

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF MAR AND KELLIE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE more we think about it, the more strongly we feel what a mistake was made when the modest proposal of the PRESIDENT of the BOARD of GENERAL PURPOSES for a grant of £50 to the restoration of St. Giles's Church was refused by Grand Lodge by a narrow majority, with all deference, be it said, to that supreme and august body. The arguments of Bro. HUTTON and Bro. the Rev. R. J. SIMPSON, though deserving of consideration, are based, we feel sure, on a complete fallacy. Grand Lodge, in the first place, was not asked to give qua a Grand Lodge, but as holding property in the parish of St. Giles's. And, in the next place, such helpful grants fully accord with the genius and teaching of Freemasonry. We admit, for the sake of argument, if such grants were pushed to the extreme of frequency, something might be said on the score of a departure from religious and political neutrality. But such applications are very infrequent, and involve no question of denominationalism, and are simply a tribute of respectful help and sympathetic admiration for the needful efforts of a religious body, from which nearly all our Chaplains are recruited. No one supposes that when the Prince of WALES, Grand Master, laid the foundation-stone of Truro Cathedral, he did it denominationally; he did it as a bona-fide Freemason, wishful to testify respect and sympathy for a great religious undertaking; nor when our provincial bodies give windows, and pulpits, and rededicates to cathedrals, are they in any way mixing themselves up in controversial strife, or expressing any opinion on the "isms" and "ologies" of the hour. They simply wish to testify thereby their unchanging desires to assist religion, and to sympathize with religion in the world. We fear much the vote will be held up as a proof of what the Ultramontane Press declares to be the real and unchanged animus of all Freemasonry—hostility to religion and religious work in the world. We therefore wish our brethren could have seen their way to agree unanimously to such a reasonable demand, such a seasonable vote; and we venture to think that if the vote had been taken at any other Grand Lodge but the September one, the result would have been widely different. It is useless, however, always to "cry over spilt milk," so having said our say, we make our bow.

A LETTER from the Antipodes last week deserves attention from its very proper tone and fraternal language. Officially certainly nothing has been said to give offence to us in the Mother Country, but we refer to a certain phase of the agitation on the subject of independence, when it was clear that many brethren were led away by a statement which was really not true in itself. The fact, if real, was not an unreasonable excuse for separation. But the fact was not true, and ought never to have been alleged as a reason. Unfortunately with the exception of the small fees for the G.P. Fund, nothing was sent for Benevolence, and yet our Board of Benevolence constantly relieved non-contributing applicants from the same locale. Had the brethren this reality clearly put before them? We think not! We do not ourselves wonder at brethren preferring to be governed "at home" by the near and present, instead of the distant and non-resident; but we cannot concur in the view that all Colonies, &c., are to have Grand Lodges. Too many Grand Lodges would become unmitigated nuisances; and from what we have seen lately, such bodies do not always seem to realize Masonic teaching, or to remember the important precepts of brotherly forbearance, toleration, patience, and good will. And more than this. We think we detect in many of such movements a vulgar appetite for rank and authority; a disposition to fight for petty trifles, and the setting up a most mournful régime of "Red Tape." The older and more elevated views of Masonic culture, duty, and sympathy seem to be waning, and in their place we fear we can trace a disregard of lawful authority, impatience of control, a departure from old precedents, the creation of novel landmarks, and above all the development of party feeling, un-Masonic bitterness, and rowdiness. We would fain hope that we are mistaken, and that the future will belie our expectations, and remove our doubts and our solicitude.

OUR friendly discussions in the *Freemason* about the archaeology of the Royal Arch, and of Masonic Degrees, are growing more interesting, and serve to show what a deal may be said, and what a "terra incognita" has yet to be explored by Masonic students before we can safely pronounce on this or that disputed point, this or that doubtful proposition. We trust that such a fraternal discussion may continue and close in the same kindly spirit of toleration and consideration.

WE have seen some remarks lately upon various archaeological questions, in our opinion un-masonic in temper and in tone. Everybody is a block-head or a dunderhead who sees differently to, or dissents honestly from, some self-constituted Oracle, not quite so clear, and certainly not so diffident, as Delphi of old. Masonic criticism, and Masonic archaeology are not advanced by such a course. There is not the slightest warrant for any one to claim for himself any such position of infallible accuracy and perfect information. We will speak more openly. We have noticed in some American papers, original and reprinted, lately some remarks of Bro. J. NORTON, which seem to us not only utterly undefensible in taste and good form, but completely unsupported by any of the known facts of the case, by any reality in the position of universal critic assumed by that veteran controversialist. We can admire his clearness of expression, and forcibility of utterance. We can make every allowance for his specific and incisive style, for his idiosyncrasies and peculiar views, his rationalistic and iconoclastic principles, his dislike of tradition, his preference of distinct evidence. But we think he assumes a little too much in his character of continual and consistent fault finder. He has himself made one or two very great mistakes in the propositions he has put forward from time to time, and the allegations he has made, and we think we may fairly complain of his one-sided views on almost every subject. He is, in fact, almost a Masonic Ishmaelite, and we can quite enter into the feelings of our good American brethren, who are rather weary of being constantly "girded" at in every possible form and way in respect of the St. John's Masonry. We understand from our American brethren that one great grievance is, that Bro. NORTON, though a Freemason, belongs to no lodge, and does nothing in any way for Masonic work or Masonic Charity. He was originally, we understand, made in England, but is now among the unattached, alike in America and England. Such a fact certainly renders his position a very peculiar one in our Masonic circles, and we feel that we are among his best friends when we recommend to him a little more moderation and self-restraint in the constant remarks he makes about the ignorance, superstition, and fetichism of his brother Freemasons. It is a pity that a writer of his marked ability should fail to obtain a hearing, on account both of the recklessness and exaggeration of his views on certain subjects, and want of proper consideration for others, which mark far too many hasty asseverations, and far too vehemently expressed doubts, criticisms, and abnegations. We must say we sympathize much with our American brethren under such unfair and unwise attacks; the more so, as archaeologically the question of the two St. John's is a very recondite one in itself, for which a great deal may be advanced on both sides, and which cannot be disposed by some often very irrational articles, and some very needless sneers.

THE lists of the Girls' and Boys' Schools are now before us for the October Elections. In the former there are 30 candidates, and 13 vacancies, though it is almost a pity the Managing Committee cannot see their way to elect 15,—one-half. Of these, one has made 4, 6, 3, 5, 2, and 18—their first application; but of these (which ought to be noted), No. 14, AUGUSTA GILBERT; No. 23, EDITH JANE ARMSTRONG; and No. 27, ETHEL FIELDING, are last chances. Of the 30 candidates, we have three daughters of solicitors, two architects, two accountants, two commercial travellers, one commission agent, one merchant, one master mariner, one bookseller and stationer, one printer, one inspector of police, three licensed victuallers, one shipwright, one furrier, one bootmaker, one surveyor and auctioneer, one military schoolmaster, one provision merchant, one judges' clerk, one sack merchant, one shipyard manager, one military tailor, one veterinary surgeon, and one watchmaker.

OF the Boys' there are 57 candidates, and 27 vacancies. Of these candidates one has made 6 applications, 2, 5, 7, 4, 9, 3, 8, 2, and 30 are first applications. Of these four are sons of merchants, two farmers and farm bailiffs, one commander merchant service, one master mariner, two shipwrights, one steward in the Navy, one commercial traveller, one corresponding clerk, one engineers' clerk, one superintending clerk, one shipping clerk, one clerk, one law clerk, one treasurer to a railway, one engineer, one gas engineer, one

civil engineer, one gardener, one saddler, one brewer's agent, one grocer, one outfitter, three drapers, one solicitor, one ironmonger, one Board School master, one dentist, one reporter, one builder, one agent, one store manager, one accountant, one in employ of a shoemaker, one tailor, one watchmaker, one currier, one grocer and shipowner, one nurseryman, one chemist and surgeon dentist, one wine merchant, one master mason, one architect, one cutler, one estate agent, one rail inspector, one hosier, one zinc manufacturer, one bank accountant, and one hotel proprietor. Many remarks might be made on this list; but we had better leave it to speak for itself.

FREEMASONS are very often alluded to to-day; indeed, just now a good deal is said about our Order utterly unjustifiably and even meaningless to the thoughtful Freemason. Those of us who have interested ourselves in English Freemasonry know well what has been its main outcome in the last quarter of a century, namely—CHARITY, and how it is, in truth, setting a remarkable example to all other organizations and associations of earth. Indeed, to English Freemasons may well be applied these expressive lines, though the author is unknown to us—

Speed on, ye faithful brothers, speed,
And blessings with you go;
Still aid the widow in her need,
And soothe the orphan's woe.
Still by the heart-sick stranger's side,
With words of kindness, stay,
And bid the deep and troubled tide
Of sorrow pass away.
Ye generous band! Long may you stand,
The grey-beard and the youth!
Shoulder to shoulder, hand to hand,
In Honour, Virtue, Truth.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of the above province was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Eaglesfield-street, Maryport, under the banner of Perseverance Lodge, No. 371. The muster was considerably above the average of any meeting held for a number of years from the fact that the Prov. Grand Master had consented to lay the chief corner-stone of a new church in course of erection at Netherton, with full Masonic ceremonial, but, unfortunately, at the eleventh hour, the Prov. Grand Secretary intimated to the brethren that the Right Hon. the Earl of Bective, M.P., was unable to be present, which was no little disappointment to the members of the Craft, apart from the many visitors assembled from almost every corner of the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened at noon prompt, by the Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. L. F. B. Dykes, P.M. 1002; Bro. W. B. Gibson, P.M. 119, P.P.G.S.W., as D.P.G.M., supported by the following Prov. Grand Officers, Masters, Past Masters, and others:

Bros. Col. F. R. Sewell, P.M. 1002, as P.G.S.W.; Wm. Sandwith, P.M. 119, P.P.J.W.; Rev. Wm. Thwaites, 1267, P.G. Chap.; Rev. E. M. Rice, P.M. 962, P.G.A. Chap.; R. J. Nelson, P.M. 129, P.G. Treas.; J. F. Kirkconel, P.M. 1267, P.G. Reg.; George J. McKay, P.M. 129, P.P.G.S.W., P.G. Sec.; J. J. Robinson, P.M. 872, W.M. 1989, P.G.S.D.; Thos. Carey, P.M. 371, P.G.S. of W.; George Dalrymple, P.M. 872, 1660, as P.G.D.C.; James Thompson, P.M. 962, P.G.A.D.C.; W. B. Cowman, P.M. 872, P.G. Swd. Br.; R. Baxter, P.M. 1267, P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Coverdale, P.M. 962, P.G. Org.; W. Stoddart, P.M. 371, P.G. Purst.; N. Topping, P.G. Tyler; Thomas Glessal, W.M. 872, P.G. Stwd.; H. Peacock, P.M. 1002, P.G.S.; W. H. McAdam, P.M. 327, P.G.S.; John Barr, P.M. 119, P.P.G.J.W.; R. W. Moor, I.P.M.; T. F. Braithwaite, Sec.; R. Miller, S.W.; W. C. Johns, J.W.; Thomas Studholme, S.D.; Thomas Allinson, J.D.; W. J. Tyson, R. L. Nutsford, I.G.; Thos. Richardson, Tyler; W. H. Atkinson, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; A. Parker, James Wheatley, P.M. 310, P.P.G.J.W.; R. Nelson, S.W.; H. Cant, P.M.; R. Leach, W. Harrison, J. Lowthain, Thomas Kirkbride, Samuel Lockyer, M. Compton, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent; A. Bunyan, J.W.; W. Blaylock, P.M.; F. Scott, Sec.; G. G. Hayward, P.M., P.P.G. Swd. Br.; H. Bewes, P.M. 327, P.P.G. Swd. Br.; W. H. Hoodless, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Harris, T. R. Denham, J.W.; W. Kirkbride, P.M. 339, P.P.G. S.W.; T. B. Arnison, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; J. H. Barron, A.M.; J. Pearson, W.M.; J. Nicholson, P.M. 371, P.P.G.S.W.; J. Dickinson, W.M.; James Gardiner, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; Thomas Mandale, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; J. Robinson, P.M.; G. Thompson, P.M.; J. Pearson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; Rev. K. M. Pitt, J. Abbott, J.W.; A. Walters, P.M. P.P.G. Sd. Br.; John Smith, Org., P.P.G. Org.; Thos. Milburn, P.M.; J. H. Raven, S.W.; J. R. Banks, P.M.; Jas. Kirk, W. McKie, P. Wedgwood, F. Harrison, I. White, W. Walker, J. Walker, Thos. Moore, Thos. Weatherstone, J. Kendall, J. Hodgson, J. Wilson, Thos. Swainson, I.G.; W. Railton, E. B. Penrice, W. Hadfield, J. Bewlay, H. Burns, S.W. 872; Thos. Atkinson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; F. Hodgson, P.M.; J. Townson, Org., P.P.G. Org.; Thos. Brackenridge, Alex. Hardie, Jas. Cooper, P.P.G. Org.; J. Sewell, Tyler; J. Wood, P.M. 962, P.P.G.Sd.B.; John Paterson, W.M.; H. Irving, P.M.; J. C. Thompson, S.W.; J. H. Hartley, Sec.; J. B. McMullin, P.M., P.P.G. Tyler; J. Eden, J.D.; P. Podmore, I.G.; G. F. Sanders, J. McGill, J. Coward, W. Whitehead, J. Evening, J. Lewthwaite, David Reece, P.M., P.P.G. Purst.; Thos. Mason, W.M. 1002; R. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G.S.D.; Jas. Black, P.M.; J. W. Carter, H. Carruthers, F. A. Cooper, J. Sewell, J. Hewson, Tyler, P.P.G.T.; J. Taylor; W. Taylor, P.M.; F. Smith, I.G.; Jas. Bolton, J. Nelson, 1220; P. H. Howes, W. Holliday, Arthur Moordaff, 1267; Wm. Burnyeat, H. Hartley, R. Harrison, J. Morton, Ed. Armitage, S.W. 1074; J. Mills, P.M. 1390, P.P.G.S.D.; John Dodd, P.M.; W. Bradley, P.M.; G. Hill, W.M.; John Atkinson, I.G.; H. Postlethwaite, J. Caine, W. Carlyle, P.M. 1400, P.P.G.S.W.; James Batt, P.M.; J. Hodgson, P.M.; W. Ayre, J.W.; L. Ward, G. Bethell, J. Holloway, N. Belcher, Tyler; J. H. Pearson, W.M. 1532; Rev. J. Tyson, P.M., P.P.G.C.; Jas. Graham, P.P.G. Tyler; J. C. Mason, P.M.; J. Robinson, P.M.; Rees Thomas, P.M.; David Bell, W.M. 1660; H. J. McKittrick, J. Dickinson, J. Johnston, Tyler; Chas. Gowan, S.W. 1989; J. Caffery, Tyler; J. Leathes, J. McHarry, J. Christie, G. Watson, Ed. Irving, J. Boundy, R. Walker, J. Virigoe, Thos. Temple, J. D. Welsh, H. Murphey, 40; J. A. Scott, 79; C. J. Bannister, P.M., P.G. Swd. Br. Eng., and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form, when the minutes of the half-yearly meeting held at Carlisle last April under the banner of the Bective Lodge, No. 1532, were read and confirmed; also a revised code of provincial bye-laws were, with one exception, unanimously approved of, to be in harmony with the New Book of Constitutions. The Treasurer's statement of accounts was passed as read, and out of consideration for the laudable object that has been accomplished by the never failing efforts of the indefatigable Bro. Geo. J. McKay, Provincial Grand Secretary, in collecting the handsome sum of one thousand guineas to place the province in the front rank, and yet leave a balance to the credit of Provincial Grand Lodge, which is more than the small minds were able to realise.

On the motion of Bro. GIBSON, seconded by Bro. COLLIN, Bro. R. J.

Nelson was, by an unanimous vote, re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer, and Bro. J. Messenger, Tyler 371, Prov. G. Tyler.

The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master then appointed and invested the following as his Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. P. de E. Collin, P.M. 371 and 962 ...	Prov. G.S.W.
„ Geo. Dalrymple, P.M. 872 and 1660...	Prov. G.J.W.
„ Rev. Wm. Thwaites, 1267 ...	Prov. G. Chap.
„ Rev. K. M. Pitt, 371 ...	Prov. G.A. Chap.
„ A. J. Nelson, P.M. 129 (re-elected) ...	Prov. G. Treas.
„ David Reece, P.M. 962 ...	Prov. G. Reg.
„ Geo. J. McKay, P.M. 129 (re-appointed)	Prov. G. Sec.
„ A. Middleton, 129 ...	Prov. G.A. Sec.
„ Ed. Tyson, P.M. 119 ...	Prov. G.S.D.
„ Chas. Gore-Ring, P.M. 1073 ...	Prov. G.J.D.
„ John Dodd, P.M. 1390 ...	Prov. G.S. of W.
„ Jas. Black, P.M. 1002 ...	Prov. G.D.C.
„ Rowland Baxter, P.M. 1267 ...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
„ Wm. Bewlay, P.M. 119 ...	Prov. G. Swd. B.
„ J. A. Salkeld, P.M. 962 ...	Prov. G. Std. B.
„ Jas. Harper, I.P.M. 1660...	Prov. G.A.Std.B.
„ John Smith, Org. 371 ...	Prov. G. Org.
„ Thos. Glessal, W.M. 872...	Prov. G. Purst.
„ J. Dickinson, W.M. 371 ...	Prov. G.A. Purst.
„ J. Bewlay, P.M. 310 ...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
„ J. Brown, P.M. 371 ...	
„ J. Paterson, W.M. 962 ...	
„ J. Robinson, P.M. ...	
„ W. S. Marshall, W.M. 1390 ...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
„ G. G. Glen, W.M. 1400 ...	
„ J. Messenger, Tyler 371 ...	

Under the direction of the Prov. G.D. of C., a procession was then formed, and, headed by the Maryport Artillery Band, proceeded from the Freemasons' Hall, and marched through the principal streets of the ancient borough to Netherton, where the foundation-stone of All Souls' Church was laid with Masonic ceremonial by the W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master. The procession moved off in the following order: Bro. G. Dalrymple, Master of Ceremonies; Band of the Maryport Artillery Volunteers; two Tylers, with drawn swords; visiting brethren; lodges according to their numbers; Provincial Grand Officers of other provinces; Provincial Grand Officers of Cumberland and Westmorland; Mr. C. J. Ferguson, architect, with the plans; cornucopia, with corn, Bro. Dickinson, W.M. 371; ewer, with wine, Bro. Gardiner, P.M. 371; ewer, with oil, Bro. Mandals, P.M. 371—Prov. G. Steward on either side; Assist. Prov. G. Purst.; Prov. G. Purst.; Bro. Glessal; Prov. G. Org.; Bro. Smith; trowel, Bro. Stoddart, P.M.; mallet, Bro. Kirkbride, P.M.; Prov. G. Assist. D. of C.; Prov. G.D. of C., Bro. Black, P.M.; Prov. G. Supt. of Works, Bro. Carey, P.M. 371, bearing a plate with the inscription for the chief corner-stone; Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. Geo. J. McKay, with the Book of Constitutions; Prov. G. Registrar, Bro. Kirkconel, bearing the great seal; Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. R. J. Nelson, bearing a phial containing the coins to be deposited in the stone; Past Prov. G. Chaplains; Past Prov. G. Wardens; visitors of distinction; the Corinthian Light, Bro. Brown, P.M.; the column of the Prov. G.J.W., a P.M.; the Junior Grand Warden, Bro. J. Barr, P.M., with the plumb rule; Banner of Prov. Grand Lodge, Bro. Baxter, P.M.—Prov. G. Steward on either side; the Doric Light, by a W.M.; the column of Senior Prov. Grand Warden, by a W.M.; the Senior Prov. Grand Warden, Bro. P. de E. Collin, P.M., with the level; Junior Prov. Grand Deacons; the Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. Wm. Thwaites, bearing the Sacred Law on a cushion—Prov. Grand Steward on either side; the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. L. F. B. Dykes, with the square; the Ionic Light, by a W.M.; Prov. Grand Standard Bearers; Prov. Grand Sword Bearer, Bro. W. B. Cowman, P.M.; Senior Prov. Grand Deacons; Two Prov. Grand Stewards; Prov. Grand Tyler, Bro. Messenger.

The many banners carried by the various lodges of the province, and the great display of bunting along the route of the procession, gave it quite an imposing effect. On arriving at the enclosure the procession halted and formed into line, through which the Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master passed, preceded by the Standard Bearers and Sword Bearer. The Prov. Grand Officers followed, taking up their position around the stone, when Mr. H. P. Senhouse, Chairman, and the members of the Building Committee received the Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master at the entrance and conducted him to the stone. The choir then sang the 100th Psalm. At the conclusion the Rev. Bro. W. Thwaites offered prayer.

After which Mr. SENHOUSE, addressing the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, said: Mr. Dykes and Gentlemen,—I think as to the only part of the ceremony of to-day in which I have to take part, I am sorry, as I daresay all of you are, that this programme cannot be carried out thoroughly without the presence here of your Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, but doubtless his absence is unavoidable, and his place will be very well filled by your Worshipful Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who is a native of these parts, and known to all here to-day, and we are very glad to welcome him here. (Applause.) The intention for which the church was to be erected was then fully explained by Mr. Senhouse; when the top stone was raised from the bed on which it had been resting and cement placed beneath it.

W. Bro. DYKES, D.P.G.M., then said: Men and brethren here assembled at this ceremony, be it known unto you that we be true and lawful Masons; true and faithful to the laws of our country, and engaged by solemn obligations to erect handsome buildings to be serviceable to our brethren and to fear God, the Great Architect of the Universe. We have among us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed and which no man hath discovered; but these are lawful secrets, and not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were entrusted to our brethren of ancient times, and having been faithfully transmitted to us, it is our duty to convey them to the latest posterity. If our Craft had not been good and our object lawful it would not have lasted so long, and we would not have had so many good and lawful brethren ready to promote our cause and further our interests. We are now assembled to erect a building to the honour and glory of God on High, and, as is the custom, to invoke the blessing of the Great Architect. I call upon you all to unite in an address by the Prov. Grand Chaplain to the Throne of the Most High.

The Rev. W. THWAITES again offered prayer, when Bro. Carey, P.G.S. of W., presented to Bro. McKay, P.G. Sec., two brass plates, bearing the following inscriptions: The first—"This stone was laid with Masonic ceremonial by the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, L. F. B. Dykes, acting for the Right Wor. Prov. Grand

Master, the Earl of Bective, M.P., September 10th, 1884." The second plate—"Bros. L. F. B. Dykes, D.P.G.M.; P. de E. Collin, P.G.S.W.; Geo. Dalrymple, P.G.J.W.; Geo. J. McKay, P.P.G.S.W., P.G. Sec." The Prov. G. Treasurer placed a phial containing coins, newspapers, and certain documents in the cavity, and Bro. McKay the two plates.

Bro. McKay then stated, as it had been explained by Mr. Senhouse, the Prov. Grand Master had been prevented from being present to perform the ceremony of laying the stone at the last moment, and his lordship wished him to express to the Masonic brethren and all the company assembled his sincere regret that he was not able to be present; but the Prov. Grand Master's Deputy would perform the ceremony with credit to himself and satisfaction to all. The stone would therefore be laid by W. Bro. L. F. B. Dykes.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER said: I now declare it my will and pleasure that the corner-stone of this church be laid. When the stone was lowered, with three distinct stops, the D.P.G.M., with his silver trowel, smoothed the cement, and on reaching the lower one, the plumb, level, and square were duly applied, with corn, wine, and oil, and, he with three taps with the mallet, hoped that prosperity, happiness, and goodwill should ever remain amongst those who shall attend this church to the glory of the Most High until time shall be no more. Mr. Ferguson, the architect, was then presented to the D.P.G.M., when he desired him to proceed forthwith to a completion of the work in conformity with the plans and designs. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master then placed a silver cup containing £20 11s. 3d. upon the stone as a Masonic offering, collected in the Prov. Grand Lodge. The hymn "The Church's one foundation" and the National Anthem were then sung, when Mr. SENHOUSE, in the name of the Committee, thanked the W.D.P.G.M. for the collection made and placed upon the stone, after which Bro. McKay called for three ringing cheers for Mr. Senhouse and three for Mrs. Senhouse, which were heartily rendered.

The procession was again re-formed, and marched to St. Mary's Church, which was crowded, when Bro. Rev. W. Thwaites preached an excellent sermon from Psalm 133, v. 1 and 2. At the conclusion, the brethren were marched to the Freemasons' Hall, when the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the Athenæum, which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion, where an excellent spread awaited them. W. Bro. Dykes presided, supported by the chiefs of the province, when the loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOMERSET.

A Grand Lodge for the Province of Somerset was held on Tuesday, the 16th inst., at Yeovil, for the first time for 19 years. The Town Hall, where the business of the lodge was transacted, was suitably transformed for that purpose, under the superintendance of a Committee appointed by the local lodge, Brotherly Love, 329, and consisting of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Roseworthy, P.P.G.O.; Bros. F. Cox, P.M.; Edgar, P.M.; and R. Dawson, P.M.

There was a large attendance of Grand Lodge Officers to support the Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Carnarvon. These officers were ranged to the right and left of the chair, his lordship being immediately supported by Bro. Colonel Adair, P.P.G.M., on the left, and on the right by Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M. To the west and south the P. G.S.W. and the P.G.J.W. occupied their respective seats.

The whole of the furniture in use was purchased for the occasion at great expense by the Yeovil lodges. Plants and flowers were placed at points of vantage round the room, and in front of the Prov. Grand Master's seat was a very tastefully arranged bed of flowers, in the midst of which was a representation by means of fir trees and single dahlias of Masonic emblems.

The lodge was opened soon after one o'clock by the Master, Wardens, and other officers of Lodge No. 329. The Provincial Grand Officers who had assembled clothed themselves in an ante-room, then marched into the hall and took their places, the Prov. Grand Master bringing up the rear. His lordship having taken the chair, Grand Lodge was opened with due ceremony. Some preliminary business having been transacted, all the offices were declared vacant.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, the result being as follows:

Bro. R. B. Cotes, P.M. 41	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" J. H. Wilson, P.M. 33	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. H. C. Norwood, P.M. 1953	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Rev. F. W. Raban, P.M. 1966	...	...	Prov. G.A. Chap.
" E. T. Payne, P.M. 53	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Cobb, P.M. 329	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. C. Hunt, P.M., P.P.G.S.	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" T. J. Scoones, P.M. 1199	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" J. R. Thebridge, P.M. 1755	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" H. Hawkins, P.M. 772	...	...	Prov. G.S. Wks.
" T. G. Vincent, P.M. 276	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" G. R. Wilson, P.M. 973	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" J. Wheatley, P.M. 814	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. G. Price, P.M. 261	...	...	Prov. G. Std.
" H. Kater Cripps, P.M. 1296	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B.
" J. W. Jenner, P.M. 1199	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Roberts, P.M. 1833...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" R. W. Manning, P.M. 446	...	...	Prov. G.A. Purst.
" W. Woodward, Tyler 291	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" A. J. Salter, Tyler 53	...	...	Prov. G.A. Tyler.
" J. Nalder, P.M. 285	...	...
" G. James, A.M. 1197	...	...
" E. E. Baker, S.W. 1222...	...	...
" W. Ransford, S.W. 1750	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" A. Duckett, S.D. 291	...	...
" G. B. Laffin, J.D. 135	...	...

After the election of officers, the report of the Charity Organisation for Somerset was read. From this it appeared the Committee appointed, consisting of delegates from the different lodges in the province, had been successful in securing sufficient votes to carry every candidate they had put up for admission to Masonic Charities.

A vote of ten guineas was agreed to for Bro. Woodward, Tyler of Highbridge Lodge, who has been a Mason for 46 years, and during that term of service to his lodge had never missed a single meeting. Bro. Woodward has been Grand Tyler to the Provincial Lodge for 13 years, and the P.G.M., remarking upon this long and regular service, pointed to it as an example to the brethren generally.

A resolution was submitted and carried, to the effect that £50 should be invested in consols out of the funds of the Provincial Lodge. A collection of alms was made, and realised £8 15s., and this was ordered to be given to the fund which has been started to provide an accident ward in the Yeovil Hospital. The anthem, "I will magnify Thee," was sung, and the lodge was then closed.

Subsequently a banquet was provided at the Choughs Hotel, to which about 140 sat down, under the presidency of the Earl of Carnarvon.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WILTSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Wiltshire was held at the Masonic Hall, Devizes, on Friday, the 12th inst., under the presidency of the Grand Superintendent for the province, the Right Hon. Lord H. F. Thynne, M.P., Past G.N., who was supported by Comps. W. Nott, P.G.H.; T. H. Chandler, P.P.G.H., as P.G.J.; H. C. Tombs, P.G.A. Soj., P.G.S.E., and other officers, present and past, and companions of the province.

The report of the Charity Committee recommended that a grant of £21 be made to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed upon the list of Comp. John Chandler, P.P.G.H., who had offered to represent the province as Steward at the next Anniversary Festival of that Institution, at which festival Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the Prov. Grand Master of Gloucestershire, a province with which Wiltshire had been, and was now, in intimate connection as regards Charity organisation, was to preside.

The Registrar's report was read, giving, as usual, an account of the present position of Arch Masonry in the province.

The M.E. SUPERINTENDENT, in addressing the companions, referred to the figures given in the Registrar's report as being most satisfactory; one new Chapter, the Methuen, No. 1533, had been added to the chapters in the province since the last meeting, and he congratulated it on its flourishing position. This made five chapters in all, whilst the total number of members of the Order in the province was steadily increasing. His lordship alluded also to the Provincial Grand Chapter meeting for the first time at Devizes in consequence of the removal of the meeting place of the Chapter of Harmony from the Masonic Hall, Trowbridge, to the building in which they were then assembled, a removal which he trusted would give additional strength to that excellent chapter. He recognised again with much pleasure the great boon to the province in the re-appearance of the Masonic Calendar under the able editorship of Comp. Nott, and trusted so useful a work would be continued and duly supported. He further alluded to the losses which in the past few years the Prov. Grand Chapter had sustained by death. During the past year they had from this cause to deplore the loss of one of the most active companions in the province, viz., Comp. Tasker, who was one of the Principals of the Thynne Chapter, No. 1478, in which he had undertaken office to assist the companions there at the comparatively recent establishment of that chapter, and had continued to support it until his death.

In response to an enquiry from the Grand Superintendent, Comp. NOTT, P.G. Treas., the Secretary to the Provincial Benevolent Fund and Charity Organization Committee, stated that such fund now received the general support of the lodges in the province, and fortunately, had as yet had no claim upon it for assistance, so that the whole of the annual income had been invested.

The Prov. Grand Superintendent then invested the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. H. Kinnier, 355	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" T. P. Saunders, 632	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" H. C. Tombs, 355, P.P.G.H. (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" A. Plummer, 355	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" W. Nott, 632, P.P.G.H. (re-elected)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. H. Burt, M.E.Z. 632	...	...	...	Prov. G. Soj.
" J. V. Toone, 1478	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. Chandler, 355, P.P.G.H. (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" E. S. Mackrell, 1478 (re-appointed)...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. Savory (re-elected)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

A collection of alms subsequently made was handed to the Treasurer of the receiving chapter to be devoted to the Devizes Cottage Hospital, or otherwise, as his chapter may direct.

After the Provincial Grand Chapter was closed the companions dined together at the Bear Hotel, where the new host, Comp. N. J. Beale, provided an excellent repast, to which the Grand Superintendent, Lord H. F. Thynne, had contributed a bountiful supply of venison and game.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The annual Masonic Provincial Grand Lodge of the Mark Master Masons of Cornwall, was held at Falmouth on Monday, the 15th inst. The brethren assembled under the banner of Love and Honour Lodge, No. 94, at the Town Hall. The use of that building for the occasion was obtained through the courtesy of Bro. H. Liddicoat, Mayor of the borough. The members of the Love and Honour Lodge had arranged to give the Prov. Grand Lodge a very loyal and cordial reception. A committee consisting of Bros. Lieut. Baynes Reed, R.N.; G. T. Olver, J. M. Carne, J. N. Francis, and J. Howell, chief officer of the coastguard, had been appointed to prepare the hall, and under their management, that large and lofty room had been converted into a handsome Masonic lodge room. In addition to the elegant insignia of the Mark Degree of the Masonic Order, the room was tastefully draped with flags, and a choice collection of flowers, shrubs, plants, and rare ferns from the grounds and conservatories of Mr. E. C. Carne and Mr. W. H. Lea, were judiciously distributed throughout the hall. There was a large attendance of brethren.

Business commenced with the opening of Prov. Grand Lodge, at 2.30 p.m. by the R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M.M.M., Sir Charles Bruce Graves-Sawle, Bart., 30th; supported by R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. of England; W. Bros. Thos. Chirgwin, 18th, J.P., P.M. 78, D.P.G.M.M.; Charles Truscott, 275, P.S.G.M.W.; N. J. West, 87, P.P.S. G.M.W., P.J.G.M.W. (pro tem.); J. O. James, 175, P.G.M.O.; J. F. Hooper, 101, P.G.S.O.; R. Carter, 94, P.G.J.O.; W. Tweedy, 78, J.P., P.D.P.G.M.M., P.G.M. Treas.; W. J. Johns, 78, P.G.M. Sec.; Samuel Mitchell, P.G.S.M.D.; Samuel Harvey, 78, P.G.M.D.C.; W. Rooks, 78, P.G.M.I.G.; and the following Past Prov. private lodge officers and prominent brethren: W. Bros. Lieut.-Col. W. E. Michell, 31st, P.M., 206, P.P.G.S.M.W.; the Rev. W. H. Bloxome, M.A., 175, P.P.G.S.M.W.; W. Guy, 275, P.P.G.J.M.W.; W. F. Newman, 94, P.P.G.S.M.W.; Dr. W. Mason, 78, P.P.G. J.M.W.; H. Tilly, 94, P.P.G.M.O.; W. L. Fox, 94, P.P.G.S.O.; W. H. Dunstan, P.P.G.J.O.; T. C. Polglase, 94, P.P.G.J.O.; M. Little, 94, P.P.G.J.O.; and others.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from W. Bros. Controller Bake, Prov. G.M.S.B.; Gilbert B. Pearce, P.P.G.S.O.; Samuel Tre-sidder, jun., Sec. 94; T. A. Kister, W.M. 73; and F. H. Pool, P.P.G.J.W.

The Prov. G. Treas., W. Bro. W. TWEEDY, reported a satisfactory balance in hand. The W. Masters of the lodges in the province reported very favourably of the progress of their respective lodges. There was a general advance in the number of the members and the greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed.

The Prov. Grand Secretary, W. Bro. W. J. JOHNS, reported that there were nine lodges now in the province and 279 members, an increase of about 40 members during the year. The lodges held their meetings regularly and were proceeding very satisfactorily. Since the last annual meeting a new lodge had been consecrated, the Lebanon, No. 325, held at Fovey, and that appeared to be going on very successfully. The arrangement by which the Fort Lodge brethren were permitted to meet alternately at Newquay and St. Columb had worked well. It had enabled them to strengthen their numbers and they were very much pleased with the change. It enabled them to attend to their Masonic duties with far less inconvenience. The grant of the R.W. the P.G.M. was not, however, to be taken as a precedent, as such a grant would not be readily repeated.

The reports were received and adopted.

The Prov. GRAND MASTER said before appointing the new officers he should like to make a few remarks. He was extremely gratified at the progress which Mark Masonry, as shown by the returns, was making in Cornwall. As their P.G.M., it gave him great pleasure. On the 12th of May he consecrated a new lodge at Fovey. On that occasion he had his doubts as to the probable success of that lodge. He thought it a little too near the lodge at St. Austell. He was, however, very glad to find that there was no occasion for such doubts. Both lodges were making good progress, and were reported to have every prospect of continuing to do so during the next year. Freemasonry was evidently making great progress. Attempts had been recently made to throw some slurs on the Order, which he thought were no credit to the authors of them. An attack on the Order had been issued from Rome, which he could not help characterising as being the most scandalous one that had ever been published in the English newspapers. On that attack the *Saturday Review* had thought proper to be merry; but to the credit neither of its taste nor of its judgment. The writer in that paper was pleased to say that the Society was too trivial or too criminal to expose its secrets. To the brethren who understood the matter such a statement was ridiculous. To the outer world it might, with great propriety, be said—Was it likely that the sons of the Queen who had joined Freemasonry would have done so had the Order been either trivial or criminal? Then, looking at the roll of the members of the Order not only in that country, but throughout the kingdom, were they men likely to be found associated with a Society which was either trivial or criminal? He could not conceive how any prominent paper could have made such remarks. Freemasonry stood upon too firm a basis in England to be injured by such sneers, or to be injured by any edict from any foreign potentate. Sir Charles's forcible remarks on these attacks on Freemasonry were eloquently put, were warmly applauded by the brethren, and at the close of the address received rounds of cheers.

W. Bro. Wm. Tweedy was unanimously re-elected Treasurer.

R.W. Bro. HUGHAN called the attention of the brethren to the province being behind in rendering support to the London Masonic Charities proportionate to what was received therefrom. If the province looked forward to further benefits from those Charities greater aid must be rendered from the province. He proposed that a vote of ten guineas should be given from the Prov. Grand Lodge funds to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. This proposition was seconded by W. Bro. CHIRGWIN, and carried.

R.W. Bro. HUGHAN then called attention to the term of office of the R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M.M. being about to terminate, and proposed his re-election.

This proposition was warmly applauded, seconded by W. Bro. CHIRGWIN, and carried.

R.W. Bro. Sir CHARLES BRUNES GRAVES-SAWLE thanked the brethren for the kindness which they had shown him. He said he could not disguise from himself that he was getting an old man, and the time could not be far distant when he would find it necessary to withdraw from some of his public avocations, and give way to younger men. As long, however, as his age and health permitted him, and it was their wish to recommend him to the office to which they had just elected him, he would endeavour to show his appreciation of their kindness and consideration. (Applause.)

The R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M.M. then invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. T. Chirgwin, J.P., 78	...	...	...	Prov. D.G.M.M.
" H. Tilly, 94	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" A. Luke, 275	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" W. D. Rogers, 95	...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" S. Mitchell, 101	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.O.
" John Jeffery, 175	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.O.
" Rev. W. H. Bloxsome, M.A., 175	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Wm. Tweedy	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. L. Fox, 94	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" W. J. Johns, 78	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Lieut. G. H. B. Reed, 94	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.D.
" Charles Trevithick, 78	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.D.
" W. Ellis, 175	...	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" S. Harvey, 78	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. Collins, 325	...	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" George Olver, 94	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
Bro. George Carter, 94	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" C. Kent, 101; Bro. R. Parsons, 275; and Bro. W. Simmons, 78	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. Rooks, 78	...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" John Langdon	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The P.G.M.M., D.P.G.M.M., the two P.G.M. Wardens, the P.G.M. Treasurer and P.G.M. Sec. were elected the Board of General Purposes.

Thanks were, on the proposition of R.W. Bro. HUGHAN, unanimously voted to the brethren of Love and Honour Lodge for the admirable manner in which they had arranged for the reception of the Prov. Grand Lodge.

In the evening a large party of the brethren dined together at Bro. R. Carter's Royal Hotel. The R.W. Bro. the P.G.M.M., Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, presided. After dinner the usual Masonic Mark toasts were drunk.

R.W. Bro. HUGHAN gave a very interesting account of the marked pro-

gress being made by the Mark Degree in Great Britain and all over the world. It numbered over 150,000 members. He believed it to be one of the oldest of the Masonic Degrees. The cathedrals and other ancient public buildings abounded with recognised marks of their Masonic forefathers. That degree was also one of the most interesting. The recent charges brought against Masonry were groundless. To denounce the Order as atheistical was to circulate a base fabrication. One of its very principles was the recognition of a great creator and ruler of the Universe. Any man who did not believe in a Godhead had no business in the Order. He had obtained admission on false pretences. And it would be but honest of him, directly he made the discovery, to leave the Order. He had no business amongst them.

A very pleasant evening was spent.

CATALOGUE OF THE WORCESTER EXHIBITION.

(Concluded from page 435.)

The collection (Nos. 458—470) sent by Bro. Thos. Francis, P.G.S.D. Sussex, includes several medals and jewels, one of which (No. 458) Bro. Hughan describes as "one of the finest engraved medals" he has ever seen. Of No. 464, "The Freemasons' Accusation and Defence," London, 1726, he speaks as "exceedingly rare and valuable." The contribution of Bro. Rylands includes a number of old Masonic aprons; and in that of Bro. Frazer, of Dublin (Nos. 493—512B), are many more medals, those of the "Gormagons" (No. 493) being the most noticeable, and an autograph of Bro. Robert Burns (No. 512). Then follow more aprons, jewels, certificates, lent by various Craftsmen, with here and there engravings, copies of different editions of the Constitutions, and Masonic jugs, &c., that is, Masonic as to the devices inscribed on them. Bro. Dorling's exhibits include several engravings; while the feature of the display, contributed by the Mark Grand Lodge, is the certificates, two of them being Mark of the year 1793. Bro. Major Irwin, of Bristol, is among the most numerous exhibitors (Nos. 654—707), silver and other kinds of medals being in the majority. There is also an old "Ark Mariner's Warrant," dated 1790. Then again we have a succession of certificates, jewels, and other curios, the exhibits of Bro. James Stevens (Nos. 742—753A), and Bro. Dr. Hopkins being very prominent. Bro. J. H. Neilson, of Dublin, is another principal contributor, the majority of his relating, of course, to Irish Masonry. Many of these must be of exceptional value, as they are marked in the catalogue as "only" copies, or "only" copies "known." Such, for example, are No. 803, list of Grand Officers, &c., &c., for the year 1813; No. 805, particulars of Grand Lodge account, Ireland, from December, 1811, to June, 1813; No. 808, print of resolutions (1808) to found a Grand Lodge at Dungannon; No. 809, ditto of resolutions passed 6th June, 1810, at so-called Grand Lodge of Ulster; Nos. 810 and 811, also relating to Ulster; and No. 812, "printed circular issued pursuant to a resolution of Grand Lodge Chapter of H.K. Templars of Ireland, convened at Dublin, the 30th January, 1806, stating their body were the original founders of Templary in Ireland, and held their encampment under Charter from Royal Mother Lodge of Kilwinning, of 1799." Respecting this last Bro. Hughan notes the singularity of the fact that "the High Knights Templars' Lodge, Dublin, was warranted by the 'Mother Lodge Kilwinning,' Scotland, in 1779, for Craft purposes only, but the members soon afterwards utilised the Charter for working the additional degrees, especially the Knights Templars." No. 816, as Bro. Hughan suggests, is "a startling excerpt from a lodge minute book, and likely to be unique," being nothing less than copy of minute of Lodge 60, Ennis, Ireland, having on 24th June, 1800, "attended the Roman Catholic chapel of Ennis, and heard a sermon from Rev. Dr. McDonagh (the parish priest), who afterwards dined with brethren of lodge." We fear there is no such luck in store for the Papish clergy in these times of encyclicals, though we feel sure the clergy, if qualified to attend, would be very welcome. Nos. 817—823 are old certificates; No. 822 being Irish Royal Arch of the year 1772. With respect to No. 823, a certificate of the Royal Marine Lodge of Independence, Wapping, August 8th, 1795, which Bro. Hughan suggests is "probably present No. 211," we would point out that this can hardly be, if the date assigned to the constitution of present No. 211, in Bro. Gould's Atholl Lodges—11th September, 1795—is correct. We would suggest the possibility of this being a certificate issued by the "Royal Naval Lodge of Independence, Wapping"—present number, 59—one of the "Modern" or "Regular" lodges; "Marine" and "Naval" are near enough to justify such a suggestion. A few years later than the date of this certificate, a circular letter was issued by command of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, cautioning the W.Ms. and Wardens of its subordinate lodges against certificates issued by this lodge on the ground of their having been "fabricated by an expelled Mason." (Bro. F. Colombine Daniel, its W. Master for 17 years), and "intended to pass and impose upon our ancient Order, particularly in America." The date of this circular is 10th September, 1801, and Bro. Daniel, a Past Master of United Mariners', No. 23, "Ancients," had been expelled the "Ancients" early the same year. However, by whatever lodge it may have been issued, it cannot have been present No. 211, which appears to have been constituted a little more than a month after the 8th August, 1795.

Bro. G. Kenning's exhibits (Nos. 834—884) are principally jewels and sets of jewels of the various degrees of Masonry, some few of them being commemorative of important events. Among them likewise are photographs of leading Masons, copies of Masonic works, and some relics. Bro. J. S. Cumberland (Nos. 921—978E), is another very liberal contributor. Several of the medals and jewels included in his group are the subject of remarks by Bro. Hughan. Thus of No. 926—"silver Past Master's jewel"—he says:—"The design is most unusual, the square being suspended from the sun, a segment confining the extremities of the square and enclosing the 47th problem of Euclid." No. 935 he calls "a real beauty," and of No. 944—gilt Royal Arch medal, depicting the removal of the third copestone, 'Anno Lap. 5767,' he remarks—"This medal must be seen to be appreciated. The design was adopted in 1802 by the 'Ancients' for the distinctive jewel of the 'Nine Worthies,' or 'Excellent Masters,' appointed to visit the lodges and chapters." No. 976—Silver and Enamelled Seven-Pointed Star, &c.—we are told is a "magnificent jewel;" while as to No. 977—"Old Silver pierced Royal Arch medal," dated 10th June, 1783—Bro. Hughan writes—"Obv. and Rev. are like one exhibited by Bro. Lamb Smith, each being unique as respects shape, and probably without rivals." No. 892, "large Masonic Jug," one of sundry exhibited by Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, is spoken of as "a rare piece, and probably unique." No. 989, "Rule Book of 494 Lodge," Irish, lent by the Secretary of the lodge, Bro.

J. St. Clair Mayne, contains the lodge bye-laws as altered from time to time, with signatures of the members, among the latter being the autograph, "A. Wesley," afterwards Duke of Wellington, who was initiated in this lodge 7th December, 1790. Among Bro. Hughan's exhibits (Nos. 991—1051), are several possessing great interest, such as No. 991—"Nine photos of the Aberdeen 'Mark Book,' from A.D. 1670;" No. 994, facsimile reprint of "Mrs. Dodd's MS." of the year 1739, which with the four immediately following constitute five exhibits representing various versions of the "Old Charges of British Freemasons;" Nos. 1007 and 1008, respectively, original copies of the proposed "Charter of Incorporation" of 1769, and of the "Laws of General Charity," 1724—1747, and others; No. 1011, "Laws of the Grand R.A. Chapter, A.D. 1778," being the "first edition," and "very rare;" No. 1013, "Original copy of 'Articles of Union,' A.D. 1813." Bro. Rev. A. F. A. Woodford's collection (Nos. 1052—1072) includes a china Masonic punch bowl, of 1780, a "Cole's List of Lodges, 1762," and some certificates ranging from 1797 to 1835. The last group of all (Nos. 1084—1172), is that of Bro. George Taylor, Prov. G. Sec. Worcestershire, and comprises medals, jewels, mugs, aprons, &c., many of them being apparently of value, historically and otherwise. Of No. 1085, a Royal Arch jewel, early this century, Bro. Hughan writes:—"I have never seen one of this design before, the ribbon on either side hanging from the jewel being entirely new to me." Of No. 1086, "the celebrated Martin Folkes medal," he says—"Several authorities unite in stating that this medal was struck in Rome in 1742, possibly by Hamerani, in the Papal Mint. It is very rare, in fine condition, and possibly the above is the only impression in this country." Several of the tokens are spoken of as of great rarity, three of them (Nos. 1098—1100), being described as "rarely met with now," and No. 1088 as being "believed to be unique." In respect of 1104, "Antique pierced silver jewel in the shape of a G," Bro. Hughan writes:—"The silver G is antique in design so far as my researches go, the latter being usually within a circle. The mottoes, 'Nous vivons sur le quarre,' and 'Virtute et Silentio,' are to be found on Major McGachen's medal, and I met with the former once at Falmouth, date about 1780." No. 1110, "Silver Star Jewel," he says—"Quite new to me, and I cannot find out its origin;" and of No. 1112, "Antique Masonic Plate," "Of most elaborate design, and probably unique." Of No. 1117, "Old Apron, with pillars and numerous other emblems worked in silk," he says—"A choice production of 'ye olden time,' and not an ordinary design." In addition are several copies of the Constitutions. "The Coin Collectors' Companion, 1795" (No. 1142), which Bro. Hughan speaks of as "very rare;" "Masonic Miscellanies, by S. Jones, 1797;" the "Freemason Examined," of 1754, with "List of Lodges," to which is appended the note—"This is a singular work, professedly an 'exposure,' but is it so? The list of lodges is valuable, for calendars of that period cannot now be obtained apparently at any price."

With this and the expression of a hope that the example set by York and Worcester may be again and again followed, and with the repetition of our cordial congratulations to all Worcestershire brethren on the success of their conversazione, we must bring our remarks to a conclusion.

REVIEW.

ORIGIN OF THE ENGLISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY.
By Bro. W. J. HUGHAN. London: George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street.—THIRD NOTICE.

Bro. Hughan has thrown great light on the hitherto somewhat obscure history of the English Royal Arch. He seems still to hesitate somewhat as to its English or Foreign origin. We think, however, Bro. Hughan need not do so any longer since the very facts he adduces and the evidences he marshals seem to point indubitably to an English origin of the Grade, paradox as it may seem to some at first sight to assume or uphold! But our reasons are as follows: We were at one time inclined to lean to the idea that Royal Arch came from "Arche Royale," and it may do so, though the evidence would now seem to prove rather that the words were mostly of English use. Bros. Gould and Hughan trace the Royal Arch to Dublin in 1744 and 1746. Ramsay's alleged connection with Irish Freemasonry seems now to be as mythical as his alleged propositions to the Grand Lodge of England. He is said only to have been in England in 1730, and if he received the honorary degree of D. of C. Law, when at Oxford, as is asserted by several writers, which fact a "Worthy Brother at Oxford" might perhaps find out for us, it would be probably in that year. But was he in England then? His position as Preceptor to the Pretender's Children at Rome in 1720, and afterwards to "Prince Turenne," as Ragon says, would make him a "persona ingrata" here. His famous so-called "Rite de Bouillon" (if he formed it) is said by different writers to have consisted of three, or four, or seven Grades. The most commonly mentioned are "Maitre Ecossais, Novice, Templier, Royal Arch," an odd sequence and form terminologically,—this is said to be in 1728. His famous address "Discours d'un Grand Maitre" seems to have been delivered in 1736, and he died in 1743. His influence and interference, then, must have been "nil" on contemporary Freemasonry. Other hands and other men developed his "germ" and enlarged his "ideas," and to "Von Hundt" a good deal may be fairly attributed about 1756-7.

In some foreign writers the words "Arche Royale," in relation to Ramsay's system, and the "Arche d'Enoch," &c., are found; but, curiously enough, Ragon uses "Royal Arch" uniformly as forming a Grade in the "Heredom of Perfection," the "Rit Ecossais," and the "Rit Primitif of Narbonne." But these are all after 1750 in their development and sequence. Schletter and Zille always use the words "Royal Arch." Dermott's statements that he received the Royal Arch in Dublin, 1646, Lodge 26, if we understand him rightly, may be open to question, unless it be the result of the movement mentioned by Fifield Dassigny in 1774 as coming from York. We cannot trust Dermott in any statements which affect the two rival bodies, as he always seeks to depress the one and exalt the other. He, no doubt, to cite a common expression, "made a great card" of the Royal Arch, but where did he get his form from? We are inclined to think, curiously enough we repeat, from a modern use of it, and a modern chapter. Let us try and realize the following facts. The word chapter is in use by the "Moderns" before the "Ancients."—N.B. Later on, the Irish Grand Lodge seems to have repudiated the source from which Dermott says he obtained the Royal Arch in Dublin, in 1746, and there is no available evidence at present of its being practised in Dublin, say from 1746 to 1760. If a lodge granted it in 1646, it would go on naturally doing the same. Perhaps Bro. Neilson can enlighten us a little more on this point. The chapter

of 1765, chartered by Lord Blayney in 1765, is clearly then an old chapter from the number of its members, and we may fairly throw it back, as it seems to us, to about 1745. The earliest trace of the Antient Royal Arch is 1752, and it was not fully working seemingly until 1757. It would appear that the chapter meeting at Gerard-street, Soho, in 1765 had no warrant, and would appear to have been a self-created, self-existing body until recognised by Lord Blayney officially. It is possible that other minute books exist; but we can understand why "chapters" would be very few and far between. It will be a most remarkable and amusing proof of Masonic carelessness in things historical and archaeological, if we have to come to the conclusion to which Bro. Hughan points,—that the "modern use" of the Royal Arch preceded the "antient." Bro. Hughan, if that point is eventually conceded, may well claim great credit for his careful treatment of the evidences. The objections to a foreign origin are many.

The Grade is essentially English in tone, theory, and outcome. It is not in use abroad, and we believe it never was. The "Ninth Arch of Solomon, or Royal Arch," founded on the apocryphal Book of Enoch and the Chevalier d' Orient, or Knight of the Sword and the East both bear on the traditional history of the Royal Arch Grade, but not completely, or thoroughly, only relatively. The English Royal Arch is of itself and by itself, and differs materially from the Irish Grade. Oliver's statement that it had to do with the Red Cross of Babylon is both absurd and utterly misleading. We, therefore, must give up its foreign origin, and to it we have ourselves always consistently objected, and now we also give up the foreign origin of the name. Dr. Oliver's statement that Dunkerley's Royal Arch was Christian is not borne out by the copy we saw. We will not say, on a cursory inspection, that no such allusion as the Cubical or Corner Stone occurs, but we do not remember it. The MS. said to have been used by him was inchoate, and less full than the one in present use. On the whole we come to the conclusion that the Royal Arch is of the Moderns, not the Antients after all, and, as we view it, such an outcome of research is not at all unreasonable or unnatural. But as Dermott made it his great standard of difference and distinction between the two bodies in its fuller and probably more æsthetical development, the Moderns most unwisely maintained a childish "Doctrine of Reserve" about it, until the force of events compelled Lord Blayney, Grand Master in 1765, formally to acknowledge its reality and existence. We have said enough to-day to make students think, and point out the very interesting nature of Bro. Hughan's studies and conclusions.

AN OLD BALLOTING PAPER.

The following fac-simile of the oldest known balloting paper, Boys' School, will no doubt prove interesting to our readers. It refers to the election appointed to take place in July, 1803, but is chiefly valuable from the fact of its containing direct irrefutable evidence as to the brother to whom belongs the honour of having founded the Institution. In the notice at foot will be found his name—that of "Mr. William Burwood, Treasurer and Institutor," a P.M. of the United Mariner's Lodge, now No. 30, and a P.G.W. of the Grand Lodge "Ancients."

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LIST of CANDIDATES.

When presented to the Committee.	Name.	Born.	Parents Situation and Residence.
1801, March	THOMAS BALCH	13th May, 1794	Mother, the widow of Thomas Balch, late of Lodge, No. 221, Leadenhall Market, with three children, at No. 59, Leadenhall-street, London.
.....	ROBERT ROSTHORN	.....	Mother, with three children, at No. 6, New Road, Sloan-street, Chelsea—deserted by the father late a member of Lodge 195, London—a serjeant in the guards.
.....	CHARLES M'KEW	.....	Family of five young children, father late of Lodge 269, Ireland.
.....	JAMES LEDDLE	.....	Father a journeyman rigger, member of Lodge 290, London—family of 6 young children.
1802,	JOHN MATTHEWS	.....	Father a hatter, in old Gravel-lane, and member of Lodge No. 3, Shadwell.
.....	JOHN FARRAH	.....	Father a widower—journeyman taylor, Swan-alley—Coleman-street—with five young children, late a member of Lodge 212, Ireland, and of No. 258, London.
.....	THOMAS BLANCHFIELD	2d Oct. 1796,	Mother, the widow of Thomas Blanchfield, late of Lodge 298—West Middlesex Militia—in poor circumstances, at No. 51, Holden-street, Tottenham-court-road.
1803, April	GEORGE CRAIB	3rd Feb. 1794,	Father a widower, with four young children, late of Lodge, No. 170—now resident at Dover, in the county of Kent.
.....	WILLIAM EYRE	24 Dec. 1796,	Father a journeyman carpenter, member of Lodge 295, London, at the Maze, Tooley-street.
... June 3d	JAMES WARD	21st Sept. 1796,	Mother, the widow of Thomas Henry Ward, late of Lodge 264, London, taylor, at No. 7, Wych-street, Saint Clement's, with five young children.
.....	JOHN HARRISON	3rd Oct. 1793,	Father a journeyman caulker, family of five children, Old Gravel-lane, of the United Mariner's Lodge, No. 23 King's Arms, Wapping.
.....	JOHN BOURKS	25th Sept. 1796,	Mother, the widow of Michael Bourks, late of said Lodge, No. 23, with four young children, at 43, Rosemary-lane.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for the support of this Charity are received by Mr. William Burwood, Green Bank, Wapping, Treasurer and Institutor; Thomas Harper, Esq.; No. 207, Fleet Street, Temple-Bar, London; by the Secretary; and by Mr. Benjamin Aldhouse, Well Street, Spitalfields, Collector.

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BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Jewish Chronicle," "Hull Packet," "Broad Arrow," "Freemasons' Chronicle," "La Revista Masónica," "Royal Cornwall Gazette," "Citizen," "El Templo," "Freemasons' Journal," "Court Circular," "The Freemason" (Sydney), "Keystone," "The American Israelite," "The Gazette" (Montreal), "Allen's Indian Mail," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "The Gem."



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1884.

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.]

A MASONIC CHARITY SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I notice in your last number a suggestion for a Masonic Monday for the support of the Irish Boys' and Girls' School. Would it not be a good idea to have a Masonic Sunday, for the purpose of supporting our three Charitable Institutions? We have a large number of the clergy of all denominations members of our Society. Would they set apart one Sunday in the year for a charitable sermon and collection? I think much good would accrue from such an arrangement.—Yours fraternally,

MIDDLESEX.

OFFICERS' INITIALS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The initials as now used to designate the rank of officers, Present and Past, of the Grand Lodge, and of Provincial Grand Lodges, are very indefinite as to whether the brother so described be a Past Officer of Grand Lodge or a Present Officer of Provincial Grand Lodge. Who can tell, unless a province happens to be mentioned, whether "Bro. Johnson, P.G.O.," is Past Grand Organist, or Provincial Grand Organist?—Yours fraternally,

P.P.G.P. WARN.

Birmingham, 11th September.

HUGHAN'S ENGLISH RITE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I wish to call Bro. Hughan's attention to a curious mistake, which he will probably be anxious to correct. On page 58 he credits me with writing in a contemporary of 8th September, 1883, as follows: "The several rituals up to 1730 confirm my belief that the Moderns never changed their modes of recognition in the two first Degrees." Now Sir, this is sound common sense, and moreover does express my opinion, but for all that I never wrote it, nor do I know who did, as I have destroyed the greater part of the number in question. I personally have no ground of complaint, but the real writer might feel aggrieved. Curiously enough, I did write a long letter in the paper in question of that date, the concluding paragraphs of which give an account of an experience of mine many years ago in Hamburg, and which tends to prove that either England or Germany at some time or other made the horse and cart change places. Inasmuch as England agrees with Scotland and Ireland, the fault must be ascribed to Germany, and I think I can explain how it arose. Towards the end of last century and beginning of this our German brethren gradually awoke from their dreams of Templar succession, Rosicrucian inheritance, &c., and seriously set to work to replace Freemasonry on the solid foundation of the English Craft. The head of this movement in Hamburg was Schröder, and seeking for pure undiluted ceremonial he lit upon "Jachin and Boaz." He came to the conclusion that this work contained the primitive English Rite; and many learned German students such as Krause, Schneider, Fessler, and others, have since agreed with him. We know that the book is quite valueless for the desired purpose, but their mistake under the circumstances was excusable. Now, in this supposed exposure a certain cart is placed before a certain horse throughout, and hence the confusion.—I am, dear Sir, yours fraternally,

G. W. SPETH.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Bro. Dunk is very ready in stating that my statements are entirely erroneous; but he does not prove that they are.

I was informed by one who saw the bills of quantities that the name of Bro. Dunk appeared as surveyor, and that the charge was two-and-a-half per cent.

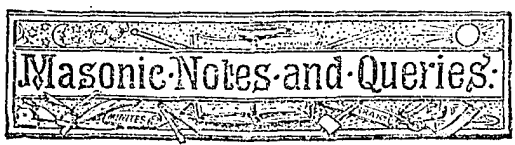
I did not state that Bro. Dunk could not prepare quantities; but, during more than 20 years' experience, I have never before heard of his doing such work, nor can he produce such a list of works as Bros. J. Clever, W. Birdseye, W. E. Stoner, H. Lovegrove, J. Sergeant, T. Nixon, and other more or less known Masons who are surveyors.

The statement that Mr. Gedon, his partner, competed is nonsense; the interest of partners are the same, the apportionment of office work being a matter of detail.

I consider that one-and-a-half per cent. for such a job would have been ample, as surveyors generally divide the labour of taking off, and I maintain, and shall always do so, that if the Committee had appointed one surveyor (Bro. Dunk does not give the name of the other, or state who appointed him), say such a good friend of the Institution as Bro. Joseph Clever, the work would have been as well done as by going through the farce of two surveyors.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Some years since the Lord Mayor of the day did Mr. Pearson the honour of laying the foundation stone of the latter's Chambers in Birdcage Walk. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Mr. Pearson, of whose right to the magic prefix "Bro." we are unable to speak with any degree of certainty—thus aptly alluded to the tools which had been used on the occasion. He presented the mallet and level to his lordship as a memorial of the day's occurrences; the square, he said, was "to be kept undivided between himself and Mrs. Pearson;" the rule he gave to his daughter "as a guide, whereby to regulate her future conduct;" while as to the compass, he handed it to the builder, in the hope that "it would remind him to keep his bill within compass."



401] OPENING OF SHELDONIAN THEATRE.

In the *London Gazette*, No. 382, I find the following: "Oxford, July 11.—On Friday last, the University being assembled in a full body, went to take possession of the new Theatre, the Magnificent Benefaction of his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, where, after the reading of his Grace's Grant by the Register of the University, Dr. South, the Publick Orator made an excellent speech upon the occasion; in the afternoon, being again assembled and placed in the Theatre, after the loud Musick had sounded, were pronounced several Panegyrics, the first in Prose, then one in Pindarick Verse, after that an Oration, then a Dialogue in Poetry, which having taken up a considerable time; the Auditory was diverted with excellent Musick, Vocal and Instrumental, which ending, they were again entertained with another Oration, followed by two Speeches in Poetry, and afterwards by a discourse in favour of Learning, then a short Speech from the Musick Gallery, ushering in two Odes, which were excellently sang, after which followed another Speech, which concluded the solemnity of that day." Now, the above is an account of what occurred, written within two days after the event, and it contains no allusion whatever to any Masonic ceremony. "Ignotus" says "Anderson must have some authority for what he advances." I suppose he means for the statement that the "Craftsmen celebrated the Cope-Stone" of the Sheldonian Theatre. Does not the fact that Anderson on p. 14 uses the same expression about Solomon's Temple, and on p. 23 about the Second Temple, and on p. 41 about Herod's Temple, and on p. 70 about Westminster Abbey, and on p. 79 about Henry the Seventh's Chapel, show that this expression was a mere figure of speech employed by Anderson to round a period? I was not aware of any doubt having arisen as to who was the designer of the Sheldonian Theatre, but it does appear extremely doubtful whether Sir C. Wren built the Ashmolean Museum, which Anderson, on p. 103, attributes to him. All the local handbooks which I have consulted say that a local architect, named Wood, was the builder and designer. I hope to be able to trace their authority for this.

A WORTHY (?) BROTHER AT OXFORD.

402] ROSICRUCIAN WORKS IN THE BODLEIAN.

By the kind help of "A Worthy Brother at Oxford," I am enabled to give the following list of Rosicrucian works in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, under the heading "Rosca Crux," which may interest some of your readers.

MASONIC STUDENT.

- BOOKS IN BODLEIAN S.V. ROSEA CRUX.**
- "Responsum ad fratres Rosaceæ Crucis per Hercul. Ovalodium, Heerm. Condesyanum, Mart a Casa" 1618
 - "Scriptum amicabile ad laudatissimam et venerandam fraternitatem Rosææ Crucis directum, in quo præter alia fraternitatis rosææ crucis doctrina, totius vitæ descriptio euidenter defenditur et declaratur." ... 1621
 - "Colloquium Rhodostauroticum trium personarum de fraternitate Rosææ Crucis, in quo videtur quid de societate statuendum sit; ad calc. Mich. Majeri tract. posthum. Sive Ulyssis." ... 1624
 - "Echo colloquii Rhodostaurotici." ... 1624
 - "Silentium post clamores, h.e. tractatus apologeticus quo causæ non solum clamorum, sed revelationum fraternitatis Germanicæ de Rosææ Cruce, &c. traduntur." 1624
 - "Themis aurea, h.e. de legibus fraternitatis R. C. tractatus." ... 1624
 - "The fame and confession of the fraternity of R. C. commonly of the Rosic Cross, by Eug. Philalethes." 1658
 - "Effroyables pactions faictes entre le diable et les pretendus Invisibles (on college de Rose Croix) avec leurs damnables instructions, &c." ... 1623
 - "Lettres sur la liberté politique; avec les notes de l'Abbé Placot." ... 1783
 - "Frater Crucis Rosatæ. Rosen Creutz brüder, d. i. fernerer bericht was für ein beschaffenheit es habe mit den Rosen creutz brüder, u. s. w." ... 1617

403] THE STRASBURGH ARCHIVES OF THE STEINMETZEN.

Can Bro. Speth help me? It is said by A. Arnold in his "History and Philosophy of Freemasonry," page 81, that the document of the Strasburgh Freemasons "were in existence until the French Revolution, when they were destroyed, with many others, to prevent them falling into the hands of the Jacobine Commissioners.

MASONIC STUDENT.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

By command of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., P.G.M., the annual Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at the Drill Hall, Ulverston, on Wednesday next, the 24th inst., when the Craft lodge will be opened at one o'clock, to which all Master Masons will be admitted. Business of considerable importance will be brought before the meeting. The brethren are requested to appear in Masonic mourning, as a mark of respect for the memory of the late Bro. H. S. Alpass, P.G. Secretary. In the meantime, Bro. W. Goodacre, as P.G. Registrar, Stretford, Manchester, is temporarily performing the duties of the Secretary of the Province.

Another petition is to be—if not already done—presented for the granting of a warrant for a new lodge to be held at Portsmouth. It is proposed to call it the St. Clair Lodge, and Captain St. Clair, R.N., P.M., is the first W.M. designate.

Amongst the most recent applications of the Folus Waterspray System of Ventilating, Heating, and Cooling are the Walker Memorial Schools, Leicester; Mr. Moon's Consulting Rooms, Harley Street; the New Mission Hall, Duntshill, Wandsworth; the new Baptist Chapel, Stratford; St. John's Church, Waterloo Bridge-road; the Nova Scotia Mills, Blackburn; and St. Mary's Church, Grassendale, Liverpool.



Craft Masonry.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).—On Wednesday, the 10th inst., this lodge resumed its monthly meetings, and a large gathering of the brethren took place at the White Hart Hotel, Lambeth, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Bale. There were also present Bros. Wm. Davis, S.W.; Thos. Minstrell, J.W.; E. Thurkle, Treas.; W. Stuart, Sec.; A. E. Birch, S.D.; W. Watson, J.D.; R. Lamborne, I.G.; R. Chamberlain, D. of C.; Jno. Irving, W.M.; Janeway, P.M.; W. M. Robinson, P.M.; Skirving, P.M.; Whiting, P.M.; Tundley, P.M.; Hopkins, P.M.; A. French, W. Nicholes, T. Pratt, T. Cawthorne, Mark Wheeler, W. G. Sutton, W. Walker, F. B. Sanehall, E. Woods, F. C. Goodwin, Geo. Isaacs, E. Barnett, Goodall, Knell, E. N. Nightingale, Genly, Samuel London, 1111; Joseph Watson, J. Brook, A. B. Clarke, W. B. Quinn, E. R. Massy, Edmund Woods, W. A. Harding, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed, and Bros. Sutton and Wheeler were passed to the Second Degree, and H. Geo. Hillman was balloted for and initiated. Bro. T. Cawthorne was elected a joining member. Applications for relief were considered, and after the transaction of other Masonic business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, where an excellent repast was served under the personal direction of the respected proprietor, Bro. R. Carrington. The usual Craft toasts followed.

In proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," Bro. Janeway, the I.P.M., spoke with pleasure of the able work which Bro. Bale had done in the lodge room since he had occupied the chair.

The Worshipful Master suitably replied, and, in giving "The Health of the Initiate," said that from his knowledge of Bro. Hillman, he had every reason to believe that he would make a good, worthy, and estimable Mason.

Bro. Hillman responded, and the other Masonic toasts were given, the proceedings being enlivened by various songs.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT LODGE (No. 1558).—The first meeting after the summer vacation was held on Thursday, the 11th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road. There were present Bros. C. Sims, W.M.; J. Taylor, I.P.M.; J. R. Smith, S.W.; C. Stokes, J.W.; Power, P.M., Treas.; Mitchell, P.M., Sec.; Nettlefold, S.D.; Walker, I.G.; Back, Org.; Brown, D.C.; Plummert and Clayton, Stvds.; Mackie, Sutton, Goodyear, Blenkarn, Brown, Lane, Prior, Catt, Blacklog, Shave, Baker, Smithers, and Powell. The visitors present were Bros. Larham, P.M., 1216; Paton, J.D., 205; Martin, 1385; Thomson, 1022; and Eidmans, 225.

The minutes of the previous lodge meeting having been duly confirmed, the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. J. Brown, being a candidate for raising, was after due examination entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Brown raised in a very able manner to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and, this being the election night, after a few words from the W.M. with reference to the S.W., and the efficient manner he had fulfilled all the offices of the lodge, that brother was unanimously elected W.M. Bro. Power was re-elected Treas., and Mitchell, Secretary. A sum of ten guineas was voted unanimously by the lodge for a Past Master's jewel to be presented at the next meeting to Bro. Sims. After the lodge was closed, the brethren sat down to refreshment. The cloth having been removed, the W.M. with a few well chosen sentences gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. Bros. Larham, P.M., Paton, Martin, Thomson, and Eidmans responded for "The Visitors." The proceedings were enlivened during the evening by some excellent singing contributed by Bros. H. C. Mackie, J. Sutton, Mitchell, P.M.; and Power, P.M.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE (No. 1743).—Presentation to Bro. J. L. Mather.—On Saturday evening, the 13th inst., the above young and prosperous lodge met at the Imperial Hotel, Holborn Viaduct, for the first night of their winter work, under the Mastership of Bro. C. G. Sparrow. All his officers were duly at their post, and the brethren were pleased to welcome as visitors on this their opening night, Bros. Keeble, W.M., 1426; Frost, P.M., 704; Lucas, J.W., 1169; London, I.G., 1580; J. Bryce Wilkinson, 52; Smith, 933; Morfitt, 1861; and Bro. Denham, 957.

The preliminary work of the lodge having been disposed of, the principal event of the meeting began, which was the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Alfred Eade, who was duly placed into the chair of K.S. by the retiring W.M., Bro. C. G. Sparrow. Sometimes this ceremony is got through "somehow," but when it is done, as upon this occasion by a Preceptor in the art and mystery, and by "one who knows," of course it was really a treat and deserved the praise which he eventually obtained. The W.M. then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Sparrow, I.P.M.; Mollindina, S.W.; Reed, J.W.; L. A. Leins, Treas.; C. E. Ferry, Sec.; Mitchell, S.D.; W. Smith, J.D.; C. J. Fox, I.G.; C. Salter, D.C.; T. Lovell, A.D.C.; W. J. Squire, W.S.; A. R. Chamberlayne, A.W.S.; and R. W. Goddard, Tyler.

After which the lodge was closed in due form and all adjourned to the "welcome degree," provided by Bro. Begbie, the host, which was, as usual here, very enjoyable.

After the three great loyal toasts had been honoured the I.P.M. proposed that of "The W.M., Bro. Alfred Eade," who in reply stated how much he esteemed the honour, and in the forthcoming year he would not only do his utmost, but sincerely meant to deserve the approval of all who had so unanimously placed him where he was.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and in reply Bro. Keeble, W.M. of the Great City Lodge, said that he had been there so often that he scarcely felt a visitor, but he was in duty bound to express his gratification at the ceremony of installation which had been so beautifully performed; in former times an old Past Master was regularly "kept in stock" to perform this office, who looked with alarm upon any younger member who ventured to interfere,

but it was now happily the fashion for the I.P.M. to install his successor, and the results were highly beneficial to Freemasonry in general.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master," at the same time presenting with many compliments to Bro. Sparrow the gold Past Master's jewel which the lodge had voted him.

The Immediate Past Master in reply acknowledged the kindness he had received from all during his year of office, and trusted his installation ceremony had given them the satisfaction they said it had, for he had done his utmost to perform it properly; the working of the usual degrees was comparatively easy to acquire because they were so often worked, but to install a successor was generally done once in a lifetime; and being a founder of the lodge he should esteem his presentation jewel very highly.

After the toast of "The Past Masters" had been responded to, the Worshipful Master said the principal toast of the evening was "The Health of their retiring Treasurer, Bro. John L. Mather, P.M.," and he felt it a great privilege to have to present him with a hearty testimonial from the lodge and from the brethren, consisting of a service of silver; the long continued applause which followed showed the esteem in which Bro. Mather was held by all.

Bro. Mather, in reply, said that, as a founder, he had taken the utmost care to help in bringing the lodge to its present prosperous state; as its Treasurer he had desired no other office, wishing the younger members to rise as rapidly as possible, advising them in any degree, whether an I.G. or a Treasurer, to do their utmost for each other's welfare. After having filled the chair and the office of Treasurer in many lodges, he now felt compelled to resign, for—amidst a storm of doubts from all the brethren present—he said he was a much more aged man than they took him to be; however, he had much pleasure in handing over to his successor a cheque for so round a sum to continue the working of the lodge, and the splendid service of silver now before him would ever be highly esteemed by himself and by his wife.

The remaining toasts of "The Treasurer," "Secretary," "Officers," and that of the Tyler brought the festivities of the evening to a close.

DUKE OF CORNWALL LODGE (No. 1839)—The installation of this highly successful and numerous lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Saturday, the 13th inst., when there were present Bros. Alfred Stokes, W.M.; George W. Smith, jun., I.P.M., P.G. Org. Essex; Jno. Dewsnap, S.W.; G. F. Smith, J.W.; Thomas Corpe, Treas. and P.M.; S. J. Rossiter, Sec.; A. Williams, S.D.; Henry Cattermole, J.D.; Walter B. Marcus, I.G.; H. S. Trego, Org.; Thos. Bowler, Tyler; A. H. Jakins, D.C.; J. W. Brooke, P.M.; W. Gibson Bott, P.M.; H. B. Garrett, F. H. Stollery, A. L. Blake, W. Wright, C. Fensworth, Chas. Mussared, Henry Cruse, W. Holmes, C. Heinekey, A. F. Baschinski, W. H. de Silva, Charles Boyton, jun., Thos S. Ayres, T. Turner, jun.; C. W. Cox, A. M. Philips, H. Auerbach, J. W. Hayton, Reginald Billing, Joseph Bladon, J. Da Silva, C. H. Smith, and J. T. Rutledge.

Visitors: Bro. John Etherington, J.W., 1310; George Quin, 334; George Bean, W.M., 188; W. W. Morgan, W.M., 211; A. E. Staley, P.M. and W.M., 185; A. Hagan, 1471; Walter V. Braham, W.M., 1471; Lieut. Henry Wright, J.W. and W.M. elect 1827; A. P. Keeling, D.C., 167; W. H. Brand, P.M., 1524; H. G. Martin, 1622; A. G. Dodson, P.M., 188; M. Krumm, 185; Jno. Datcher, 205; S. J. Wakefield, 1298; and C. A. White, 1777.

After the minutes of the last regular lodge, April 12th, and the emergency of June 21st, had been read and confirmed, Bro. C. F. Stollery was carried to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. F. Smith, S.W., was next proceeded with, the following forming the Board of Installing Masters: Bros. Stokes, P.M.; G. F. Smith, S.W.; and Brooke, J.W.

The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. F. Smith, S.W.; A. Williams, J.W. (first initiate in the lodge); T. Corpe, P.M. Treas. (re-invested); S. J. Rossiter, Sec. (re-invested); H. Cattermole, S.D.; W. B. Marcus, J.D.; A. H. Jakins, I.G.; Da Silva, D.C.; H. Auerbach, W.S.; H. S. Trego, Org. (re-invested); and T. Bowler, Tyler (re-invested). Before the closing of the lodge, the W.M. said he had the very pleasing duty of pinning a jewel on the breast of Bro. Stokes, I.P.M., and he trusted he would be spared many years to wear it.

Bro. Stokes, I.P.M., responded in a few kindly sentences. On the proposition of Bro. Stokes, the Auditor's report, which is a very favourable one, was taken as read. Several matters, which were only of interest to the lodge, were transacted, and the Master before closing his lodge mentioned the names of several Grand Lodge and honorary members who had written to him excusing attendance.

The lodge was duly closed, and the members adjourned to a banquet, but not until eight o'clock. Previous to this, on the motion of Bro. Brooke, P.M., the sum of £5 ss. from the Benevolent Fund was voted to a member of the lodge who had fallen into distressed circumstances, and who had frequently subscribed his five guineas to the various Charities.

We were much gratified at seeing the outgoing Master install his successor; Bro. Corpe, P.M., Treas., gave the charges to the officers in a perfect manner. We also congratulate the lodge on the efficiency of its Tyler, who left the candidate for raising a very short time outside the lodge, which often proves wearisome moments to those inside.

After dinner, the loyal and more formal toasts were drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, the W.M. giving them in very short terms, owing to the extreme lateness of the hour.

Bro. Stokes, I.P.M., took the gavel in his hand, and gave in a hearty manner "The Health of the New Master." The way he gave the initiation, especially being his first night in the chair, showed what sort of a Master he was. By what they had seen of his capabilities they might be quite sure the new W.M. would follow in the footsteps of those who had gone before. Bro. Stokes asked the brethren to drink the toast in bumpers, and let Bro. Dewsnap know that they respected him. The brethren heartily responded to the request.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, observed he was glad the time did not permit him to make a long speech. He had had a very anxious time of it the last few months, and was very glad that it was over now, and that his election was confirmed.

The Worshipful Master, in giving "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. Stokes, I.P.M.," said he had had a

rather chequered career at first; but he had come out of it successfully, as they all knew.

Bro. Stokes thanked all the brethren for the kind manner in which his health had been received. All he thought of during his year of office was prosperity to the lodge. He hoped he had given satisfaction in his working in the lodge, and also at the banquet table.

"The Initiates" was the next toast given from the chair, of whom many complimentary things were said.

The two initiates responded in very brief terms, but which displayed their modesty.

The Worshipful Master, in giving "The Visitors," said the list was a long one, and called for a hearty response.

Bro. Bean, W.M. Joppa Lodge, congratulated the Master of the lodge on the business which had called them together that evening.

Bro. Staley, P.M. Tranquilly Lodge, alluded to the excellent working the visitors had been allowed to see.

Bro. Dodson, P.M. Joppa Lodge, expressed his pleasure at seeing the W.M. in his present position, for they were both members of the same mother lodge.

Bro. Brand, P.M. Duke of Connaught Lodge, also said a few words for the visitors.

In giving "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. was able to say that the whole of the Past Masters were present around him. He made several complimentary remarks about the brethren who had gone through the chair.

Bro. Brooke rose, in obedience to the call of the W.M., to respond for the Past Masters. He was deeply impressed with the cordial manner in which he had been received. He had been away for the past three months, and had travelled 1000 miles to be present with them that evening, and thanked them for the kind grasp of their hand.

Bro. Corpe followed in a very happy strain.

Bros. Glen Bott and F. Smith, Prov. Grand Org. Essex, also spoke a few words.

Bro. Rossiter responded as the Secretary. He was delighted to see their late Secretary, Bro. Brooke, amongst them again. He (Bro. Rossiter) meant to do his best to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor.

The other usual Masonic toasts followed, which finished a most agreeable evening. The proceedings were not concluded until a very late hour. We are glad to know that the lodge is growing in every way.

HASTINGS.—Derwent Lodge (No. 40).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Castle Hotel on Monday, the 8th inst., the W.M. Bro. W. H. Russell, presiding, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. J. Plurman, S.W.; F. H. Hallet, J.W.; E. W. J. Hennah, P.M., Sec.; T. Markwick, J.D.; Henry Gloyns, I.G.; Leslie, Tyler; Wilson, W. S. Allen, Roddis, P. Robinson, J. B. Foord, Stace, Paine, J. Hurst, P.M., and others. Visitors: Bros. Alfred Bryant and Greenwood. The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. Russell, very ably passed Bro. Payne to the Second Degree, after which the lodge was closed.

DERBY.—Arboretum Lodge (No. 731).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall on the 10th inst., when there were present Bros. C. Webster, W.M.; J. Bland, I.P.M.; J. Copstick, S.W.; Edgar Horne, J.W.; W. Whittaker, P.M., Treas.; J. Taylor, P.M., as Sec.; A. Frazer, P.M., as S.D.; J. Chadwick, J.D.; S. Taylor, D. of C.; J. Walker, I.G.; W. Forman and J. Melrose, Stvds.; G. T. Wright, P.M.; J. C. Merry, P.M.; J. Brown, P.M., Dr. Carter Wigg, P.M.; G. Cay, P.M.; J. L. Greensmith, J. Jones, W. Todd, and others. Visitors: Bros. C. D. Hart, W.M., 1085; Rev. W. Hope, 253; B. W. Pike, 1085; and Tuckwood, 1679.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. in an able manner passed Bro. W. H. Orme, G. Tarver, and G. H. Ward; the charge being given by the S.W. Grand Lodge certificates were presented to Bros. Jones and Claye. Bro. Hillam, P.M., proposed a candidate for initiation. The W.M., on rising to make the usual enquiries, reminded the brethren that the installation of the Tyrian Lodge, 253, would take place on the last Tuesday of the month, when Bro. Thos. Cox, P.M., P.G. Treas., would be installed W.M. for the centennial year; and he hoped all who could would be present. Letters expressing inability to be present were read from Bros. Rev. Thos. Orrel, Chap., and J. W. Briggs, Sec., and the lodge was closed.

The supper took place in the Lower Hall, most of the brethren remaining. Grace was said before and after by Bro. Rev. W. Hope. The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts; that of "The Provincial Grand Officers" being responded to by Bro. Whittaker, P.M., P.P.G.R.; and Bro. G. T. Wright, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., as chairman of the Charity Committee, reminded the brethren that they had a candidate for the Boys' School, and that the Prov. G. Master had evinced his interest in the case by enquiring what he could do to assist in the matter.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed as usual by the S.W. in a brief but neat speech, and it was heartily responded to by the brethren. The W.M. replied by assuring the brethren how much he appreciated their good wishes, and of his anxiety to do all he could to promote the interests of the lodge.

The W.M. proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," to whom he expressed himself greatly indebted, especially to Bro. Frazer, P.M., who had that evening so ably acted as S.D. With the toast were coupled the names of Bros. J. Bland, I.P.M., and A. Frazer, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. The former assured the W.M. and brethren that it was his greatest pleasure to be able to do anything for the welfare of the lodge; he also alluded to the announcement made in lodge of the death of Bro. Ring, expressing his great sorrow thereat. Bro. Frazer said he had little to add to what the previous speaker had said; he was at all times pleased to render any assistance he could, and the W.M. could count upon his services whenever required.

"The Visitors" was proposed in an able speech by Bro. W. Whittaker, P.M. and Treas., who assured them they would always meet with a hearty welcome whenever they came. To this toast Bros. Rev. W. Hope, 253, C. D. Hart, W.M., 1085, and Tuckwood responded.

"The Officers" was next proposed by the W.M., who complimented them on their excellent working. Bros. W. Forman, Stvd., and E. Home, J.W., responded, and the adjournment shortly afterwards took place. The brethren

had a rare musical treat, Bros. Tuckwood, B. W. Pike, W. L. Dodd, W. Forman, and E. Horne doing good service.

JARROW.—St. Bede Lodge (No. 1119).—On Wednesday, August 27th ult., the installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Jarrow. Bro. T. Renton, P.M., W.M., presided, and among those present were Bros. A. M'Dougall, W. H. Dickinson, P.M.; J. T. Dickinson, P.M., P.P.G.P.; M. Frampton, P.G.S.B.; C. McNamara, P.G. Std. Br.; M. Douglass, P.P.G.D.; S. Chadwick, W.M. 1642; J. C. Moor, W.M. 97, S.W. 2039; A. Barker, P.M. 1342; and others. Bro. James Sedcole, S.W. and W.M.-elect, was introduced by Bro. C. McNamara to the Installing Master, Bro. A. M'Dougall, by whom the ceremony of installation was impressively performed. The newly installed W.M. afterwards appointed and invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. T. Renton, I.P.M.; J. Armstrong, S.W.; J. W. Ramsay, J.W.; T. Robinson, Treas.; S. Thompson, Sec.; A. M'Dougall, D.C.; N. K. Browne, S.D.; G. Davies, J.D.; R. W. Klyne, I.G.; E. B. Browne, S.S.; Thomas A. Jolly, J.S.; Horner, Tyler. The annual banquet of the lodge was afterwards held, at which there was a large attendance, and the chair was taken by the W.M., Bro. J. Sedcole.

ELLAND.—Saville Lodge (No. 1231).—The last general meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on the 4th inst., when there were present Bros. Lawson Saville, W.M.; Farnell, S.W.; Emsley, J.W.; S. Dyson, S.D.; Dr. Whalley, D.C.; S. W. North, I.G.; Walker, P.M., Org.; Smithies, Sec.; J. Rhodes, T. Buckland, and L. North.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read and confirmed. Bro. Lewis North was afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., Bro. Saville, W.M., conducting the ceremony. Bro. Farnell explained the working tools. Bro. Dr. Whalley, D.C., then gave very fully the historical part of the Third Degree, administered the ancient charge, and then explained the tracing board throughout. The ceremony was conducted in such a manner as to impress upon the minds of all brethren how solemn and beautiful Freemasonry can be made when the various sections are properly rendered.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Three Crowns, Bro. C. T. Lewis, W.M., in the chair, supported by the following officers and brethren: Bros. A. T. Ives, S.W.; C. Jolly, J.W. (Freemason); J. Ives, Sec.; J. Paul, S.D.; J. Savage, J.D.; C. F. Canning, I.G.; W. Page, P.M., Tyler; E. West, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts; Jas. Elder, P.M.; M. Kaul, C. Wood, J. Brown, G. Jennings, W. Ball, W. McGinnes, F. Bowden, J. Ireland, C. Ginnery, R. Hucknell, J. Aillud, W.M. 615; P. Barlow, 359; and J. Gaskill, P.M. 1076. Bro. Ireland was raised and Bro. Burden passed, both degrees being admirably worked by the W.M. A pleasant little supper and a social hour afterwards supplemented some excellent working.

INSTRUCTION.

WESTBOURNE LODGE (No. 733).—A meeting was held on the 12th inst. at Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood. Present: Bros. Long, P.M., W.M.; Strachan, S.W.; Wickens, J.W.; W. T. Allen, Sec.; Kershaw, P.M., S.D.; and March, I.G. Lodge was opened in due form, and minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The First, Second, and Third Sections of Lecture were worked by Bro. Long, P.M. Lodge opened in Second Degree, and ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Allen being the candidate. The S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida-hill. Present: Bros. Gordon, W.M.; Duffin, S.W.; Wickens, J.W.; Baker, Treas. and Preceptor; Thomas, Sec.; Scattergood, S.D.; Humfress, J.D.; Read, I.G.; Stratton, Stwd.; Dehane, P.M.; Cuff, P.M.; Mickleburgh, P.M.; Williams, Mote, Mellier, Green, Page, Holcombe, Curtis, and Walford.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The First and Second Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor, Bro. F. G. Baker, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was called off and on. Bro. Holcombe, having answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, was duly intrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Holcombe being candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree and closed down. Bro. Curtis was elected a joining member; the J.W., Bro. Wickens, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, who appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. Williamson on his recovering from his late severe accident. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form and perfect harmony, and was adjourned until Tuesday evening next.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—At the weekly meeting held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on the 4th inst., there were present Bros. G. H. Reynolds, W.M.; Stroud, S.W.; Holland, J.W.; S. Hewitt, S.D.; Green, J.D.; Barnes, I.G.; W. C. Smith, Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Sec.; W. Robinson, Graham, Vaughan, Barling, Potter, Seymour, Read, T. A. Dickson, and Cousins.

The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. G. H. Reynolds, W.M., worked the First Section of this Lecture. Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, worked the Second Section of this Lecture. Bro. Potter having offered himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. was pleased to rehearse the ceremony. Bro. Potter having again offered himself, he was duly questioned, entrusted, and retired as a candidate leading to the degree of F.C. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. W. C. Smith, Preceptor, worked the First Section of this Lecture. The lodge having been resumed to the First Degree, Bro. Starling, 1614, was unanimously elected as a joining member of the lodge.

Bro. W. C. Smith proposed that Bro. Stroud be W.M. for the ensuing week; this was seconded by the J.W., and was carried unanimously. The W.M. elect was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation.

Bro. G. Reynolds, Sec., read the letter he had sent to Mr. F. Richardson, in accordance with the vote of condolence passed at their last meeting, as to the sad loss the lodge of instruction had sustained by the death of their worthy Preceptor, Bro. W. H. Richardson:

“Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane,
“Covent Garden, W.C., 2nd Sept., 1884.

“F. Richardson, Esq.,

“Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, held on Thursday evening, the 28th ult., I was instructed to convey to you, on behalf of the brethren of that lodge, our sincere and heartfelt condolence on the sad event which has deprived us of a good brother and most able Preceptor, Bro. W. H. Richardson.

“We were all looking forward to the most pleasurable anticipation to seeing him back again amongst us with renewed strength to carry on the work he was so devoted to, but it has pleased the Almighty Architect to take him to himself, and we can but bow to His most righteous will.

“We hope you will be able to let all the other members of his family know in what high esteem we all held our departed brother, and again offering you all our sympathy in your trial,—I remain, yours most respectfully,

“G. REYNOLDS, Secretary.”

Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony, and adjourned to Thursday evening, the 11th inst.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 12th inst., at the Guardsman Army Coffee Tavern, Buckingham Palace-road. There were present Bros. Grist, W.M.; Green, sen., W.M. elect 1687, S.W.; C. White, J.W.; Boulton, P.M. 1604, Preceptor; Capt. Butterworth, Treas.; Coughlan, Sec.; Gilbert, S.D.; Wade, P.M. 1604, J.D.; Green, jun., I.G.; Brindley, W.M. 1604; Foulson, J.W. 1604.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Brindley, a candidate to be passed to the Second Degree, answered the usual questions and was entrusted; the lodge was opened in the Second Degree, the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. Brindley candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree; the W.M. having risen for the second time. It was proposed, seconded, and carried ncm. con., that Bro. Green, S.W., be elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, when the Committee appointed to select a suitable meeting place made their report, and it was proposed, seconded, and unanimously carried that the lodge remove to the Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, Pimlico. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE (No. 1922).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, when there were present Bros. E. H. Norden, W.M.; Jacobs, S.W.; Mackie, J.W.; Sutton, S.D.; Sims, J.D.; Paton, Sec.; Johnson, Preceptor; Stafford, I.G.; Eidmans, Cobham, Forster, and Youens.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The questions leading to the Second Degree were put to and answered by Bro. Eidmans. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Eidmans was duly passed to the degree of F.C. The questions leading to the Third Degree were answered by Bro. Paton, who was duly entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. Paton was raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Jacobs, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing meeting, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the W.M. for his very able working, the same to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Norden replied, and hoped he should be able to come among them oftener. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, Bro. Preceptor giving the long address.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday night at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Joshua Nunn, President, occupied the President's chair; Bro. James Brett, Senior Vice-President, the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. Henry Garrod, G.A. Purst., the Junior Vice-President's chair.

There were also present Bros. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec.; Hen. Maudsley, P.G.D.; J. Matthews, G.S.B.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Sd.B.; A. Pendlebury, P.M.; W. Mann, 186; Geo. Britten, P.M.; E. F. Storr, P.M. 22; Geo. P. Gillard, P.M. 657; Chas. F. Hogard, P.M. 205; J. G. Fisher, P.M. 1104; A. E. Gladwell, P.M.; Chas. Godtschalk, P.M.; W. P. Brown, P.M.; H. Massey, P.M.; J. R. Cheal, W.M.; A. Nicols, P.M.; J. Boyd, G. Stwd., W.M.; Jas. Baker, W.M.; T. Ockendon, W.M.; L. G. Langdon, W.M.; J. Hurdell, P.M.; C. Kempton, W.M.; G. P. Festa, P.M.; W. Hopekirk, P.M.; J. H. Taylor, I.P.M.; T. R. Minstrell, W.M.; N. Green, P.M.; and W. Dodd, P.M.

The Board first confirmed recommendations made at the August meeting amounting to £95. The number of new cases on the list was much smaller than usual, viz., 19. The localities from which they came were Croydon, Stowmarket, Manchester, Portsmouth, Newfoundland, Ireland, Lostwithiel, Rochdale, Exmouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, St. Helena, South Shields, Devonport, Leeds, Topsham, Pretoria, and London. Only two were from London. Eight were cases of widows. The sitting was not a long one, lasting only two hours. The total amount granted was £560. No case was deferred or dismissed.

People in trouble may be forgiven if they allow their ideas to become a little confused. We believe there is a case on record in which a country petitioner to the Board of Benevolence ascribed his misfortunes “to the long-continued peace and other calamities!” In another case, a poor distressed brother stated that, had it not been for the “cemeteries,” he should have wanted “the very means of procuring bare existence.”

PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS TO THE BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS.

A very interesting ceremony took place on Tuesday last, when the officers of the Abbey Lodge, Westminster, No. 2030, attended at Stratton-street, to present to the Baroness, on behalf of the members of the lodge, an illuminated address, thanking her ladyship for her kindness and liberality on the occasion of the consecration of the lodge at the Town Hall, Westminster. The address—which was beautifully illuminated—was surmounted with the arms of the lodge, supported by the various Masonic emblems and designs, and had been executed by Bro. George Kenning, and framed in an oak frame, specially designed and carved by Bro. Power, of York-street, Westminster. It contained an exact copy of the resolution passed at the first meeting of the lodge. At that meeting it was proposed by Bro. H. Bowman Spink, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. W. H. Baker, S.W., and unanimously resolved “That the best thanks of the brethren be, and are hereby given to the Right Honourable the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, for her liberality and kindness displayed to the lodge in presenting the Masonic furniture and regalia, and the brethren trust that the Great Architect of the Universe will be pleased to shed the rays of His benign blessing upon her Ladyship, that she may be enabled for many years to continue the exercise of her benevolent influence in the interests of the Craft, and for the general good of mankind.” Signed by Bro. Burdett-Coutts, W.M., and Bro. J. E. Shand, Sec., on behalf of the members of the lodge.

The officers present consisted of Bros. W. Burdett-Coutts, W.M.; W. H. Baker, S.W.; H. Bowman Spink, I.P.M.; J. E. Shand, Sec.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chap.; W. Sugg, S.D.; R. Montague, J.D.; H. R. Baker, I.G.; J. A. Jones, R. E. H. Goffin, J. Gibson, and C. C. Piper. They were duly received by the Baroness, who was accompanied by her sister and Miss Pinn.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER in the name of the lodge made the presentation, and said that the brethren of the Abbey Lodge were desirous of recording in some slight degree the appreciation of the interest her ladyship had taken in the welfare and prosperity of the lodge, and he was sure that she would be pleased to know that the lodge had already made such progress that its success was insured. It had already taken a high position among the Masonic lodges of the Metropolis, and had early distinguished itself in supporting the Masonic Charities. It was a pleasure to him as the first W.M. to know that the objects in the formation of the lodge had been fully realised, and that the Baroness herself might remember with gratification that the interest she had both shown and taken in the lodge had not been given in vain.

Bro. H. BOWMAN SPINK eloquently supported the W.M., and alluded to the close connection the Baroness and her family all had with Westminster, a connection which had even now been made more binding by the appointment of the W.M. as the first Master of the lodge held at the Westminster Town Hall. Wherever the English language was spoken the name of the Baroness was a household word, and that because she had always been so prominent in supporting the greatest of the Masonic principles, “Charity.”

The Rev. R. J. SIMPSON also spoke in support, and Bro. W. SUGG addressed the Baroness on behalf of the junior officers of the lodge.

Bro. W. H. BAKER, S.W., read the vote of thanks to the Baroness, which was then handed to her by the W.M.

The Baroness BURDETT-COUTTS said how much she was pleased with the address, and the words that had fallen from the officers of the Abbey Lodge who had spoken. She had at all times taken great interest in the welfare of anything appertaining to Westminster, and that interest had now, if possible, been increased by the position which her husband had taken in this truly Westminster Masonic lodge. She was happy in the knowledge that her dear sister had witnessed that day's ceremony, for she had, perhaps, even a greater memory of her father's work in Westminster than she had herself. She wished the Abbey Lodge and its members every success.

At the conclusion of the ceremony refreshments were provided in the dining room, and the visitors had an opportunity of inspecting the many objects of interest in the house. Among the numerous trowels presented to the Baroness on laying various foundation stones was the one she used when the first stone of the Westminster Town Hall was laid, and among the china was a very handsome Worcester jug, having a very fine portrait of the late Sir Francis Burdett upon it, in many respects similar to that painted upon the handsome stained-glass window in the Council Chamber of the Westminster Town Hall.

RE GRAND CHAPTER OF QUEBEC.

“Office of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons,
“SA, Red Lion Square, High Holborn,
“London, 15th September, 1884.

“M.E. and Dear Sir and Companion,—
“I am directed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, &c., M.W.G.M.M.M., to acknowledge, with his best thanks, the copy of the proceedings of your Grand Chapter, which you have been good enough to send us.

“With reference to the Quebec difficulty, I have to remark, with great regret, that considerable misapprehension appears to exist on the part of a majority of the G. Chapters of the U.S.

“I have again to repeat—
“1. That this G.L. claims no territorial or other jurisdiction whatever in the U.S., or within the district claimed by the G.C. of Canada.

“2. With regard to the Province of Quebec, it is altogether inaccurate to say that this G.L. has issued warrants for Mark Lodges, since its recognition (under a misapprehension as to its legality) of the G.C. of Quebec.

“The facts are these. There have always been, since 1760, and long previous to the constitution of the G.C. of Quebec, ‘Time Immemorial’ Mark Lodges connected with English Craft lodges in Montreal. Of this we have ample documentary evidence, and the main fact is admitted by the G.Z. of the G.C. of Canada, at p. 16 of proceedings, July 11, 1884. Three of these ‘Time Immemorial’ Mark Lodges desired to place themselves under Supreme English Jurisdiction in the Mark Degree, as their members were already under Supreme English Jurisdiction in the

Craft and R.A. Degrees. This G.L. has acknowledged them as regular, by granting them what is practically a warrant of confirmation. It has created for them no new status. They were legal bodies before. Some of the principal Members of the G.C. of Canada received the Mark Degree in one of these T.I. lodges.

"These lodges could not, in our view of Masonic law and tradition, be lawfully compelled to apply for warrants of confirmation to the G.C. of Quebec for two reasons—1st, that they had no desire to join that new organization; and 2nd, that they are advised by the highest legal authority, that the said organization is illegal according to the civil law of the State, and that its members can only meet under risk of criminal prosecution. This view is confirmed by the fact that the G.C. of Quebec, in the last Session of the Dominion Parliament, attempted to obtain a legal status, but failed to do so.

"3. At the present moment, therefore, the Mark lodges meeting under the Warrants of Confirmation of this G.L. are the only legal assemblies of Mark Masters in the Province of Quebec. (See Hon. Judge Badgley's letter to M.W.G.M.M.M., at p. 61 of proceedings of G.L. of M.M.M., June, 1884.)

"4. I cannot but express my surprise that the G.C.'s of the U.S. should have so far overlooked one of the fundamental landmarks of Masonry as to attempt to oblige English Mark Masters to join a so-called Masonic body meeting in defiance of the laws of the State in which it finds itself.

"5. Whenever a legal body working the Mark Degree is established in the Province of Quebec, it will be open to it to make advances for union to the three T.I. lodges holding warrants of confirmation from this G.L., and to this course we shall offer no objection whatever; but, on the contrary, we should be exceedingly glad to see such a union voluntarily effected, and would promote it by any legitimate means in our power.

"Meanwhile, in order to meet as far as possible the views of the U.S., and in the hope that a satisfactory arrangement may be made between the three T.I. English Mark Lodges in Quebec and a lawful G.C., we have restricted the action of the English Mark Lodges in Quebec to English Master Masons. We shall exceedingly regret it if we are driven from this conciliatory position by the hostile action of the G.C.'s of the U.S.

"6. These facts we beg to commend to the fraternal consideration of your G.C.

"FREDERICK BINCKES, P.G.J.W.,
"Grand Secretary.

"To the M.E. Grand H.P., G.R.A. Chapter of—"

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. F. J. STIMSON.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. F. J. Stimson, a member of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, No. 1609, with which he had been connected for several years. The young comedian, only 27 years of age, had made a great provincial reputation, and was especially well known in Yorkshire and Lancashire. Bro. Stimson was born in London on the 28th of September, 1857. His father being connected with the law, it was originally intended that he should be brought up to that profession, and accordingly he was placed in a lawyer's office. Legal studies, however, were not congenial to him, and he drifted into journalism, being at one time connected with several London weekly journals. But his early bent was towards the stage, and after some semi-private trials in London, he made his first appearance on the regular stage in 1874 as Luke Marks in a dramatic version of "Lady Audley's Secret." His success in this part was immediate, and was the indirect means of his introduction to a London audience, before which he made his first bow as an actor at the Charing-cross Theatre early in 1875, and while yet in his seventeenth year. From this time forward his success was assured. At the Charing-cross he remained three years, and established himself as a favourite, essaying numerous parts, and improving by assiduous study his talents for the burlesque. Soon after we find him at Leeds, the central figure of Frank Green's pantomime of "Jack the Giant Killer." Leeds playgoers remember to this day Bro. Stimson's clever personation of the troubadour Flutterosa, and the prolonged run which the pantomime had that season was generally ascribed to Bro. Stimson's mirth-provoking acting. After this success his services were in great demand, especially for the pantomime season, and as Granny Brown, in Mr. R. Younge's pantomime of "Little Boy Blue," at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield; as Crokerina, in "Goody Two Shoes," at the Prince of Wales's, Liverpool; and as Sarah, in "Dick Whittington," at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, he added considerably to his reputation. He was engaged by Miss Jennie Lee for the part of Dick Swiveller, in her new production, "Nell," at Liverpool, and also appeared with great success at the Royal, Manchester, in the comic opera "The King's Dragoons." For two or three years past the popular young comedian has been on tour through the provinces with his own company in the farcical piece "Flint and Steel," and the burlesque "Mary Mignon." He had many friends in Leeds, Sheffield, and other Yorkshire towns. Bro. Stimson was never robust, and the hard work he underwent told severely upon him. He was attacked by consumption in its worst form, and about two months ago he was compelled to retire from the stage, and cancel the dates for his autumn tour. After staying at Ventnor and Brighton he went down to the village of Mere, in Wiltshire, where he died on the 3rd inst., deeply lamented by an unusually wide circle of friends. The funeral took place on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Brompton Cemetery.

Birth, Marriage, and Death.

BIRTH.

JONES.—On the 31st July, at Panullico, Chili, the wife of R. J. Jones, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

EASTMAN—PHILLIPS.—On the 28th ult., Edward J., youngest son of Mr. H. T. Eastman, to Ada S., eldest daughter of Bro. G. Phillips, of Beckenham.

DEATH.

MARSH.—On the 11th inst., at Woodbridge-road, Ipswich, John Marsh, M.R.C.S., aged 68.



The Grand Lodge of Durham will be held at the Lecture Hall, Palace Green, Durham, under the presidency of the Marquis of Londonderry, on Tuesday, October 2nd.

All the lodges in the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight have gone into mourning, as a mark of respect for the late W. Bro. Hickman, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of that province.

Bro. John Taylor, jun., of the *Essex Weekly News*, was installed W.M. of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 1817, at Shoeburyness on Thursday last. Bro. H. Church, the retiring W.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel.

Bro. Edwin Storr, S.W. of St. John's Lodge, No. 107, was, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., elected W.M. of the above lodge. Bro. Storr is also the indefatigable Hon. Sec. of that popular lodge of instruction, the Metropolitan, No. 1507.

Ex. Comp. Frederick Thurston has been elected M.E.Z. of the Royal Jubilee Chapter, No. 72, and, by the unanimous wish of the members, Ex. Comp. H. Lovegrove, P.Z., has accepted the office of Scribe E., vacant through the death of Ex. Comp. J. Nunn.

In our report of the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge we wrongly described W. Bro. R. J. Finnemore, District Grand Master Natal, as Rev. J. Finnemore. The name of W. Bro. H. D. Sandeman, Past District Grand Master Bengal, was also omitted from the list of those present.

Bro. the Earl of Kintore, Grand Mark Master, is about to issue warrants for adding two more Mark lodges to the roll. One is for England and the other one for Cape Town, South Africa. The English lodge, which will be No. 344, is to be called the St. Alban's Lodge, and is to meet at Nottingham; and the Cape Town lodge is to be called the British Lodge, and is to be numbered 345.

THE LATE BRO. H. S. ALPASS, J.P.—At a meeting of the House Committee of the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, held last Friday evening, under the presidency of Bro. T. Salter, P.P.G.D., a resolution was unanimously adopted conveying the sincere sympathy of the members with Mrs. H. S. Alpass in connection with the sudden death of her husband, and their feeling of appreciation of the valuable services he had rendered to the Order.

The R.W. Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.W., installed Bro. Charles Trevithick, as W.M. of the Fortitude Mark Lodge, No. 78, Truro, on Tuesday last, in the presence of a goodly number of the members, the board consisting of Past Masters Bros. W. J. Johns, P.G. Sec.; W. D. Rogers, P.G.M.O.; William Middleton, P.P.G.D.; Richard Lean, P.P.G.D.; and J. C. R. Crewes, P.P.G. S. of W., the respected Secretary.

A report received at St. John's Gate states that at the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to South Shields to open the Coble Dene Dock, the St. John Ambulance Corps connected with the local Volunteer Life Brigade were stationed at convenient places with appliances for rendering "first aid" in the event of accidents, owing to the great crush of people. Fortunately their services were not required, except in a few cases of fainting, but the workmanlike appearance of the corps attracted the attention of their Royal Highnesses and the Mayor of Gateshead, and other leading officials expressed their satisfaction at its evident readiness for any emergency. It is much to be regretted that every large town does not follow so excellent an example.

We have heard with a great deal of pleasure that Bro. Geo. Lambert, P.G. Swd. Br., is about to be presented shortly with a testimonial and that the friends who are thus about to recognise thus worthily the great liberality and kindness of our respected brother, have arranged to entertain him at dinner, at the Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, the 21st November, when the chair will be taken by Bro. Alderman Savory. A Committee has been formed for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements, Mr. F. H. Thomas, of Bond-street, Past Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, being the chairman, and Mr. E. N. Cutler, of Cavendish-place, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer. We are satisfied that Bro. Lambert's numerous Masonic friends will join us in congratulating him on the great compliment of which, in so short a time, he will be the recipient.

We hear every now and then of a brother who is reported to be the "oldest" Mason in this or that country. The death of such a one—Bro. Waterman Clapp—is recorded in the "Freemasons' Repository" for last month, the said brother being in his 97th year, and having been initiated in Mount Vernon Lodge, Providence, R.I., in 1813. Our worthy Bro. Norris, Warden of the R.M.B.I., though not so old in point of years as the deceased brother, is an older Mason, having been initiated in our Sincerity Lodge, No. 174, on the 10th March, 1812, or about 72½ years since. We believe Sir Moses Montefiore's name is enrolled in the Moira Lodge, No. 92, before 1813, and there are still happily surviving two brethren who were initiated in the Apollo University Lodge, in 1819—the year of its constitution—namely, Bro. Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart., G. Chaplain in 1844, and the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G.

£50 to £300.—Tobacconists.—A pamphlet (80 pages) How to commence from £20; three stamps. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Sample cigars 6, 5, 4, 1/1, 14 stamps. [ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Dismiss Your Doubts.—Let no one be longer oppressed with the notion that his malady is incurable till these purifying Pills have had a fair trial. When ordinary preparations have failed these Pills have been used with the most marked success. A course of this admirable medicine clears the blood from all impurities, and improves its quality. The whole system is thus benefited through the usual channels without reduction of strength, shock to the nerves, or any inconveniences. The weakest woman and the most delicate child may fearlessly resort to this cooling, corrective, and vital strengthening medicine, which works the most beneficial change where health seemed helplessly lost.—[ADVT.]

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire was held yesterday (Thursday), at the Literary Institution, Altrincham, under the presidency of Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in place of Lord de Tabley. We hope to give a report next week.

There are few of the visitors to the International Health Exhibition who have not made their way almost intuitively to that part of the South or Food Gallery which is devoted to the Dairy Exhibits, one of the neatest and best appointed of which is that of Messrs. Welford and Sons, of the Home Farm, Willesden, Maida Vale, South Kensington, &c. Messrs. Welford, of whom Bro. John Welford, a respected P.M. of the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, is one, have spared no pains to make their display as effective as possible and worthy in all respects of their long established reputation as purveyors of dairy produce. In the first place, their dairy is an exact reproduction as regards style of the homestead at Willesden, and accords well, therefore,—architecturally—with the old London Street which is located only a stone's throw off. Then everything is so neat and clean, from the people engaged in the dairy operations to the smallest and most insignificant of the vessels required in the manufacture or sale of the produce. Then only the best and most approved apparatus is used, and from the known excellence of what is sold to the public, we may be sure that nothing but the most skilled labour is employed. There is also a laboratory, where the quality of the milk and butter is tested scientifically; and, to crown all, to the rear of the dairy proper is a cowshed, which is perfectly sweet and clean and well ventilated, in which are to be seen some half dozen lovely darlings, cows—as the feminine visitors are wont to call them. Here, too, are several goats—for the Messrs. Welford have great faith in the nutritive properties of goats' milk, considering it far superior to the very best of the condensed milks, which find so ready a market both in London and the country—and some Zulu sheep, which like their neighbours, the cows, appear to thrive wonderfully in their temporary, yet comfortable, quarters at the Healtheries. In fine, the Exhibition, as all the world knows, is well worth visiting, while, of the many attractions it contains which are really conducive to health, we have no hesitation in saying that Messrs. Welford's Dairy Exhibit is one of the worthiest and most conspicuous.



Mrs. Langtry has taken the Prince's Theatre for six months from January next, and will run it under the direction of Mr. Abbey.

The Court re-opened on Thursday with "New Men and Old Acres," Messrs. Arthur Cecil, John Clayton, and Anson, and Mrs. John Wood and Miss Marion Terry playing the principal parts.

The Vaudeville, at last, shortly changes its programme, after a run of over a year with "Confusion," which no one ever expected could have commanded so much support. Mr. Henry Jones's new play, "Saints and Sinners," is a domestic drama of modern life, and in it Mr. Thomas Thorne will make his re-appearance on the stage, the cast being completed by Mr. Fred Thorne, Mr. H. B. Conway and his wife (Miss Kate Phillips), Mr. Henry Neville, Miss Amy Roselle, Bro. Lestocq, Messrs. Mackintosh and Grove, Miss Giffard, and Miss Lizzie Graham.

It would be impossible to praise too highly the burlesque of "The Babes; or, Whines from the Wood," now being performed at Toole's, which theatre has been taken for a season by Bro. Lionel Brough and Mr. Willie Edouin, who hails from across "the pond," and who are the two chief actors, and with Miss Alice Atherton (Mrs. Edouin) and Miss Grace Huntley, who happily add good taste to a good appearance, produce all the fun of the evening. The burlesque is by Mr. Harry Paulton and Mr. W. C. Levey, and in it we have a tendency to go back to the old genuine form of burlesque as distinguished from a string of music-hall songs and clever dances. The whole is mounted in the best taste, and the young ladies who form the chorus are not only splendidly dressed, but are the possessors of pretty faces and know how to sing in tune. The story is the old one of the Babes in the Wood, and author, actors, and managers must be complimented, as indeed they are by every one, upon the great success which has followed their undertaking. It is a curious coincidence that Bro. Lionel Brough and Mr. Willie Edouin exactly ten years ago, took this theatre, and then it was that the latter made his *début* on the English stage. In their burlesque there is a spirit of brightness which never has a cloud over it, and variety in action which, carried on by an exceptionally strong company, proves sufficient to keep their audience rivetted on all they say and do. We could almost sympathise with an old lady who we heard say to her companion on coming away that she felt almost ashamed of herself, for she had never laughed so much in her life. Miss Atherton and Mr. Edouin are the two babes, the former appearing in the juvenile costume of little girls, short frocks, bare legs, short socks, and shoes. In the school scene they carry on the most frantic nonsense. In their characters of Dolly and Tessie every playgoer ought to see them romp. Miss Grace Huntley, a young lady whom we hope will not be long absent from the London stage in future, makes a captivating Ralph Reckless, and sings a charming duet with Miss Atherton and with Bro. Brough, which are always encored. Bro. Brough has a part as the villain, which, though a somewhat feeble one in itself, he contrives to make a hit of. He has introduced a catch phrase in his dialogue, which will probably be a popular one everywhere. Mr. C. E. Stevens, Miss Edith Vane, and Miss Esden go to make up the fun, and all seem to do their very best to make this new burlesque a big "go." "The Babes" is preceded by a farce by Mr. Pemberton, in which Bro. Brough, as a policeman, has a pathetic part, which he plays with a deal of earnestness. Their acting manager is the genial Mr. Gilbert Tate, whose name is a household word in theatrical circles, and whose chief object seems to please his patrons.