

CONTENTS.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS:—
 Craft Masonry 485
 Royal Arch 486
 Mark Masonry 487
 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution 488
 Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire 489
 Opening of a Masonic Hall at Shipley 490
 London Masonic Charity Association 491
 Obituary 489
 Reviews 489
 The Grand Orient of France 489
 Notes on Art, &c. 489
 French Freemasonry 490
 The Town Commissioners of Mullingar 490
 The Masonic Festival at the Trocadero 491
 The Festival of the A. and A. S. Rite in Paris 491
 A Special Announcement 491
 CORRESPONDENCE:—
 The Masonic Fete in Paris 491
 A. and A. Scottish Rite in New Zealand 491
 Warning to the Charitable 492
 The Provincial Charity Jewel 492
 Precedence 492
 The Mark Degree 492
 The Charity Organization Society 492
 Masonic Student 492
 Queries 492
 Consecration of the Pimlico Lodge, No. 1772 492
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys 493
 Masonic and General Tidings 494
 Lodge Meetings for Next Week 494
 Advertisements i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi.

COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1879.

W. Masters and Secretaries of Lodges, Chapters, &c., are respectfully informed that in order to obtain accuracy in the above, printed forms have been forwarded to them for supplying particulars as to day, months and place of meeting. If such have not yet reached their hands the Publisher requests that they would kindly call at the meeting place of the lodge, &c., and fill up and return the form, in order that the particulars of their meetings may be correctly inserted. All communications in this matter should be addressed at once to the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

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REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

ST. CLEMENT DANES LODGE (No. 1351).—The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, 3rd inst., at Bro. Carr's, the King's Head, in the Strand, when there was a good attendance of members of the Craft, amongst those who signed their names were Bros. Geo. Wilson, W.M.; H. Porter, W.M. elect; Peters, I.G.; Steward, P.M.; Betts, P.M.; Hamilton, P.M.; Wiseman, W.H.; Hall (*Freemason*); Price, Brannan, Greive, Parker, P.M.; Treas.; W. Hilton, P.M., Sec.; Livett, P.M.; Hale, P.M.; Wigg, J.W.; Hodges, Tedbury, A. Betts, Osborne, Pomano, Hepburn, J. Child, J. Child, jun., and others, whilst the following were the visitors to the lodge, Bros. Kennedy, Hurter, Beasley, and Thomas. After the ceremony of raising had been gone through, a Board of I.Ms. was formed, and all under the degree being absent, Bro. H. Porter was duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by Bro. Livett. On all the brethren being re-admitted to the lodge the usual ceremonies were gone through, Bro. Livett delivering the charges in a manner which excited the admiration of the brethren. The newly-installed Master having been saluted according to ancient form, appointed as his officers for the ensuing twelve months Bros. Wigg, S.W.; Butler, J.W.; Parker, Treas.; Hilton, Sec.; Peters, I.G.; Barnes, Org.; Perryman, D.C.; Gilbert, Tyler. After lodge the brethren sat down to a most sumptuous banquet, prepared by Bro. Carr, in his best style, which was keenly relished by the brethren. The usual loyal toasts having been disposed, Masonic ones followed, and the toasts of "The Visitors," "The W.M.," "The P.Ms.," "The Officers," and others followed. There was some excellent vocalisation, to which Bro. Jno. Child, jun., was the chief contributor, and his singing was much admired. It appeared from what fell from the Treasurer, that though the lodge has not a great surplus in hand, it is in a satisfactory condition.

IVY LODGE (No. 1441).—The first meeting of the winter session of this excellent lodge was held on Tuesday, the 24th ult. at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. The lodge was opened at six o'clock, by the W.M., Bro. Louis Cornelissen, who was ably supported by the following officers, viz.: Bros. Noke, P.M.; Ashwell, S.W.; Knight Smith, J.W.; Mattock, P.M., Treasurer; Jolly, Secretary; Foster, S.D.; Skegg, J.D.; Burgess, I.G.; Ashford, D.C.; A. Vernon, W.S.; Goodman,

Organist; and Fox, P.M. 73, Tyler; there were also present Bros. Ware, Doherty, Giles, J. Vernon, J. B. Wright, Catling, Reynolds, Taylor, Jacques, Lucas, Cooper, C. R. Smith, and W. Haycock. Visitors, Bros. F. H. Tomkins, Jordan Lodge, 201; and A. Lamarque, S. W. Cosmopolitan Lodge, 917. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. G. L. Luker was duly passed by the W.M. in a very able manner, the other candidate for passing, Bro. Frost Smith, not being in attendance, the W.M. closed the lodge in the Second Degree. Intelligence of the death of Bro. J. E. Arnold, since the last meeting of the lodge, was received by the brethren with deep regret. All business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, with solemn prayer, until the fourth Tuesday in November. The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting-hall, where an elegant banquet awaited them, and which was admirably served; the inward man having been satisfied, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and duly honoured, "The Visitors," Bros. Lamarque and Tomkins, each replied in very neat and appropriate speeches. The present W.M., Bro. Cornelissen, has belonged to the lodge since its foundation, and was amongst the first officers appointed, and from his regular attendance to all Masonic duties, amiability, and kindness of disposition, has rendered himself not only popular in the lodge, but endeared himself to all. This lodge has been particularly fortunate in its Masters from the first W.M. (and father of the lodge) Bro. Charles Smith, Bros. Mattock, Cautle, and Poupard, who must be ranked amongst the finest Masters that ever ruled a lodge for their great care and Masonic zeal, and the present Master evidently intends to keep up the high character and prestige of the lodge, and from those brethren who are at present in the lower grades of office and gradually working up to the Mastership the Ivy Lodge may be congratulated upon having a good string of Masters in perspective for some years, and it is worth while to mention that the members of this lodge are very strict, and most particular whom they initiate into the Masonic order, for the candidate's character must be the strictest investigation. There being excellent talent in the lodge the members were entertained with some excellent singing and recitations, the Tyler's toast bringing a most pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close.

ROSE LODGE (No. 1622).—The installation meeting of this young but flourishing lodge took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Saturday, the 5th inst., and in addition to a full muster of its members, was attended by a large number of visitors, including many P.Ms. and W.Ms. of the lodges held in the district. The lodge having been duly opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. D. Rose, I.P.M. (whom we are glad to announce is recovering from a very serious illness), presented the W.M. elect, Bro. A. Allworth, P.M. No. 1621, to the W.M., Bro. J. Garnar, who in a most impressive and perfect manner, installed him as W.M. of the lodge. Bro. A. Allworth then appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. W. C. Thue, S.W.; A. W. Stead, J.W.; J. W. Kirby, Treas.; W. W. Pritchett, S.D.; G. P. Coltar, J.D.; W. Hamlyn, I.G.; T. E. Webb, D.C.; J. W. T. Chapman, W.S.; and A. B. Church, Tyler; the appointments of Secretary and Organist being deferred until a future occasion. The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a splendid banquet was served, and the usual Masonic and patriotic toasts were given and received in a most cordial manner. The W.M., in a very appropriate speech, presented Bro. J. Garnar with a handsome jewel, in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the lodge during his year of office, and after some excellent harmony, to which the visitors materially contributed, a very successful gathering was brought to a close.

ROYAL KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1627).—This lodge held its first meeting for the season at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 4th inst. Present Bros. Charles E. Soppet, W.M.; W. E. Gordon Leith, S.W.; B. F. Cramer, J.W.; D. M. Dewar, Sec.; Hyde Pullen, Treasurer; J. B. Stevens, as S.D.; G. I. Robinson, J.D.; Jos. Steele, D. of C.; Geo. Mathews, I.G.; R. Potter, Tyler, Percy Leith, Jusin, Delacoste, and others. Visitor, Bro. Hoddinott, 181. After the minutes of previous meeting had been read and verified, Bro. Delacoste was passed, and Mr. J. B. Ball initiated. Bro. W. E. Gordon Leith was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Hyde Pullen, Treasurer. A P.M.'s jewel was voted to Bro. Charles E. Soppet for his services in the chair. The names of four candidates for initiation were proposed, and the lodge adjourned till the installation meeting on the 1st of November. The W.M. afterwards presided at a banquet, provided in Bro. Best's very approved style.

ROTHESAY LODGE (No. 1687).—This lodge met on the 2nd inst., at the Inns of Court Hotel, under the presidency of its first Worshipful Master, Bro. Louis Beck, when the following visitors were present: Bros. W. H. Dean, 417; F. R. W. Hedges, R.M.I.G.; A. M. Thomas, P.M. 1446; Henry Cawte, P.P.G.W. Hants and the Isle of Wight; H. Gloster, 1531; J. Inge, 1563; T. Gramant, 1559; Col. Francis Burdett, Prov. G.M. Middx.; R. F. Giles, 1328; E. Crickman, 1426; W. White; T. E. Gibb, 34; F. H. Cozens, 907; J. Terry, R.M.B.L., P.J.G.W. Heris; W. Honeyball, 1681; A. Barfield, P.M. 511; J. Tee, 511; H. R. Heather, 858; W. E. Duncan; Warner Sligh, 1381; W. W. Morgan, jun., 1385; Geo. Wood, 1328; J. Randall, 913; A. F. Rowley, P.M. 917; R. Coad, 1328; John Quincey, 1349; F. Trotman, 1381; J. E. Danks, 1101; R. Prickett, 1101; R. C. Mount, W.M. 1328; S. Rowley, 1602; C. Wentworth, 101; C. Goodyear, 1029; R. Farquarson,

99; A. B. Weston, 1585; and H. Massey (*Freemason*). After the W.M. had raised Bros. Lloyd and Wright to the Third Degree, he installed Bro. Frank Kirk as Master for the ensuing year, performing the whole of his work most satisfactorily. The following brethren were invested as officers: Bros. J. Hancock, S.W.; J. B. Docker, J.W.; Louis Beck, I.P.M., Treas.; W. C. Parsons, P.M., Sec.; J. Crossland, S.D.; J. K. Outhwaite, J.D.; Forskett, I.G.; Duret, D.C.; B. H. Swallow, P.M., W.S.; Jones, A.D.C.; Livermore, Asst. W.S.; Rev. P.M. Holden, P.M., Chap.; Berrow, Org.; and Potter, Tyler. The Secretary announced that he had received a circular from Bro. James Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, soliciting a Steward from this lodge for the next festival of his Institution. Bro. Beck informed the brethren that he had already been Steward for the Girls' School, and that the present W.M. had undertaken that office for the Boys' Institution, but he would be very happy if a brother would come forward for the old people. In the meantime he would propose that ten guineas be voted from the lodge funds to the W.M.'s list. The J.W. seconded the motion, which was then put and carried unanimously. After this the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, and the usual toasts were proposed. Col. Burdett having had to leave soon after the banquet, Bro. Buss, Asst. Grand Secretary, responded for "The Grand Officers." He said it was not for him to speak of the merits of the Grand Officers; that was for the brethren to do; but it must be a source of great gratification to the Pro and Deputy Grand Masters to see in the Masonic press how cordially this toast was received in all Masonic assemblies. This was some reward to them for the endeavours they made to promote the welfare of the Craft. It was quite impossible to find two noblemen who would devote more time or display greater ability in the interests of the Order. This had been evidenced particularly during the present year in Grand Lodge, when matters of considerable importance had been brought before the brethren. He responded, therefore, in their name with a great amount of heartiness. For himself he had to thank the brethren sincerely for the kind reception extended to him, and he was glad to have the opportunity of expressing the pleasure it gave him to see both Bro. Beck retire from the chair of the lodge with so much honour, and also the Rothesay Lodge stand so high in the estimation of the Craft. Bro. Beck having proposed "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. Frank Kirk in responding said, he should enter on his duties with a great deal of confidence, and at the same time with an earnest desire to promote to the utmost of his ability, the true interests of Masonry in connection with the Rothesay Lodge, because he knew he should have the hearty co-operation of the brethren in so doing. It must be conceded that Bro. Beck had left an exceedingly onerous duty to his successor to attempt to imitate him, for it would be impossible to add lustre to that bright morning star. But he had the interests of the Rothesay Lodge at heart, and he should endeavour to hand the gavel to his successor in peace and unanimity. Bro. Thomas, Mount Edgecumbe Lodge, replied for "The Visitors." He did not know whether, when a man became a Mason his nature was changed, or he was made of any different material to what he was before, but there was no meeting he ever attended where he was so kindly and cordially received as in a Masonic lodge. He hoped the day was far distant when visitors would be excluded from lodges. He believed it was by an interchange of visits that Masons carried out the principles of Masonry. He looked forward with pleasure to these meetings, they were like bright spots of sunshine in our journey through life. There was no meeting of creditors, no bad debts, no heavy acceptances, no short balance at the bankers thought of. All matters of business were left outside, and they could do with their cares and anxieties what Shakespeare said with regard to physic,—how them to the dogs. Bro. Mount, W.M., 1328, also replied, and said he felt peculiar pleasure in being present because he was one of the Deacons who assisted in the Granite Lodge at Bro. Kirk's initiation. The W.M. in proposing "The Health of the I.P.M.," and presenting him with a jewel, reminded the brethren of the great energy which Bro. Beck threw into his work, and how devoted he had been to the success of the Rothesay Lodge. Fifteen months ago the lodge had no existence, but now, thanks to Bro. Beck's energy, it had arrived at a state of great prosperity. Bro. Louis Beck responded, and said that he had taken great pride in forming the Rothesay Lodge, and it had been his ambition to make it a success. He was very proud of the lodge having proved such a success in the first year. Although the W.M. had said much in his favour, he nevertheless, considered it his duty, after so many friends had assisted him in the formation of the lodge, to make it a success. He was glad he had discharged that duty, but the way in which he had been received completely overwhelmed him. He was sure that all his successors would do equal service to the lodge, and as long as he was a P.M. of it he should second their endeavours. Bro. W. C. Parsons, P.M., and Secretary, responded to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," and after expressing how much he and all the brethren had enjoyed themselves in the lodge ever since it had been established, wished the brethren to remember that they were not only to enjoy themselves but to remember the poor and distressed. Bros. Hedges and Terry replied to the toast of "The Charities." Bro. Terry believed that if lodges were non-dining lodges there would be no support to the Charities, and as an illustration mentioned the case of a lodge which at its consecration was established as a non-dining lodge and for eight years lived—and that was all. Two years ago, however, a new Master was installed, and he invited the brethren to dine with him. On that occasion the lodge had its greatest gathering, and in response to an appeal for a Charity Steward, one brother immediately offered himself, and about £70 was there and then subscribed. He nevertheless

thought with Bro. Parsons that the expenses of banquets might be somewhat curtailed. They all knew that The Great City Lodge by having a bread and cheese night subscribed £50 to the old people. He did not wish to suggest bread and cheese to the Rothesay Lodge, because he believed they could have something better and yet do something for the Charities. £38,000 a year was now required to keep the three Masonic Institutions. There were 100,000 Freemasons under the English Constitution, and if each of those brethren would give 5s. a year to each of the Institutions £75,000 would be got immediately, and every case that presented itself to the Institutions could be dealt with. He suggested that this should be done, and that every lodge should give a guinea a year to each Institution. The other toasts were afterwards honoured, and the brethren separated. During dinner the band of the London Scottish Volunteers played a selection of music.

FARRINGTON WITHOUT LODGE (No. 1745).—The regular meeting of this new but flourishing lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on Monday, the 30th ult., when there were present amongst others Bros. W. H. Jackson, junr., P.M. of the Royal Arthur, W.M.; C. Jacques, S.W.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.O. of Middlesex, J.W. (*Freemason*); H. A. Dubois, P.P.G.D. of Middlesex, Hon. I.P.M.; W. Ramsey, P.M., Treasurer; F. J. Lardner, S.D. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., with the assistance of the officers, raised Bros. M. Samuel and Quilter, and initiated Mr. Eberhardt into Craft mysteries, both ceremonies being carefully performed. The W.M. then appointed and invested Bros. Samuel and Quilter to the respective offices of Junior Deacon, and Director of Ceremonies. There being no other business before the lodge it was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to an elegant banquet. The visitors were Bros. Hart, St. James's Union; and Acland, Lodge of Israel. Upon the removal of the cloth the W.M. briefly but pertinently gave the customary Royal and Craft toasts, and which pledges were duly and loyally honoured. The I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M." dwelt at length upon his Masonic capabilities. The Farrington Without being a new lodge, it was highly necessary that the ceremonies should be well carried out. He was pleased to see that it was making such good progress, and that its members, from the W.M. downwards, were working so harmoniously together. In conclusion, he wished the W.M. health and every prosperity during the remainder of his tenure. This toast having been warmly received, the W.M. made a modest response, and immediately gave "The Initiate." He said, in the course of his remarks, that he felt highly pleased with the number and status of the gentlemen who had enrolled themselves under the banner of 1745. It argued well for the prosperity of the lodge when each meeting brought a succession of initiates. He had not had a "maiden sitting," and he hoped that that happy state of things would continue. In conclusion, he thanked both the proposer and seconder of their newly made brother for having introduced so eligible a candidate for Masonic privileges, as he felt confident their Bro. Eberhardt would prove to be. The initiate, in reply, briefly thanked Bro. Ramsey, his proposer, and the rest of the members of the lodge, for having given him an opportunity of entering their ancient Craft. He hoped to learn more of its principles, and he promised them that he would endeavour to make himself a worthy Mason. "The Visitors" followed, and this toast was acknowledged in fitting terms by Bro. Harts and Acland. In proposing "The Officers," the W.M. expressed his great thanks to those brethren for the very able assistance they had rendered him. This toast was coupled with the names of Bros. Ramsey, Treasurer, and Jacques, S.W. Those brethren having responded, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a conclusion. During the evening the brethren were favoured with some very select music, by Bro. Hart and others. The next meeting of the lodge will be held on the last Monday in November next.

COCKERMOUTH.—Skiddaw Lodge (No. 1002).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Station-street, on Tuesday evening, the 1st inst. There were present:—Bros. J. Black, W.M.; R. W. Robinson, as S.W.; Tom Bird, J.W.; R. Robinson, P.M. and Treas.; T. C. Robinson, Sec., as S.D.; W. H. Lewthwaite, P.M. and Org.; Dr. Dodgson, P.M.; W. Shilton, P.M., as J.D.; W. Martin, W.M. 1660; H. Peacock, I.G.; Jos. Hewson, Tyler; S. Ferguson, H. P. Wicks, J. Towers, C. H. McCall, J. Evening, R. Harrison, H. Riton, and T. C. Fearon. There were also three visiting brethren present. After the minutes were read and confirmed, ballots were taken for the admission of Messrs. W. Pailey and Jos. Nicholson, which being successful, they were duly initiated into Masonry by the W.M. The candidates having retired, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. T. C. Fearon, having previously given proof of his proficiency, was passed to the degree of F.C. by Bro. W. Shilton, P.M. This was all the business, and the lodge was closed in form.

CARLISLE.—Bective Lodge (No. 1532).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst., in the Masonic Hall, English-street. The following members were present:—Bros. Quartermaster-Serjt. Noakes, 55th Foot, W.M.; Hector Glendinning, S.W.; Geo. Potter, P.M., as J.W.; Jas. Haswell, J.W. as S.D.; J. Ewing, I.G.; J. Higgins, Tyler, and others. The following visitors also attended:—Bros. Newton, Lodge Segontium, 606, Carnarvon; J. Blaylock, S.W. Union Lodge, 310, Carlisle; and W. F. Lammonby, P.M. Skiddaw Lodge, 1002, Cockermouth (*Freemason*). After the minutes were read and confirmed, Bro. Jos. Nicholson gave proof of his proficiency as an E.A., was intrusted, and retired, after which the lodge was opened

in the Second Degree, and Bro. Nicholson, was passed to the degree of F.C. After closing down several items on the agenda paper were disposed of, and, on the proclamations being put Mr. Stephen Nicholson, of Bonness-on-Solway, was proposed as a candidate for initiation. "Hearty good wishes" were tendered from the visiting brethren, and the lodge was then finally closed in form.

Royal Arch.

ROYAL SUSSEX CHAPTER (No. 342).—The regular quarterly convocation of this chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, St. George's-square, Portsea, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., when a goodly gathering attended, including the M.E. Principals A. Riddell, Z.; G. A. Green, H.; and R. J. Turney, J.; Past Principals Rastrick, Redward, Friedeberg, and E. S. Main. The ritual was creditably rendered by the several officers, and well sustained the honestly earned reputation of this old chapter. After the business had been transacted, the companions adjourned to the banquet room for supper. The M. E. presided, and in terse but expressive language gave the loyal and Masonic toasts, which were duly honoured. "The Health of the Visitors," was drunk with enthusiasm, and responded to by Comp. Starkie, 8; E. Comp. Ubsell, P.Z. 480; and M.E. Comp. J. Lillywhite, Z. of 257; who in a few well chosen words expressed the gratification it had afforded him in being present to witness the correct and elaborate rendering of the very beautiful ceremonies of the Royal Arch Degree, especially commending the delivery of the lectures.

Mark Masonry.

BOLTON.—St. John's Lodge (T.I.)—At the last regular meeting of this lodge there were present:—Bros. Thomas Holmes, W.M.; Jas. Horrocks, as S.W.; H. Greenwood, as J.W.; Thos. Morris, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; G. P. Brockbank, Past G. Warden, Treas.; Byrom, P.G. Steward, M.O.; John Harwood, P.G.D., S.O.; Rob. Whittaker, P.P.G.D. of C., J.O.; Stanley, Deacon; J. Wolstenholme, I.G.; T. Higson, Tyler, Entwisle, P.P.G.M. Lancashire; John Alcock, P.P.S.G.D.; and numerous other brethren. After the confirmation of the minutes of the last lodge, Bros. Barrett, Corret, Smith, Latham, Nicholson and Stead, of St. George's Lodge, Bolton, 1723, and Bottomley, of Earl Ellesmere Lodge, Freemantle, were balloted for and approved, and they being present, with the exception of Bro. Stead, were advanced to the Degree of Mark Master, by Bro. John Harwood, and the concluding portion of the ceremony was performed by Bro. Entwisle. Bro. William Wadson, of St. John's Lodge, was elected a joining member. The day of holding the meetings was altered to the 2nd. Thursday, in March, September, and December. Bro. Henry Greenwood, J.W.; was elected W.M. for the ensuing year. On the motion of Bro. Brockbank, seconded by Bro. Entwisle, it was agreed to contribute the sum of £5 to the fund for founding a memorial scholarship in honour of the late Bro. Callender, late Deputy Grand Master of the Province, and who was advanced in this lodge as a Mark Master under the Scottish Constitutions in 1857.

The following stand over: Reports of Lodges 41, 1507, 1716, Southwark Lodge of Instruction, Prov. G. Lodge of Sussex.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of this Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Colonel Creaton presided. There were also present Bros. S. Rawson, J. M. Case, Griffiths Smith, C. A. Cottebrune, Henry Smith (Prov. G. Secretary West Yorkshire), J. A. Farnfield, C. J. Perceval, Louis Stean, J. G. Stephens, W. Hilton, Raynham W. Stewart, R. H. Giraud, Dr. Strong (Honorary Surgeon to the Institution), James Terry (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

Bro. Terry reported the death of four annuitants, and that the £70, voted by Grand Lodge for supplying the inmates of the Institution at Croydon with coals during the winter season, had been received, also that he had entered into an agreement with Messrs. Hall, of Croydon, to supply coals at 25s. per ton.

Bro. Terry, having read the Warden's report, proceeded to read the Audit Committee's report for the quarter last past, from which it appeared that there is a balance to the credit of the Institution of £1644 8s. 3d., viz.: £188 14s. 2d. to the Male Fund, £1410 14s. 10d. to the Widow's Fund, and £64 19s. 3d. to the Sustentation Fund.

On the motion of Bro. J. G. Stevens, seconded by Bro. Griffiths Smith, this report was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

The report of the Architect showed that the Gardener's Lodge at the Institution is nearly completed, and that at the end of next week only the colouring of the walls would remain undone, and this he recommended should not be executed till the walls are dry.

Bro. Terry read a letter from a female annuitant of the Institution, living at Plymouth, thanking the Institution for the annuity she had enjoyed for the last four years, but stating that she did not feel herself justified in receiving it any longer, as a relative of hers had died leaving her a competence.

On the motion of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, a letter was ordered to be written to the annuitant congratulating her on her good fortune, and thanking her for relinquishing her annuity.

Some petitions having been accepted, the tender of Mr. Keir for building the greenhouse at the Institution, lately decided upon, for £120 was accepted.

On the motion of Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, seconded by Bro. J. A. Farnfield, the salary of Miss Norris, the matron of the Institution, was increased from £30 to £50 a year, the motion being accompanied by some very complimentary remarks by both mover and seconder on the indefatigable attention shown by Miss Norris to the aged annuitants.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

It was acknowledged on all hands that the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Division of Lancashire, which was held at the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., was in many respects the most successful and imposing, and certainly in every respect the most numerous and influentially attended meeting which has ever been held within this, or probably any other Masonic province in the kingdom. The vitality and growing importance of the Craft could have had no better illustration than in connection with this immense and impressive gathering, at which there were, it was computed by competent judges, upwards of one thousand brethren present, and the hearty enthusiasm which characterised the whole of the day's proceedings conclusively showed two important facts which cannot be disputed—first, that Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M. of England, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the division (the second largest in the kingdom), enjoys the hearty and undivided support of the brethren in connection with his genial and popular Masonic government; and, second, that the Masonic pulse of the province is as strong and healthy now as it has ever been.

The gathering on Wednesday week was in every respect of the most satisfactory character, and proved to demonstration that the P.G.M. occupies a position as its head which is hardly second to any in the country, and one which he fills to the universal satisfaction of the brotherhood in West Lancashire. It must also be a matter of the deepest satisfaction to his lordship to know that during the past year only one "little cloud" of unpleasantness, "no bigger than a man's hand," has arisen in one of the seventy-nine over which he holds sway—a fact which speaks eloquently for the brethren amongst whom peace and good-will have so universally prevailed. The expected enormous attendance at the Prov. Grand Lodge necessitated the engagement of the Philharmonic Hall (recognised as one of the finest in the kingdom) for the purposes of the meeting, and no better gathering place could have been found anywhere. The magnificent interior and imposing proportions of the hall were immensely enhanced in effect by the array of "purple and blue" with which the body of the building was filled after the commencement of the business.

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., Prov. P.G.M.; was present and presided, and he was accompanied and supported by no fewer than nearly 100 past and present Provincial Grand Lodge Officers, several hailing from neighbouring and distant provinces. The chief body in the gathering—representatives from the Craft lodges—were mainly composed of W.Ms., P.Ms. and officers, additional value and splendour being thus added to the meeting. The arrangements for the gathering at the Philharmonic were wisely entrusted to two brethren whose skill and assiduity are well known in all lodges, Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., and Bro. W. S. Vines, P.G.D.C., both of whom did their duties in an eminently satisfactory manner. The lodge furnishings were sent from the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, and several splendidly carved old oak chairs, used on the platform, also sent from the Masonic Hall, were the objects of general admiration. The brethren were summoned to their Masonic duties at noon, and with an amount of punctuality which was commendable, the business was commenced shortly after that hour.

Amongst the Provincial Grand officers who attended to support Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, D.G.M., the R.W.P.G.M.; were the following:—

Rev. Charles Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain, P.G.M. Suffolk; Rev. H. Bethell Jones, M.A. Past G. Chaplain; Major Geo. Turner, P.G.T. 832; Dr. S. J. McGeorge, P.G.R. 241; H. S. Alpass, P.G. Sec. 155, 680, 1570; Peter Macmurdrow, P.J.G.D. 1299; H. W. Johnstone, P.J.G.D.; Wm. Tyrer, P.G. Sup. of Works 86, 1384; Wm. Vines, P.G.D. of C. 220, 1299; B. B. Marson, P.G.S.B. 1356, 1609; Jos. T. Skeaf, P.G. Org. 216; J. E. Jackson, P.G.S. 667; E. C. Cooper, P.G.S. 484; John Wells, P.G.S. 580; E. Simpson, P.G.S. 281; Peter Ball, P.G. Tyler, Wm. H. Ball, P.G.A. Tyler; Geo. Remington, P.P.J.G.W., P.M. 995; Peter Maddox, P.P.G.S. of W. 249; B. W. Rowson, P.P.G.S. of W. 203; J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C. 155, 823; W. Leather, P.P.G.A.D.C. 897; J. A. Bowes, P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmorland, P.M. 148; T. B. Fishwick, P.G.J.W. East Lancashire; Dr. J. Kellet Smith, P.P.G. Reg.; G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D.; S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B.; R. C. Mellor, P.P.G.J.D.; A. Stoddart, P.P.G.S.W., (North Wales and Salop); T. Armstrong, P.P.G. Treas.; Rev. H. G. Vernon, M.A., P.P.G.C., West Lancashire and Cheshire; J. F. Roberts, P.P.G.A.D.C.; J. Wainwright, P.G.S.; C. F. Smith, P.P.G.S.D., Cumberland and Westmorland; J. D. Moore, M.D., Past G.S.B. of England; Major George Turner, P.G. Treas.; C. Banister, Past G.S.B. (England), P.P.G.D.C. (West Lancashire), P.P.G.S.D. (Durham), P.P.G.J.W. (Northumberland); T. Chesworth, P.G.D.C. (Cheshire); J. Cavanah, P.G.A.D.C. (Cheshire); J. Pemberton, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. Goodacre, P.G.P. (Cheshire); J. C. Gillman, P.P.G.S.D.; J. Sillitor, P.P.G.J.D. (Cheshire); W. C. Dealey, P.P.G.J.W.; Edward Pierpoint, P.P.G.S.D.; S. White, P.P.G.S.B.; T. A. Collinson, P.P.G.D.C.; H.

Jackson, P.P.G.A.D.C.; W. Bowden, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Laidlaw, P.P.G.S. of W.; and others.

There were also present about 1000 other brethren representing the various lodges, in this and neighbouring provinces.

The Craft lodge was opened according to ancient form, Bro. Spence, Lodge 32, being the W.M.; W. J. Chapman, I.P.M., 1609, acting as P.M.; W. W. Elton, 113, as S.W.; Jowett, 281, as J.W.; and R. H. Evans, 292, as J.D.

The Provincial Grand Lodge being announced, entered in processional order, and the P.G. Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The P.G. Secretary (Bro. H. S. Alpass) then read the roll of lodges in the province, when it appeared that the whole of the 79 lodges in the division were represented with two exceptions—the Ellesmere Lodge, No. 730, Chorley, and the Arthur John Brogden Lodge, No. 1715, Grange-over-Sands. The P.G. Secretary also read the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge meeting held at Southport, which were confirmed nem. con.

The P.G. Treasurer's report for 1877-8, which was taken as read, showed that the balances from last year were as follows:—Charity Fund, £308 11s. 6d.; Provincial Grand Lodge Fund, £369 2s. 11d.; Fund of Benevolence, £1637 3s. 9d.—total £2314 18s. 2d. The income during the year with these balances amounted to the following sums:—Charity Fund, £472 5s. 9d.; Provincial Grand Lodge Fund, £719 0s. 2d.; Fund of Benevolence, £1962 19s. 10d.—total £3154 5s. 9d. The disbursements included votes of £200 for the Indian Famine Fund, £100 to the Royal Masonic Educational Benevolent Institution, and £105 to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. It was also stated that up to the last report the sum of £1829 5s. had been paid to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution. It also appeared that £1000 was now invested in a bond in the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, £773 8s. 1d. in the Savings' Bank, and £757 10s. 5d. in the National Bank of Liverpool. The balances at the close of the present financial year were—Charity Fund, £472 5s. 9d.; Provincial Grand Lodge Fund, £719 0s. 2d.; Fund of Benevolence, £1962 19s. 10d.—total £3154 5s. 9d.

Bro. Dr. J. K. Smith, P.P.G. Registrar, then rose, and said it would still be in the recollection of many brethren present that not many years ago the appointment of P.G. Treasurer was, along with the other officers, vested in the hands of the P.G.M., but through the kindness of the P.G.M., that trust had been placed in the hands of the brethren, and he (Bro. Dr. Smith) felt certain that that trust would ever be exercised as it ought. (Hear, hear.) He had now to propose that Bro. James T. D. Callow, P.M. of Lodge 673, and also of Lodge 1505 (Emulation), should be elected to fill the office of Prov. Grand Treasurer. (Loud applause.) He was well-known to almost all who were present, and certainly well-known to Masons in Liverpool as a very hard-working and assiduous brother for many years. Independent of being the P.M. of two lodges, he had been Secretary of the Relief Committee for nearly five years, and as Treasurer of that fund he (Bro. Dr. Smith) had had many opportunities of seeing the zeal and ability he had shown in the discharge of his duties. Bro. Callow had also been for three years Secretary of the Masonic Hall Committee, and there, as Chairman, he (Bro. Smith) had likewise good opportunities of seeing his excellent qualities. Bro. Callow was a hard-working and zealous Mason, and he was sure the brethren would do themselves an honour in unanimously selecting him to fill the position of P.G. Treasurer. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., seconded the motion, and said that a more hard-working Mason could hardly be found in Liverpool than Bro. Callow—one who not only did his duties well in the lodge and chapter, but one who was not afraid of the drudgery of Masonry, which too many were rather apt to shirk.

The motion was carried unanimously and by acclamation, and the P.G.M. subsequently invested Bro. J. T. Callow as the P.G. Treasurer, in room of Bro. Major G. Turner, who retired after two years' service.

The newly-elected P.G. Treasurer then said—Brethren, permit me to thank you most heartily for the very high honour which you have conferred by electing me to the office of Treasurer of this Provincial Grand Lodge. I shall endeavour to discharge its duties to the entire satisfaction of every brother, and trust that when my successor shall be appointed I may retire with the good wishes of this Provincial Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.)

The P.G.M. next proceeded to invest the following brethren as his Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:—

- W. J. A. Baldwin (Dalton-in-Furness) Prov. G.S.W.
- H. R. Robertson (Liverpool)... .. Prov. G.J.W.
- Rev. J. Rees Jenkins, 216 Prov. G. Chap.
- Ralph Robinson, 1502 Prov. G. Reg.
- F. W. Serjeant, 203 Prov. G.S.D.
- W. Archer, 1086 Prov. G.J.D.
- J. E. Jackson, 667 Prov. G.S. of W.
- J. Wells, 580... .. Prov. G.D.C.
- J. Wainwright, 613 Prov. G.A.D.C.
- E. C. Cooper, 484 Prov. G.S.B.
- J. Skeaf, 216 (re-appointed) Prov. G.O.
- E. Simpson, 281 Prov. G. Purs.

Joseph Bell, 1609; Captain W. J. Newman, 786; R. H. Evans, 1393; H. Williams, 1264; J. Hayes, 249; and D. W. Finney, 1250 Prov. G. Stewards.

Bro. P. Ball was re-appointed P.G. Tyler, and Bro. W. H. Ball, P.G. Assistant Tyler.

The Prov. Grand Lodge then considered a number of applications for relief from distressed brethren and relatives of deceased brethren, and the sum of £60 was voted in response to these applications.

The P.G. Secretary (Bro. Alpass) then said—In making the customary annual report of the province it affords me

much pleasure to state that Masonry continues to make very satisfactory progress, both as regards the number of lodges and subscribing members. Since our last meeting warrants of constitution have been granted for the Wilbraham Lodge, No. 1713, Walton; the Urmston Lodge, No. 1730, Urmston; the Kirkdale Lodge, No. 1756, Kirkdale; and the Ashton Lodge, No. 1140, has been removed from Cheadle, in the province of Cheshire, to Withington, near Manchester, in this province. It is gratifying to report that the lodges generally are in good working order, and with one exception brotherly love and harmony prevail amongst them. My attention is frequently directed to the circulars of lodges, and the improper manner in which the names of candidates for initiation are inserted in them. For instance, in a circular just received, two candidates are thus proposed: Mr. A. B., Southport; Mr. C. D., Manchester. This surely is not a compliance with the "Book of Constitutions," which, besides requiring the name of every candidate, also requires the addition of profession and place of abode to be sent to all members.

At the last election of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution the widow of a brother, a Past Prov. G. Officer, was elected to the benefits of the fund. There are three children of widows of Freemasons, whose mothers are desirous of obtaining their admission into the Masonic Schools in London; but it will be very difficult to ensure their election, in consequence of the few votes held in the province for these Charities. Brethren should recollect that when a widow is left with a large family dependent upon her, something more than paying for the education of her children should be done for her. She should at least be relieved of the clothing, maintenance, and education of one child, by its being elected into the schools above referred to. According to the last report of the Boys' School which has reached me, only twenty-seven lodges in this province possess votes for the School. And I am reminded by the consideration of this fact that it has become an annual custom for some of the Liverpool lodges to expend so large a portion of their funds on a picnic, that they are unable to support the Charities with the liberality we have a right to expect from them, and which, from the great number of their subscribing members, they ought to be able to evince. All the lodges in the province have sent in their annual returns and paid the fees due from them. During the past year fifteen dispensations have been issued. At the commencement of this year the Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Westminster-road, Liverpool, was completed. The Prince of Wales and the Walton Lodges meet there; and the Kirkdale Lodge, when consecrated, will be held there. The erection of this convenient building is due to the zeal of the brethren at the north end of this town, and will add to the prosperity of the lodges meeting there, and the comfort and convenience of their members; and it has pleased the R.W.P.G.M. to acknowledge the service thus rendered to the Order by appointing Bro. W. Archer, who has been one of the most active in the cause, P.G.J.D. for the ensuing year.

The P.G.M. said it had been his intention to make a good many remarks upon certain points, but as these had been referred to very fully in the P.G. Secretary's report, he would content himself with remarking that at the end of another year he hoped to see a marked improvement in the direction of larger amounts voted for the Masonic Charities and a smaller sum expended in pic-nics in connection with the various lodges. (Hear, hear.) He thought it was rather a disgrace to that province—the second largest in the kingdom—that it should be so poorly represented on the lists of the London Charities, and he hoped these few words would be taken to heart by the brethren, and that there would be a marked improvement. He trusted that each individual brother would do something on his own behalf as far as he could. He (Lord Skelmersdale) did not want to bribe any one, but he desired to intimate that in future he intended to carry out the plan adopted in several other provinces, viz., that when a brother served the office of two Stewardships in connection with the London Charities he should be entitled to wear a charity jewel. (Hear, hear.)

On the motion of Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.S.D., seconded by Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C., the sum of 100 guineas was voted from the charity fund to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in the name of the R.W.P.G.M., and another sum of 100 guineas from the same fund to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

On the motion of Bro. Wylie, seconded by Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., it was also resolved that the sum of £25 be voted from the Prov. Grand Lodge fund to promote the election of the daughter of the late Bro. Mott on the foundation of the Girls' Institution.

Bro. Major Turner, P.P.G. Treas., moved, and Bro. Callow, P.G. Treas., seconded, the following resolution, which was carried:—"That the ninth bye-law of the Provincial Grand Lodge do in future apply only to such moneys as shall be appropriated to the Fund of Benevolence, and that all other moneys belonging to Provincial Grand Lodge be deposited in some other bank, approved by the Provincial Grand Master, to an account entitled 'The Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire.' All payments thereout to be made by cheque signed by the Provincial Grand Treasurer, and countersigned by the Provincial Grand Secretary."

On the motion of Bro. J. R. Jenkins, P.G.C., seconded by Bro. J. T. Callow, P.G. Treas., a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Major Turner for his services as P.G. Treasurer, a compliment which he briefly acknowledged.

Bro. R. Wylie, Secretary of the Hamer Benevolent Fund, read the fifth annual report of that institution, which stated that one case had been relieved, and the report further appealed for the continued support of the brethren. The officers and Committee of the fund were appointed, and the Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

The Annual Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution, Lord Skelmersdale pre-

siding, was afterwards held to receive and determine the several recommendations of the General Committee, and for the transaction of the general business of the institution.

Bro. Richard Brown, P.M., 241, Honorary Secretary of the institution, read the minutes of the last court, and 16 children were elected on the foundation of the institution. Grants were made to three for their advancement in life, and a vote was taken for the education of 81 children for the ensuing year, there being now 115 children receiving the benefits of education from the funds of this charity. Bro. G. Broadbridge, P.P.G.D.C., on the motion of Bro. R. Wylie, seconded by Bro. Alpass, P.G. Secretary, was appointed joint Secretary with Bro. Brown in connection with the institution, in consequence of the great increase in the work of the charity. The various officers and Committees were appointed, and the proceedings terminated.

The Craft Lodge was then closed in due form. A banquet was served shortly after five o'clock at Eberle's Restaurant, Eberle-street, at which there were about 300 brethren present. Lord Skelmersdale presided during the evening, supported by a large and imposing array of his P.G.L. Officers and the leading representatives of the lodges throughout the province.

After proposing "The Queen," Lord Skelmersdale gave "The Health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., the Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." His lordship said it was the intention and object of the Prince of Wales to carry out the main objects and principles of Freemasonry, and his recent enthusiastic reception in Grand Lodge was an evidence of the appreciation in which he was held by the brethren. (Hear, hear.) Speaking of His Royal Highness's efforts in connection with the Paris Exhibition, his lordship said he might safely say that had it not been for the great zeal and energy shown by the Prince the Exposition would not have had half the success which it had enjoyed. His lordship, in conclusion, spoke of the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold as being both enthusiastic and devoted Masons. The former was really a hard working brother, although he had not been much in their lodges, and H.R.H.'s intention at the present time was one rather towards the higher degree. (Laughter and loud applause.)

The P.G. Chaplain (Bro. the Rev. J. Rees Jenkins) next gave "The Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M., and the other Officers of the Grand Lodge," and in doing so spoke in high terms of the position which the G.L. had taken with respect to the Grand Orient of France.—The toast was acknowledged by Bro. Bannister, P.G.S.B.

Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Secretary, next gave "Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W.D.G.M., and R.W. P.G.M.," a toast which was received with tremendous enthusiasm, the cheers lasting for several moments.

Bro. Alpass spoke of the great amount of time and attention which his lordship devoted to his Masonic duties, and said there were many good and faithful P.G.Ms. throughout the country, but none who took so much interest in his province as his lordship. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Lord Skelmersdale, in acknowledging the toast, referred to the pleasure which it had given him to be present that day, and although Masonry took up a large amount of his time, he looked upon the day spent in connection with that P.G. Lodge as one of the most pleasant of the year. (Hear, hear.) His lordship again expressed a hope that at the end of the year there would be a great improvement in the province as to the support of the London Charities.

Bro. Dr. Smith, P.P.G.R., gave "The Right Hon. Colonel Frederick Stanley, W.D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Wardens," which was responded to by Bro. Baldwin, P.G.S.W.

Lord Skelmersdale stated that Bro. Colonel Stanley would have been present that day but for the fact that he had received an urgent summons to London to attend certain imperial business with the importance of which every-one was conversant.

The P.G.M., in giving "The Provincial Grand Masters of the Adjoining Provinces," coupled the toast with the name of Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Past Grand Chaplain of England, and Deputy Grand Master of Suffolk, of whom he spoke in the highest terms as a man, Mason, and minister.

Bro. Martyn, in response, thanked the brethren for the hearty reception which they had given him that day as a stranger, and he felt bound to say, as an old Mason, that he had never witnessed so great and enormous a gathering of Masons as he had seen that day. (Applause.) It had been to him a special source of pleasure to see the working of the lodge that day, and he would carry with him into his distant province pleasant recollections of his visit to West Lancashire.

Bro. Spence, W.M. 32, gave "The P.G. Officers, Past and Present," which was responded to by Bro. R. Robinson, P.G. Reg.

The P.G. Sec. proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Masters of the Lodges in the Province," and spoke in high terms of the excellent working which prevailed in every section of this Masonic division.

Bro. Spence, W.M. 32, and Bro. Goodacre, W.M. 1730 (Urmston), responded to the toast, the latter stating that, as the result of the remarks made by Lord Skelmersdale that day, he had pleasure in stating that his lodge had determined to vote the sum of 50 guineas to one of the London Charities. (Loud Applause.)

Bro. R. Wylie, P.P.G.G.D., gave "The Charities of the Province," which was responded to by Bro. R. Brown, the Honorary Secretary of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

Bro. Robertson, P.G.J.W., gave "The Ladies," which was responded to by Bro. J. R. Goepel, P.P.G.D.C.

A capital musical programme, which, in consequence of its excellence, secured numerous encores, was supplied

by Bros. Child, Muir, J. Hill, and T. J. Hughes, Messrs. Kirkburn, Austin, Kitwood, Robinson, Shimmitt, and Lewis. Bro. J. Skeaf, P.G.O., most efficiently presided at the piano.

OPENING OF A MASONIC HALL AT SHIPLEY.

The occasion of the Earl of Carnarvon's visit to Saltaire has been taken advantage of by the Freemasons of Shipley to give éclat to the opening proceedings of a new Masonic Hall in that town, an event which was looked forward to with considerable interest, not only by Masons in the district, but by those of the Craft resident elsewhere. The securing of a hall specially adapted for Masonic purposes by the brethren at Shipley was of itself an event sufficiently interesting, and has been rendered increasingly so by the circumstances that they have been able to secure the good offices of so distinguished a Mason as the Pro Grand Master of the Order to conduct the inaugural proceedings. Another circumstance of interest is the fact that the new hall is a memento of the jubilee of the Airedale Lodge 387, for whose accommodation the hall has been erected.

From the published address of the Secretary, P.M. J. Ramsden Riley, which was read upon the fiftieth anniversary of the Lodge in April, 1877, we learn that the Airedale Lodge was established at Baildon, on April 11th, 1827, having succeeded to the paraphernalia of the defunct Duke of York Lodge, which was constituted at Doncaster in 1788.

During the latter part of this earlier lodge's existence it does not appear to have shown much vitality, and in 1807 it was removed to Bingley, where it existed under slightly better conditions, until January 1815. A few brethren of the district appear to have met without interruption at each other's homes, but it was not until 1827, mainly through the exertions of Wainman Holmes and Jonathan Walker, assisted strenuously by two or three members of the Keighley Lodge, that a lodge could be formed, and the present Airedale Lodge constituted. The last 50 years has been so important an epoch of Masonic history that it would have been extraordinary if the Airedale had not had its vicissitudes, and notably in 1838, when its members were returned to Grand Lodge as 7 (although nominally comprised of about 14), the career of the lodge had well nigh ended through the severe commercial depression in the Baildon district. It had even then, however, some staunch supporters, whose example has no doubt materially affected the subsequent growth and importance of the lodge, which since 1866 (commencing as it were another generation), has had an uninterrupted prosperity, while its future prospects are decidedly auspicious. The jubilee of the lodge was held on the 11th April last year, in the old rooms in Westgate, Shipley. The number of members is now about fifty, the following being the acting officers of the lodge, viz., John Morrell, W.M.; John Hey, I.P.M.; John Magson, S.W.; Fred Ives, J.W.; J. Lister, S.D.; H. Mitchell, J.D.; S. Smith, I.G.; E. Heaton, O.G.; the indefatigable Secretary of the lodge being J. R. Riley, P.M.

The last-named brother is a remarkable example of the possibility of fifty men, composing any society, holding the same opinion on any subject, and in his case uniting to recognise the merit of one individual. Bro. Riley is so highly esteemed by his brethren of 387 as to be the honoured recipient in 1876 of a magnificent illuminated address and testimonial, and it was stated by the P.M., who presented them on behalf of the lodge, that there was not a single brother who had not shown the greatest anxiety to subscribe. Bro. Riley has also had the rare honour of being appointed by 10 Worshipful Masters of the Airedale Lodge.

We have been pleased to notice that the R.W. Prov. G.M., in his speech in Prov. G. Lodge has, without knowing it, done an act of justice towards Bro. Riley, which would, no doubt, be most satisfactory to that brother. In 1870, in the course of a controversy in the columns of the *Freemason*, reflecting upon the Province of West Yorkshire as regards the reception of candidates for Freemasonry, Bro. Riley defended the province, and on the ground that what was good for West Yorkshire must be good for other provinces, sent up to us an unanswerable argument, the circular respecting bye-law 57, referred to by Sir Henry Edwards, for publication for the benefit of the fraternity. The rebuff Bro. Riley received at that time by the withdrawal of the circular from our columns by official request, would have extinguished the future energies of many a less zealous brother.

The new Masonic Hall is situate in Welleroff Court, Kirkgate, Shipley, and has been erected upon the site of the former New Inn, by Mr. Jonas Bradley, who has built the Star and Garter Hotel adjoining. About £1000 has been expended upon the building, which is every way adapted for the purposes of a lodge of Freemasons. There are two large rooms for lodge purposes, a room of medium size, a large kitchen, with store-rooms, lavatories, &c. The lodge-room, which is upon the upper storey, is 27ft. by 25ft.; the dining-room being of equal dimensions, and situate upon the floor beneath. To the former a small ante-room is attached, and to the latter a convenient store-room. Upon the first floor are situate the practice-room, 25ft. by 12ft., and a kitchen, 18ft. by 13ft. The latter is fitted with the best appliances for cooking, and upon all these occasions when the austerities of the Craft are so far relaxed as to allow its members to dine, this department of the lodge premises will be regarded as an indispensable adjunct. A hoist communicates with the dining-room and also with the lodge-room. All the rooms are lofty, and are well ventilated. The lighting of the lodge-room is effected by means of a central chandelier and six side lights, while in the dining-room a central light on Benham's principle is introduced, supplemented by side lights, a very cheering effect being produced thereby. The furnishing and decor-

ation of the premises are quite in keeping with the structural arrangements of the hall, the appointments of the lodge-room being such as to entitle it to rank as one of the neatest in Yorkshire. The decoration of this room has been effected with considerable taste, all the colours being in distemper. The ground colour of the walls is of fawn, relieved by parallelograms divided by chocolate lines, the panels filled in with Masonic emblems drawn in vermilion and blue. Boldly-designed corbels support the roof, the frieze being effectively relieved by a series of Egyptian figures continued round the room. This design is reproduced from one introduced into the decoration of the former lodge-room. The ceiling of the room is done in colours and gold. The dining-room is of a modest tone, the prevailing colour being drab. Round this room is a surbase moulding in pitch pine, the interval between this and a deep plinth being filled in with geometrical designs in black. The furnishings have been the subject of much attention, and in respect to some portion of the furniture a more than ordinary interest attaches. Three of the pedestals, presented to the lodge by Bro. Chas. Marchbank, have withstood the wear and tear of over ninety years, having been used in the old Duke of York Lodge, and, re-furbished, look equal to quite as long a tenure of existence. Apropos to the opening of the new hall, various presents have been made by members of the lodge, including an eagle lectern, a large quarto copy of the Holy Scriptures, a beautiful ivory mallet, &c. The various works in connection with the erection of the building were contracted for by the following tradesman, viz.:—Mason, John Rhodes; joiner, George Yates; plumbers, S. Rushworth & Son; plasterers, Walsh and Son; decorators, Sam Oddy and Son; gas fittings, C. Howroyd. The architects for the works were Messrs. Jackson and Longley. The extra decorations, rendered necessary by the ceremony consisted of the laying of crimson cloth along the passages and staircases of the hall, and draping the windows with curtains, &c. These have been supplied by Messrs. Pratt and Sons, of Bradford.

The brethren of the lodge assembled in good force, but owing to the limited accommodation of the building (although sufficiently large enough for the purposes of their own meetings), they were unable to make the occasion so general as it otherwise would have been. Their invitations included the acting members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire; and they had succeeded in securing the honour of the company of the M.W. Bro. Earl Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master. The lodge having been opened by the W.M. and officers of the Airedale Lodge, the Provincial Grand Lodge entered, and was presided over by the R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. Edwards, Bart, Prov. G.M., assisted by the W. Bro. T. W. Tew, D.P.G.M., of West Yorkshire. After the customary salutations of these two dignitaries, a procession was formed, and escorted the M.W. Pro Grand Master (Earl Carnarvon) into the lodge.

Bro. Sir Henry Edwards, Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire said:—

I beg to return my hearty thanks to this assembly for their very cordial reception of me. We are gathered here to-day to perform an important ceremony. It is to dedicate this new Masonic Hall to the purposes of Freemasonry for ever, and to encourage and exhort the brethren in this town and province to learn and practice more and more the beautiful principles of our ancient fraternity. We are honoured to-day by the presence of the Pro Grand Master of England, the Earl of Carnarvon. This compliment to West Yorkshire is warmly felt and appreciated by the whole Craft in this province, over which I have the honour to preside. I need not dilate on the admirable way in which the Pro Grand Master performs his Masonic responsibilities, or the immense interest he takes in the affairs of the Grand Lodge. He always does everything he undertakes for the benefit of the Craft in the same admirable manner, and, I repeat, we owe him a debt of gratitude for being present amongst us to-day. The address of the Pro Grand Master to H.R.H., the Prince of Wales, on his installation as Grand Master on the 28th April, 1875, which I had the honour to listen to, will be long remembered. We welcome the Pro Grand Master to West Yorkshire, a province of 65 lodges and 3000 loyal Masonic subjects, who read with the deepest interest of his dignified conduct whilst occupying the throne of Freemasonry in Grand Lodge. (Applause.) I can assure the Pro Grand Master that implicit obedience and Masonic law is in my province encouraged and enforced; and it is with pride that I can refer his lordship to his highly esteemed Grand Secretary, Bro. John Hervey (applause), as to the punctuality of this province on the part of the brethren in rendering and making the annual returns and payments. It is a well-known circumstance that wherever you find prosperous lodges they are certain to be most loyal and punctual observers of the regulations and landmarks of the Grand Lodge and the bye-laws of the Craft. (Hear. Hear.)

I may also point out the strictly enforced rule laid down in our Provincial Grand Bye-Laws, especially No. 47, in which it is incumbent on the Master of a lodge wherein a candidate seeks admission to make inquiry, in writing, of the Master of the lodge established in the town or place wherein the candidate resides, touching the character and moral fitness of such candidate or joining member. Our great difficulty is with candidates coming in to our province and obtaining admission from lodges over the border, or from some populous place where sufficient enquiry cannot be made. This appears to be a weak point in Masonic watchfulness and carefulness, as to the admission of "just, perfect and upright" men only, "of mature age, sound judgment, and strict morals," and I hope one not unworthy of his lordship's grave consideration. Again thanking the Pro Grand Master for his presence here to-day I call upon you to salute him with the honour due to his exalted rank; a call most heartily responded to.

The Secretary (Bro. Riley, P.M.) then read an address of welcome to Lord Carnarvon, which he afterwards presented to his lordship.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro Grand Master, in responding said:—Right Worshipful Master, and Brethren,—It does not need so hearty a demonstration of feeling to assure me of meeting in Yorkshire, and, indeed, in every part where Freemasonry prevails, with a truly fraternal and sympathetic welcome. I rejoice greatly to have the opportunity of coming amongst you to-day; I rejoice greatly to hear from your Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the progress of Freemasonry in West Yorkshire; I rejoice greatly in meeting the Worshipful Master and brethren of the Airedale Lodge a lodge old in Masonic history, well known in the Craft, and holding an honourable position in this province, in their new home; and I cordially tender to each and all my hearty good wishes. May it be the beginning of a fresh and bright chapter in the history of the lodge; and may it also be the beginning of fresh honours for Masonic success. It has been truly said in that address which had just been read to me that Masonry had a world-wide name and character. I will only say that when we reflect on the truthfulness of that assertion it becomes more patent to us that we have a great duty to perform; that by our actions, whether we act in the lodge, or whether we act in the province, or whether it be in our individual capacity outside the lodge, our aim should be to uphold and maintain the fair fame of the name and character of Freemasonry; that we may not only be able to hand it down to future brethren in all its brightness, but that we may be able to send it on with additional lustre. All who study Freemasonry know the high standard of its principles, and I believe all who do make it a study to try to live to those principles, I hope the number may be largely augmented in the future members of this lodge. Every lodge ought to possess a home of its own; nothing, I think, so much as a migratory residence tends to damage the prestige of a lodge. A settled home is a source of continual pleasure; a constant gathering of new history. Such, I hope, will be the new home of the Airedale Lodge; and may it be to its several members a source of additional attraction. I will say no more on this subject, but will most gladly, at the proper time in the ceremony, and if requested so to do by your Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, comply with the wish you have expressed in that address, and formally declare this lodge open.

The ceremony of dedication was proceeded with, according to ancient Masonic custom, by the W.D. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tew, in an able manner, the oration being given by Bro. the Rev. William Collings Lukis, M.A., F.S.A., Prov. G. Chaplain, West Yorkshire, De Grey and Ripon Lodge, 837.

The musical part of the ceremony was most impressive, the really fine consecration service of Bro. F. C. Atkinson (Mus. Bac., Cantab., P. Prov. G.O., W. Yorks.), having rarely had such an interpretation as was given to it on this occasion by the musical members of the lodge.

The Pro Grand Master then rose, and said:—Brethren, the ceremony of dedication being now completed in all its parts, it only remains for me to perform the task I undertook to-day, namely, to open this building. And it is open accordingly.

After the business of the lodge had been brought to a close, a sumptuous luncheon, under the superintendence of Bro. R. Breuer, of the Belle Vue Hotel, Bradford (and which reflected the highest credit upon that brother, for the ability and exquisite taste displayed in all its details), was served in the banqueting-room, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured.

[We regret that we are unable to find space, in its entirety, for the admirable report, kindly forwarded by a Correspondent. We shall give in our next, if space permits, the address to Earl Carnarvon, the oration of Bro. the Rev. Collins Lukes, M.A., and the proceedings at the banquet.]

LONDON MASONIC CHARITY ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Committee took place last week, when several new members were elected, and added to the Provisional Committee, and brethren qualified as Life Members.

All voting papers should be sent to A. Tisley, Esq., 1, Clifford's-inn, at once, and all applications for membership can be sent to the Treasurer, or either of the Secretaries, according to the advertisement in the *Freemason*.

A meeting also took place on Thursday, the 10th inst., when twelve members and three life members were elected.

The Committee adjourned to Wednesday next, 16th inst., at 11 o'clock, at 1, Clifford's-inn.

Obituary.

We regret to record the death at an early age of our respected brother and companion William Henry Sleeman, P.M. of the Gosport Lodge, No. 903, and P.P.G.S.B. Hants and the Isle of Wight. The deceased companion was Principal Z. of the Gosport Chapter at the time of his death, and was much esteemed by a large circle of Masonic friends.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—With the decreasing days and changing temperatures the digestion becomes impaired, the liver disordered, and the mind despondent unless the cause of the irregularity be expelled from the blood by an alterative like these Pills. They go direct to the source of the evil, thrust out all impurities from the circulation, reduce distempred organs to their natural state, and correct all defective and contaminated secretions. Such easy means of instituting health, strength, and cheerfulness should be in possession of all whose stomachs are weak, whose minds are much harassed, or whose brains are overworked. Holloway's is essentially a blood-tempering medicine, whereby its influence, reaching the remotest fibre of the frame, effects a universal good. —[ADVT.]

Reviews.

THE ILLUSTRATED LEOPOLD SHAKESPEARE.

Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.
We have received the first part of the "Leopold Shakespeare," to be completed in nineteen parts, and which "aims," the preface tells us, "at being one of the completest editions before the public." It is dedicated to our Royal and illustrious Bro. Prince Leopold, and is published with all that effect of artistic illustration and typographic excellence which Messrs. Cassell have at their command, and so often and so strikingly evidence. The work promises to be a great success, and a most interesting and valuable addition to the editions of Shakespeare. It has an "introduction" by Mr. Furnival, which will be appreciated by many readers, and Professor Delius Bonn is the authority for the chronological sequence of the plays. We shall watch the progress of this work with deep interest.

ANSWER TO THE PROCLAMATION OF M. M. TAIT, G.M. OF QUEBEC. By Dr. G. BAYNES, Prov. G.M., S.C., Montreal.

This is an able and forcible reply to the incriminations and excommunications of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. We think, to say the truth, there is "a good deal in it." It is clear to us that (1st) the original theory of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, as regards the Scotch and English lodges, which preferred to keep up allegiance to their "constituting authority" is bad in law Masonic, and absolutely untenable; and (2ndly), it is also evident that the position of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, to say the least of it, is somewhat hazy and shaky in itself; and (3rdly), that for the Grand Lodge of Scotland (after all is said and done), a good deal, Masonically speaking, might be put forward by friends and allies. For the position, let us note it well, is simply this,—when we have put on one side the verbiage of pamphleteers and cleared away the rubbish which some have spoken and written about it. The Grand Lodge of England has always kept up a Prov. Grand Master of Montreal (though we believe the Prov. Grand Lodge is dormant), and this state of things is expressly acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Canada. The Grand Lodge of Quebec is a "swarm" from the Grand Lodge of Canada, under peculiar circumstances, and cannot ignore the "Concordats" of the Grand Lodge of Canada. If it does we cannot think the Grand Lodge of Scotland wrong in refusing to acknowledge the Grand Lodge of Quebec, except on its own terms. It is also patent, by this time, as we always felt sure, that the sympathy and support of the Grand Lodges of America are not so sure to be accorded to the Grand Lodge of Quebec, inasmuch as the reality of a lodge warrant, when legal and good, by Masonic law, national and international, is upheld in America, for the best of reasons, as strongly as by us in England, and Scotland. We recommend all who seek to make good the old adage, "audi alteram partem," to study Bro. Baynes's brochure.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1878.

This important report merits study by English brethren. We are glad to observe how carefully and how Masonically all the American Grand Lodge proceedings are carried on, and how truly their principles of thought and action accord with ours. To the able pen of Bro. Clifford McCalla, the Editor of the *Keystone*, the report is evidently much indebted, as is gracefully admitted. He is one of the most rising and promising young Masons in Pennsylvania.

HEROES OF GREAT BRITAIN IN PEACE AND WAR. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

To the effective and prolific press of these world-known publishers we are indebted for this new, handsomely got up, and interesting publication, and which we commend especially to the notice of the young. Some one has said that we are "overdone nowadays with heroes and heroines," and that it is too much for common average humanity; and there is, perhaps, some truth in the statement, for there is, no doubt, a "touch of invidiousness" in proclaiming that a person is a "hero" or "heroine;" it is lifting them out of the crowd of fellow mortals. There is a great objection to Papal "beatification" of saintly persons, inasmuch as it can only, after all, be the "hero worship" of "subjectivity," at the very best, and we confess that we have always ourselves felt that it is just possible that our mundane estimate of heroism may be a defective one, since contemporary enthusiasm is liable to err from over sentiment on the one hand, and personal idiosyncrasy on the other. Still we do not see why we should be debarred from considering such subjective estimates of heroism, since everything in this respect is "subjective," after all, here. The region of the "objective, (except in the case of revealed religion), can hardly be reached by the finite mind of mortality. At any rate, in things purely human, infallibility is beyond our reach, and objective truths can hardly be offered to us, except by infallibility which alone belongs to God, and not to man. We hope our readers will excuse the seriousness of these remarks in a review. Without, then, "going in," as our young men say, for hero worship too strongly, (though hero worship is no doubt a "cultus" of humanity), let us like to peruse, as far better than the morbid sensationalism of the hour, the biographies of the good, the brave, the high-minded, the pure, true men and true women.

The Lodge of Progress, No. 1786, will be consecrated at Freemasons' Hall on Thursday next, 17th inst., at 6 o'clock, by the V.W. Bro. John Hervey, Grand Secretary. All the founders are members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, and it is intended to work the new lodge on the Emulation ritual. The principal officers designate are Bros. W. A. Dawson, W.M.; F. R. Spaul, S.W.; A. C. Spaul, J.W.

THE GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

(Communiqué.)

Bro. Hubert begins his elaborate report (which takes up 24 closely printed pages) of the proceedings and scenes of the last convent at Paris in these words.

"C'est avec une certaine tristesse que nous prenons la plume pour parler de la session du Grand Orient de France."

"It is with a certain sadness that we take up the pen to tell of the session of the Grand Orient of France, in 1878."

And then he goes on to describe those proceedings and scenes in words which deserve all careful consideration from those who read the *Chaine d' Union*, for they are weighty words, and truthful words, most properly repudiating that unmasonic party spirit which seems so markedly to have characterised the sitting of this last noisy and turbulent assembly, whether at labour or refreshment. The result has been, as Bro. Hubert puts it, to make Freemasonry something else beside and beyond Freemasonry and to render all most anxious for the future, especially of an assembly which deliberates without dignity, and legislates without consideration. The last Grand Orient has practically asserted Revolution abroad and at home, has put forward a denial of legitimate Masonic and human authority, just as it has repudiated all belief in God.

The revision of the Ritual is to be proceeded with and settled at the next Convent in a nihilistic and destructive sense altogether, and the erasure of the venerable and reverent formula "A la gloire du Grand Architecte de l'Univers," is now only a question of time, and will, sooner or later, be the "order of the day."

To Bro. Hubert, and the minority which acted with him, all English Masons will offer hearty thanks and good wishes, for it required no little moral courage to stand up amid so hostile and unruly an assembly and uphold of true principles of Cosmopolitan Masonry, now out of fashion in France.

We give a few of Bro. Hubert's striking words to "point the moral and adorn the tale":—

"It seems to us, and we are not the only persons who have expressed the same opinion, that the General Assembly of the Grand Orient was not sufficiently held in that order and fraternal procedure which ought to characterise all such Masonic reunions, and without which they greatly risk the chance of falling into chaos, tumult, antagonism, and recrimination. This state of things presented itself too often in the session of 1878. A certain number of brethren belonging to the group of adherents of the erasure, without restriction of the affirmation of belief in God, &c., placed themselves side by side, in order to be better able to act as one man in the course of every debate which might arise in those meetings, and thus to exercise a truly moral and material purpose in this assembly. Certainly our brethren neglected nothing to reach their end. It is much to be regretted, and we say it openly, for then everyone would be better informed and better able to appreciate judiciously the facts, that the "Bulletin Officiel du Grand Orient de France" does not reproduce our meetings in their integrity of discussion, of tumult, of interruptions, of interpellations, of vehemence, &c. There would be in all this great teaching, and perhaps we might avoid all that we were witnesses of, especially in the session of 1878, meetings more full of noise than of labour."

And here, "pour le moment," we are constrained to leave French Freemasonry. We can only hope for it better days, and a "locus penitentiae." We feel bound once more to express to Bro. Hubert our earnest and grateful sense of the gallant fight he has made against revolutionary change and irreligious innovation. The hypocrisy of the plea of toleration is absolutely sickening.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTHUMBRIA.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Alnwick on Tuesday last, under the presidency of the Earl Percy, R.W.G.M. A full report will appear in our next. After the lodge business a sumptuous banquet was given at Alnwick Castle, where, in responding to the toast of his health, Bro. Lord Percy alluded to what he characterised as a lurking notion that he had copied the example of the Marquis of Ripon, and he said there was not the shadow of a foundation for such a report. He was not a Roman Catholic. (Great cheers.) There was nothing to be ashamed of in anyone becoming a Roman Catholic, or in joining any religious denomination; but there was in being afraid to avow it. He repeated he was not a Roman Catholic, and, please God, he never would be. (Loud cheers: the company rising and waving their handkerchiefs.) In conclusion, his lordship hoped they never would have occasion to regret his occupying the chair.

At the meeting of the Sheffield Town Council on Wednesday it was stated that the Duke of Norfolk had decided to give three recreation grounds to the town for its use for ever. The grounds are situated at Brightside and Attercliffe, two crowded suburbs, and comprise twenty-six acres.

The Installation meeting of the Paxton Lodge will take place at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham on Saturday the 26th inst., Bro. F. H. Goddard is the W.M. designate.

Bro. A. Best, on Thursday last was granted a license by the Middlesex Magistrates, for music and dancing for the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, London.

Bro. Æneas J. McIntyre, Q.C. Grand Registrar, has been elected master of the Needlemakers' Company, his Wardens being Mr. E. B. Webb and Bro. Sir C. Bright.

HERVEY LODGE, No. 1260.—A report of the proceedings at this lodge, on Wednesday last, is in type, and will appear in our next.

NOTES ON ART, &c.

On Wednesday week last, at midday, the Mayor of Reading (Mr. J. Silver), attended by the Corporation of the borough, opened a loan exhibition of oil and water-colour paintings, engravings, and photographs in Victoria-hall, in that town. Among the contributors are Mr. Walter, M.P., Mr. E. Hermon, M.P., Mr. George Palmer, M.P., and Sir Charles Russell, M.P. The collection is large and valuable, and comprises the works of many old and modern masters, including Vandyck, Titian, Rubens, Gainsborough, Canaletti, Sir John Gilbert, Millais, Birket Foster, Rivière, and Teniers. There are several pictures which attracted considerable notice when exhibited at the Royal Academy this year. The exhibition has been got up for the purpose of encouraging and developing a taste for higher art among the working classes, a similar exhibition held in the town four years ago having been attended with unexpected success. In opening the exhibition, the Mayor spoke of the great value of such undertakings, and expressed a hope that the aims which they had in view would be fully realised. The exhibition will remain open for a fortnight at very low charges.

The Grosvenor Gallery will reopen in December for a winter exhibition of drawings by the Old Masters and water-colour paintings.

The Shakespeare Memorial Buildings at Stratford-upon-Avon are being actively proceeded with, and the library and picture-gallery were begun last week.

One subsidiary result of the late Eastern changes in the extension of the area of the Roman alphabet. The Austro-Hungarian Government has adopted for Bosnia and Herzegovina the Croato-Slav dialect in Roman type, instead of the Cyrillic type used by the Ottoman Government. The occupation of the Dobrudja by the Roumans is attended by the use of the Roman character, which will, however, be displaced in Bessarabia by the Russian.—*Athenæum*.

A silver medal, the freedom of the company, and, with the consent of the Court of Alderman, the freedom of the City of London, are this year offered as prizes by the Company of Turners for the best specimen of hand turning in wood, and diamond cutting and polishing. The competition is open to all workmen, whether masters, journeymen, or apprentices of the trade in England. A large medal will be given as second prize, and certificates and rewards in money will be assigned to competitors according to merit. The freedom of the company, a sum of money, and, with the consent of the Court of Alderman, the freedom of the City are also offered for the best piece of pottery thrown on the wheel in one piece without joints and not afterwards shaved or turned in any way or glazed, and silver medals, a bronze medal, certificates of merit, and money prizes for proficiency in the art in other respects. The Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who is a member of the company, has placed £20 at the disposal of the Court for competition in diamond cutting and polishing, and £15 towards the wood, and £15 towards the pottery money prizes, while the Court itself contributes £50.

A better proof of the importance of the newly-developed industry of ostrich-farming could hardly be given than the brief announcement made recently in the South African press that at a public sale of ostriches at Middleburg twenty pairs of breeding ostriches realised an average of nearly £200 per pair. The lowest price given for a single couple was £130, and as much as £285 was paid for one pair of birds. We believe even these prices have been exceeded in the case of well-known breeders. When it is remembered that a few years ago ostriches could be procured in South Africa for the catching, and were purchased for a mere trifle for exhibition purposes in this country, whereas at the present time a live ostrich does not exist in London, the importance of the birds on the ostrich-farms of Cape Colony may readily be realised. Even the Zoological Society of London does not possess a single specimen of the African ostrich; the late birds exhibited in Regent's-park were poisoned by the idiocy of visitors who, amused to see the birds swallow stones and other hard substances, used to throw coppers into the paddock, the consequence being that the birds were killed by the verdigris thus engendered in their crops. Even the eggs of the bird, once commonly collected as curiosities, are now hardly obtainable, being reserved for breeding purposes. And while such keen competition exists for the birds themselves, their produce is also eagerly sought for. At a recent sale of ostrich feathers at Port Elizabeth a parcel of selected "bloods" realised the fancy price of £67 15s. per lb., or about 15s. for each separate feather. Similarly high prices were paid for other qualities, and this notwithstanding a large increase in the supply. The following figures will show the rapid increase in this trade. In 1860 the quantity of ostrich feathers exported from the Cape of Good Hope was 2297 lbs., valued at £19,261. Ten years later the quantity had increased more than twelfold and the value fivefold. In 1873 the quantity was 31,581 lbs. and the value £159,679, while last year the value had increased to £393,406.—*The Colonies*.

A competition for the vacant scholarship of the Society of Arts was held at the National Training School for Music on Monday week last. The examiners were Mr. Arthur Sullivan, principal, and Mr. Ernest Pauer, of the Board of Principal Professors. There were 12 candidates, of ages varying from 12 to 19 years. The scholarship was awarded to Mr. Ernest Crook, violinist, aged 14 years. The examiners regret that there were no scholarships to award to Miss Sandwith, Miss Bigwood, and Miss Tasagni (violinists), and Miss Wood (pianiste), who are commended for their talents and achievements. In accordance with the announcement previously made, preference was given to a violinist in the award.

The Mansion-house Princess Alice Relief Fund now amounts to upwards of £34,600. The Abercrombie Colliery Explosion Fund about £26,500.

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.

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

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Further particulars may be obtained of the Publisher, 198, Fleet-street, London.

Answers to Correspondents.

CORRESPONDENTS are respectfully requested to write their communications on one side of the paper only.

We have received several other letters, besides those which appear to-day, with respect to the Fête at Trocadero, which we do not think advisable to print. We acknowledge with thanks H. J. W.'s communication in this matter.

W. DARLEY.—On the whole, inadmissible.

BRO. ALBERT.—Received with thanks.

INITIATION.—In light at the N.E. corner.

A COLONIAL M.M.—The installation of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. took place on the 28th April, 1875, at the Albert Hall.

PAST MASTER.—We think it better not to publish your letter.

P.P.G.W.—Answer in our next.

P. PROV. G.D.—Sir Henry Edwards was appointed Grand Superintendent of the province of W. Yorkshire May 23rd of the present year.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Hull Packet;" "West London Express;" "Die Bauhutte;" "Broad Arrow;" "Bradford Observer;" "Buxton Herald;" "Borough of Hackney Standard;" "Risorgimento;" "Touchstone;" "La Chaine d'Union;" "Der Triangel;" "Boletín Oficial de la Masoneria Simbolica de Colon;" "The Sentinel of Mauritius;" "Corner Stone;" "History of the Airedale Lodge, No. 387;" "Freemasons' Repository;" "Hebrew Leader;" "The Constitutional Changes in the Grand Orient of France, and the Consequent Action of the Grand Lodge of England;" "An Address delivered before the D.G.L. of Japan, by R.W. Bro. C. H. Dallas, D.G.M.;" "Minutes of the Summer Communication of the D.G. Lodge of Japan;" "Masonic Newspaper;" "Bundes Presse."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BRERETON.—On the 1st inst., at Ucheldre, Holyhead, the wife of Captain Wm. P. B. Brereton, of a son.

TRELOAR.—On the 6th inst., at Rivercourt-road, Hammsmith, the wife Mr. Robert Treloar, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SMITH—NORMAN.—On the 1st inst., at St. Mary's Stafford, by the Rev. Canon Lonsdale, the Rev. Theodore Smith, sub-minister of St. Mary's, to Sarah J. B. Norman, daughter of the Rector.

DEATHS.

BENNETT.—On the 5th inst., at Buxton, Derbyshire, Mr. Thomas Bennett, in his 66th year.

DURRANT.—On the 5th inst., at Braishfield Vicarage, Fanny, the wife of the Rev. John Durrant, Vicar of Braishfield, Hants.

THE FREEMASON,

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1878.

FRENCH FREEMASONRY.

We have perused with great care and concern the report of the proceedings of the Grand Orient of France in the last *Monde Maçonnique*, which in all probability will be found to differ but very little, if anything, from the official publication of the *Bulletin du Grand Orient*. We have read, we repeat, this report with great care, but with greater pain, because it demonstrates to all alike too clearly, alas, in what direction French Freemasonry is rapidly tending. As our correspondent from Paris, describing the same meeting, well put it, it is hastening on with giant strides to "something," which is not Freemasonry: We have also studied Bro. Hubert's elaborate report in the *Chaine d'Union*.

We feel, that as far as we are concerned, we have but one path to pursue, one duty to fulfil. We have endeavoured to place before our readers from time to time a correct "coup d'œil" of the progress of affairs in France, the real state of the case, not only what is and must be patent to us as "outsiders," but what is well known to French Freemasons as the real "dessus des cartes," to use a French term, the true meaning, that is of all that is going on. In our humble opinion the French Grand Orient by its successive acts of folly and perversity, has, if we may so say, "unmasoned" itself, and has made a "tabula rasa," or "clean sweep," of all the ancient and sacred teachings of Cosmopolitan Freemasonry. We need hardly refer our readers to the startling revelations of an "eye witness" of the proceedings of the last "Couvent," and which appeared in a recent *Freemason*, neither need we reiterate the account of Bro. Caubet, or the lucid report of Bro. Hubert to convince our readers, we feel sure, how correct our own anticipations have been of what must be the inevitable "corollary" of previous proceedings, and which, therefore, have by no means taken us by surprise. Our readers will kindly bear in mind, that we have always, though deeply deploring the fact, realized, to use a common expression, what the movement party in the French Grand Orient was "driving at," and what it would inevitably achieve; and our words have been verified in every little particular. Indeed, it would be a waste of time to seek to point out to our readers, not only how alarming is the situation, how dangerous the "outlook" for French Freemasonry, but how menacing and antagonistic are such revolutionary proceedings on the part of the French Grand Orient, to the peace, harmony, and welfare of the great family of universal Freemasonry. But having thus, as we think, done our duty, in this respect, openly, calmly, straightforwardly, with deep regret, and certainly with no personal resentments, or prejudiced opinions, we do not feel called upon to continue in these peaceful pages of ours such painful and profitless discussions. Life is too short for such continual protests, for such abject reports of hateful controversies, and revolutionary resolutions. The syllabus of Ultramontanism is now eclipsed by the syllabus of Ultrapositivism, by the fashionable ineptitudes of the "Morale Independante," by the fiery proposals of angry partisans. Freemasonry in all this "embroglio" cuts a sorry figure, and seems to be forgotten. And, therefore, we give up these painful reports of what is not and never can be Masonry, which is something, we know not what, "uncouth, unclean," and we wash our hands of it, and will have none of it. We shall leave henceforth French Freemasonry to the patronage of its own friends, and the sympathy of its own acolytes. We cannot afford as a Masonic journal to occupy our crowded columns, which contain so much to interest and edify English, Scottish, Irish, Canadian, and American Masons, and our brethren "all the world over," with the sayings and doings of a non-Masonic body, with the programme of a "secret political society," with the proceedings of an association

ashamed to avow its belief in God, and which is now intent on erasing from all its circulars the venerable and reverent ascription to the Most High! To French Freemasonry until better days, until a happier epoch, which, we trust, may yet providentially arrive for it, the *Freemason* says to-day, sorrowfully, but seriously, "VALÉ."

THE TOWN COMMISSIONERS OF MULLINGAR.

Mullingar is a town of no "miserable prisons," in county Westmeath, in "Oireland," which boasts among other articles of "bigotry and virtue" of a most intelligent body of "Town Commissioners." It seems, that these sapient worthies have "been passing" a resolution about those "wicked fellows" the "Freemasons," who, it is well known, are many of them "mighty bad characters," and "extrremely disrespectful to the Pope and Cardinal Paul," and not only this, but they are "inemies to religion, to morality, to decency, and to respectability!" Accordingly this highly respectable and cultivated Roman Catholic board has had a "slap" at these "haythen and worse nor haythen." Imitating the upright and admirable and benevolent action of a Roman Catholic Board of Guardians which lately refused to allow a little Roman Catholic girl from the workhouse to enter the service of a respectable mistress, but who was base enough to be a Protestant, this Roman Catholic Board of Guardians, objecting "on principle," or probably on no principle at all, to the promotion and propagation of Freemasonry in Mullingar, has asked the promoters of a new Masonic Hall, to "abandon an undertaking, so painfully offensive to the inhabitants" of that well-known town! Our contemporary the *Leeds Daily News*, (for which we are indebted to a correspondent, and to whom we tender our thanks,) particularly asks "is it one of the functions of a local board to sit in judgment and to publicly denounce or 'repudiate' the principles of their fellow-burgesses, and to presume that all the evil consequences mentioned must necessarily result from the propagation of principles of which they can form no opinion except from the fact that they are bound to repudiate them by a foreign mandate?" So far it seems that these wise men of Mullingar understand that the "principles of Freemasonry, which every Roman Catholic is bound to repudiate, must tend to promote an estrangement in the amity and good-will which have hitherto existed between Roman Catholics and Protestants, and must of necessity cause a disruption of social and business intercourse which we shall be pained to see introduced." Anything more absurd we have never read, anything more absolutely ridiculous we have never yet encountered in all that garbage of Ultramontane folly and violence, which it is our painful lot to have constantly to peruse. We quite agree with our contemporary when he says, "The responsibility for any unpleasant feeling which may arise in Mullingar is more likely to be laid at the door of those who have taken this extraordinary step for promoting a kindly social feeling and an amicable business relationship amidst the various classes of Mullingar." That the Freemasons of Mullingar will be affected by such a beautiful "outcome" of rampant intolerance, we do not believe, but quite endorse the words of our contemporary, when he says, "The Freemasons of Mullingar will probably feel that their civil governors have misunderstood their functions, and those outside the mystic circle may regard this gratuitous condemnation of private opinion as a meddling interference with the liberty of the subject." "Any how," as they say in Ireland, this proof of an unchanged "animus" of hostility and bigotry which marks "Rome" everywhere, will not be without its use to those who seem disposed to carry on a flirtation with that remarkable but dangerous body, which, unchanged in its destructive theories, and consistent in its hearty intolerance, too often only smiles but to betray, only blusters but to intimidate. "Semper eadem," it never loses sight of its unvarying hatred of freedom of conscience and true civil and religious liberty, and like as in

the last allocution of even the new Pope, would deny to all outside the pale of its own communion not only the privileges of education, but even the rights of belief.

THE MASONIC FESTIVAL AT THE TROCADERO.

It appears that the alleged invitation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has gone not from the "Grand Orient," if it has gone at all, as we felt was an impossibility, but from the "Grand Conseil" of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. There is this difference between the two bodies, that whereas one has erased "belief in God" from its constitutions, and is now intent on doing so from its ceremonial, the other continues to make a quasi-Theistic profession of faith. We all of us know the extreme kindness and geniality of our Royal Grand Master, his willingness to oblige, his desire to give satisfaction to all who approach him or appeal to him. But, as honest journalists, we also express, what we fancy will be the unanimous feeling of the Masonic body in England, namely, that at this juncture, and under special circumstances, great caution is necessary. Knowing something of what is going on abroad, we only fear that the gracious condescension of our Royal chief may lead to a mistaken and mischievous use of his high name. We cannot profess to think the proposal a safe one, or a judicious one. Up to the present we have no official information that His Royal Highness has received, much less accepted the invitation.

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

We rejoice to hear, and to see announced in our advertising columns, that the publisher of the "Masonic Magazine" has secured the able pen of Anthony Trollope for the Christmas Number of the "Masonic Magazine." Several distinguished brethren will contribute to that number, and we have every reason to believe that it will be alike a credit to the Craft and pleasant to its readers. We congratulate our brethren on the advance of Masonic serial literature.

THE FESTIVAL OF THE A. AND A. S. RITE IN PARIS.
(Communique.)

Referring to the notice which we publish elsewhere, in respect of the approaching Masonic fete to be given by the Supreme Council of France on the 24th inst., we have been asked to give the following information on authority. The fete will be held in the great hall of the Trocadero, as announced in our notice; all discussions on political and religious subjects will be avoided. An opening address will be delivered by Bro. Cremieux, Sovereign Grand Commander, who will deliver a second address on the aims and objects of Freemasonry; this will be followed by an address to be delivered by Bro. Emanuel Arago; and the speeches concluded, recitations by artistes of the Comedié Française, and musical selections by well-known performers from the opera will conclude the proceedings. In the evening a banquet, at which Freemasons only will be admitted, will be held at the Continental Hotel. We lay these details before our readers in order that all English Masons may understand the real position of affairs. Tickets of admission may be obtained, as mentioned in the notice, at the Secretariat of the Supreme Council, No. 46, Rue de la Victoire; and it should be understood that the fete is given by the Supreme Council, and not by the Grand Orient of France.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even 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.]

THE MASONIC FETE IN PARIS.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I have been startled at reading a copy of "Reuter's Telegram" to the effect that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is to be entertained by the Masonic lodges of Paris at a grand fete on the 23rd inst. The intelligence

is in the *Daily News*, and also in others. What does this mean? Is it desirable for our M.W.G.M. to identify himself in any way with the "Grand Orient of France" under present circumstances? Knowing how well you are informed as to Masonic matters in France, I shall be glad of your kindly relieving the minds of many brethren on this most important subject, for is it not likely that our M.W.G.M. may be entertained in part by Atheists?

Yours fraternally,
The Tower, 5th October, 1878.

[We know nothing "officially" on the subject to which our correspondent alludes, nor was it likely that we should do so. We have seen the reports in the papers, which, as far as the Grand Orient was concerned, we felt sure were "canards." The *Times* of the 7th gives the following explanation of the matter:—"The Masonic festival to be held at the Trocadero on the 24th, and to which the Prince of Wales is invited, is due to the initiative of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. This section of French Masons is not affected by the recent decision of the English lodge, for it adheres to the declaration of theism expunged by the Grand Orient." See also *Communique*.—Ed. F.M.]

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I perceive by a Reuter's telegram in the *Standard* newspaper of Friday, the 3rd inst., that "a grand fete will be given to the Prince of Wales, on the 23rd inst., at the Grand Hotel, by the French Masonic lodges."

The recent abrogation of Art. 1, respecting the acknowledgement of a Supreme Being renders this a somewhat singular proceeding, when viewed in connection with the very proper condemnation passed on it by our Grand Lodge in England. Or it is a sign that the Grand Orient of France has returned to its senses and restored the landmark to its position? If not, it would seem strange that our admirable and illustrious Grand Master could permit himself to be present "in partibus."

But, perhaps, there is some other explanation.
I remain, dear Sir and Brother, sincerely and fraternally yours,

KENNETH R.H. MACKENZIE, IX°,
S.G. Sec. Swedenborgian Rite.

[See Editorial Note above.]

A. AND A. SCOTTISH RITE IN NEW ZEALAND.
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—
I have to thank Bro. Colonel Clerke for his courtesy in, so promptly, calling my attention to the decree by the Supreme Council of Egypt, dated 7th September last.

I was some months ago made aware of the negotiations which have resulted in that decree, over which the Supreme Councils of England and Scotland are so jubilant. But the result of these negotiations is fatal to their recent contention, that the Supreme Council of Egypt was an "irregular" body, and that it derived its origin from a "spurious" source. These allegations, which I long ago shewed to be unfounded, are now admitted to have been so! and, in consideration of the Supreme Council of Egypt annulling its decrees constituting the Supreme Council of New Zealand, it has been recognised by the Supreme Councils, which have seceded from the confederation of Lausanne viz:—Charlestown, Scotland, Ireland and Greece.

But the agreement made by these Councils with that of Egypt, does not affect the constitution of the Supreme Council of New Zealand. It is now admitted that its charter was granted by a body possessing the power to confer it, and it is thus shown to be a valid instrument. It does not contain a reservation authorising its grantors to revoke or annul it; and, without such a reservation, it can be neither revoked nor annulled. It is a completed, signed, sealed and delivered deed, and it has been acted on, for a period of upwards of two years, with the entire approval of Egypt. Upon its faith considerable sums of money have been spent, Masons have been admitted to the various degrees of the A. and A. Scottish Rite, and consistories and chapters have been formed in various parts of the Colony. If onerous deeds could be revoked and annulled in such circumstances, there would be an end to the finality of all Masonic and business transactions.

But, further, what is said to be annulled? It is simply the decrees authorising the formation of a Supreme Council in New Zealand, and certain patents, diplomas and certificates issued to that country in absence. The Supreme Council of Egypt does not, and it could not annul what has followed in these decrees, the creation of the Supreme Council of New Zealand—its consistories and Chapters; nor does it annul the diplomas and degrees conferred by that body. All these are beyond question, and are left unchallenged and intact. Every person knows that nothing can result from the annulling of an exhausted and implemented decree. Its existence is only valuable as evidence of the authority for the performed acts it authorised; and if destroyed or lost, that evidence can be otherwise supplied.

But why should there not be a Supreme Council for New Zealand? The declared object of the constitutions of the order is, to create Supreme Councils in every state and province of the Globe, their mission being declared to be that "of everywhere occupying themselves with works of peace and compassion." At the date of the constitutions the existence of Australasia was unknown, and it is therefore unprovided for in the constitutions; but it stands now in very much the same position towards European powers as North America then stood, and as regards it the constitutions provide, not as in the case of Europe, that "each great nation of Europe, Kingdom, or Empire," and, in the case of Asia, Africa, &c., that "each Empire, Sovereign State, or Kingdom," shall have each a Council, but that "in

States and Provinces, as well on the continent, as in the Islands whereof North America consists, there will be two Councils." It is not provided that these states and provinces shall, as in the case of Europe, and the other continents, be "sovereign" states, nor that the Councils to be so formed shall be created only by the Supreme Councils of the European Kingdoms, to which the States and Provinces in North America then respectively belonged. Their formation is left to any Supreme Council, or Sovereign Grand Inspector General, irrespective of nationality, acting in terms of the constitutions. The Supreme Council of Egypt, at the date of its charter to New Zealand, was in the unqualified enjoyment of every privilege of a Supreme Council, and one of these was the creation of Supreme Councils in places where none already existed. This privilege as regards New Zealand it lawfully exercised.

But it is contended that New Zealand, being a dependency of the British Crown, is part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that it thus falls within another provision of the constitutions, which provides that in each great nation of Europe, "and in each Kingdom or Empire there shall be a single Council." Although a dependency of Britain New Zealand does not fall within this law, for it is neither a part of the United Kingdom nor of any nation, Kingdom or Empire of Europe. It is a country of another continent, inhabited by an unconquered native race, and by colonists of varied nationalities, possessing a separate constitution and Government. In fact the very expression "dependency" shows it to be separate territory, and, as already shown, it is one of those "States and Provinces" which the constitutions declare to be "places that may properly possess a Supreme Council."

But even assuming New Zealand to be a part of the United Kingdom, which it is not, it is of as distinct a nationality as either England, Scotland or Ireland, which each has its separate Council. Surely New Zealand is equally entitled to one,—particularly as we find these very three Councils, with flagrant inconsistency, recognising Canada as a separate jurisdiction from themselves. The difference between the Canadian Colony and that of New Zealand it is impossible to discover.

The great zeal these Councils evince in carrying out the provisions of the constitutions, in the cases of others, is lost sight of in their own! Not only so, but they have actually extorted a statement from the Supreme Council of Egypt that all the three have a legal existence in the United Kingdom, and a joint jurisdiction over New Zealand! And they have done this, although the constitutions,—the observance of which they preach, and under which they profess to exist, expressly provide that only a single Supreme Council shall exist "in each great nation of Europe." The contention they make against the Supreme Council of New Zealand on the strength of that regulation is manifestly insincere, and comes, indeed, with bad grace from any one of the three. By such a declaration the regulation just referred to is not only ignored, but the existence of no less than three Councils is sought to be legalised in New Zealand.

As regards the annulling of the diploma in favour of brethren resident in Scotland, I am in a position to state that these diplomas were purely honorary, and were conferred on these brethren unsolicited. In order to facilitate the recognition of Egypt they readily consented to their recall. But no such request was made to New Zealand, and no such consent has been given.

The narrative given of the transaction in question by your Scotch correspondent is wanting in the impartiality of the historian, and in many respect it is inaccurate. Not only were the two brethren he names admitted 33° by Egypt, but, as he knows, the late Grand Secretary of Scotland, a 31° of Scotland, David Murray Lyon, one of the most erudite and distinguished of Masonic historians, presently Grand Secretary of Scotland, and the present Provincial Grand Master of Aberdeen (City) Province also received the Degree. The profound Masonic knowledge of these brethren is well-known, and your readers may rely on the fact that they thoroughly satisfied themselves of the genuineness of the Egyptian Degrees before accepting them, in face of the ridicule attempted to be thrown on them, and the warnings against them referred to by your correspondent.

It is interesting to observe another statement of your Scotch correspondent, that brother John Whyte-Melville, the head of the Supreme Council of Scotland, wrote to the Grand Orient of France, requesting it not to confer a charter on New Zealand. Now the Supreme Council of Scotland professes to deny that that Grand Orient is a genuine Supreme Council; and, yet, by the very request made to it by Bro. Whyte-Melville is implied his Council's direct recognition of it! But Bro. Whyte-Melville's letter had not the effect which your correspondent ascribes to it, for the Grand Orient of France did agree to give the charter, being satisfied of the necessity of a Supreme Council in New Zealand, and that it was unoccupied territory.

Your correspondent further refers to the fact that the Grand Lodge of Scotland warned its members against the Supreme Council of New Zealand. This is true. But this was done because Bro. Whyte-Melville incorrectly represented to Grand Lodge that the Egyptian charter created in New Zealand, not only a Supreme Council, with which Grand Lodge had no concern, but also an independent Grand Lodge, which he indicated would cause the secession of its lodges. Your correspondent, however, does not add that Bro. Whyte-Melville also requested the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland not to recognise the Grand Orient of Egypt, for he said "should such recognition be accorded them it is difficult to see how the validity of this (the New Zealand) chapter can be impugned."

The Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland made, however, inquiry for themselves into the facts, and each unanimously found the Grand Orient of Egypt to be not the spurious body Bro. Whyte-Melville represented it was, but on the contrary a genuine Masonic power, and they publicly recognised it as such.

By this test, to which Bro. Whyte-Melville himself ap-

pealed, the charter of New Zealand is seen to have been valid from the first; and, to use his own words, "the whole affair," which he stated to be "ludicrous," ends in his own recognition of its genuineness!

Yours fraternally,

A 33°.

WARNING TO THE CHARITABLE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Knowing that your publication is as free to expose imposition, and thus protect the charitable, as it is to urge the true spirit of benevolence for any genuine case of distress, I wish, through your columns, to warn brethren against giving charity indiscriminately to individuals going about pretending to be Masons in distress.

A man was about this neighbourhood last week, calling upon various brethren, and calling himself Bro. Szapira, of Morning Lodge, No. 351, Frankfort-on-Maine. He introduces himself by offering to sell books (a history of various religions), but soon lets you know he is begging for relief. We find that he has collected in this neighbourhood alone at least two pounds, in various amounts, although most of the older members refused to give, informing him that our lodge (1327) had a special fund (collected at the festive board of our meetings) from which such cases had to be relieved by one brother, who held the fund. I referred him to that brother myself, but it appears he did not succeed in that quarter, as our good Treasurer had heard too much of him previously.

When here I find he visited various public houses, where he spent money, and boasted about getting money from Freemasons of the neighbourhood.

No doubt when he left here he proceeded a few miles further to again carry on this very remunerative way of preying upon the kind feelings of those he calls brother Masons. I hope, however, if he is, that this may put a stop to it, and that he may meet with an introduction to the nearest police station, if he is, as some suspect, obtaining money, not only by begging (which of itself is unlawful) but by fraudulent pretences.

Many brethren here have experienced the worthlessness of those (and they have been several) who go about obtaining money under the cloak of Masonry. In one case, a few years ago, nearly a pound was collected at our lodge of instruction and handed to one who professed to be anxious for employment. I offered him constant employment myself, and he was to start work at eight o'clock the next morning, but instead of doing so, he went away, and was seen going towards London as early as six o'clock a.m., and somewhat later was again begging of Masons at Tottenham.

Our lodge has adopted a system now of having a fund from which to relieve cases that appear genuine, but individually [we are not supposed to give to such cases. I think in every lodge something of the sort should exist, because when these people find they can only succeed in obtaining about three or four shillings in a neighbourhood, and not that without severe testing, they will not be so likely to make a trade of it.

Yours fraternally,

I.P.M. 1327.

Waltham Cross,
October 2, 1878.

THE PROVINCIAL CHARITY JEWEL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Can you explain what this is? Is it to be a special and new provincial jewel, and under what authority is it to be conferred and worn? I do not understand it.

There is a "charity jewel" worn by resolution of Grand Lodge, but have the Provincial Grand Masters the right to institute new charity jewels? Or, is this only an adaptation and extension of the existing charity jewel?

Yours fraternally,

ENQUIRER.

[At present we confess that we do not quite understand the proposition.—Ed. F.M.]

PRECEDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Where in the toast list, and whether by itself, or jointly with any other, and, if so, with what toast, should the health of the Past Prov. G.M. appear, and is he R.W., V.W., or W.?

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

H. S. T.

[Best in the toast of the Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers. He is R.W.]

THE MARK DEGREE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

In looking over a recent number (August 31st) of the *Freemason*, my attention was drawn to the address of Bro. Lamonby, Chaplain 151, in which he remarks, "It is high time the Grand Craft Lodge (sic) and the Supreme Grand Chapter of England acknowledged the Mark Degree."

Now as Mark meetings rarely pass without some allusion of this kind, it may be respectful to that association that silence upon the subject should not always be retained, and, I trust, therefore, it may not be considered intrusive to ask our brother for some further information on the subject.

I think it will be conceded that when a right is claimed, or privilege asked for, it is incumbent on those so asking or claiming to give some evidence of 1st, what they are? 2nd, why they come? Also, in this case, thirdly, by what right they lay claim to affiliation with the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England? It is further necessary that such statements be made in plain English, and in accordance with common sense and truth.

I presume that on this subject being brought before the

Grand Lodge the first thing would be to produce the authentic history of Mark Masonry. Secondly, its ritual, and, indeed, all its processes to know, except its actual passwords. This would be imperative, otherwise the Grand Lodge would be asked to accept that of which it officially knew nothing.

This would seem also to be the opinion of our brother, since in proof of his claims, he refers us to its history as he understands it, and the beauty of its ritual.

As to this latter, it is satisfactory to have his assurance that it is beautiful, and it may be so, yet, as tastes differ, others might question the grammar, the good sense, and the truth it might contain. Thus what is vouched for as beautiful by some might seem to others devoid of those qualities in which true beauty alone consists.

In giving the history of Mark Masonry our brother has quoted two very unequal authorities, viz.: the Holy Scriptures and our late Bro. Oliver.

Now, the writings of Bro. Oliver are excellent commentaries on the rules of Freemasonry, as practised amongst us, but his authority as historian is simply nil, his pretended history absurd.

The other authority to which our friend refers is that of the Holy Scriptures, giving from them an abstract of the dealings of Solomon, King of Israel, with Hiram, King of Tyre, a narrative beautiful in itself and true.

Now, may I ask our brother what this narrative has to do with Mark Masonry, since the Holy text says not one word of Mark Masonry from end to end.

That Freemasonry is an ancient institution many truth speaking men agree, and surrounded as the subject is with great difficulty, would gladly welcome any historical contribution towards the solution of the question, and when a man of learning approaches the subject, it is with a sense of disappointment that one finds no real assistance towards the resolution desired.

It may further be fairly presumed that should he ever succeed in bringing his favourite topic under discussion at the Grand Lodge, he might there find an audience less inclined, than the one he lately addressed, to give him credit for historical accuracy. Some, indeed, might think that had so zealous a man as was King Solomon found any considerable number of his workmen forming themselves into secret associations, he might have distinguished their leader by a mark of approbation, similar to that mark by which he distinguished his brother Adonijah.

Indeed, it would be most easy logically to prove that such an association as a lodge of Mark Masons would have been an impossibility in that nation and race, and utterly unknown in its history.

Leaving this proof of what our friend informs us King Solomon did "to detect impostors," he leaves his argument like an ostrich egg in the desert to take care of itself, and carries us (it almost takes away our breath) right over to the middle ages, merely remarking that "leaving the scriptural age we find ample proof, if any were needed, that Mark Masonry was coeval with operative Craft Masonry," evidently considering the proof of its descent from King Solomon as altogether beneath his notice.

Glibly as all this is written, each line to the thinking man gives rise to important questions. Who can tell us anything authentic of Craft Masonry at the epoch to which he alludes? Who really knows whether it ever was operative? Surely a learned historian, who asserts that a certain institution was coeval with another institution, must know and have it in his power to tell us something credible of both those institutions at the time he mentions, and of which he professes to have "ample proof."

This information, however, he keeps to himself, remarking only that certain "marks" made by the builders of certain mediæval structures (a long way indeed from the time of King Solomon) are proofs—of what? Our author does not tell.

The copies of these marks which I have seen and I have sought, are merely nondescript figures, resembling no present Masonic signs, except so far as any other set of angular scratches might be said to do, and it is not too much to assert that they convey no meaning whatever, either in history, philology, or philosophy.

The question whether our present Masonry had an operative origin is settled by our friend on his mere assertion, whilst of the connection of the Masons of King Solomon with those of the middle ages he gives us no proof whatever. Why the poor Welshman in showing the identity between Monmouth and Macedon proved himself a better logician. Neither does our friend offer any proof of the connection of either with the Mark Masons, an association which arose "in this kingdom of ours" a comparatively few years since, and which we know all about.

I have no doubt our worthy brother is highly esteemed by all who know him, and his influence is only for good in his own sacred sphere. I would, however, ask him seriously (as he thus steps aside from his own sacred character and assumes that of the historian), the question, whether he thinks such a paper would be accepted by any learned society whatever, engaged in the research of truth?

Such historical evidence might have indeed been accepted from a Preceptor of a lodge of instruction, but from a man claiming to belong to a learned calling it is inexplicable.

Of course our brother and the audience he addressed are at liberty to believe whatever they please of King Solomon and his Masons, or Melrose Abbey, or "Time immemorial," whatever that may mean. We cannot however but remark that unless he is prepared with a deliverance very different from the one here presented, he had better defer his appeal to the Grand Lodge for the audience he desires, unto some future period of Masonic history, when every rule of evidence shall have been forgotten, and critical acumen be extinct.

Yours Fraternally, W. VINER B. BEDOLFE, M.D.,
P.M., P.Z., 1329.

THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

The following is the last report of this Society, to which I alluded in my last letter:—

"The thirty-eight District Committees of the Charity Organization Society have dealt with 1013 cases, exclusive of 372 vagrants and homeless persons, during the four weeks ending September 28th. In Class 1, 410 were dismissed as "not requiring relief" or otherwise ineligible. In Class 2, 260 were recommended to the guardians, local agencies, or private persons. In Class 3, 343 were assisted by grants, loans, employment, and letters for hospitals, &c."

By this it will be seen that four-fourteenths were dismissed as not requiring relief, and 260 were recommended, 343 were assisted. It would be a curious fact to ascertain what became of the 410, and how many of the 260 got relief.

Yours fraternally,

OMICRON.

MASONIC STUDENT.

Dear Bro. Kenning,

I see that Bro. Rob Morris, in the *New York Dispatch*, says that "Masonic Student" is Bro. Hughan. Now, with all respect and regard to my excellent friend, Bro. Hughan, he is not "Masonic Student," as he will no doubt confirm. But I am, as the Irishman said, "myself."

And more than this, I am a reality, and, as some of my friends say, "non levis umbra," if only a shadow, as far as the *Freemason* and *Masonic Magazine*, &c., are concerned.

Though extremely obliged to Bro. Morris for what he says of me, I am sorry he finds the style of the *Freemason* "heavy." Men's ideas differ. Perhaps his style some may think light. I venture to be of opinion that the *Freemason* hits the "juste milieu," as the French put it—the "happy mean," as we should say, and is neither too grave nor too gay, too heavy nor too light.

Claiming, therefore, for my personal identity and existence an actuality, which is not that of my esteemed confrere, W. James Hughan (whose own merits are enough for any one), I beg to subscribe myself once again,

Yours fraternally and obliged,

MASONIC STUDENT.

[Bro. Bickerton is not the publisher of the *Scottish Freemason*. Bro. George Kenning is the sole proprietor and publisher.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

Answers to the following questions in the next issue of the *Freemason* will be esteemed a favour:

1st. If a Worshipful Master at his installation appoints a brother, who is not a Past Master, to the office of Secretary, is it compulsory that such a brother should serve the office of Secretary three years before being entitled to the office of J.W.?

2nd. If a Worshipful Master elect has promised the Secretary of his lodge (who is not a P.M., and has only served the office of Secretary one year) that at the installation he will appoint him Junior Warden, but a Past Master of the lodge comes forward, and informs the W.M. elect that such a Secretary must serve three years as Secretary before he ought to be appointed J.W.?

Would the W.M. elect be acting against the rules or customs of the Craft in still persisting to appoint the Secretary to the office of J. Warden, and thus carry out his promise?

3rd. Is there any such law or custom as stated by the Past Master, viz.: that a Secretary (not a P.M.) must serve his office three years before being entitled to the Junior Warden's Collar?

Yours fraternally,

VERITY.

1. Certainly not.

2. The W.M. can so appoint him if he thinks well.

3. There is no law of the Craft on the subject. In some lodges service as Secretary is made preparatory to the Warden's chair, but it is merely a custom, and not law.—Ed. F.M.

CONSECRATION OF THE PIMLICO LODGE, No. 1772.

This new lodge was consecrated on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Morpeth Arms, Ponsonby-street, Millbank. The brethren who were present on the occasion were Bros. J. Boyd, P.M., P.G.P. (Consecrating Officer); H. G. Buss, Asst. G. Sec., D.C.; J. A. Rucker, P.M., P.G.D.; P. de Lande Long, P.M., P.G.D.; C. B. Payne, G. Tyler; Col. Peters, J.G.W. Middx.; W. Coombes, P.G.S.B. Middx.; Herbert Dicketts, 23, P.G.S.; J. Jermyn Boyd, 23; G. R. Shervill, P.M. 25; Charles Atkins, P.M. 27; D. H. Jacobs, P.M. 27; A. Head, 27; W. Carter, P.M. 141; Cobham, P.M. 141; T. Bull, P.M. 145; T. Baxter, 145; G. Everitt, P.M. 177; G. Stacey, P.M. 209; G. T. Carter, P.M. 382; E. C. Woodward, 382; Alfred Dawson, 421; E. J. Scott, P.M. 749; C. C. Ewbank, J.W. 803; J. C. Cox, P.M. 1257; Howard Reynolds, 1319; G. F. Swan, P.M. 1321; Alfred Wade, P.M. 1449; J. R. Nicholls, S.W. 1567; W. Elliot, 1567; J. Kiallmark, P.M. 1608; C. Brewer, S.W. 1608; T. H. Hartley, 1608; J. Lawler, 92; Montem Smith, 179; John Palmer, P.G.S.W. Berks and Bucks, P.M.; Caleb Holden, P.G. Treas. Berks and Bucks, P.M.; John Hunt, P.M.; John Elliott, P.M.; John Mason, P.S. G.D. Middx., P.M.; F. A. Pemberton, H. Haycock, and H. Massey, P.M. 619 (*Freemason*).

The ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. John Boyd, Past Grand Pursuivant, The S.W. chair was occupied by Bro. John A. Rucker, P.G.D.; and that of J.W. by Bro. Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D. Bro. H. G. Buss, Assistant Grand Secretary, acted as D.C.; Bro. John

Elliott, as Secretary, and Bro. C. B. Payne, Grand Tyler, as Inner Guard.

After the lodge had been opened, and the customary formalities observed, Bro. John Boyd delivered the address and oration. In doing so he said.

Brethren.—In the introduction to the lecture on the First Tracing Board it states, that the usages and customs observed among Masons have ever corresponded with those of the ancient Egyptians, to which they bear a near affinity. Again, in another of our lectures, we find that the history of the Royal Arch staves, is that of the rod of Moses, of which they are symbolical—the earliest mention of the rod is traditional. It is said that when our first parents by transgression fell from their original state of innocence, and were expelled from paradise into a world of woe, Adam, bending under the oppression of guilt, to support his weary limbs, took in his hands a branch of that fatal tree which had occasioned his disgrace. The Almighty foreseeing the miserable consequences of sin and the necessity for divine interference to counteract its effects, not only permitted Adam to take with him the rod, but afterwards miraculously preserved it for His own purposes. I need not upon the present occasion follow out this historical legend, further than to say that eventually we find the rod symbolised by the W.M.'s gavel as an emblem of his authority, power, and dignity; whether we accept these and other legends or not, there can be no doubt, that Masonry has, in some shape or form, existed from the most remote periods of antiquity, and, possibly, been handed down by a chosen few, essentially unchanged by time, unimpaired and uncontrolled by prejudice. This, however, I am neither going to uphold nor dispute, I think it is quite sufficient for us to know that we belong to an institution that has virtue for its aim, the glory of God for its object, and the eternal welfare of man considered in every part, point, and letter of its ineffable mysteries. That Masonry is a peculiar institution no one can dispute or deny, as a body we interfere with no one, directly we pass the portals and Inner Guard, and enter the lodge, we leave all political and religious discussions to the outer world, and properly so; but the outer world is not always satisfied, the outer world will have a grievance against us, we have, or we have not, secrets; if we have, and they are any good, why do we not impart them? If we have no secrets, why do we pretend we have? Again, we are a selfish body, we collect vast sums of money, which we expend upon ourselves in feasting, and frivolous paraphernalia, now, here, I think we must have a great Masonic secret, for if we expend our subscriptions in banquets, appendages, and ornaments, how do we manage to have any for other purposes? If we lay our money out upon eating and drinking, how do we contrive to educate, clothe, feed, and house over four hundred boys and girls; provide for some three hundred adults; and give substantial or temporary relief annually to some hundreds of others? This, I think, you will agree with me must be a marvellous secret, and one that no other society can boast of. However, leaving the outer world to its surmises, speculations, assertions, and absurdities, we pursue the even tenor of our way, and feel pleased to take Masonry with all its faults, as we find it, and in proof that we are fully satisfied with it, we have assembled here to-day for the purpose of inaugurating a new lodge, which figuratively means the adding a fresh link to that mysterious Masonic chain which binds together every country, sect, and opinion. I, therefore, need scarcely say that the consecration of a new lodge forms a most important as well as interesting epoch in the history of the Craft, for although these events are not so rare as formerly, yet they possess the same amount of significance, probably I might with truth say more, for their frequency shows the wonderful and marvellous strides made by Masonry in each succeeding year. Only three decades since the number of lodges under the English Constitution was about 700. The Polish National Lodge, of which I have the honour to be the second Treasurer, was numbered 778 at its consecration; at the revision or filling up of the numbers it became 534. Now, looking to your own number, 1772 (and that not the last on the list), we may fairly assume that over 1200 lodges have been consecrated within thirty years. Now what does this show. Well, at any rate, it shows that the popularity and prosperity of Freemasonry is something very extraordinary, but extraordinary, as it undoubtedly is, it is nevertheless a fact, and a fact beyond dispute at the present time. No doubt, the popularity of the Chief, Head and Ruler of the Craft must be taken into consideration, and will readily be so by those who were fortunate enough to be present at the installation of His Royal Highness, and witnessed that spontaneous ovation, which, probably, has no parallel in, or even out of Masonry. We must also bear in mind that although prosperity is not without its beneficial effects, it sometimes has to contend with evil influence, and, as in all numerous bodies or societies of men, some unworthy will ever be found, it can be no wonder then that notwithstanding the excellent principles and valuable precepts laid down and inculcated by our institution, we have such amongst us, men who, instead of being ornaments, or useful members of the body, are a disgrace and scandal. Now, as we are fully aware of the difficulty of ridding ourselves of obnoxious brethren, it behoves us all to be particularly careful in the selection of candidates, and the admission of joining members, and this cannot be impressed too strongly upon the minds of those brethren forming new lodges. From what I have heard and know of the promoters and founders of the Pimlico Lodge, I am led to believe they are fully alive to the advisability of commencing with good, sound, and thoroughly stringent bye-laws. With these, and the assistance of an intelligent Master in the chair (and let me observe that none but intelligent brethren should ever be placed in that responsible station), harmony and good feeling will and must prevail in the lodge, and which is sure to be attended with success, and a brother will not fail

to derive information from every ceremony he may witness, and instruction from every ordinance with which he may become acquainted; a Mason should never forget to act as a gentlemen, and that all the peculiarities he witnesses, or in which he is required to participate while in the lodge, are designed to illustrate and inculcate some great moral truth; therefore, everything approaching levity or rudeness in speech or action, is to be deprecated and avoided; quiet deportment and strict attention to the business before the lodge will add much to the beauty, harmony, and pleasure of the proceedings, and this cannot be too firmly fixed on the minds of the brethren, for we ought always to remember that the lodge is opened with prayer, and it is closed with prayer. Or, as it has been beautifully said by an eminent brother, that "The Master opens his lodge at sunrise with solemn prayer; the Junior Warden calls the brethren from labour when the Sun attains its meridian height, and the Senior Warden closes the lodge with prayer at sunset, when our labours are ended. The great luminary of creation rises in the east to open the day with his mild and genial influence, and all nature rejoices in the appearance of his beams. He gains his meridian, in the south, invigorating all things with the perfection of his ripening qualities. With declining strength he sets in the west to close the day, leaving mankind at rest from their labours. This is a type of the three most prominent stages in the life of man—infancy, manhood, and age. The first, characterised by the blush of innocence, is pure as the tints which gild the eastern portals of the day. The heart rejoices in the unsuspecting integrity of its own unblemished virtues, nor fears deceit, because it knows no guile. Manhood succeeds, the ripening intellect arrives at the meridian of its powers. At the approach of old age man's strength decays, his sun is setting in the west, enfeebled by sickness or bodily infirmities, he lingers on, till death finally approaches and closes his eventful day; and happy is he, if the setting splendours of a virtuous life, gild his departing moments with the gentle tints of hope, and close his short career in peace, harmony, and brotherly love.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with and completed, and at its termination Bro. Boyd installed Bro. John Palmer, Past Provincial Grand Senior Warden; Berks and Bucks, P.M. 27, &c., as Master of the lodge. The brethren invested as officers for the year were Bros. Caleb Holden, S.W.; John Hunt, J.W.; John Elliott, P.M., Secretary; John Mason, S.D.; John Pemberton, J.D.; John Haycock, I.G.; and Bro. Rawles, Tyler. Afterwards Bros. Boyd and Buss were elected honorary members of the lodge, and a vote of thanks for assisting at the ceremony of consecration was passed to Bros. Rucker and Long. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet, after which the list of toasts were gone through seriatim.

Bro. J. A. Rucker, P.G.D.; responding for "The Grand Officers," said he could not but feel himself flattered by being called upon to return thanks for this toast, and all the brethren then standing up with him were equally obliged for the heartfelt warmth with which the toast had been honoured. He could not sit down without saying how pleased he was to have assisted at the consecration of the lodge, a lodge which he was sure had been launched under the happiest auspices, seeing that not only had the ceremony of consecration been well performed, but the new W.M. had shown the fullest acquaintance with his duties. There had been no hitch on the ways, but she had gone afloat gracefully. Under the care of the W.M., and those who might be called upon to follow him, he was sure the lodge would be a credit to the Craft.

The W.M. in proposing "The Health of Bro. Boyd, the Consecrating Officer," said that he (the W.M.) and Bro. Shervill, a short time back, went down to Hampton Court, where Bro. Boyd was consecrating a chapter, and they thought afterwards that if they ever had a lodge to be consecrated they would ask Bro. Boyd to perform the ceremony. The Pimlico Lodge was afterwards started, and they immediately applied to Bro. Boyd. The Grand Master appointed him as the Consecrating Officer, with Bro. Buss to assist. The result they had seen that day, and the lodge had been formally dedicated to Freemasonry.

Bro. Boyd, in reply, said there were several brethren present who had the opportunity of attending the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge; there were others present who did not attend that communication; but, at all events, as good Masons, they read the *Freemason*; and in either case it would follow that they had seen that since the Quarterly Communication of June the Grand Master had granted warrants for twenty-five new lodges. Such lodges, therefore, must be consecrated, and it had been his good fortune to be selected to consecrate the Pimlico Lodge, which was among them. Now, he had been in the habit of consecrating chapters, but not lodges, and, therefore, it became to him an arduous duty, and he felt that there was a large amount of responsibility on the shoulders of those who asked him. However, he said he would consecrate the lodge with pleasure, if the brethren would put up with his inability. He was glad to consecrate the lodge because in it there were many old friends of his own. Consecrating a lodge was not like installing Principals, an office he had often been called upon to perform. He had delivered a short address that evening in which he had endeavoured to lay before the brethren some of the principles of Freemasonry, and without exhausting all that was to be said about the ancient ritual, and the different ceremonies, he had given but a slight sketch; he hoped, however, it might be useful to the brethren. He begged to return thanks for the toast of his health and the attention paid during the ceremony.

The W.M. returned thanks for the toast proposed in his honour, and assured the brethren that while he was Master of the lodge he would undertake to fulfil his duties to the best of his ability. He also drew the brethren's attention to the fact that the Ebury Lodge of Instruction

met at the house they were then in, every Thursday evening, and he should be present himself, unless business prevented him, on those occasions, when he hoped to meet all the officers of the Pimlico Lodge who were able to attend.

The W.M. then proposed "The Charities."

Bro. Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D., replied. Speaking as a member of the House Committee of the Girls' School, he thought every member of the Craft who had taken the trouble to enquire into the work of that Institution, and the vast amount of good it did, would be satisfied, as they should be, that the trust reposed in them to administer the funds was performed in such a way as to do the greatest amount of good to the brethren and their belongings who required help. Any member of the Craft was perfectly welcome at any time to go and visit the Institution and see and judge for himself from the happy faces at the School, and the order that reigned there, how great a work was being unostentatiously performed for the daughters of distressed brethren. The other Institutions were equally well managed, especially that of the old people. Nothing could be better than the administration and management of that Institution. He was as sorry as Bro. Boyd could be that the whole of the House Committee of the Girls' School was not present to acknowledge this toast. It was certainly not the fault of the House Committee, for if they had been asked they would have attended. (Laughter.) All the House Committees did excellent work for the Charities. Earnestly wishing to promote the cause they had at heart, they worked quietly, and with a desire to gain that confidence which would bring in the largest subscriptions. They had succeeded so far that no other society or fraternity could boast of such Institutions as the Freemasons. They had been so nobly built up and supported that they must be a benefit in the future. There were in this new lodge many members who had already done excellent service in the cause of the Charities, and he trusted the different W.Ms. of the lodge would make themselves Life Governors and Vice-Presidents, following the good example of the present W.M., who was now Vice-President of all the Charities. He would advise them at their banquets to pass round the charity column, because they would find the small amounts so collected tell up in the course of time.

Col. Peters, P. Prov. G. J. W. Middx., replied to the toast of "The Visitors." Speaking of the banquet, he had never sat down to a better repast, and as to the W.M., no man could have done his work better.

Bro. John Mason, replying for "The Junior Officers," said he seemed to have to join every lodge now in Pimlico. However, he was very pleased to be a member of the Pimlico Lodge, especially because Bro. Palmer was the first W.M. He was proud to think that from what the W.M. had seen of him in the Ebury Lodge, he had thought fit to select him to fill an office in the Pimlico. He hoped he should never be absent from any of its meetings, and whenever he was present he would perform his duty.

The brethren shortly afterwards separated.

During the consecration, the musical portion was performed by Bros. G. T. Carter, T. Lawler, T. Baxter, and Montem Smith, who also sang some excellent songs after the banquet.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee of this Institution met on Saturday last in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall. Bro. J. G. Chancellor presided. The other brethren who attended were Bros. G. J. Row, D. M. Dewar, S. Rawson, A. H. Tattershall, H. Browne, James Winter, Rev. R. S. Morris (Head Master), Hyde Pullen, R. B. Webster, S. Rosenthal, G. J. Palmer, W. F. C. Moutrie, Alexander Wallace, W. Paas, Frederick Binckes (Secretary), and H. Massey (*Freemason*).

The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the minutes of the House Committee were read for information. In these latter the Committee recorded an expression of their sorrow for the loss by death of one of their number, the late Bro. Jesse Turner.

A son of Bro. Charles Jardine (who was drowned in the Princess Alice, leaving surviving him a widow and nine children) was brought before the Committee, and passed the usual examination.

Bro. Binckes said, that a similar motion would be made at the Quarterly Court on Monday the 14th, to that of which notice had been given for the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School, for the suspension of the laws of the institution, and the admission of a girl and a boy of Bro. Jardine's without election. He observed that he took some little credit to himself for this suggestion, for when he found that other institutions outside Masonry were taking a similar course he proposed that the Masonic Institutions should exhibit the same elasticity with respect to their rules. He was happy to say that unlike most of the cases that came before the two Masonic Schools, the late Bro. Jardine was a Life Governor of all the Masonic Institutions, and had served the Stewardship of each.

Two other petitions were accepted, and the candidates directed to be placed on the list for election in April.

It was agreed that sixty-five candidates should be on the list of candidates for election on Monday next.

Bro. Binckes said, as three or four boys had quitted the institution, he had recommended the Quarterly Court to elect thirteen boys instead of eleven. The institution could very well accommodate the extra boys.

Bro. Webster gave notice of motion for the Quarterly Court for the suspension of the laws of the institution regulating the admission of candidates for the purpose of admitting the son, above named, of Bro. Charles Jardine, without election.

Bro. Binckes said that he had seen Colonel Creaton that morning, who had expressed his intention of being present at the present meeting for the purpose of giving notice of

motion for the Quarterly Court that a sub-Committee of five members of the General Committee be appointed to revise the laws of the institution, and to confer with a similar Committee of the Girls' School, and to report to the Quarterly Court in January. Colonel Creaton, however, had not been able to attend, and, therefore, he (Bro. Binckes) gave the notice of motion for him. Bro. Binckes also said that the other business of the Quarterly Court would be to elect a Trustee of the General Fund in the room of Bro. John Symonds, resigned.

The Committee then adjourned.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A Grand Masonic Fête will take place on the 24th October, 1878, at Paris, in the Great Hall, of the Trocadero, under the presidency of Monsr. Cremieux, Senator, and formerly Minister, at which some of the principal people in the capital will be present. This Fête is offered to all foreign Freemasons by the members of the Supreme Council of the A. and A. Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for France and her Dependencies. Tickets of admission may be obtained gratis on proof of Masonic Title, at the Secretariat of the Scottish Rite, No. 46, Rue de la Victoire, Paris.

A Quarterly General Court and Election of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Monday next, at 12 o'clock noon. The business will consist of electing thirteen boys instead of eleven, as stated on the voting papers, and to consider three motions, one of which is as follows, proposed by our esteemed Bro. R. B. Webster: "That the Laws regulating the admission of Candidates to this Institution be suspended, for the admitting, *without election*, Arthur George Jardine, age ten years and five months, a son of the late Bro. Charles Jardine (Steward for the Anniversary Festival in July last), who lost his life in the recent fatal collision on the Thames, leaving a widow and nine children without provision.

The Deputy Grand Master at Southport.—An especial meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the western division of Lancashire will be held at Southport, on Friday next, the 18th inst., when Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, Dep. G.M., and R.W.P.G.M. of the province will perform the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of St. Luke's Church. His lordship will afterwards preside at a grand banquet at the Prince of Wales Hotel. It is expected there will be a very large gathering of Freemasons, and the arrangements are under the direction of an efficient local committee.

A regular meeting of the Eboracum Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine 137, was held at York on Thursday, 10th inst., Bros. W. P. Husband and Robert Walker, were duly installed Knights of the Order by the M.P.S., Bro. Thomas Cooper, who was assisted by Bros. T. B. Whythead, P.S. as V.E.; W. Valentine, Praelate; J. S. Cumberland, S.G.; G. Balmford, J.G.; M. Millington, Prefect; A. T. B. Turner, Recorder; G. Simpson, Treasurer; J. Ward as Herald; and several other members.

Capt. Charles E. Gladstone, R.N., (nephew of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.) was raised to the degree of Master Mason, in the Royal Naval College Lodge of Freemasons, last Tuesday at Greenwich.

The Consecration of the Progress Lodge, No. 1768, will take place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Thursday next, the 17th inst.

The *Daily Telegraph*, of Thursday last contained an interesting "leader" on Freemasonry.

The *Whitehall Review* has reason to believe that the government expects it may be necessary to institute a species of censorship over telegrams sent by correspondents from the front. It is thought that the signature of a staff-officer may be required in order to prevent the transmission of news that might be made available by the enemy. No restrictions, however, will, or indeed could, be placed upon the transmission of news by letter. The correspondents already off are Captain Charles Norman for the *Times*, Mr. Forbes for the *Daily News*, Mr. Frederick Boyle for the *Standard*, and Mr. Phil. Robinson for the *Daily Telegraph*.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., will take the chair at the 214th anniversary festival of the Scottish Corporation (of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Duke of Rothesay and Lord of the Isles, is president) on St. Andrew's Day, November 30th.

LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY.—Traffic receipts, week ending October 6, 1878, £11,849 17s. 10d.; 1877, £10,755 3s. 7d.

PRINTERS' CORPORATION.—Three additional orphan children have been placed on the funds of this institution by election.

Bro. Francis G. Faithfull, Citizen and Merchant Tailor, is a candidate for the City Remembrancership. He is 46 years of age, was educated at Harrow and Oxford, and took his M.A. Degree in 1855. He was in the War Office fifteen years, during the last three of which he has held the appointment of Assistant Private Secretary. Bro. Faithfull obtained a fair knowledge of the duties of City Remembrancer, both Ceremonial and Parliamentary, during his services as Clerk of the Merchant Taylor's Company, having frequently to communicate personally, and otherwise, with the Royal and Noble Members of that Guild; and as Private Secretary at the War Office, his duties necessitated his attendance at Parliament, which brought him into personal contact with members of both houses.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. E. G. Holbrook, of the *Portsmouth Times*, on Tuesday last, of typhoid fever. An obituary will appear in our next.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.
For the Week ending Friday, October 18, 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, OCTOBER 12.

- Quar. Court and Election Girls' School at 12, F.M.H.
- Lodge 176, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 1361, United Service, Greyhound Hot., Richmond.
- " 1415, Campbell, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
- " 1423, Era, Island Hot., Hampton Court.
- " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 1607, Loyalty, Alexandra Palace, N.
- " 1671, Mizpah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 1685, Guelph, Red Lion, Leytonstone.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Lily, Greyhound, Richmond.
- Manchester, 77, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.
- Star, Marquis of Granby, New Cross-rd.
- Eccleston, St. George's Club, Victoria Station.
- Percy, 113, Southgate-road, N.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14.

- Quar. Court and Elect. Boys' School at 12, F.M.H.
- Lodge 59, Royal Naval, F.M.H.
- " 193, Confidence, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 957, Leigh, F.M.H.
- " 1571, Leopold, Woolpack Tav., Bermondsey-st.
- " 1657, Aldersgate, Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate-st.
- Chap. 22, Mount Sion, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford.
- Prince Leopold, Lord Stanley Tav., Kingsland.
- Strong Man, Old Rodney's Head, Old-st., E.
- Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st. Station.
- Camden, 174, High-st., Camden Town, at 8.
- Tredegar, Royal Hot., Mile-end-road.
- St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st.
- 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.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15.

- Board of Gen. Purposes at 3.
- Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav., City.
- " 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot.
- " 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 435, Salisbury, M.H. 68, Regent-st., W.
- " 857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- " 1339, Stockwell, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
- " 1420, Earl Spencer, Swan Hot., Battersea Old Bdge.
- " 1695, New Finsbury Park, Finsbury Park Tav. N.
- Chap. 11, Enoch, F.M.H.
- " 19, Mount Sinai, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 186, Industry, F.M.H.
- Rose Croix, Bayard, 33, Golden-sq., W.

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 Bdgs., 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.
- Three Bucks, Islington, 23, Gresham-st., at 7 p.m.
- Leopold, Woolpack Tavern, Bermondsey-st.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Jamaica Coffee Ho., Cornhill.
- Mount Edgcumbe, 19, Jermyn-st., St. James's.
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, 162, St. John's-st.-rd.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.

- Gen. Com. Grand Chapter, at 3.
- Lodge 619, Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich.
- " 1044, Wandsworth, Spread Eagle, Wandsworth.
- " 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.
- " 1349, Friars, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars.
- " 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Glengall-rd., E.
- " 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 1624, Eccleston, Grosvenor Hall, Ebury-st., S.W.
- Chap. 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-st. Hot.
- Mark Lodge, 144, Grosvenor, M.H., Air-st., Regent-st.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Urban, 23, Gresham-street, City, E.C., at 6.30.
- New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N.
- Mt. Lebanon, Horse Shoe Tav., Stones-End, E.
- Pythagorean, Portland Hot., London-st., 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, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd, N.W.
- 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.
- Temperance in the East, George the 4th, Ida-st., Poplar, 7.30.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Lodge 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
- " 55, Constitutional, Inns of Court Hot.
- " 169, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
- " 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- " 181, Universal, F.M.H.
- " 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
- " 813, New Concord, Rosemary Branch, Hoxton.
- " 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
- " 1287, Great Northern, F.M.H.
- " 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
- " 1512, Hemming, Lion Hot., Hampton.
- " 1768, Progress, F.M.H. (Consecration at 6 p.m.)
- Chap. 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
- Mark Lodge, Bon Accord, 2, Red Lion-sq., W.

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.
- Ebury, 12, Ponsorby-st., Millbank.
- 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.
- Rose, Walmer Castle Hot., Peckham-road, at 8.
- Prince Frederick William Chapter, St. John's Wood.
- Crusaders, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- House Com. Boys' School, at 4.
- Lodge 1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
- Mark Lodge, 104, Macdonald, M.H., Mason's Avenue.
- Rose Croix, Invicta, 33, Golden-square, W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Stability, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., 6 to 8 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, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Lion, Penny-fields, Poplar.
- Doric, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 8.
- Burgoyne, The Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W.
- St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea.
- Chigwell, Prince's Hall, Buckhurst-hill.
- Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
- 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 Hot., Goulborne-rd., Notting-hill
- Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot. London-st., Greenwich

MASONIC MEETINGS IN WEST LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

For the Week ending Saturday, October 19, 1878.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14.

- Lodge 314, Peace and Unity, Militia Rooms, Preston.
- " 613, Unity, Palatine-buildings, Southport.
- " 703, Clifton, Clifton Arms, Blackpool.
- " 721, Independence, Eastgate-row, Chester.
- " 1021, Hartington, Custom House-bdgs., Barrow.
- " 1350, Fermor Hesketh, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1398, Baldwin Castle, Dalton-in-Furness.
- " 1496, Trafford, Northumberland Hot., Old Trafford.
- Egerton Mark Lodge 161, Bedford House, Rock Ferry.
- Walton Conclave, Skelmersdale Hall, Liverpool.
- Derby L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
- Red Cross Conclave of Instruction, M.H., Liverpool.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15.

- Lodge 667, Alliance, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1225, Hindpool, Hartington Hot., Barrow.
- " 1325, Stanley, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1570, Prince Arthur, M.H., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
- Bootle L. of I., 146, Berry-st., Bootle.
- Merchants L. of I., M. H. Liverpool.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.

- Lodge 178, Antiquity, M.H., Wigan.
- " 428, Sincerity, Angel Hot., Northwich.
- " 537, Zetland, M.R., Birkenhead.
- " 823, Everton, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 1061, Triumph, M.H., Lytham.
- " 1086, Walton, Skelmersdale H., Kirkdale.
- " 1276, Warren, Queen's Arms Hot., Liscard.
- " 1345, Victoria, Cross Keys, Eccles.
- " 1353, Duke of Lancaster, Athenaeum, Lancaster.
- " 1403, West Lancashire, Commercial Hot., Ormskirk
- " 1730, Urmston, Lord Nelson Hot., Urmston.
- Mark Lodge 31, Fidelity, Norfolk Arms, Hyde.
- De Grey and Ripon L. of I., M.R., N. Hill-st., Liverpool.
- Downshire L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.

- Lodge 203, Ancient Union, M.H., Liverpool.
- " 343, Concord, Militia Mess Rooms, Preston.
- " 425, Cestrian, M.R., Chester.
- " 605, Combermere, Seacombe Hot., Seacombe.
- " 1229, Pembroke, Rawlinson's Hot., West Derby.
- Chap. 249, Mariner's, M.H., Liverpool.
- Duke of Edinburgh L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.
- St. John's L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18.

- Hamer L. of I., M.H., Liverpool.

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