the proclamation of such a principle, which is altogether that of the whole of Masonry, agitate and trouble our lodges? No, we have more confidence in them, and we think that, better informed of the true end to which we are going, those who still feel some scruples, and some hesitation, will finish by ranging themselves around that magnificent flag, whose tutelary shadow is capable of protecting equally all opinions and all beliefs.

As to the calumnies which clericalism is about to hurl against us, my brethren, we must expect them.

But do you think that you would escape from them, even if you did not accept the Vœu, or that you referred its consideration to the next Convent?

Ah! I fear much my brethren, that you only deceive yourselves on this point.

No, no. Our adversaries are implacable, and the fresh delay which we give to resolve the question which has been submitted to us, would have no result, be convinced, but to make them accuse us of joining fear and hypocrisy to impity.

As to the consequences which our discussion might have in the profane world, I do not fear them. From the point of view of the civil power what have we to fear? In studying this question do we trespass upon a property which belongs to it? Do we invade its rights? We

\* Bro. Desmon's argument here is a petitio principii altogether. No Masonic power as far as we know, has approved of the act.

† Bro. Desmons is wrong as to Italy and Hungary, and the Grand Lodge of Buenos Ayres, we believe, represents six lodges and about 200 Masons.

‡ Bro. Desmons must see by this time that his prophecy is likely to remain unfulfilled.

§ Bro. Desmons is very fond of using the word "sein," which is somewhat difficult to translate.



## UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the agenda for Wednesday next, the 6th March, 1878:—

The regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of public business will be read.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 5th December, 1877, will be read and put for confirmation.

The M.W. Grand Master will move:—

"That this Grand Lodge do grant the sum of one hundred pounds to be paid out of the Fund of General Purposes for the assistance of the members of the Igualdad Lodge, No. 653, in the Island of Curaçoa, West Indies, who have suffered from the hurricane which occurred there on the 23rd September, 1877."

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, will present the Report of the Committee appointed at the Quarterly Communication of the 5th December last, to enquire into the circumstances relative to the elimination of the name of the Great Architect of the Universe from its ritual by the Grand Orient of France for the consideration of Grand Lodge, and will move its adoption.

Election of a M.W. Grand Master.

Election of a Grand Treasurer.

Report of the Lodge of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:—

The widow of a brother of the Old Union Lodge, No. 46, London	£50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Mechanics Lodge, 245, Jersey	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, London	50 0 0
A brother of the Strawberry Hill Lodge, No. 946, Twickenham	100 0 0

Report of the Board of General Purposes:—

The Board of General Purposes beg to report as follows:—

1. In the month of September last a complaint was preferred by the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1558, Camberwell, against Bro. William \_\_\_\_\_, the Treasurer of the lodge, for falsifying the accounts, and detaining the books and papers of the lodge. Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ was summoned to attend the Board to answer that complaint. Not attending to such summons, a peremptory summons was directed to be sent to Bro. \_\_\_\_\_. At the meeting of the Board in November, in his continued absence, the adjudication was further adjourned, and Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ required to hand in his books and papers to the Grand Secretary forthwith. This order not being complied with, the Board ordered Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ to be peremptorily summoned to attend the next meeting of the Board. Brother \_\_\_\_\_ failed to attend this peremptory summons, or to satisfactorily account for his absence, and it was resolved, "That Bro. \_\_\_\_\_ be suspended, in accordance with the Constitutions, and the suspension notified to Grand Lodge."

(Signed) JOHN B. MONCKTON,  
President.

To the report is subjoined a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 15th day of February, 1878, shewing a balance in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of £4628 25 8d.; and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £75; and for servants' wages, £96 15s.

Report of Bro. R. P. Harding, Auditor of Grand Lodge accounts of receipts and disbursements during the year 1877.

Adjourned debate on so much of the Report of the Board of General Purposes of the 21st August, 1877, as relates to the Lodge of Benevolence, viz.:—

1. The "Lodge of Benevolence" to be in future designated the "Board of Benevolence."

2. The Board of Benevolence to consist of the Grand Master, Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, a President, and forty-five other members. The President and fifteen of such members to be annually nominated by the Grand Master at the Quarterly Communication in December, and the remaining thirty members to be elected by Grand Lodge from amongst the actual Masters and Past Masters of lodges, such election to be conducted in the same manner as that of the Board of General Purposes, but it should not in our opinion be a regulation that one-third or any other proportion of the members should retire annually.

3. The Board to elect one of its members to be Vice-President.

4. Five members to form a quorum.

Notices of Motions.

1. By Bro. Rev. William Tebbs, P.M. No. 285, Shepton Mallet.

Proposed amendments on the Report of the Board of General Purposes, in reference to alterations in the constitution of the Lodge of Benevolence:—

(1.) The title; the mode of working; and the nomination and election respectively, of officers of the Lodge of Benevolence to remain as now.

(2.) The Lodge of Benevolence from and after the end of this present year of office to be constituted as follows:—

a. All present Grand Officers.

b. One representative (W.M. or P.M.) to be elected by the W.M.'s of the lodges comprising each Provincial Grand Lodge.

c. As many representatives (W.M.'s or P.M.'s) of London lodges to be elected by the W.M.'s of such lodges as shall be in twice the proportion of the number of London lodges to the number of Provincial lodges.

d. As many Past Grand Officers to be nominated by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, in December, as shall make up the number of "c" to that of "b."

2. By Bro. Robert F. Gould, P.M., No. 92, London. On the President of the Board of General Purposes moving—That Grand Lodge do adopt the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes with reference to reconstitution of the Lodge of Benevolence.

To propose, as an amendment, the addition of the following words, viz.:—

"That fifteen of the thirty members to be elected by Grand Lodge (as recommended in Paragraph 2 of the Report of the Board of General Purposes) shall be actual or Past Masters of country lodges, in all cases where such number of qualified brethren shall be duly nominated for election."

Letters and papers from Lord de Tabley, R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire, recommending the erasure of the Southam Lodge, No. 1054, Wilmslow, from the roll of lodges. Letters from the Secretary of the Southam Lodge, No. 1054, praying, on behalf of the members, for a respite for twelve months.

Application from the Royal Lodge, No. 207, Kingston, Jamaica, for assistance to enable them to build a Masonic Temple.

## NEW LODGES.

The following is a List of Lodges for which Warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:—

1733. Sunbury Lodge, Sunbury, Middlesex.
1734. Trinity Lodge, Rayleigh, Essex.
1735. Carnarvon Lodge, Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope.
1736. St. John's Lodge, Halifax, Yorkshire.
1737. Winchester Lodge, Winchester, Canterbury, New Zealand.
1738. Lodge Excelsior in Khandeish, Bhosawul, in Khandeish, Bombay.
1739. Carnarvon Lodge, Gresley, Derbyshire.

## ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

A Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Creton, J.P., Vice-Patron and Trustee, Chairman of the Building Committee, presided, and there were also present Bros. A. H. Tattershall, H. Browne, Major E. H. Finney, Griffiths Smith, H. A. Dubois, Col. James Peters, E. Spooner, H. Massey (Freemason), Thomas Massa, H. F. Thompson, Dr. F. W. Ramsay, and F. R. W. Hedges (for Secretary.)

The following notice, previously issued, explains the object of the meeting:—

In compliance with a requisition delivered to me, and signed by Lieut.-Colonel John Creton, J.P., Vice-Patron and Trustee, Chairman of the Building Committee, a Special General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on Saturday, the 23rd February, 1878, at twelve o'clock precisely, when the following recommendation of the Building Committee will be submitted for adoption:—

"To sanction a necessary expenditure for the inauguration of the new buildings by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales."

R. WENTWORTH LITTLE, V.P.,  
D. Prov. G.M. Middlesex, Secretary.

February 16th, 1878.

The Chairman said the brethren were all aware that their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales had graciously consented to inaugurate the new buildings next month (March). The day was not yet fixed, but that remained with their Royal Highnesses. It would, however, probably be the third week in March, and it was necessary to make some preparation, though it would only be in a small way, for an entertainment. The space at the disposal of the Institution was very limited, and consequently no great expense would be required to be incurred. But there would be a certain sum expended, and as it was necessary to have the sanction of a Special General Court, this was the object of the present meeting, whom he would ask for authority for spending a sum of about £300. He would, therefore, ask "That a sum of about £300 be granted for that purpose."

Bro. Dr. F. W. Ramsay seconded the motion.

Bro. H. A. Dubois said he would rather as an amendment move in terms of the notice—"To sanction a necessary expenditure."

The Chairman said he thought it might be left to the Building Committee: it might come only to £100; but the Committee would take care that not a shilling was spent unnecessarily.

Col. Peters thought there should be no amendment.

Bro. H. A. Dubois assented.

The Chairman said he would move it in the words of the notice of motion:

"To sanction a necessary expenditure for the inauguration of the New Buildings by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales."

It was impossible to make an estimate at this moment as the Committee did not know the number of persons they might have present; that would depend upon circumstances; but he would be glad to hear anything that any brother might have to say.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

Bro. Thomas Brassey, M.P., has kindly consented to preside at the Railway Guards' Universal Friendly Society's dinner at Cannon-street Hotel on Wednesday next.

## Reviews.

"Freemasonry: the Three Masonic Graces, Faith, Hope, and Charity." By Bro. CHALMERS I. PATON.—Reeves and Turner, 196, Strand.

We have been favoured with a copy of this new work, and think it right to call attention to it. It is undoubtedly written, and clearly expressed, with a good deal of force in some parts, and of eloquence in others. If those of us who have studied Masonic didactic writing are reminded necessarily, here and there of older Masonic expositors—yet for us in this nineteenth century the work has a good deal of interest, and we think that to a numerous school amongst us it will afford a good deal of pleasure and contentment. But when we say this we think it right to point out also one or two honest objections to the aim and scope of the writer, as we understand him. The substance and general bearing of this work may be fairly said to represent the Christian teaching of Freemasonry, and although there is, and always has been, a large Christian School in Freemasonry, and we are quite prepared to uphold it, under certain limitations, yet it must never be shut out that such teaching can only be subjective to the Mason, and can in no sense rightly claim to be objective. The actual teaching of Freemasonry is universal, as opposed to "limited" exposition, theistic as opposed to denominational; and while we have a right to recommend a certain school of teaching, as our understanding of the whole effect of Masonic ritualism and dogma, we have no possible right to claim for it the name of general Masonic teaching. That is the little fault we have to find with Bro. Paton's expositions. He puts a part for the whole, and asks for what is his individual view of Masonic declaration and practice, the assent and concrete embodiment of Freemasonry as a system.

Bro. Paton has been brought up mainly under the Scottish system, which has always retained a great element of Christian teaching, but in England, since 1813, the general outcome of Masonic teaching, whether in lodge or "ex cathedra," whether by lectures or lessons, has been on the basis of the best of all prayers, to accept an universal Theistic platform!

We may be right or wrong in such a view of the case, but we think it only fair to give a note of friendly warning, as we see a disposition among some to confound two things essentially distinct, the actual teaching by our avowed forerunners, and the hopes and reasons and belief of a school.

We welcome, however, always free discussion, and are not insensible to the advantage to Masonic literature by the publication of this last work of Bro. Chalmers I. Paton. No doubt it will be read by many of our brethren.

"Disappeared from her Home." By MRS. FRANK G. FERRIS; Pennington and Co., 5, Arundel-street, Strand.

We have read this work with some little interest, as giving us an idea of the aim of a promising writer, and the tastes of the novel reading public, and while we can undoubtedly speak in tones of encouragement and approbation in respect of the general teaching, the word-painting and the descriptive powers of the author, we feel it to be our duty as honest reviewers, (and how worthless is a dishonest review) to offer a few humble remarks of deprecation and doubt.

We do not think, in the first place, that the "moral idea" of the story is a good one per se. Whatever may have been the wrongs of Mr. Warden, his deceit as regards his daughter is inexcusable, and the "tour de force," by which "horror crowds upon horror," is to our taste a great deal too sensational in every way. The very rigid teacher and mentor might ask further what is the actual moral of such a story? We fear that the reply must be very "nihilistic" indeed. All that we have before us is a life of deceit, a succession of deaths, a love story, and the faithful devotion of a servant, but under circumstances which are questionable as to prudence, and with associations which are unsafe, as examples to the young especially.

We think, as we said just now, that the episode of the faithful servant is very touching, but we are not quite sure that the young lady, charming as she is, ought to have left her home as she did. We think that the introduction of the first and erring wife a questionable proceeding, and the deaths of the two quite unnecessary, and far too sentimental. At the same time, in this day of small things, we must be content, as it appears to us, with the limited and the microscopical. We cannot expect first principles or sound theories. Ours is a very sensational age; and all we read, and all we have to run through teems with the marvellous, the weird, the grotesque. We therefore, while we seek in all kindness to point out to the writer her little faults, think it also well to commend her good points. The work is a work of much promise, and more readability. Its style is simple and effective; its language terse and true. When the writer has eschewed a little of her luxuriance of sentiment, her exuberance of fancy, we may expect a work of greater power, and more enduring effect. We are inclined to believe that the book will be a good deal read.

The date of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat-race is now definitely fixed for Saturday, April 13th.

Bro. John Derby Allcroft, P.M. 1657, will preside at the festival to be held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate Street, on Thursday, May 9th, in aid of the funds of the Benevolent Society of Blues.

The next meeting of the Original or Premier Red Cross Conclave will be held on Monday next, at four o'clock, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street.

TO OUR READERS.

The FREEMASON is a Weekly Newspaper, price 2d. It is published every Friday morning, and contains the most important, interesting, and useful information relating to Freemasonry in every degree. Subscription, including postage:

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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.

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.

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

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

Answers to Correspondents.

Letters from the following will appear next week:—"Disappointed," C. Pulaski, "Truth," "John Yarker."

In the *Freemason* of January 5th, 1878, page 4, the letter headed "The Landmarks of Freemasonry" should have been signed Robert Laing, of Copenhagen, and not Verti.

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.

Several P.O.O. are now in hand, but having received no advice we cannot credit them.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Anderson, F. G., South Africa	1	6	0
Atkins, B., New York	0	12	0
Baker, W., Egypt	0	13	0
Coleman, C., Bombay	0	12	0
Davis, S., The Cape	1	4	0
Finch, E., San Fernando	0	12	0
Graham, T., The Cape	0	13	0
Halkett, Jno., "	1	9	6
Hampton, Jno., "	1	4	0
Harrington, T. D., Ottawa	0	12	0
Jmlath, R. W., Demarara	1	4	0
Jennings, J. B., Cawnpore	1	6	0
Johnson, F. A., Paris	0	12	0
Lodge Deccan, No. 1444, Chudderghaut	1	4	0
" Port Alfred, No. 1468, The Cape	2	4	0
Mason, J. J., Ontario	0	12	0
Oliver, J. C., New York	1	4	0
Partridge, A. F., Canada	0	12	0
Rastall, J. H., Philadelphia	0	12	2
Robertson, Harry, Colombo	1	8	8
Smith, W. C., Trinidad	2	8	0
Thorpe, H., Bombay	1	9	6
Whymark, G., Kobe	0	13	0
Yates, W., Australia	1	6	0

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

BRADSHAW.—On the 25th ult., at Knowle, Guildford, the wife of A. H. Bradshaw, Esq., of a daughter.

LEITH.—On the 22nd ult., at The Mount, Ascot, the wife of Major T. Leith, of a son.

STARKEY.—On the 22nd ult., at Camden-road, the wife of R. W. Starkey, of a daughter, who only survived a few hours.

DEATHS.

ELTON.—On Dec. 19, on an expedition to Lake Nyassa, aged 37, Capt. J. Frederick Elton.

GRAZEBROOK.—On the 19th ult., at Norland-square, Notting-hill, John Worrall Grazebrook, Esq., aged 73.

The Freemason,

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1878.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

Few more important "Agenda Papers" have ever been submitted to the notice of Grand Lodge than that which we print elsewhere to-day. In the first place the Pro Grand Master will submit the report of the Special Committee with reference to the change in the Constitutions of the French Grand Orient. Without knowing anything about its purport, or recommendations, we feel satisfied of this, that it will be alike worthy the attention and above all the support of Grand Lodge. The adjourned debate on the proposed modification of the Board of Benevolence will attract, as it demands, the attention of the brethren. We say at once that we are among those who now are of opinion, honestly, that the present system is unworkable and liable to great abuses. What we mean is, that under the present arrangement the distribution of our Masonic charity is not made on principle, and with the best effect, or the soundest results. It is too often the case that a principle decided at one lodge is upset at another; nay we have known of a meeting where the same principle was upset the same evening, owing to the florid eloquence of a pleading brother. Hence our administration of charity becomes haphazard, so to say, is affected by the personal influence or the special eloquence of the pleader. Whereas, the true principle of administration of our charity would appear to be this, that we should have certain "standing orders" or bye-laws for our guidance, with a large margin of liberal interpretation, so as to avoid anything like red tape or a hard-and-fast line. But having said all this, we do not deny that there are some difficulties in the way of a change. We felt them once ourselves strongly, we cannot therefore conscientiously deny or overlook their existence in others. One of the main difficulties is the surrender of the privileges of the W. Masters. It is no doubt very great, and it is a good deal to ask of them, but as Freemasons we should enquire, is it or is it not for the welfare of the Order, for the improvement of our system of charitable relief? We would, therefore, impress upon our readers, not to vote against the change, simply because it takes away a privilege from the W.M., but to look at the question broadly and liberally, for the good of the Craft and for the better administration of charity. We venture to think, that any change should be alike modest and moderate, merely a modification, not an uprooting of the old system. We would keep the old form of the Lodge of Benevolence, and have the President and two Vice-Presidents nominated by the Grand Master annually. We would form a Board of fifty-two members, of whom thirteen should be W. Masters of the London lodges, thirteen should be W. Masters of the provincial lodges, thirteen should be Present or Past Grand Officers, thirteen should be Present or Past Provincial Grand Officers, being Past Masters. Thus, with the President and two Vice-Presidents, and fifty-two actual members, we should have a workable Board, with a certainty of a good margin of present members. This Board would have the power to draw up bye-laws, to be approved by Grand Lodge, laying down certain conditions of grants, and the like. It has been suggested that perhaps the W. Masters would be more satisfied if they were elected directly to the Board, so saving their existing rights. We could see no reason or practical difficulty, why the W. Masters should not meet once a year under the presidency of the Grand Registrar, and elect the proportion of W. Masters, metropolitan and provincial, to the Board. Grand Lodge would only elect the Present and Past Grand Officers, and Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, being Past Masters. We note the amendments of Bros. Tebbs and Gould. We fear that the suggestions of our esteemed Bro. Tebbs are a little intricate, and involve a principle which there will be some difficulty in applying practically, as leading to an "imperium in imperio." We are in accord with Bro. Gould on principle. But we have said enough to show

the importance and delicacy, and, we will add, difficulty of the subjects to be brought before Grand Lodge. We have no doubt that there will be a good attendance. All will be glad to hear of the flourishing state of the Grand Lodge finances.

BRO. THEVENOT AND THE "FREEMASON."

We published last week a long letter from Bro. Thévenot, with its translation, and we think it well to day, according to our promise, to make a few remarks upon it, leaving to Bro. Maskelyne to send his own reply, if he deems it needful, to Bro. Thévenot's letter. 1. With regard to Bro. Hubert, we have already given his own explanation, why he declined the unanimous re-election to the Masters' Chair, and do not profess to understand in what way Bro. Thévenot could find fault with our remarks. We have merely re-echoed Bro. Hubert's own words, if you like, paraphrastically, in saying that, disapproving of the past, uneasy for the present, and fearful of the future, he declines to be the W. Master of his lodge. We have never said that he has left the Grand Orient of France, or that any lodge has yet done so, and therefore Bro. Thévenot is fighting with shadows. We have simply asserted what Bro. Hubert himself has asserted, and nothing more. If Bro. Thévenot thinks Bro. Hubert's refusal to accept the chair of his old lodge is a matter of no moment, we entirely disagree with him. It is an act of much significance and importance, and cannot be passed over "sub silentio." 2. With respect to Bro. Marchal, we took the statement from the "Bulletin du Grand Orient," edited by Bro. Thévenot himself. The incident is mentioned, both in the *Chaine d'Union*, and in the *Monde Maçonnique*, as a fact, and no hint is given that Bro. Marchal has reconsidered his decision. He may have done so, as Bro. Thévenot asserts, but we could not be aware of the fact, which was apparently not known to Bro. Hubert, or Bro. Caubet, or even to Bro. Thévenot himself! We could only properly draw our facts from official documents. We may add, that in the meeting of the Council of the 24th December, it was also said that the Lodge of Nancy only continued in obedience to the Grand Orient on condition that the rituals were not modified. Is this condition also withdrawn? Perhaps Bro. Thévenot will kindly tell us when Bro. Marchal agreed to return to the duties of the chair. We need hardly observe that the whole matter of the recent proceedings in the French Grand Orient has been the cause of deep regret to all Freemasons in England. While there always has been manifested, on our part, the greatest good feeling towards French Freemasons, and while we have made the most charitable allowances for the difficult position of the Grand Orient itself, we had a right to expect that the Grand Orient of France would continue loyal to the sound traditions of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry, and not, as Bro. Hubert so well puts it, degrade French Freemasonry to the "ruck" of a sect, in order to please a noisy and intolerant faction. As English Freemasons, we are, as all the world knows, earnestly and passionately attached to the honour and fair fame, zealously for the orderly and religious character of Freemasonry, and we should deserve the name of moral cowards or abject apostates, were we ashamed to acknowledge our unchanged and unchanging belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. Let us all hope that more peaceful times and a happier future are yet in store for French Freemasonry. We recommend all our brethren to read and to study Bro. Hubert's thoughtful and guarded words, as given in our last, if they wish to realize what is the present crisis, what the eventual condition may be of French Freemasonry.

THE ELECTION OF A NEW POPE.

The good old Pope has been consigned to his niche in St. Peter's, and a new Pope wears the Fisherman's ring and sits in Cathedra Petri. The new Pope is Cardinal Joachim Pecci. He was born in the town of Carpineto, in the Papal States, on the 2nd March, 1810, so that in a few days he will have completed his 68th year. He was

wish on the contrary to imitate it on this point and to remain like it, above all religions.

Therefore, my brethren, to resume. Some of the considerations which they have made of some importance, have not appeared to us to be of such a nature, as to induce us to accept the adjournment which they counselled. We are rather much more favourable, my brethren, to the immediate discussion of the question, since, as one of the commission has judiciously observed, there is in the constitution an article which makes it for us an imperative duty.

This article is as follows:

"Every demand for modification of the Constitution taken into consideration by the General Assembly of the Grand Orient of France shall be discussed in the Assembly of the following year, the lodges having been previously consulted."

For all these reasons, my brethren, your commission, by the majority of eight voices against one, have adopted the immediate discussion of "Vœu" IX. The first point being elucidated, my brethren, your Commission devoted itself to the thorough examination of the "Vœu" itself.

You do not expect, doubtless, that I am about to develop here all the reasons which have presented themselves to strengthen its adoption. That would be to give to this report, already too long, but which the short amount of time which I could devote to it did not permit me to make shorter, a too great extension.

Besides, my brethren, these reasons, you know them; you have been able to collect them from the eloquent discourses which have been heard in 1865, in 1867, and more recently still, the last year, in your respective lodges—and your deliberations forwarded to the Grand Orient prove it. You have been able to produce them yourselves, and hear them expressed in such a manner, that at this hour those motives, I assure myself, are present to the minds of you all.

Permit me, therefore to confine myself to recapitulate them readily for you.

We demand the suppression of the second paragraph of our Constitution, because it appears to us in entire contradiction with the following paragraph of the said article.

We demand this suppression because this formula, it appears to us, must cause very often embarrassment for many W. Masters and many lodges, which in certain circumstances are compelled either altogether to elude the law, or altogether to violate it.

Ought not Masonry, on the contrary, always to set the example of observation and respect for the law?

We demand the suppression of this formula, because, embarrassing for W. Masters and lodges, it is not less so for many profanes, who, animated by a sincere desire to make part of our great and beautiful Constitution, which has been represented to them with good reason as large-minded and progressive, see themselves, all of a sudden, stopped by this dogmatic barrier, which their conscience does not permit them to pass over.

We demand the suppression of this formula, because it appears to us altogether useless, alien to the end which Masonry follows after. When a society of "Savans" unites itself, so to say, to study a scientific question, does it feel itself obliged to place at the bases of its statutes a theological formula of one kind or another? No, it is not so. They study science independently of every idea, dogmatic or religious. Ought it not to be the same with Masonry?

Its field is it not sufficiently vast, its domain sufficiently extended, to render it necessary for it to put its foot on a controversy which is not its aim? No, let us leave to theologians the function of discussing dogmata. Let us leave to authoritative churches the care of formulating their syllabus. But let Masonry remain that which it ought to be, that is to say, an institution open to all progress, to all moral and elevated ideas, to all associations large and liberal. Let it never descend into the burning arena of theological discussions, which have never introduced, believe him who speaks, but troubles and persecutions. Let it guard itself from wishing to become a Church, a Council, a Synod, for all the Churches, all the Councils, all the Synods, have been violent and persecuting, and that because they would always take as their basis Dogma which from its nature is essentially inquisitorial and intolerant.

Let Masonry then hover majestically above all the questions of churches or sects, let it dominate from its elevation all these discussions. Let it remain a vast refuge, always open to all generous spirits, all conscientious and disinterested seekers after truth, to all the victims finally of despotism and intolerance.

Such is, my brethren, the conclusion to which your commission has arrived, and if, when the question of opportunity arose we had eight to one, I rejoice to tell you, for all the reasons I have just recapitulated, we have been unanimous in accepting the following resolution, which we have now the honour to propose to you:—

1.—The Assembly, considering that Masonry is not a religion, that it has not in consequence, to affirm in its Constitution doctrines or dogmata, adopts Vœu IX.

2.—The Assembly decides that the second paragraph of article 1 of the Constitution shall have the following tenour: "Freemasonry has for its principles absolute liberty of conscience, and human solidarity."

Such is the report on which the belief in God has been taken out from the French Constitution. Whether our readers can follow the subtle and specious argument of Bro. Desmons may be a question, but certainly anything more absolutely destructive of everything, more nihilistic alike in its tendency and its claims, never has been propounded as far as we are aware, by any modern or ancient writer.

If Bro. Desmons' argument is valid, that even belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. is a dogma inquisitorial and intolerant, one feels tempted to ask what is left us? Belief in God is not to be propounded, because it is conscientiously objected to by many, and we also fear we must say, that by the quasi-jesuitical thesis of Bro. Desmons, French Freemasonry seems to

have adopted the axiom, "That there is nothing new, and nothing true, and it don't signify."

A more destructive and dangerous report, owing to its ability, we have never perused. All English Freemasons we feel sure will at once reject its assumptions and its conclusions.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE FRANCIS BURDETT CHAPTER, No. 1503.

On Saturday last, the above interesting Masonic event was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham. Amongst those provincial officers and others present were Comps. Colonel Francis Burdett, Grand Superintendent; Davidson, G.H.; Boyd, G.J.; H. G. Buss, G. Treas.; Levander, G.S.N.; Pearse, G. Reg.; W. Hammond, G. Asst. S.; Wright, G.D.C.; Roebuck, P.P.G.H.; Stedwell, P.P.G.S.; Charles Horsley, P.P.G.S.N.; Cubitt, P.P.G.S.E.; Laxton, P.P.G.R.; Brighton, P.P.G. Sword Bearer; Thielay, P.P.G.D.C.; Thomas, P.Z. 13; N. Potter, P.Z. 19; George Kenning, P.G. Dir. of Cer., P.Z. 192, &c.; Sir John Palmer, P.Z. 382; Richards, P.Z. 382; Dicket, P.Z. 382; Adams, P.Z. 1237; Still, P.Z. 1293; Letchworth, M.E.Z. 1237; Shervill, H.; Hopwood, H. 1326; Walls, S.N. 185, &c., (Freemason); F. W. Levander, 2nd Assist. S. 1720; Wigginton, Royal Standard; Knaggs, Royal York; Tomlinson, 100; Cama, H. Court, Motabhoj, and Fraeig, 155; H. Court, jun., 1010; W. Taylor, 1194; Massare, 1292; Ockenden, 1423; Diddin, P.P.G.O. of Herts.; Platt, Prudent Brethren; Gilbert, P.G. Tyler. The Consecrating Officers were Comps. Boyd, who officiated as M.E.Z.; Dicketts, as H.; Levander, Jas J.; H. G. Buss, as D.C. Comps. Brighton, Letchworth, Adams, and Walls occupied the position of Organist, P.S., and the 1st and 2nd Assistants, the impressive ceremony being most ably performed. Comps. Wigginton, Tomlinson, and Cama were respectively inducted into the chairs of First, Second, and Third Principals. The only officers of the new chapter elected were Comps. Court, sen., S.E., and Taylor, P.S. Several propositions for joining and exaltation having been handed in, and the Consecrating Officers elected as hon. members, the chapter was closed.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF MIDDLESEX.

A convocation of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on Saturday 23rd ult. The Prov. Grand Chapter was opened by the M.E. Prov. Grand Supt., who was supported by a full attendance of Prov. Grand Officers. The proceedings were very brief, and consisted merely of the reading of the previous convocation, the adoption of the Auditors' report, and the appointment and subsequent investiture of the following Grand Officers for the year, viz: Comps. Boyd, H.; Richards, J.; H. G. Buss, Treasurer; Levander, S.E.; Wigginton, S.N.; Still, P.S.; Dicketts and Wright, Assistant Sojrs.; Letchworth, Registrar, Adams, Swd.-Bearer, Hopwood, Standard Bearer, Walls, Organist, Cama, D.C., Gilbert, Janitor. Upon the termination of the proceedings of the grand Chapter, the companions adjourned to the banquet, and at its conclusion the preliminary loyal and R.A. toasts were given by the W.M. In proposing the health of M.E.P.G.S. of Middlesex, Companion Wigginton expressed the great gratification it had afforded all the members of the Francis Burdett Chapter and himself in having their consecration honoured by the presence of the gallant Colonel, who held Masonic sway in this province, stood very high in the Craft, and he, the M.E.Z., believed that he would in time also hold a very distinguished position in the Royal Arch. This prosperous state of affairs he said, was mainly due to the great popularity enjoyed by their amiable and zealous chief; and in conclusion he charged them to receive and drink the toast with that amount of enthusiasm which the theme so deservedly demanded. In his reply, the M.E.G.S. impressed upon the members of the chapter which had that day been consecrated under very auspicious circumstances, the necessity for adopting every reasonable precaution in the election of their members. It was highly essential that the higher degrees should only be conferred upon brethren whose characters would not only bear the strictest scrutiny, but who would be likely ultimately to reflect credit upon those degrees. In conclusion, he expressed the great pleasure it had given him to have been enabled to be present that day in order to inaugurate a new accession to the roll of the Provincial Chapters. "The Consecrating Officers" was acknowledged at length by Comps. Boyd and Buss. The health of "The M.E.Z." followed, and drew in response a very able speech from Comp. Wigginton. As the hour was advanced, and as so many companions had to leave for town, the remaining toasts were both in number and matter greatly curtailed. "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Comps. Sir John Palmer, and two subjects of H.L.M.'s Indian Empire. The health of "The Officers" followed, and was responded to by Comps. Brighton, Tomlinson and Court. The Janitor having been called upon to discharge his duty, the proceedings, which were from first to last highly successful, terminated. The first regular meeting of No. 1505, will be held on the fourth Wednesday in the present month.

PRESENTATION TO A MUSICAL LIVERPOOL BROTHER.—As Bro. Joseph Queen, of the Emulation Lodge, No. 1505, has retired from the conductorship of the Liverpool Vocalists' Union, which occupies the very first place amongst male glee singers in that county, the members of the Union recently entertained him at dinner, and took occasion to present him with a valuable electroplated tea and coffee service, in recognition of the invaluable services he had rendered to this splendid combination of voices.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SUFFOLK.

The Province of Suffolk, which has five chapters of Royal Arch Masons—one in Woodbridge, three in Ipswich, and one in Bury—now owns its Grand Chapter, and at its head has one of the hardest working and most respected members of the Craft. In obtaining as the Grand Superintendent of the province Comp. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk, and Past Grand Principal Sojourner, the companions are to be congratulated, and the proceedings of Saturday may be considered as an indication of the satisfaction experienced by the members in his selection, and augurs well for the prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry. As stated by Comp. Martyn during the afternoon, it would have been a great pleasure to them all to have had their Provincial Grand Master as the head of the chapters, but Bro. Lord Waveney has not taken the Royal Arch Degree, and his lordship consequently requested Comp. Martyn to assume the responsibility of ruling the Provincial Grand Chapter. The Grand H. of the Supreme Grand Chapter, Comp. Lord Skelmersdale, very kindly attended for the purpose of the installation of Comp. Martyn, which took place in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, Ipswich (kindly lent by the Mayor, C. H. Cowell, Esq.), on Saturday afternoon. The chamber presented a splendid appearance when set out in full chapter form, with the companions, numbering seventy-two seated around.

The chapter was attended by

M.E. Comps.—The Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Grand H., G.S.W. Lanc.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.P.S., P.Z.; W. P. T. Phillips, 81; J. N. York, 1008; B. Gall, 81; Dr. W. P. Mills, 225; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, 959; S. H. Wright, 376; N. Tracy, 376; J. Pitcher, 376; J. A. Pettit, 959; A. Barber, 225; G. Cresswell, 959; J. B. Fraser, 376; H. Luff, 376; W. H. Lucia, 1008; A. Barfield, 19; T. Grimwood, 81; T. Robb, 225; A. Fleming, 376; F. Binckes, 10; W. Wilmshurst, 81.

Comps.—A. Barnes, B. D. Gall, and C. F. Browne, of the Royal York Chapter, 81, Woodbridge; W. Daking, G. Abbott, and T. J. Wentworth, of the St. Luke's Chapter, 225, Ipswich; J. H. Staddon, A. Gamman, W. Clarke, W. Spalding, A. De George, T. R. Elkington, W. B. Jeffries, R. Allen, S. R. Anness, R. Anness, J. M. Harvey, S. Shortridge, W. H. Spicer, W. T. Jobson, W. G. Cunnold, W. Boby, H. C. Casley, J. Walker, J. K. Sidgwick, A. A. Seaborn, A. J. Grimwade, H. W. Hitchcock, and H. Ribbans, of the Royal Sussex Chapter, 376, Ipswich; W. D. Paine and A. A. Bennett, of the Royal Alexandra Chapter, 959, Ipswich; W. Armstrong, R. Evans, F. W. Joy, J. Shepherd, T. F. Lucia, E. King, W. Patrick, and the Rev. J. T. Hassall (P.G. Chaplain), of the White Rose Chapter, 1008, Bury St. Edmund's; and the following visitors—C. L. Lilley, 12; T. J. Ralling, W. Richey, G. Smith, C. Ellis, F. Wheeler, G. H. Grimwood, and H. Welham, of Chapter 51, Colchester.

The Royal Arch Chapter was opened by the M.E.Z. of the oldest chapter in Ipswich (the St. Luke's), Comp. Dr. Mills, assisted by the M.E. Comps. Fraser and Sanderson. Upon the entrance of the Grand H., Lord Skelmersdale, the companions saluted him in due form, and he accepted the chair which Comp. Mills resigned.

His Lordship congratulated the companions upon the progress of Masonry in the province. He had made a promise to Comp. Martyn that he would install him as the P.G.S., and he was pleased to be present in fulfilment of that promise.

The M.E. Comps. Mills and Pitcher presented the M.E. Comp. Martyn to the Grand H., and the patent, dated 30th June, 1877, authorising the constitution of the P.G. Chapter, was read.

The Grand H. then installed Comp. Martyn, and congratulated him upon the position he had attained. He had watched his progress in Masonry with interest, and was sure the Grand Z. could not have found one better qualified to occupy the office.

E. Comp. Clarke, who acted as M.C. during the ceremony, then proclaimed the M.E. Comp. Martyn obligated, invested, and installed as the Provincial Grand Superintendent of Suffolk.

The P.G.S. announced that he had selected the M.E. Comp. W. P. T. Phillips as Prov. Grand H., and the M.E. Comp. York as Prov. Grand J., and said he thanked all the companions heartily and sincerely for the honour which had been conferred upon him, and felt proud to be installed by Lord Skelmersdale for such an important province as Suffolk, and with God's will he would devote himself to furthering the work of the province. He referred to the difficulty he had experienced in selecting officers out of the very large number of Past Principals, but said he thought in choosing the Z. of the oldest chapter as H., and a P.Z. and founder of the youngest chapter in the province as J., he had acted satisfactorily. He hoped to advance those brethren deserving of advancement, and he would be grateful for the assistance and co-operation of the companions at all times. He thanked all for their presence, and particularly Lord Skelmersdale for coming at great inconvenience to himself. His Masonic and Parliamentary duties, they all knew, were heavy, and he (the P.G.S.) was sure he would be but expressing the sentiments of them all when he returned the M.E. Comp. their hearty thanks. He moved that the first resolution entered upon the minutes of the P.G.C. be a vote of thanks to his Lordship for his attendance.

The motion was seconded by the P.G.H., Comp. W. P. T. Phillips, and carried unanimously.

The Grand H. (Lord Skelmersdale) said he had great pleasure in coming down to Suffolk again. He thought he had now a right to consider himself affiliated to the province, and that he might consider himself as one o



them. He trusted that the Provincial Grand Chapter of Suffolk, as well as Royal Arch Masonry, might flourish.

A proposition made by the M.E. Comp. Luff, and seconded by the M.E. Comp. Sanderson, that the M.E. Comp. Dr. Mills be elected Treasurer for the province, was carried unanimously.

The P.G.S. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—

W. H. Lucia .....	Prov. G.S.E.
R. N. Sanderson .....	Prov. G.S.N.
J. B. Fraser .....	Prov. G.P.S.
H. Luff .....	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
S. H. Wright .....	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
Westgate .....	Prov. G.D.C.
Armstrong .....	Prov. G.R.
Wilmshurst and Noble .....	Prov. G. Stewards.

It was decided that the appointment of J. should not be made, but that the chapter where the P.G.C. meets should appoint a companion for the day. Comp. G. Spalding was appointed for that day.

The P.G.S. apologised for the absence of Comps. Lord Henniker, the G.S.E., J. Hervey, P. de L. Long, and the P.G.S. of Cambis.

The next business was the appointment of a committee to frame the bye-laws, and it was ultimately decided that it consist of the P.G.S., the two Principals, the P.G.S.E., and a representative to be selected by each chapter.

The P.G.J. proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayor for granting the use of the Town Hall. This was seconded by the P.G.S. and unanimously agreed to.

The Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed, and the companions retired to the Golden Lion Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet had been provided. The chair was occupied by the new Provincial Grand Superintendent, supported on his right by Lord Skelmersdale and the P.G.H., and on his left by the P.G.J. and M.E. Comp. Binckes, the vice-chair being occupied by M.E. Comp. Sanderson, the P.G.S.N.

The first toast, "The Queen," the patroness of the Order, was heartily responded to, as was also the toast of "The Grand Z., the Prince of Wales," who, said the P.G.S., had excellent qualifications for his high office. Whenever, in the cause of charity, the necessity for any good act arose, His Royal Highness was always found ready to give his assistance.

The P.G.S. proposed "The Grand Pro Z., the Earl of Carnarvon, the Grand H., Lord Skelmersdale, the Grand J., Lord De Tabley, and the Past and Present Officers of the Supreme Grand Chapter." He said he was certain the toast was one which the companions would receive with the heartiness which its importance deserved. To speak of the many excellencies of the Grand Officers was superfluous. It was well known how deep an interest they one and all took in Masonry. He had seen how Lord Carnarvon, in the absence of the Prince of Wales, worked in Grand Chapter, and he was certain no better officer could be found. The great attention and zeal which he displayed were worthy of all praise. With respect to Lord Skelmersdale, all knew the various duties he undertook, and the vast amount of time he devoted to their performance. To name the various offices he held would be a task. He was Deputy Grand Master of England, H. of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Deputy Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, Provincial Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons, and Provincial Grand Master of Mark Master Masons in West Lancashire, Great Prior of England, Past Grand Viceroy of the Order of Knights of Rome and of the Red Cross of Constantine, and Grand Commander of the 33rd Degree, and was besides "Whipper-in" in the House of Lords. (Cheers.) Yet with all these offices requiring attention, his lordship had spared time to come down to honour him and the Provincial Chapter of Suffolk. (Loud cheers.) When this list of offices was taken into consideration, he was sure their gratitude to his lordship could not be too heartily expressed. (Hear, hear.) Not many years since, when he (the speaker) was acting as Secretary of a lodge at the University, Lord Skelmersdale was initiated, and he then little thought that he would have the pleasure of being installed into the chair of P.G.S. of Suffolk by his lordship. He (the P.G.S.) again thanked him heartily for his kindness. (Cheers.)

Lord Skelmersdale said the toast just proposed was a large one to which to respond—large in numbers, and large in weight. He would simply endorse, from his heart, every word which had been said about Lord Carnarvon. Lord De Tabley was now getting aged, but he attended to his work as well as any of the others. With respect to himself he feared the impression in the minds of the companions, after hearing of the offices he held, was that he was "Jack of all trades, and master of none." (No, no.) He hoped he should not harm Masonry by accepting so many offices. He felt that great responsibility rested upon him, but with the faith he had in his officers he thought he should go through all tempestuous storms all right. He wished their new Superintendent the greatest success in the Provincial Chapter. (Applause.) He had a toast to propose—one he was sure they would receive with the greatest enthusiasm, if proposed anywhere else among Masons it would be also received the same; it was "Their Most Excellent the P.G. Superintendent." The Prince of Wales had made an excellent selection in choosing him as their head. (Applause.) The toast was received with the usual honours.

The P.G.S., in responding, thanked the companions for so heartily receiving the toast. For some time, he said, it had been intended to have a Provincial Grand Chapter, but for various reasons its inauguration had been delayed. He very much regretted that their Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord Waveney, had not accepted the office, as he felt that as head of the Craft their noble chief should also be head of Royal Arch Masonry. However, Lord Waveney did not feel himself able or wishful to become a R.A., and had asked him to accept the office, which he

consented to do, although not without some misgivings. His career had been a fortunate one in Masonry, considering he was greatly made up of faults and failings—(no, no)—but he always found his friends magnifying his services. He then referred to the difficulty experienced in selecting his few officers out of such a number of experienced Past Principals. He had, however, endeavoured to do so without favouritism, and he hoped all would support him, for without their assistance he could not get on at all. (Applause.)

The toast of the two Provincial Grand Principals was then given, and responded to by M.E. Comp. York (the P.G.J., Comp. Phillips, having been obliged to leave to proceed by train), who said he was sorry the task devolved upon him, as he was but the representative of the youngest chapter of the province. The proceedings of the day must have been a source of gratification to all the companions, and he believed the province would not be behind others in its progress in Masonry. (Hear, hear.)

The P.G.S. proposed "The Health of the Companions who had accepted office." He would couple with the toast a name which was a household word amongst Masons, that of M.E. Comp. Sanderson. (Cheers.)

The P.G.S.N. replied, expressing his determination to emulate the example set him by the proposer in whatever sphere of duty he might be placed. He would always support the P.G.S. fearlessly and loyally, and ventured to promise the like not only in the name of his brother officers but of the companions of the province. He hoped to see Royal Arch Masonry increase in numbers. So long as only such were admitted as the brethren were prepared to see attaining the highest offices, if they duly qualified themselves, so long might success be expected, for numerical strength and real efficiency by no means necessarily went together. He believed all would work together in harmony and brotherly love, and so long as such was the case Royal Arch Masons would continue to prosper.

The P.G.S. proposed "The Health of the P.G.S., Comp. W. H. Lucia." All knew how zealously he had worked for Masonry, but few knew the immense time he devoted to the work of the Craft in correspondence, and in transacting the general business of his office. He was one who worked everything himself in lodge, and had laboured heavily for the progress of the Craft generally. He thanked him for the great assistance he had rendered in connection with the establishment of the Provincial Grand Chapter. (Cheers.)

Comp. Lucia expressed his obligation for the compliments paid him that evening, and hoped to continue to merit them in the future. As the chapter was young he would say little this time, but next year, when it would be older, he might have further remarks to make. (Hear, hear.)

The P.G.S. proposed "The Masonic Charities," to which Comp. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, responded. He referred to the progress of the Benevolent Fund and the Boys' and Girls' School, to the large expenditure, which was increasing every year; and he appealed to all to assist the charities.

"The Visitors" was next proposed by the P.G.S., and responded to by Comp. T. J. Ralling, S.E. 51, P.G. Sec. of Essex, and Comp. Ritchey, P.S. 51. Comp. Ralling expressed regret that Essex was not incorporated with Suffolk as one Provincial Grand Chapter. Comp. Ritchey said that if Essex came out strong with the request to join Suffolk, he trusted that province would be received.

The companions then drank to "The Next Provincial Grand Chapter," and the proceedings terminated in time for the visitors to catch the 8.40 train.

Some excellent songs were given during the evening by Comp. Hitchcock, of Hadleigh.—*East Anglian Daily Times.*

#### CONSECRATION OF THE WEYSIDE CHAPTER, No. 1395.

On Tuesday, 26th Feb., a goodly number of R.A. Masons went by an early train from London, to meet others of the Fraternity at Woking, and assist the R.W. Grand Superintendent of the Province of Surrey, Lieut. Gen. Brownrigg, C.B., on the occasion of the opening of the first Provincial Grand Chapter for Surrey.

A few local vehicles had been specially retained to convey the visitors from Woking Station to the quaint inn (the Crown and Anchor), where the interesting ceremony was to be performed.

The chapter having been duly opened by the R.W.P.G. Superintendent, Lieut.-Gen. Brownrigg, C.B.; Ex. Comps. Dr. Harcourt, P.Z. 370; Rev. T. Martin, P.G.C., P.G.S. Suffolk, acting severally as Z., H., and J. The following companions then formed the procession and entered the chapter.—Comps. the Rev. C. W. Arnold, G.C., Z. designate; Dr. T. C. Eager, H. designate; H. W. Cherrington, J. designate; C. W. Woodward, J. Woodward, Greenwood, P.G.S.; Contlin, March, Sugg, J. 452; H. E. Frances Z. 452, P.P.G.D.; Rev. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C.; Knight Elsam, 185; Lorrimer, 370; Botinger, 370; J. N. Wilson, 370; Magnus Ohren, P.Z., P.P.G.W.

The ceremony of consecrating the chapter was then gone through with the usual ceremonies observed on such occasions, the Grand Supt. being most impressive in the rendering of his own portion, while the oration, given by Comp. Dr. Harcourt, an admirable essay, full of good sense, thoroughly eloquent and instructive, met with deserved approbation at the end of the consecration.

The chair of Z. was taken by Comp. Dr. Harcourt, who installed the Principals of the new chapter into their several chairs, viz: Comps. Rev. C. W. Arnold, Z.; Dr. T. C. Edgar, H.; H. W. Cherrington, J.

After the business of the Wayside Chapter had been disposed of, Comp. Dr. Harcourt took the chair of Z. and obligated Comp. Lieut.-Gen. Brownrigg, P.G.S., as Prov. Grand Z., and he having been installed, proceeded to form

his Prov. Grand Chapter, appointing Comps. Contlin, H.; and Rev. C. W. Arnold, J.; whom he also duly obligated. Comp. Greenwood was appointed P.G.S.B.; Comps. Woodward, P.G.S.N.; March, P.G.S.; Price, P.G. Treas.; Groombridge, P.G. Reg.; H. Frances, P.G. D.C.; S. H. Woodward, P.G. St. Br.; T. W. Sugg, P.G. Sd. Br.; Dr. Edgar, 1st Asst. G. Soj.; Cherrington, 2nd Asst. G. Soj.

Some routine business was transacted, and the first Provincial Grand Chapter of Surrey was closed.

The companions were invited to the house of Comp. Dr. Eager, where a most recherché luncheon and warm welcome awaited them. At the conclusion of the repast, which the long ride from London and sharp country air enabled the companions to do ample justice to, the usual Masonic toasts were given, "The Healths of the Worthy General and Dr. Harcourt" receiving an ovation, and were briefly though earnestly replied to by those worthy companions.

The gallant General having noticed the exquisite taste displayed in the floral decorations of the tables, and being informed it was the work of the ladies of Dr. Eager's household, he thanked them in the name of the guests, and pledged their healths in a special toast, which was well responded to by the companions, and received an appreciative acknowledgement by Comp. Eager.

The companions broke up at an early hour in the afternoon, having expressed their satisfaction with the arrangements that had been made for them, and with the knowledge that they had spent an instructive and delightful day.

#### THE BIBLE—ITS MASONIC AUTHORITY.

(From the *Keystone*.)

Masonry lays this volume upon her altar, and on it she obligates her members. She teaches in her Ritual that "the Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man." Now, if this be true, Masonry does regard the Bible as of divine origin—that it came from God, and is of inestimable worth as a priceless gift from Him to His needy creatures. If this be true, Masons should respect the Bible, should read it, and never speak disrespectfully or sneeringly of it. If Masonry thus regards the Bible, the skepticism which we sometimes meet with in members of the Fraternity, does not come from the inculcations of Masonry—far from it.

But more, Masonry places the Bible among the indispensable articles of furniture with which she decorates a lodge, and without which no lodge can be opened for work. When at work in the E.A.D. it is opened at a certain place in the Psalms; wherein the F.C., at another place in Amos; and when on the M.M., at still another in Ecclesiastes. Now Masonry is said to be the same the world over. Query:—Suppose the Koran, or a volume of the Bedas, to be substituted for the Bible, at what places would the Deacon open these volumes when at work in the different degrees; and when giving the lecture on the E.A., coming to the furniture of the Lodge, how would he get along with that portion which teaches the candidate that the *Holy Bible is the inestimable gift of God to man*. that on it we take our obligations, &c.? If Masonry is identical in all parts of the world, is this language to be used in reference to other books than the Bible? And if so, does not Masonry indorse the Koran as a revelation from God? How are these questions to be answered?

But we are told that "Masonry is found in all parts of the world, and among people who never heard of the Bible, and who believe none of its teachings." How astonishing! Wonder if that is really so? We have heard just such affirmations, quite often, but as yet we have never been convinced of their truthfulness. That a few Masonic lodges have been organised among heathen nations is true, but they who organised them were of the civilised, Christian nations, and we have no proof that the Bible was not there quite as soon as Masonry, and that it prepared the way for our modern speculative or moral Masonry, is quite probable. At least there is no proof to the contrary, or we know of none, save the mere assertions of parties who have read but little, travelled less, and are illy qualified to be witnesses in the premises.

"Who never heard of the Bible, and believe none of its teachings?" What? believe none of its teachings? Then they do not believe in God; for the existence of one God is a cardinal doctrine of the Bible. "In the beginning God created the Heaven and the Earth," is the very first declaration of that Holy Volume, and he who believes not in God is an atheist, and an atheist cannot be a Mason. By hypocrisy and falsehood he may so far impose on our brotherhood as to gain admission, kneel at our altar, and take our vows, but in so doing he is false to himself and to Masonry. It is an easy thing for a certain sceptical class to make such unguarded assertions as the above, when they do not seem to appreciate the full meaning of their declarations. We quite recently heard the Bible denounced as a lie by one who had not only taken all the lodge degrees, but also those of the chapter, and presided as W.M., and at the present time is acting as Secretary of his lodge. We could not but wonder if these brethren esteemed that Order very highly, which makes the bible—the Book of Revelation—our spiritual and Masonic trestle-board. And when we hear these denunciations of the Bible—the Great Light of Masonry—by those whom our lodges place in offices of honour, we sometimes inquire of ourselves, how long will it be before these leaders will go one step further, and, with Atheistic France, banish both Bible and God from the fraternity.

(To be continued.)

The annual Highland Ball, held under the direction of the Gaelic Society, will be held this year at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on the 5th of March.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE BALL.

The annual Ball of the above lodge was held at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Thursday, the 21st ult., under the presidency and vice presidency of Bros. L. B. Pillin, W.M., and G. A. Fletcher, J.D., Bro. W. Stollard, J.W., ably fulfilling the office of Hon. Sec. A complete list of stewards is appended. Precisely at half-past-nine the Stewards' Quadrille was danced with a vigour and spirit that betokened an earnest of what the evening's entertainment was likely to be, to the exquisite band of Bros. Coote and Tinney. Over three hundred responded to the courteous invitations of the Stewards. A sumptuous and recherché supper was served in the "Crown" and "Glee" rooms, where the greatest merriment evinced the thorough enjoyment of the numerous guests.

After the usual loyal toasts the President proposed the toast of the evening, "The Ladies," which was, as usual, received very warmly. In the course of his speech the President alluded to the great interest the ladies took in Freemasonry, particularly at the time of our introduction into the Craft, and caused considerable fun in the allusion to the legendary red-hot potter and searing gridiron. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm and full honours, and was responded to by Bro. Curtis. The Vice President in proposing "The Health of the President" said Bro. Pillin, as W.M. of the lodge, was esteemed by all, and for his part he would say he was a jolly fellow, to be beloved as a man, as a brother, and a staunch friend, and that the efforts he had exerted on behalf of the Ball were worthy of his high position in the lodge. The toast was drunk with "three times three." Bro. Pillin responded, and before resuming his seat proposed the combined toasts of, "The Vice President, the Hon. Sec. and the rest of the Stewards." He said too much could not be said of the energetic and painstaking way in which all had acted in their respective offices, the difficulties that presented themselves being dispersed like chaff before the gale. He coupled with the toast the names of his very esteemed friends and brothers, Bros. Fletcher and Stollard, who briefly responded.

Dancing being resumed, it was continued till four o'clock with great spirit, thus ending one of the most enjoyable and successful balls of this lodge.

Bro. Parsons, P.M., and Bro. Farwig, S.W., presided in the "Glee" room, where the same festivities and merriment prevailed at supper.

The following brethren rendered efficient service as Stewards:—L. B. Pillin, W.M., President; G. A. B. Fletcher, J.D., Vice President; A. Pinto Leite, Treasurer; W. Stollard, J.W., Hon. Sec; H. A. Stacey, P.M.; G. Bubb, P.M.; W. C. Parsons, P.M.; E. Farwig, S.W.; C. J. Wade, S.D.; I. Wood, I.G.; W. H. Baker, W.S.; H. Orger, T. A. Hussey W. H. C. Sharp, Richards, Sarti, and Miles, jun.

MASONIC BALL AT BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, Feb. 21st, a Masonic Ball in connection with the Bedford Lodge, 925, and St. Alphege Lodge, 1431, was held at the Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham. The large assembly room, which has recently been decorated in a very chaste and elegant manner, was further improved by the addition of lace curtains, flags, and the banners of several of the lodges of the town, kindly lent for the occasion, and plants and flowers in profusion. During the interval supper was provided in the two large rooms on the ground floor, and was presided over by Bro. James Stevens, W.M. 925, and Bro. E. A. Webster, W.M. 1431, the tables were liberally covered with all the good things usually provided on these occasions, and the effect was increased by a lavish display of rare and choice flowers, all being carried out to the entire satisfaction of the company under the personal superintendance of Bro. J. C. Gray, S.W. 925. The refreshment department was situate in a small retiring room adjoining the ball-room, under the care of Bro. J. Stevens, W.M. 925, the quality of the wines combined with a reasonable tariff giving unbounded satisfaction. A large and fashionable company assembled, indeed the rooms were almost inconveniently crowded. The greatest credit is due to the committee, which consisted of the prominent members of both lodges, for their care in providing all that was requisite for the perfect enjoyment of the guests. The circulars and programmes were very unique, and numerous applications were made to secure spare ones as a memento of the occasion.

Bros. Gilmer, and Fryer's band dispensed the music and Bro. Gilmer acted as M.C. The proceeds of the ball are given to the Masonic Charities, and a very handsome amount will be the result of the exertions of the committee.

EARL OF CARNARVON LODGE BALL.

This ball took place on Friday, the 22nd February, at the Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill, under the presidency of Bro. Penn, the W.M. of the mother lodge, ably assisted by Bro. Martin, P.M., as Hon. Sec., Bro. Parkhouse, and by all the brethren of this lodge. The hall was splendidly decorated under the guidance of Bro. Adkins, over 160 ladies and gentlemen enjoyed a very pleasant evening. The scene was a very animated one, the gay dresses of the fair sex made the ball one of the most brilliant that could well be imagined.

The supper, so far as the tables was concerned, was served in an excellent manner, presided over by Bro. Penn. Bro. Stephens, P.M., the Steward for the next Festival for the Girls' Masonic Institution, responded to the toast, and said after this successful evening he had altered his mind in respect to the amount he intended to have on his list, and will certainly not have less than £200.

Dancing was kept up with great spirit till the small hours of the morning, the whole of the arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Murlis, and he is to be con-

gratulated on the success which attended his efforts. The Stewards were Bros. Smout, sen., Woodmason, Adkins, Newland, Whittaker, Crabb, and Spiegel.

THE INSTALLATION ENGRAVING.

We are glad to be enabled to state on the authority of Bro. Hart, that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the M.W.G.M., has been pleased to give his autograph to many of the proof impressions. We understand that the delivery of the Engraving is now rapidly going on, and Bro. Hart is most anxious to send to his many kind subscribers this remarkable work so long expected, and now so greatly admired. Should any mistake or delay occur in the matter, Bro. Hart hopes that brethren will kindly communicate with him at once.

THE CHARITY REFORM MOVEMENT.

We note, that at the meeting of the Clergy Orphan Corporation, the motion of our esteemed Bro. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., to do away with the polling day was rejected by 60 votes to 10. Dr. Currey, Dr. Hessey, and Mr. Rowswell, well known London Clergymen, spoke against the motion. We feel it right to call attention to the fact, and though we approve of reasonable and needed reforms, and are sworn foes to anything like real jobbery or abuses of any kind, we cannot be insensible to the allegation, that far too much sensationalism has been mixed up with this question. A great deal may be said on both sides, especially in the grave interests of the charities themselves. They ought not to be made the subject of unseasonable agitation.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS

For the Week ending Friday, March 8, 1878.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Encampments, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place or day of meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2.

- Gen. Com. Boys' School, at 4.
- Lodge 142, St. Thomas's, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 1622, Rose, S.M.H.
- Chap. 173, Phoenix, F.M.H.
- " 975, Rose of Denmark, Star & Garter, Kew Bridge.

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.
- Annual Assembly Red Cross of Constantine, F.M. Tav. Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, MARCH 4.

- Lodge 12, Fortitude and Old Cumberland, Ship & Turtle.
- " 25, Robert Burns, F.M.H.
- " 72, Royal Jubilee, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 144, St. Luke's, M.H., Basinghall-st.
- " 188, Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 256, Unions, F.M.H.
- " 1319, Asaph, F.M.H.
- " 1656, Wolsey, White Hart Hot., Hampton Wick.
- " 1669, Royal Leopold, S.M.H.
- " 1670, Adelphi, 4, Adelphi Terrace, Strand.
- Chap. 91, Regularity, F.M.H.
- " 1056, Victoria, M.H., Basinghall-st.

- Mark Lodge, 139, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
- Red Cross Con., Premier, F.M. Tav., Great Queen-st.

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.
- 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, MARCH 5.

- Colonial Board, at 4.
- Lodge 7, Royal York of Perseverance, F.M.H.
- " 9, Albion, F.M.H.
- " 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 172, Old Concord, F.M.H.
- " 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 765, St. James's, Bridge House Hot.
- " 1257, Grosvenor, F.M.H.
- " 1261, Golden Rule, Regent M.H., W.
- " 1298, Royal Standard, Wellington Club, N.
- " 1381, Kennington, Surrey Tav., Kennington Oval.
- " 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-sq.
- " 1397, Anerley, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
- " 1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
- " 1668, Samson, F.M.H.
- " 1693, Kingsland, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.

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 Blds., 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.
- Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
- Mount Edgumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.

- Quart. Com. Grand Lodge, at 7.
- Lodge 511, Zetland, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 1585, Royal Commemoration, Star & Garter, Putney

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Confidence, Railway Tav., Railway-place, Fenchurch-st.
- Burdett Coutts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road.
- 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, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham.
- Stanhope, Thicket Hot., Anerley.
- Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav., Seven Sisters-rd.
- Southwark, Southwark Park Tav., Southwark Park.
- Duke of Connaught, Havelock Tav., Dalston, E.
- United Strength, Grafton Arms, Kentish-town.
- Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.
- Lewis, King's Arms Hot., Wood Green.
- Royal Jubilee, 81, Long Acre.
- Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7.

- Lodge 10, Westminster and Keystone, F.M.H.
- " 27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 45, Strong Man, M.H., Masons' Avenue.
- " 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 227, Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 231, St. Andrew's, F.M.H.
- " 538, La Tolerance, F.M.H.
- " 554, Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney.
- " 822, Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.
- " 1351, St. Clements Dane, 265, Strand.
- " 1360, Royal Arthur, Lecture Hall, Wimbledon.
- " 1445, Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., E.
- " 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, S.M.H.
- Chap 2, St. James's F.M.H.
- " 174, Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
- " 1339, Stockwell, Tulse Hill Hot.
- K.T. 127, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq.

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.
- Highgate, 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, MARCH 7.

- Lodge 33, Britannic, F.M.H.
- " 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 157, Bedford, F.M.H.
- " 177, Domatic, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 1201, Eclectic, F.M.H.
- " 1420, Earl Spencer, Northcote Hot., Wandsworth.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., at 6 p.m.
- Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.
- Belgrave, Harp Tav., Jermyn-st., W.
- 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.
- 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
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, 25, King Edward-st., Liverpool-rd., N.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, March 9, 1878.

MONDAY, MARCH 4.

- Lodge 113, Unanimity, Bull Hot., Preston.
- " 1045, Stamford, T.H., Altrincham.
- " 1051, Rowley, M.R., Lancaster.
- " 1264, Neptune, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1380, Skelmersdale, Queen's Hot., Waterloo.
- Everton L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5.  
 Lodge 673, St. John's, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 995, Furness, M.T., Ulverston.  
 " 1476, Blackpool, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.  
 Chap. 203, St. John of Jerusalem, M.H., Liverpool.  
 Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.  
 Merchants L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
 Mark Lodge, Joppa, M.C., Birkenhead.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6.  
 Lodge 1013, Royal Victoria, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1335, Lindsay, 20, King-st., Wigan.  
 " 1354, Marquis of Lorne, M.R., Leigh.  
 " 1620, Marlborough, Derby H., Liverpool.  
 Chap. 477, Fidelity, M.R., Birkenhead.  
 Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
 De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
 Mark Lodge, West Lancashire, M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7.  
 Lodge 249, Mariners, M.H., Liverpool.  
 " 1473, Bootle, A. R., Bootle.  
 Chap. 758, Bridgwater, M.H., Runcorn.  
 St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.  
 Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8.  
 Lodge 1289, Rock, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.

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- Amabel Vaughan.
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- The Origin and References of the Hermesian Spurious Freemasonry.
- On the Testing and Strength of Railway Materials.
- The True History of Freemasonry in England.
- Lost and Saved; or, Nellie Powers, the Missionary's Daughter.
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  - What Matter?
  - Wounded.
  - Freemasons' Wives.
  - A Story of Chinese Love.

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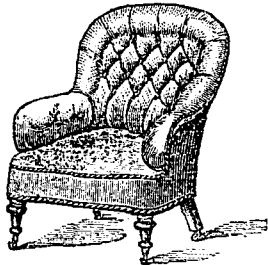
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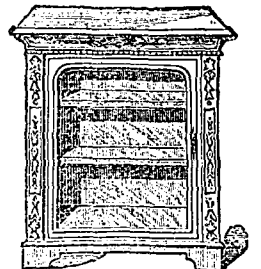


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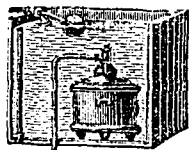
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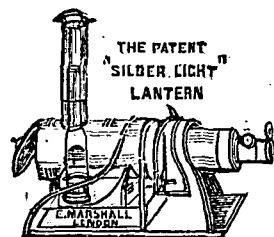
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