

# 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;  
SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS  
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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## THE GRANTING OF PENSIONS.

We are at a loss to understand why it is that opposition should be offered to the granting of pensions to retiring officers by our various Charitable Institutions. In the first place, there is no rule which forbids the practice, and, in the next, it does not need the wisdom of SOLOMON to perceive that men will devote themselves to their appointed duties with greater energy, greater spirit, and, it may be, even with greater ability, if they know or have some reasonable grounds for believing that when they become incapacitated from further work by reason of failing health or old age, or when they are given to understand that their retirement is necessary or desirable in the interests of the Institution they have faithfully served for many years, they will not be cast adrift like so much useless lumber. It was stated at the adjourned meeting of the General Committee on Saturday, the 10th inst., by a brother who remarked that "it would be a disgrace to Freemasons to allow Bro. BINCKES to retire without some recognition of his services in the past," and who on that ground supported the proposal or recommendation of the Provisional Committee that Bro. BINCKES should be retired on a pension of £350 a year for life, that "the funds of the Institution were supplied for the purposes of Charity—not Pensions;" and that "he feared it was not in the power of the Committee to apply the funds in the way of pensions." With all deference to one whose study of unimportant details has made him needlessly contentious, the question arising out of this recommendation of the Provisional Committee has nothing to do with the source of income from which the pension will be paid—there will be no difficulty about that if the proposal is agreed to. It concerns rather the policy which the governing body of the School should pursue in order, in the first instance, to induce thoroughly capable men to enter its service, and in the next to encourage them, when they have so entered it, to exert their zeal and ability to the utmost so as to increase the efficiency of the School and make it more and more valuable as a Charitable Institution. When a governing body treats its officers generously, without being wasteful or lavish in its expenditure, it is doing the one thing of all others which is calculated to advance the welfare of the Charity it is elected or appointed to preside over. People subscribe more readily and more liberally when they know that an Institution is well officered, and officers work better when they know or have reason to believe they will be well treated. And thus it comes about that the funds which are "supplied for the purposes of Charity" are made capable of conferring a greater amount and a higher class of benefit on those who are admitted as the recipients of Charity.

We have said there is no rule against the granting of pensions to retiring officers of our Masonic Institutions. But if there is at the same time no rule which sanctions their being granted, there are several precedents which can be quoted in justification of the proposal made with reference to Bro. BINCKES by the Provisional Committee of Management of the Boys' School, and these precedents are furnished not by one of our Institutions, but by all three. At this moment, and for several years past, Bro. HENRY MUGGERIDGE, late Collector of the Girls' School, is in receipt of a pension of £150 a year, while the late Boys' School Matron—Miss HALL, who has since been married—was awarded £75 a year for life on retiring, after 22 years' service. In addition to these, which are still in force, we have the cases of Bro. A. U. THISELTON, Bro. BINCKES's predecessor as Secretary of the Boys' School, who retired in 1861, after 35 years' service, and was awarded a pension of £100 a year, or two-thirds of the salary he had been receiving; Bro. FRANCIS CREW, Secretary to the Girls' School, who also retired in 1861, after 20 years' service, on a pension of £200 a year; and Bro. W. FARNFIELD, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who retired in 1872, after 30 years' service, on a pension of £200 a year. With these cases before us, we think there can be very little doubt as to the ability of the governing body of the Boys' School to award Bro. BINCKES a pension as proposed.

As we have been dealing with a question which was raised at the General Committee of the Boys' School on Saturday, the 10th instant, we take this opportunity of pointing out that the remarks made by Bro. Dr. MICKLEY in the course of the dis-

cussion which took place at that meeting, as they were reported in our issue of last week, would seem to indicate that he was opposed to the grant of any pension to Bro. BINCKES on the ground that our Boys' School was a Charitable Institution. What, however, he intended to say—and the opening portion of his remarks conclusively shows this—was that the officers of Charitable Institutions were quite as deserving of remuneration for valued services as those engaged in any other public function.

## SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

The annual report of the Grand Lodge of All Scottish Freemasonry in India, has been issued this year several months later than usual owing to the tardiness with which some of the lodges have made their returns, and, unfortunately, though it bears date 23rd June last, there are four of the lodges which have not complied with this part of their duty, while three others have furnished the required particulars to the 30th June, 1888, only. Under these circumstances it is difficult, and would certainly be unjust, to attempt anything like a comparison between the numbers which have been only partially supplied for the year 1888 with those given for the preceding year. We note, however, that one lodge—the Ekram, No. 765, Galburga—has been added to the roll, while the Lodge of Kindred Hope, No. 594, Nusserabad, has gone into abeyance; and in all probability, if we make allowance for those lodges which have omitted to send their returns, we shall see that the position of the Craft taken collectively has been fairly well maintained in respect of numbers during the past year. In other respects also it has fared on the whole satisfactorily. It has had to regret the loss through death of its Depute G.M., Bro. J. YOUNG LANG, and Bro. D. P. MEHTA, Past Hon. Sub. G.M. It also sustained a considerable disappointment through the postponement, from unavoidable causes, of the intended visit of H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT, D.G.M. under the Grand Lodge of England; but such losses and disappointments as these are a part of every year's experience. On the other hand, it is pleasant to know that a better feeling prevails among the members of the three lodges in Calcutta; that there is every prospect that a scheme for the erection of a new Masonic Hall, which there is fair reason to hope will prove beneficial to the Craft, will be carried successfully through; and last, but not least, that the friendly relations which for so many years have subsisted between the English and Scottish Constitutions are as cordial as ever. Due credit is also given to the Hon. Secretary to the Benevolent Fund, to Bro. D. R. CHICHGUR's services as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Hall Committee, and to the various Sub-Committees for the zeal and ability with which they have performed what has been required of them or what they had undertaken to perform. To that portion of the Statistical Returns which sets forth the numerical strength of the lodges we have already referred, but those which show how the Grand Lodge stands as regards its finances are not only complete and clearly set forth, but they fully justify the commendation bestowed upon the Finance Committee for the successful manner in which it has fulfilled its duties. The General Fund shows a balance in hand and in bank amounting to close on 396 rupees. The Hall Committee account closes with a balance of 4978 rupees, as against 4536 rupees with which it opened; and, as regards the "Scottish Freemasons' Benevolent Society in India," the statement of account shows a balance to the good of nearly 620 rupees, the receipts, including balance brought forward, being 3062 rupees, and the disbursements 2442 rupees, the whole of which, with the exception of some 48 rupees, was spent in Charity under various heads, while its assets amount to the very considerable sum of 14,000 rupees. We congratulate this Grand Lodge on the evident success which, in all matters of material moment, has attended its proceedings during the year 1888.

## A GRAND LODGE FOR TASMANIA.

A mania for establishing Grand Lodges appears to have overtaken our Australasian brethren. A few years since, the lodges in South Australia which had been established by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland exhibited an almost unanimous desire for the formation of a Grand Lodge of their own,

and the result was the constitution of the Grand Lodge of South Australia, which is recognised in this country, and has for its Patron the Prince of WALES, M.W.G.M. of England, and Patron of the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland. This Grand Lodge now has close on 40 lodges on its roll, with an aggregate membership of some 2500 brethren, more or less, and is undoubtedly in a very flourishing condition. Then followed, in 1888, the constitution of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, with about 190 lodges on its muster roll, and composed of nearly all the lodges under the English, Irish, and Scotch Constitutions, together with those of the then unrecognised Grand Lodge of New South Wales. Early in the present year was established on similar lines the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, with about 150 lodges, consisting of those established by the Grand Lodges of the Old Country and the formerly unrecognised Grand Lodge of Victoria. There is now an agitation in New Zealand and Queensland for the establishment of similar Grand Lodges out of the materials already to hand in the shape of the lodges under the English, Irish, and Scotch Constitutions, and, though there does not now appear to be any supreme desire on the part of the brethren, except it be among those who have put forward the idea that the change should be made, the time will no doubt come when there will be United Grand Lodges in Queensland and New Zealand, as in South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria. These are all of them large colonies, which are capable of almost infinite expansion, Masonically as well as commercially, and by and bye, when the country is more thickly populated, the Grand Lodges which have been, and the Grand Lodges which may be, constituted will be as regards the former still more worthy than they are now, and as regards the latter in all respects worthy of the ancient Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom from which they derive their origin. But Tasmania, with its two dozen lodges, or thereabouts, and a total number of brethren which cannot exceed, if indeed it reaches, 1000 or 1200, can hardly be considered sufficiently advanced or strong enough to undertake the duties and responsibilities of self-government, nor, being an island, is there likely to be—for some considerable time, at least—such an increase in population and wealth as would justify so bold a venture for the present. It is true it is nearly as large as Ireland in respect of superficial area, but the population from which Freemasonry must be recruited, if it is even to maintain its strength, is inconsiderable in proportion to its size, and is likely to remain so for many years to come. Masonically, Tasmania is about as strong as the Province of Somersetshire as regards the number of its lodges, but if we attempt to compare the resources of the two for maintaining those lodges at their present strength, we shall find the advantages possessed by the English county over the Australasian colony are immeasurably superior. Then, as regards the cost of maintaining a Grand Lodge, the modest amounts which are now remitted for warrants and registration, even if they were tacked on to the present expenditure, would provide but a poor stipend for a Grand Secretary; while, if we consider the position which the Fraternity in Tasmania under an independent Constitution would occupy towards the rest of the Masonic world, we are not speaking over boastfully when we say that it would be nothing compared with what it is under the present system. Now the members of lodges in Tasmania are certificated English, Irish, or Scotch Masons, and, when on their travels, they carry about with them the prestige which is always associated with brethren enrolled in those ancient systems; but a few generations must pass away before the fact that a man is a member of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania or one of its subordinate lodges will be properly appreciated. If our lodges in Tasmania are wise they will remain as they are for the present. Let them be content with the substantial advantages they, as constituent parts of the oldest Grand Lodges in existence, have, rather than cry out, like spoiled children, for advantages which, to say the least, are shadowy.

## BRIEF ESSAYS ON CURIOUS SUBJECTS.

### 5. "SOLAR MYTHS," &c.

The first article of this series, labelled "St. George and the Dragon," dealt mainly with some relics of serpent worship still distinctly traceable in our critical age. Let us now revert in this paper to a few existent, or recently existing, evidences of the former influence of other manifestations of the SOLAR MYTHS, as they are usually denominated by students.

To a casual enquirer it may not at first sight be quite plain why Phallic, Tree and Fire Worship, as well as Totemism, are assumed to be so intimately connected, as we claim is the case. If we eliminate the prominent thinkers and hierophants of old time, who to great natural powers of intellect added the highest training then obtainable—of a far superior character

to what many of us moderns are willing to acknowledge—we may consider that, to the mass of even the moderately cultured, the Sun under some one of the cognomens by which he was variously known in different countries, represented the beneficent power from whom descended the good gifts that ameliorated the lot of humanity. He was the celestial luminary whose action, after the winter's rest, called forth the bud and ripened the grain; but he was far out of their reach, and in order to become more closely associated by a physical emblem, which they could tend and regulate, the priests adopted FIRE as a type of that heavenly body. The productive power of Sol also caused men to pay attention to animal examples of the generative forces, and, for these reasons, as well as on account of their position in the Zodiac, Taurus and Aries were raised to high honour. A further development followed in due course, when the organ itself became an object of veneration, and here we obtain an explanation of Batylia and Lingam Worship. Jacob set up a stone pillar (Beth-el) and anointed it. In Hebrew, "Beth" is a house, and "El" Il, Baal, Bel, is the Sun God, to which further reference may be made at a later stage. The patriarchal mode of emphasising a solemn promise was to "lay the hand under the thigh," which is merely another phase of the motive that actuated Jacob. At the present day, the "anointing," just mentioned, is a portion of the Lingam ceremonies performed by the Siva devotees in India, and a very close resemblance may be found in certain performances that take place at the "*Doupin Stane*" in Burghead, on the Morayshire coast; though the Presbyterian females who engage in them can have no real conception of the relationship between their superstitious observances and those of the unenlightened heathen.

What the translators of the authorised version render as the "worship of the groves" by the Israelites is nothing more nor less than the rites of their Phœnician neighbours, who thus celebrated their devotion to the active and receptive sides of nature, no matter how we choose to designate these forces. An upright stone, to one section, and a cleft in the earth, to a different set, are rough and ready methods of typifying important doctrines to a disciple of Siva or follower of Vishnu, as the case may be.

The Isiac boat or Argha—whence the fable about the Argonauts, still alluded to in a part of our address to the E.A.P.—and the emblem of Osiris are instances of this direct Phallic worship; the crook and whip of Osiris are believed to be in the same connection. We must carefully guard ourselves against the supposition that these observances in their inception were sensual, or necessarily so in their subsequent phases. We say this advisedly, and in full knowledge of hideously degrading results exemplified in many of the later mysteries, such as some of those hallowed under the names of Bacchus and Demeter, and the nominally religious habits of certain Indian sects, not forgetting that in many cases the priests are the chief offenders, and that to their depravity was probably owing the decadence of the cult. Most religions seem to drift away, in time, from their original aims, and there are not wanting men who declare that this is due to the conduct of those to whose charge the dissemination of the knowledge was committed, and who, for their own purposes, prostituted the teaching entrusted to them.

When a stone was not at hand to serve as a Lingam, a stick or a tree would answer the purpose in view; and its soaring upwards naturally, perhaps devoid of branches, to the crowning boughs, would rather heighten the devotional feeling. One or other kind of tree has been sacred in most countries, the oak was not more valued by the Druids than the palm of the happy lands of the West by the Egyptian initiate. The oaks of Mamre were held in repute even in Abraham's time.

Totemism may be briefly dismissed by saying that it is a manifestation of filial devotion allied to hero worship with an admixture of the generative cult.

The English Maypole is a reminiscence of the allied and intimately associated myths of Bel, Stauros, and Tree, and *Bel-tane* fires are distinct recollections of the Eastern faiths.

In most Cathedrals and other ecclesiastical fabrics we find the "*Vesica piscis*," or oval; it is also a usual shape for clerical seals; and tracing this backwards we discover another link with the Yoni worship, at various periods, so prevalent over the world. Certain Catholic vestments, if laid down flat, yield proof of a similar character; and the Mitre of the Bishop is merely the "*os tinca*," or mouth of the fish, such as we have in some of the Assyrian sculptures, where the officiating priest seems clad with the fish—head, body, and tail.

The adherents of the Zend, by the late eminent Professor Palmer, considered to be the purest form of the older faiths, have steadily adhered to FIRE as their symbol, without any addition of degrading concomitants such as we find in other directions.

Even the Pantomimes are evidences of our opening statement, that we are *servants of the dead*, and Bro. Augustus Harris may be surprised to learn that the "Babes in the Wood" can be traced, through German, back to Grecian and Hindu mythology. The slipper of Cinderella is known to Egyptian story as having fallen into the lap of Rhodopis when dispensing justice; while the ride of Lady Godiva is narrated in the Persian collection of "Allah-ud-deen," or mirror of religion.

Our folk lore is replete with stories that were old when Homer assumed the Editorial chair—if Homer ever was!

We are not without hope that, after one or two more contributions, it may then be possible to come to closer quarters with our subject, and commence more directly to discourse on the mysteries of Freemasonry, with the origin of the Three Degrees, and possibly submit some considerations in direct antagonism to the assertion by Bro. R. F. Gould, that the Halliwell poem, or "Regius" MS., was addressed to speculative brethren. Under these circumstances it is advisable that our readers should weigh the introductory matter that is intended to lead up to the arguments in support of the theory that we practise ceremonies which come, in somewhat tortuous descent, from the night of time.

C. A. M.

## "ARS QUATUOR CORONATORUM," VOL. II., PART 2.

This is a special part of this special publication, and will improve more and more on acquaintance. It is smaller than several hitherto issued, so that, judged from that point of view, its importance is diminished; but in no other respect is this part inferior to the majority of its predecessors, and in not a few the transactions now published are far superior to some of the more bulky predecessors. Some brethren have expressed a fear that the really Masonic character of the papers cannot be maintained, and hence, as a consequence, the inevitable "padding" must be resorted to. So far, these fears have not been realised, and in the last number of the transactions of the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, No. 2076, the freshness, value, and importance of the Contributions are quite manifest.

At the meeting held 3rd May, 1889, Bro. G. W. Speth, the model Secretary, read a paper, one of a series of an elementary character, and yet suggestive withal, on "The Foundation of Modern Freemasonry," being virtually a continuation of one by Bro. Gould, which summarised the chief facts concerning the English Craft prior to the historic 1717. Bro. Speth now carries the subject what he styles "one step further," but, save as a "figure of speech," he really takes several steps in his paper, and some consist of very long strides, as he depicts "the events which gave rise to our present system of Freemasonry, and traces their consequences in England (through one line of descent only, *i.e.*, the 'Moderns'), till the beginning of this century." The Schism is to form a separate paper, as well it may, but when or by whom does not appear; possibly by the Secretary, who has already proved his capacity for hard work.

The essay deals with the succession of Grand Masters, 1717-1874; The Four Old Lodges; The Books of Constitutions; Growth of Jurisdiction; Grand Officers; Private Lodges; Clothing; The Grand Stewards; Fund of Benevolence and Grand Committees; Fees; Freemasons' Hall; The Two Schisms; R.M.I. for Girls; and Our Royal Masons.

By the W.M.'s desire (Bro. W. Simpson, R.I.), Bro. Hogarth's picture of "Night" accompanies the able paper, and is graphically described by Bro. G. W. Speth in a separate article under the heading of "Notes and Queries."

Bros. Gould and Rylands took part in the friendly discussion after the reading was over, and Bros. Hughan and Lane have added their quota to the subject, so that the interest is preserved to the last.

At the same meeting, Bro. W. M. Graham kindly presented a number of photos of "the Jewel formerly belonging to Robert Burns," which was exhibited previously. The Scottish Bard was once a "Depute Master" under his Grand Lodge, the jewel for which, at all events of late years, is represented by the square and compasses. The one under consideration is so composed, only the letter G, set in brilliants (or rather surrounding that well-known letter), is a conspicuous figure in the centre, which is the jewel of a Past Master under the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Bro. J. P. Vaillant's article on "Freemasonry in Rotterdam 120 Years Ago," translated by the busy Scribe, then follows, and is a valuable aid to the study, in part, of Continental Masonry, being based mainly on authentic documents. The judicious notes appended by the translator are very useful for members of the Correspondence Circle not fully informed thereon.

The next paper is by Bro. B. Cramer, of Berlin, likewise translated by the Editor, and, being on "The Origin of Free-

masonry," possesses more than ordinary value in the eyes of Masonic students. The Secretary strongly dissents from portions of this contribution, but, with the author, solicits criticism, as the theory propounded is stated to be "rapidly gaining ground in Germany."

"St. John's in Harvest" was the next meeting day, when the W.M. fittingly introduced the volume of "Masonic Reprints," and warmly thanked Bro. Gould for his very able Commentary on the "Regius MS." Bro. Rylands supported the vote thus appreciatively proposed, which was carried by acclamation, and Bro. Gould replied. Beyond question the members of No. 2076, and the Craft generally, are much indebted to that brother for his laborious investigation of this ancient MS., and all have now an opportunity of practically illustrating their gratitude by supporting the "Gould Testimonial Fund."

Bro. T. B. Whytehead subsequently read a capital paper on "The Grand Lodge of York," in continuation of the series (inaugurated when Bro. Gould was the Master), and systematically presented a concise and withal comprehensive sketch of that distinguished body down to its collapse about 1792. Nothing could be better done, unless, indeed, the author would respond to the invitation and write a complete History of that absorbing subject, which he, of all brethren, is so competent to perform. I hope he will.

The discussion that followed strikes me as one of the best as yet, and proves that there is almost an inexhaustible mine of wealth yet to be worked by our indefatigable Secretary, who, in Bro. Goldney, P.G.D., Bro. Dr. Richardson, and others, will surely obtain excellent volunteers, ere long, as assistants in the field of Masonic research and the authors of interesting papers.

A gratifying feature of the evening was the "Hearty good wishes" tendered by Col. Ramsay, District Grand Master of Malta, who was pleased (when the meeting broke up) to leave the lodge as a member of the ever-increasing "Correspondence Circle," which bids fair, ere long, to reach the coveted four figures.

Considerable space is devoted to "Secret Societies in China;" I do not say too much, as the enquiry is a curious one. The "Masonic Hall" (so-called) Jerusalem, is described and illustrated; "Masons' Marks" receive due attention (in fact the illustrations thereon are exceedingly good); and Reviews of the "Masonic Reprints," History of the Lodge of Probity, by Bro. H. Crossley, and the usual "Chronicle" conclude the Part, the whole of which contents, diversified and original as customary, add another triumph to the many achieved under the auspices of the Students' Lodge and to Bro. Speth as the Editor.

W. J. HUGHAN.

## MORAL USES OF FREEMASONRY.

Several illustrations of the power of usefulness of the Masonic organisation are given in a little work entitled "The Genius of Freemasonry," published at Providence, R.I., in the year 1828. One incident therein narrated greatly impressed our thought. It is told as an actual occurrence which took place in a Southern lodge, presided over by a brother of distinction, whose honoured name is still familiar as a household word throughout our whole country. We give the account substantially as it appears in the book named.

Toward the close of an evening's labour, when the charge was about to be given to one who had that night been initiated into the mysteries of the Craft, and he had been brought to the chair to receive it, the quick eye of the Worshipful Master saw at a distance the brother of the candidate, sitting dark, moody, and silent. Between the two brothers there had long been a deadly feud—one that had eaten like a cancer into their hearts and spread a leprosy over their lives, tainting all around them or connected with them.

The one about to receive the charge, though of good reputation in the community, was generally regarded as the more obdurate in this unhappy alienation. The Master began his charge. He said he would depart somewhat from the ritual generally used, and would quote from the language of him who spake as never man spake: "Therefore, if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave thy gift before the altar and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." The miseries of contention and discord were strongly depicted by the Master. He dwelt upon the deadliness of the moral poison of family contentions—a poison that earth cannot suck up or time destroy—a poison that often springs afresh from the grave of those who concocted it to curse their descendants for succeeding ages.

The candidate trembled as he listened to these earnest words; his soul was a witness to their truth. He looked wistfully and wildly around the room, fearing, yet wishing, to catch the eye



of his brother, between whom and himself there had been long continued and bitter opposition of feeling. The Master noticed the effects of his words and changed his tone, portraying the kindly influences of brotherly love, telling how far it softened the calamities of earth and plucked the sting from death itself. He dwelt upon the new obligations the initiate had assumed, and reminded him that the place where he then was should be considered sacred to fraternal sympathies—a place in which every pledge was given to cultivate purest affections, to quench at once the overflowing of love and forgiveness, all heart burnings of enmity, and to wash away the long scenes of rancour and bitterness which so much degrade the soul. The brother who had sat retired, as he heard sentence after sentence of the eloquent charge, had moved by timid steps nearer to the altar, and watched with earnest feeling the effect of such words on his brother's mind; at last their eyes met, and volumes were spoken in the glance! Oh, what a moment for the two men who have drunk the stream of life from one maternal bosom; they looked once more and then rushed into each other's arms. "Brother, forgive me," broke from the hearts of both in half-suffocated and almost inarticulate words. They were reconciled. What a triumph for Freemasonry!

The incident thus related shows how the principles and precepts of the Masonic system may have prevailing force when the conditions are favourable, and where there is a wise and judicious teacher to apply the lessons of that system. The moral uses of Freemasonry are many, affecting character on all sides, and most potential for good when there is a faithful application of the truths taught and illustrated to the conduct of life. Wisdom and grace are requisite for such an enforcement.—*Freemasons' Repository*.

### MASONIC TOLERATION.

[An extract from a speech made by Bro. Charles Levi Woodbury at the annual "Grand Feast" of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, December 27, 1887.]

There is a great deal of sacred truth lying at the foundation of Freemasonry, which pervades every bone, every sinew, and every blood-vessel of its constitution and its organisation. It expresses itself in the words of the Masonic regulation, which all men are required to adhere to, and that truth is, Toleration! Here each of us holds his own religion; here each of us tolerates the religion of his brethren. We come together not to propagate our own creeds, but to meet those who are our equals, and to make each other feel that there are good moral qualities, and high virtues, and things worthy to be remembered and respected among all men and all creeds. To my mind, sir, away back in that far past, 160 years ago—I do not know but more, for I am not to be bounded and limited by any of these common periods of time in my belief of the antiquity of the breadth of spiritual character of Freemasonry—but away back, as far as we know it in our English history, the element which gave vitality to Masonry, the element which created brotherhood among its members, the element which gave force and impetus, and sent it forward as the great pioneer of liberty throughout all the world, to raise the oppressed, to break the bonds and proclaim the brotherhood of man, aye, the quality of the races, was that same clause that we should tolerate the religion which our brothers professed; and that, while we claim the individual and independent right to hold our own creed, we should give our brother the equal right to hold his creed and worship his God in the same purity and with the same independence that we claimed for ourselves. We started there, and that spirit spread through the world; and whenever you will point to me the religious persecution during the history of the Masonic organisation—and there have been many such—I will show you that it was born of bigotry and intolerance. The Church led in the persecution, and it was liberty and independence and religious toleration that resisted.

I remember the time, since I have been a Mason, when there was hardly a country in Europe where Masonry was not under the ban, where it was not oppressed, where it was not attacked; and yet now, throughout the whole broad expanse from Siberia to the Atlantic, from the Atlantic to the North Pole, and from the North Pole to the Pacific, Masonry is an honoured Institution. You can hardly imagine how in those dark days—those days of feudal mediævalism—Masonry alone held up the candle of liberty to the oppressed of all races and all nations. From the Church and State down to the lowest bigot or mercenary in rank, all combined to put out the light. But the light would not be put out; and, though the blood of our brothers has been shed in every country in Europe, yet the blood of our brothers has been the blood of martyrs, which was the seed of the Masonic church—aye, and the seed of the church of liberty throughout all the world. There has not been a step of progress for the last 200 years that the light of Freemasonry has not shone in front, leading the way and pointing to the equality

of man and to the elevation of the human race. The day has come when things are changed completely, and now kings, dukes, and lords, side by side with the humble artisan, seek our altars and our shrines, desire to put on the apron of the workman, to be classed with us, and, with Fellow-Crafts and Masters, to work in the regeneration of the millions.—*Sydney Freemason*.

### THE RITUALISM OF FREEMASONRY.

To the Masonic student the ritualism of Freemasonry is always an interesting and attractive theme. Much of it is of an esoteric nature, and not permitted to be written, but is communicated only by oral instruction. Hence it is that the great body of Masons acquire only a partial knowledge of it; as a general rule, only so much is deemed essential to prove themselves Masons among strange brethren. And even this little smattering, which they receive at their initiation is often soon forgotten in the whirl of business, where the mind is constantly occupied in, to many, the more important concern of making a living. The perfect ritualist in Masonry is an anomaly among his brethren. He is generally regarded by them as a very "bright Mason," and to that extent is entitled to that honourable distinction. He becomes a useful member of his lodge, and finds much more real enjoyment in Masonry than falls to those incompetent to take part in the work.

The origin of the ritualism of Freemasonry, how it came down to us of the present day through succeeding ages and generations, what changes have been made in it at different times and by whom, and what it now is, or should be, are all interesting subjects to reading and thinking Masons. They are subjects upon which there exists a great diversity of opinions at the present time among the best informed Masons, who have made such investigations as they could in that direction. We believe, however, that all agree upon one point: That the first systematic arrangement of lectures for the first three Degrees was made by William Preston, of England, about the year 1772. Mackey says that these lectures were adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, and used until 1813, when, for the sake of securing uniformity, the new and inferior system of Dr. Hemming was adopted. But he adds, "the Prestonian lectures and ritual are still used by many lodges in England."

As to which system of lectures and ritual was used upon the introduction of Masonry into this country we have no definite information, but in the year 1797, Bro. Thomas Smith Webb published the first edition of his *Freemason's Monitor; or Illustrations of Masonry*, and formulated a new system of lectures, which came into general use in the United States, and have thus continued until the present time. A form of ritual for opening and closing lodges and conferring the first three Degrees, adapted to these Webb lectures, has been attempted by many would-be lecturers and instructors in Masonry since the days of Webb. While claiming to be pupils of Webb, or to have received the work, at least, second-hand from him, no two of these ritual makers have agreed in all things. In the main they are very nearly alike, and only differ in such matters as are generally regarded as non-essential. The Doctrine of Masonry is held by all to be the same. "It is," says Mackey, "the body which is unchangeable, remaining always and everywhere the same. The ritual is but the outer garment which covers this body, which is subject to continual variations. It is right and desirable that the ritual should be made perfect and everywhere alike. But if this is impossible, as it is, this at least will console us, that while the ceremonies or ritual have varied at different periods, and still vary in different countries, the science and philosophy, the symbolism and the religion of Freemasonry continue and will continue to be the same wherever true Masonry is practised."

The strongest and most systematic effort to produce uniformity in the ritual of Masonry was made by Bro. Rob Morris, beginning about the year 1858. Having secured true copies of all the Webb lectures and made himself familiar with the work as promulgated by co-workers of Webb, he devised an ingenious plan for disseminating them among lodges, and with a corps of assistants he devoted several years in an effort to secure their approval and adoption in several Grand Jurisdictions. In this he was only partially successful, as his methods for disseminating the work created a strong opposition to it in some localities, and were severely condemned by many old Masons as being in violation of Masonic obligations and laws established for the government of the Craft. Another opposition arose from the fact that it was an apparently well-devised money-making scheme, by which its author was deriving an immense revenue out of Masonry. But the work itself was almost everywhere very favourably received, and it grew in favour as it was found to be a more complete and instructive system of work and lectures than any then in use. The means were afforded to make it uniform in all lodges, and the result is that nearly absolute uniformity of work

now exists in many Grand Jurisdictions. The differences that may be found are only of minor importance, and represent individual opinions of local instructors on mooted points. In Indiana the Webb work, as taught by Bro. Morris, is used in nearly every good working lodge. The exceptions are but few, and these mainly from a want of proper instruction more than from any opposition to the work. The sticklers for some pet idea, or form of words, for no better reason than that they were taught that way by some old Mason, have mostly passed away, and others have taken their places who are willing to yield an individual opinion on an unimportant point for the sake of uniformity.—*Masonic Advocate.*

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Hants and the Isle of Wight was held at the Town Hall, Andover, on Tuesday afternoon, the 13th inst., under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P. There was a numerous attendance of Present and Past Grand Officers and of the brethren of the Craft generally. The report of the Prov. Grand Lodge Committee on grants of money for relief and on elections to the Masonic Institutions having been presented and adopted, the P.G.M. invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. Major Campbell, 257	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" G. H. Barclay, 1373	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Ramsay, 694	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Dr. Burton, 151	...	...	...	
" Dr. C. G. Beaumont, 1112	...	...	...	
" J. W. Gieve, 1990 (re-elected)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" E. Goble, 309	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Rev. A. A. Headley, 309	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" George Davies, 130	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. H. McQueen, 1869	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" F. P. Ansle, 551	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" G. Farley Brown, 1834	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Buck, 342	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Francis Cooper, 1834	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Heasome, 723	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. J. Brown, 1461	...	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" H. J. Long, 1903	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. A. Hill, 309	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. J. Borrow, 1958	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" C. B. Birch, 2074	...	...	...	
" F. J. Bolitho, 1705	...	...	...	
" G. D. Lovegrove, 257	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" A. Farr, 1373	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" L. T. Wilkins, 2169	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. Ruddy, 1428	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Rogers, 195	...	...	...	
" A. J. Blackman, 359	...	...	...	
" Exall	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tylers.
" R. Eames	...	...	...	

The brethren afterwards dined together at the Foresters' Hall, the Provincial Grand Master presiding, when the usual Masonic toasts followed.

## PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire, which assembles annually in rotation at the principal towns in the county, was held at the Masonic Hall, Monmouth, on Thursday, the 1st instant, under the banner of Loyal Monmouth Lodge, No. 457. A large number of brethren was present, the following being the list of officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Capt. Homfray	...	...	...	Prov. D.G.M.
" Capt. J. A. Bradney	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. L. Hunter	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. J. Osman	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Rev. H. M. T. Bidwell	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Chap.
" W. Pickford	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. B. Barnett	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" A. Taylor	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Straker	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" A. Miller	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. P. Fowler	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" J. Stemp	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" D. R. Jones	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" R. W. Jones	...	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" J. H. Pettengell	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. C. Brook	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" W. B. Jones	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. Faulkner	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Samuel Dean	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Chas. C. Powell	...	...	...	
" A. Thornton	...	...	...	
" E. Winfield	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tylers.
" John Jones	...	...	...	
" T. L. Preece	...	...	...	
" H. Fletcher	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Tyler.

About 100 of the brethren afterwards sat down to luncheon at the Rolls Hall, the catering being entrusted to Bro. J. Thomas, of the King's Head Hotel. The hall was most tastefully decorated with flowers and Masonic emblems, the front of the stage and other parts of the hall being aglow with plants in bloom and foliage plants, while the tables were also laid with great taste. Bro. Col. Lyne, P.G.M., presided, and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed.

A number of ladies who had received invitation tickets occupied seats on the stage, and the proceedings were much enlivened by the playing of the R.M.E.M. band, under Bandmaster Renecle.

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## PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland and Durham was held on Tuesday afternoon, the 20th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Berwick-upon-Tweed, under the banner of the St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 192, of which Bro. H. T. Heron is W.M. The Provincial Officers and brethren were received in a most hospitable manner by the brethren of the Berwick lodge. After a meeting of the General Purposes Committee, the Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., P.G. Chaplain of England, supporting whom were Bros. R. B. Reed, D.P.G.M.; T. Y. Strachan, P.D.P.G.M.; John Strachan, P.S.G.W.; J. C. Moor, P.G.M.O.; W. F. Carmon, P.S.G.O.; J. F. Wilson, P.J.G.O.; J. S. B. Bell, P.G. Treas.; Wm. Davidson, P.G.R. of M.; J. S. Wilson, P.G. Sec.; G. S. Riddle, P.S.G.D.; D. G. Anderson, P.J.G.D.; J. Ferguson, P.G. I. of W.; T. Bell, P.G.D.C.; W. Brown, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Luck, P.G.I.C.; J. Curry, P.G. Tyler; and among the Past Prov. G. Officers were Bros. M. Corbitt, Thomas Coulson, John Page, C. S. Lane, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Logan, T. Dinning, T. J. Armstrong, P.P.J.G.W.; R. Thompson, J. R. Pattison, G. Porteous, Adam Wilson, R. Whitfield, C. Spencer, T. Purvis, T. Metcalfe, W. Slater, T. Horn, A. S. Cockburn, A. H. Miller, T. M. Morrison, W. M. Green, W. P. Carr, W. Burn, R. Craik, Dr. Carr, J. A. Forbes, P.P.S.G.W.; George Moor, and J. Baker.

The roll of Provincial Grand Officers was duly called, after which the report of the General Purposes Committee was read by Bro. J. S. WILSON, P.G.S., showing the continued prosperity of the Order. Forty new members had been added during the year. Deducting those struck off, the net increase was 12. The amount subscribed by Provincial Grand Mark Lodge to various Masonic Charities from 1873 to 1888 was £245 15s. The accounts showed a balance of £28 17s. in hand, out of which the Committee recommended that £15 15s. be given to the Mark Benevolent Fund and £10 to the Mark Education Fund.

The report was unanimously adopted, on the motion of Bro. R. B. REED, D.P. G.M., seconded by Bro. T. Y. STRACHAN, P.D.P.G.M.

The roll of the lodges in the province was then called, and showed a steady increase in the membership of the respective lodges.

Bro. the Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, P.G.M., addressing Provincial Grand Lodge, spoke of the great pleasure it afforded him for the 16th time in succession to preside over them. Since they did him the honour to place him in the chair in 1873 the Mark Degree had advanced, as the D.P.G.M. had already remarked, not like the supple willow, but like the oak, slow and firmly. It had been great pleasure to him that all the lodges had been represented on that occasion at this the northern extremity of the province. He was sure they were all very glad to find themselves in Berwick. He proceeded to speak of the progress of the Degree, and repeated the great pleasure it gave him to witness their steady advancement.

Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram afterwards appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. R. B. Reed, P.P.S.G.W. (re-appointed)	...	...	Deputy Prov. G.M.
" J. Straker Wilson, P.P.G. Sec.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Richard Luck, P.P.G.I.G.	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" H. T. Heron, W.M. 192	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Adam Wilson, M.D., W.M. 346	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" Jos. Robson Pattison, W.M. 124	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. E. Thornton	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Robt. Whitfield, W.M. 293	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" C. B. Ford, P.P.G.D. (absent)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. S. B. Bell (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. Main, M.D., 1626	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" A. S. Cockburn, W.M. 1626	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" M. J. Wheatley (absent)	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Thomas Bell, W.M. elect 356 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Charles Spencer, S.W. 122	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" Thomas Metcalf, W.M. 39	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. Mayson, P.P.G.S.B.	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" William Green, S.W. 192	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Joshua Curry (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The Committee of General Purposes was re-appointed, and the Auditors, and it was intimated that the next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge would be held in Durham.

The brethren afterwards dined at the King's Arms Hotel, where a very splendid menu was served.

In the course of the evening, "The Health of the Prov. G.M., Bro. Canon Tristram," was proposed in most befitting terms by Bro. T. Y. STRACHAN, P.D.P.G.M.

Bro. Canon TRISTRAM, in reply, gave an eloquent address upon the historical connection of the Mark Degree, to the great edification of the brethren. He also proposed "The Health of Bro. R. B. Reed, P.D.G.M.," who suitably responded.

Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, P.P.S.G.W., responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers."

The ceremonies of the occasion were ably directed by Bro. Thomas Bell, P.G.D. of C.

THE ROYAL ARCH.—A grade peculiar to English Freemasonry in its exact position in the system, and of English origin and growth. Some writers have declared it to be of foreign importation; others have contended that it is of Ramsay's manipulation, and is still to be found in more than one of the foreign High Grades. Some will have it that Dermott took it from the "Rite de Bouillon," and introduced it into the system of the Ancient Masons. It was not formally adopted by the English Grand Lodge until the Union in 1813, though a Grand Chapter, in connection with the "Modern" Grand Lodge, had been in existence forty-seven years previously. In our opinion, all these theories as regards the origin of the Royal Arch are entirely erroneous. The Royal Arch Degree as we have it (we say nothing of its nomenclature or of its ritual arrangements), is far older than either Ramsay or Dermott. It is not the same with any known foreign grade, nor can any veritable similarity be adduced or proved. It is, as our Grand Lodge says, part of true and ancient Masonry, and was, though not clearly worked as now exactly, well known to the older Master Masons. The difference between the Moderns and the Ancients on this point was more a "logomachy" than anything else, though we quite believe that the words "Royal Arch" were in themselves new to the Modern Masons, and may have been taken from Ramsay. But if Dermott took the name, he certainly did not borrow from Ramsay the essential portion of the Degree; and after many years' patient and careful study of the question, we feel quite persuaded of this, that the Royal Arch Degree is both in form and substance of very old date, though its terminology may have been modernised, and very properly and truly forms the conclusion of Craft Masonry. That some little identity may exist between the English Royal Arch and some other grades we do not deny, as we have before said; but we believe that all such grades are modifications or adaptations of the Royal Arch Degree, and not the Royal Arch Degree of them.—*Kenning's Cyclopædia of Freemasonry.*

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14s. 6d.; and 13 in. by 9 in. by 7 in., 11s. 6d.

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## TO THE GOVERNORS AND SUBSCRIBERS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

DEAR SIR,

The post of Surgeon to the Royal Masonic Institu-  
tion for Boys at Wood Green being now vacant, I desire to  
offer myself as Candidate for the same. I have been residing  
within one minute's walk from the Institution for the last  
four years, and am intimately acquainted with the working  
of it. I shall have the honour to submit Testimonials of my  
professional life, and to state that if I am honoured by being  
appointed to the post I shall always make it my best  
endeavour to work in harmony with my brother Officials.

I have the honour to remain,

Yours very obediently,

R. F. TOMLIN, M.R.C.S. Eng., &c.

Wood Green, N., July, 1889.

### TESTIMONIALS.

Devonport, 26th May, 1873.

This is to certify that Mr. Robert Francis Tomlin  
became my Articled Pupil in September, 1869, and remained  
with me till October, 1870. During this time he was atten-  
tive to his duties and his studies, very punctual in his atten-  
dance, and always anxious to please. He has been with me  
occasionally during the last three years, and I find he is  
prosecuting his studies with exemplary diligence, and gives  
proof of great ability and unremitting application to his  
work.

JOSEPH MAY,

Surgeon.

21, Grosvenor, Bath,

23rd July, 1889.

I am pleased to state that Mr. R. F. Tomlin acted  
as Assistant to my late father-in-law, Dr. Leahy, of Bridgend,  
during the year 1873 and 1874, and gave him every satis-  
faction. He considered him most skilful and attentive to  
his patients. The practice was chiefly amongst colliers, rail-  
way men, and iron-workers, so that his opportunities for  
surgical work were very great.

W. S. STABLES, L.S.A. (Lond.).

Becket House, Wantage,

23rd July, 1889.

Having known Mr. R. F. Tomlin most intimately  
for the last fourteen years, I can bear every testimony to  
his character and abilities, both professionally and socially.

After having been with me for four years as Assistant, he  
joined me in Partnership, and it was with deep regret that,  
owing to circumstances relating solely to myself, our connec-  
tion had to be broken, and I need hardly say that he took  
away with him the hearty good wishes of a large number of  
patients, by whom he had been much valued for his kind  
and skilful services. He is thoroughly qualified for the  
post of Surgeon to the Masonic Schools, for which I under-  
stand he is a Candidate, alike by his kindness and industry,  
as by his professional knowledge and experience, and I  
feel quite sure in him the Governors will find a most pains-  
taking and efficient Officer.

J. A. BALL, M.B. (Lond.),

Physician to St. Mary's Home, Wantage,

Consulting Surgeon to the Stockport Infirmary.

## TO THE LIFE-GOVERNORS AND SUBSCRIBERS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The appointment of Medical Officer to the Royal  
Masonic Institution for Boys being vacant, I have the honour  
to announce that I am a Candidate for the office. My testi-  
monials, which will be forwarded to the Committee, will show  
that I am duly qualified and registered, and that I have had  
considerable experience in the profession. To this may be  
added that I am resident within three minutes' walk from  
the Schools, where I have been practising for over two years.  
Should I have the honour to be elected, you may rely on my  
doing everything in my power to promote the health of the  
boys under my charge.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

1, Gladstone-avenue,

Noel Park, Wood Green,

August 7th, 1889.

J. E. H. STEPHENS,

L.R.C.P. and S.E.,

Lodge 967.

### To Correspondents.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Freimaurer-Zeitung," "Victorian Freemason," "South  
African Freemason," "The Freemason" (Toronto), "New  
Zealand Masonic Journal," "Keystone," and "The Free-  
mason" (Sydney).



SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH, 1889.

### Masonic Notes.

We have no objection to our contemporary *School*  
experiencing a sense of "pleasure not unmixed with  
pride" on learning "that the authorities have treated  
the important question of the Masonic Boys' School in  
accordance with the recommendations which were made  
by this journal." We do not know what these recom-  
mendations may have been, and we imagine the Provi-  
sional Committee, which is probably as ignorant on this  
score as ourselves, has been influenced only by its own  
opinions and the recommendations of the Committee  
of Investigation in the proposals it has made. Still, we  
have no right to complain if *School* lays the flattering  
unction to its soul that it has had a hand in the re-  
organisation of a school about whose management it  
knows so little.

\* \* \*

It is just possible that *School* has seen the Report of  
the Committee of Investigation, and, having carefully  
read and digested its contents, has condescendingly  
adopted as its own the conclusions at which that Com-  
mittee arrived. We all know what tricks the imagina-  
tion is apt to play when it is given too free a rein. Jos.  
Sedley, for instance, posed as an authority on the Battle  
of Waterloo, though he was miles from the battlefield,  
and fled in terror from Brussels on the merest rumour  
that the French were coming. George IV., also,  
became imbued with the idea that he led several brilliant  
cavalry charges in the same memorable fight, but his  
Majesty never got nearer to Waterloo than Carlton  
House or the Pavilion at Brighton. It is probably the  
same with *School*, which, from reading the said Report,  
has come to fancy that it compiled it.

\* \* \*

Considering, however, that *School* is rendering such  
valuable services in re-organising our Boys' School, it  
is to be regretted that many of its "facts," on which it  
says it "enlarged" in its June number, betray such  
ignorance of its constitution and government. Thus,  
it tells us that it is the General Court which elects  
the General Committee, and that the only other impor-  
tant function of the House Committee than that of  
electing the Head Master, Steward, and Matron,  
"would appear to be that of dining monthly at the cost  
of the Institution." It confounds the Steward, whom  
it describes as an "awful personage" and a "majestic  
being," with the Secretary, and, therefore, it is not sur-  
prising it should state—"it is not clear from what  
august source he derives his magnificent position." This  
tremendous fellow—the "Steward" we mean—is  
too much for *School*. It seems he refused to "recognise  
the House Committee as his superior," that he had  
"the power of mischievous interference in the School,"  
and "has so long lain heavy as a nightmare," that it is  
glad to hear he is going, and will be still more glad  
when he is gone.

\* \* \*

Unfortunately for our contemporary, this "awful  
personage," this "majestic being," who has completely  
shattered its nervous system, is not the Steward, but  
the Secretary, Bro. Binckes, who will no doubt be  
delighted to learn, on such an authority as that of  
*School*, that one of the most successful of the many  
parts he has played in the course of his long career is  
that of "a nightmare." But the similitude will not do.  
Bro. Binckes is doubtless "majestic" and "awful"  
when he cares to assume either of these characters, but  
he is too real and substantial to be "a nightmare."

\* \* \*

But Bro. Binckes in the rôle of "a nightmare" is  
thrown completely into the shade by the Finance Com-  
mittee, of which we are told that "when it spends £145  
on refreshments, it allows the expenditure to be thrown  
in with some small items and recorded as 'Visit of  
Stewards, Distribution of Prizes, £175;' and finally it  
spends on each boy two-thirds as much again as the  
Board of the Commercial Travellers' Schools, and  
twice as much as that of the Yorkshire Society's  
School."

\* \* \*

There are stranger things in this world than are  
dreamt of in the philosophy of ordinary people, and it  
may be the conduct of this Finance Committee in  
refreshing itself thus generously will, in a round about  
sort of way, account for Bro. Binckes having been

"a nightmare" for so many years. A Finance Committee, of nine brethren, which made a point of consuming £145 worth of refreshment at a sitting, must have suffered a good deal from "nightmare," and "nightmare" lies heavily on people who are affected with it. Bro. Binckes, being a man of weight, would sit or lie heavily on whatsoever or whomsoever he sat or lay upon. Argal, Bro. Binckes is "a nightmare."

We are sorry if the connecting link between Bro. Binckes as "a nightmare" and the capacity of the late Finance Committee of the Boys' School for refreshing itself is not as apparent as it should be. But the responsibility is with *School*, whose extraordinary compound of a little knowledge with much ignorance we have been endeavouring to analyse.

Bro. Frank Richardson, who is with Col. Shadwell Clerke at Aix-les-Bains, writes to say that the Grand Secretary is benefiting greatly by the bath treatment. He even hints that his restoration is so far advanced that there may be a chance of his joining the festivities at the "Cercle" before his return. Whether this is so or not, all good Masons will be glad to hear that our worthy brother is getting on so well, and will join with us in hoping that he may return to his duties in complete health and vigour.

The usual summons has been issued by command of Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master, for the annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Cheshire, to be held at Hyde, on the 18th September next. On this occasion a motion will be made for the grant of a sum of 50 guineas (£52 10s.) to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

It appears from an extract from a private letter from a prominent Mason at Johnstown, which appears in the *Masonic Chronicle* of Columbus, Ohio, for July, that the Masonic Hall at Johnstown withstood the floods which destroyed that city, and was the means of saving about 150 people of all classes, and religions, &c. Among the incidents which occurred is one which, even under the terrible circumstances of the moment, must have been somewhat ludicrous. One Denny Mitchell, a Roman Catholic and a tough citizen, floated into the hall, clad only in the wristband of his shirt, nearly every one else being in apparently the same plight. He and the others obtained from the chests and wardrobes in the hall whatever they could find in the way of garments, and on the Sunday following the catastrophe, when these people were rescued, Denny Mitchell turned out in the High Priest's robe, remarking, as he went out, that he was the "only Mick initiated into the Masonic lodge during the flood." It is added that the various lodges in Johnstown have held no meetings since the flood, but that they have not lost heart, and will recommence shortly.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon has given a site for the erection of a parish reading and coffee room at Burghclere, near Newbury, as a memorial to the late Bro. Canon Portal, who, many years ago, was presented to the rectory of Burghclere by his lordship. The late Canon is chiefly known among Masons for his services to the Craft generally, and, in particular, to the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons, but he accomplished during his career a great deal of most useful work outside Masonry, and especially amongst the poor. It is not generally known that our late brother took a leading part in the establishment of penny banks, the object of which is to encourage thrift among the poorer classes. It is all the more satisfactory, therefore, to hear that the fund for the erection of the Burghclere Memorial to his worth has already reached to between £500 and £600.

The Committee on the address delivered by Bro. E. C. Blackmar, G. Master, at the annual meeting of G.L. of Iowa, in Sioux City, in June last, disapproved of his idea of establishing a Masonic Home, and instead of acceding to his request for a Committee to consider and report upon such a scheme, passed a resolution to the effect—"That the Grand Lodge of Iowa is now, and always has been, favourable to the proper dispensation of Masonic Charity; that the needy widows and orphans of deceased Masons should be well cared for by the surviving members." But it considers "the present method of caring for such widows and orphans, that is, by the lodges of which their deceased husbands and fathers were members, is preferable to building a widows' and orphans' home." The latter plan might provide for a few, but the present is less costly, and sufficient for the purpose.

There are, according to the latest returns, 213 lodges under the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, and the number of subscribing members in the jurisdiction is 13,387. The receipts for the past year were \$6672, and the disbursements amounted to \$4060. Bro. Myron Reed remains G. Master for the current year, and Bro. John W. Laffin, G. Secretary.

The Masonic Home of Missouri, which is situated in Forest Park, in the suburbs of St. Louis, was formally dedicated on the 15th June last. The Home is a fine large residence with 15 acres of ground attached, and cost \$40,000, of which \$15,000 have been paid, while payment of the remainder falls due in December.

Sir Knight James L. Fleming, G.C., presided at the 28th annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Georgia, held at Columbus, on the 8th and 9th May. There are only eight subordinate commanderies in the jurisdiction, but they appear to have been all of them represented on the occasion, and the proceedings passed off satisfactorily. The number of subscribing members is only 423, but the statement of accounts showed a fair balance on the right side. Sir Knight A. G. Howard was elected and installed Grand Commander for the ensuing year, while Sir Knight Samuel P. Hamilton remains at his post as Grand Recorder.

At the recent annual meeting, early in June last, of Grand Lodge of New York, Bro. Frank R. Lawrence, to whom the brethren in that State are so deeply indebted for his services in freeing Grand Lodge from debt, was re-elected Grand Master for the ensuing year, but he declined the honour in a brief speech, of which the following is the opening portion. "I appreciate from the bottom of my heart the supreme honour which you so kindly confer, yet I feel that the time has arrived when I should retire from the station in which your favour so long has retained me, and with the utmost regret, and certainly with no want of appreciation of your more than kindness, I beg that you will permit me to decline further service." Under the circumstances a new Grand Master was elected in the person of Bro. John W. Vrooman.

We learn from the statistics presented at this annual communication that there are 718 lodges in the jurisdiction of the G. Lodge of New York, the total number of subscribing members being 74,065, or more than 100 members per lodge. The general receipts for the past year amounted to \$66,107, and the general fund to \$97,720, the disbursements being \$60,060. The hall and asylum receipts were \$186,468, the total fund \$216,555, and the disbursements \$76,900, the balance in hand being \$139,655. These figures speak well for the work done by New York under Bro. Frank R. Lawrence, now Past G. Master.

Our readers will probably have noticed that in our report last week of the District Grand Lodge of Queensland, circular letters were laid on the table from the District Grand Lodges of Auckland, Wellington, and Westland, against the movement now on foot in the Colony for the establishment of a Grand Lodge of New Zealand. This is most important, as it shows that there is very far from being unanimity among our New Zealand brethren in behalf of the Grand Lodge. These three districts comprise amongst them 44 out of the 85 English lodges in the colony, taking the official Grand Lodge Calendar for 1889 as our guide. The District Grand Lodge Westland (South Island) has 7 lodges, the District Grand Lodge Auckland (North Island), 19 lodges, and the District Grand Lodge Wellington (North Island), 18 lodges. Nothing, of course, was said at the meeting of the District Grand Lodge of Queensland as to how the Scotch and Irish lodges are affected, but from what we have heard, the movement finds greater favour with them than among those of English constitution.

The summons has been issued for the annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of Worcestershire, to be held at the Town Hall, Stourport, under the banner of the Vernon Lodge, No. 560, on Wednesday, the 11th prox. In addition to the regular business to be transacted, resolutions will be moved to vote 10 guineas from the Prov. G. Lodge Benevolent Fund to the Boys' School, and five guineas towards the testimonial fund which is being raised to commemorate the services of the late Bro. Nott, Prov. G. Secretary of Wiltshire, and Secretary to the Charity Organisation of the Associated Provinces. The brethren will also go in procession to attend Divine service in St. Michael's Church, where the sermon will be preached by Bro. the Rev. J. W. Willshaw, Prov. G. Chaplain, the offertory being devoted to charitable purposes.



## Craft Masonry.

### Provincial Meetings.

#### DATCHET.

**George Gardner Lodge (No. 2309).**—The third regular meeting of this young lodge was held at the Village Hall, on Saturday, the 17th inst., when there were present Bros. G. Gardner, W.M.; W. B. Fendick, S.W.; A. Skinner, J.W.; R. P. Laundry, S.D.; R. Dennis, J.D.; E. B. Cox, Treas.; C. P. Bellerby, Sec.; H. Perdue, D.C., acting I.G.; A. Hewer, Stwd.; Stanley-Mansfield, W. Hanham, A. Druce, and J. Corp. Visitors: Bros. Wells, W.M. 1563; Hartaud, 1305; W. A. Dowling, S.W. 2012; W. Clowes, B. Kenyon, 2012; Chapman, 2190; J. Slater, 2012; T. Rosenberger, 2021; L. Lee, H. S. Pulman, and Ellis, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting being read, Bros. Broderick and Rosenberger, the latter by request, were passed, and Mr. Louis Lee and Mr. H. S. Pulman were initiated. Bros. Wm. H. Stanley-Mansfield, William H. Hanham, James Corp, Arthur Hewer, A. Druce, and J. Slater, 2012, were raised. The by-laws were read and adopted, and the Provincial Charity Fund taken into consideration, and it was resolved, on the suggestion of the W.M., to contribute in the same manner as the other lodges in the province. The lodge was closed after a very hard afternoon's work, and the brethren retired to a repast at the Manor Hotel.

After the usual toasts had been given, a very enjoyable evening was spent. The way this lodge is progressing bids fair to place it among the most important lodges in the province. On this occasion eight candidates were initiated and two gentlemen proposed for the next meeting.

#### ERITH.

**St. John and St. Paul Lodge (No. 615).**—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on the 14th inst., at the Schools, Erith Avenue, and was well attended. Bro. H. King, W.M., opened the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, proceeded to the ceremony, and in due course Bro. C. Watkins, S.W. and W.M. elect, was placed in the chair. He appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. C. Letton, S.W.; G. R. Cashfield, J.W.; G. W. Mitchell, P.M., P.G. Stwd., Treas.; H. King, I.P.M., Sec.; A. C. Doddrell, J.D.; W. T. Doddrell, I.G.; and W. Lardner, Tyler. Bro. King then recited the charges admirably, and so concluded the ceremony. He was presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel for services rendered to the lodge, and as a mark of the esteem of the brethren, for which he returned thanks. Bro. Mitchell was re-elected to serve on the Provincial Charity Committee, and the lodge was then closed.

The banquet was partaken of at the Prince of Wales Hotel, and was well served and elegantly appointed.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. J. Aillud, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; R. W. Bilby, P.M.; W. T. Doddrell, P.M.; T. Caster, A. Gifford, W. Willingale, W. H. Keeble, and G. Dyes, members of the lodge; F. Binckes, P.G.S.B. Eng., Sec. Boys' School; T. Clibborn, W.M. 20; W. G. Stidolph, W.M. 1678; G. Brown, P.M. 140; G. H. Campbell, A. W. Jackson, C. Gordon, and J. G. Roberts, of 913; H. A. Pettifer, A. J. Mitchell, and H. J. Roberts, of 700; A. Anderson, 1702; J. Horton, 1524; G. T. Fannan, 117; C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec. 1472, and Sec. 2184; and others.

The toasts of "The Queen and Craft Masonry," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, M.W. Pro G.M.," having been honoured,

Bro. Binckes responded for that of "The Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," saying that he wished there had been some one present who was more able to do justice to so important a toast than himself, but he did not think much need be said about it, for it needed no higher praise than was every day shown by its excellent work; he would, however, express a wish that some day in the future its ranks would be recruited from among the Past Masters of the St. John and St. Paul Lodge. There was an old French proverb which said "all things come to those who wait," and he trusted to see the ranks of the Grand Officers recruited from that lodge.

The toast of "The Right Hon. the Earl Amherst, R.W. P.G.M. Kent, and Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M.," and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been drunk with enthusiasm,

The Immediate Past Master proposed the toast of "The W.M." He said he was going to repeat that stereotyped phrase, "the W.M. has entrusted me with the gavel," &c. Well, the W.M. had, and, as they knew, he was about to propose their W.M.'s health. It was with a certain amount of regret, mingled with pleasure, that he proposed it, for he could not forget the fact that he had gone through the chair, and was now relegated to the realms of the departed, and felt a little commiseration for the troubles that their esteemed W.M. would have to encounter. He trusted that all differences would be sunk, and that their W.M. would have a pleasant and successful year of office. He had a most efficient staff of officers, and whenever the opportunity occurred for him to show his abilities he felt sure they would be of such a nature as to merit the approbation of the brethren, and the testimony of a good conscience.

The Worshipful Master said it was with some trepidation that he rose to respond to the toast, which had been so kindly put by the I.P.M., and so heartily received by all present. It seemed only a little time ago that he rose to respond as an initiate to the toast of his health; but from the time that he was proposed by Bro. Bilby, and accepted by them, he had always thanked Bro. Bilby for introducing him, and then for accepting him as a brother and a Mason; and it would always be his high endeavour to make himself worthy of their preference, to maintain the honour and harmony of the lodge, and study, as far as possible, the wishes and happiness of the brethren. Their I.P.M. had said he hoped he (Bro. Watkins) would be a credit to the Craft. Well, it



needed not for him to say that he should endeavour to promote unanimity amongst them, and as their I.P.M. had worked the ceremonies so well, so he should endeavour to follow in his footsteps, especially in that of installation. It was with trepidation he took the office, but he trusted when the time came that he should be able to install his immediate successor as his predecessor had installed him.

Bro. King, in responding to the toast of "The Installing Officer," said he felt so enveloped in the dignity of a Past Master that he was not at all prepared to respond to the toast, but, as their W.M. seemed to have made a point of his answering, he would try to do so. So far as the ceremony of installation was concerned, he considered it the duty of every Master to install his successor; as the Wardens were told that they might be called to higher duties, so it was in the chair—the higher duty of which was to install one's successor to the satisfaction of the brethren generally. There was another duty, and that was to unite in being happy, and communicating happiness. They must excuse him if he wandered from the toast, but unless there was unanimity amongst them they could never prosper. Reverting to the toast, it was extremely gratifying to him to hear that he had satisfied them, and trusted his successor would receive the same kind congratulations when he performed the same onerous, yet pleasant, duty.

Bro. Binckes, in responding for "The Visitors," said he was one of those who held that hospitality was one of the cardinal virtues; and that the visitors were under deep obligations to the lodge for the enjoyment they had had. He did not know that he should have taken up their time, as he had before spoken, but having known the St. John and St. Paul Lodge for a number of years, first as a visitor, then as a member, and now an honoured guest at its hospitable table, he felt that he must express his gratitude for many kindnesses received, and return his most hearty thanks for the kind manner in which he had then and at all times been received. Bros. Bilby and Mitchell he had known, and enjoyed their friendship, and to them especially his thanks were due for their unwearied kindness to him. He trusted the most thorough unanimity would exist amongst them; the rule of their Order was founded upon the purest principles of brotherly love and truth, and that was not to be taken as a mere form; if so taken, it was merely as a sounding brass or tinkling symbol; it mattered little whether they sat east or west, but let them look back to the past that had not been without its successes; and, forgetting and forgiving, work together in harmony with the tenets of their grand and glorious Institution. If they were thoroughly imbued with the first principles of Freemasonry, let them merge their little differences in one brotherly bond of union, or, if they must have their little differences, do not agree to differ, but differ to agree, for if they only showed a spirit of conciliation how happy they might be; do not let the outer world know that they disagreed. That might be the last time he should ever have the opportunity of thanking them for their hospitality, and he did so most sincerely, and congratulated the brethren upon the admirable work done that day, and last, but not least, their splendid hospitality.

Bros. Clibbon, Brown, Jackson, Jolly, and others briefly responded, and then the toast of "The Past Masters" followed, and, in response, Bro. Mitchell regretted the loss of Bro. Bilby as Secretary. He had taken office when the lodge was in a very dilapidated state, and had worked hard to retrieve its position.

Bro. Bilby said that he intended to take the same interest as hitherto, and asked Bro. Mitchell to try, as he (Bro. Bilby) intended, and make the lodge a prosperous one.

The I.P.M. having also responded, "The Officers" and Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Some good singing and reciting by Bros. King, Brown, Jackson, Cashfield, Jolly, and others, was much appreciated. Bro. Roberts presided at the piano.

#### FELTHAM.

**Lebanon Lodge** (No. 1326).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Saturday, the 17th inst., at the Railway Hotel, when the W.M., Bro. C. W. Baker, opened the lodge. There were present Bros. J. A. Wilson, S.W.; J. C. Goslin, J.W.; J. W. Baldwin, P.M., P.P.G.D., Sec.; F. Dunstan, J.D.; E. J. Whelan, I.G.; J. Amey, Org.; W. H. Davey, Stwd.; J. Gilbert, P.G.T.; Tyler; E. A. Smith, I.P.M.; J. J. Marsh, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Laurence, P.M., P.G.D.C.; B. G. Andrews, W. H. Davey, D. Moss, S. H. Plattam, J. Eton, T. A. Lineker, and others. The only visitor was Bro. W. Gray, P.M. 1489.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the ballot for Mr. Thomas Alexander Lineker, being unanimous he was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bros. Winslow Harry Davey, David Moss, Samuel Henry Platten, and John Eton, were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Masons, the entire ceremony being given, including the history, and the lecture on the tracing board. The W.M. did all his work in the most efficient manner. There was some important notices of motion given by Bro. Frederick Walters, P.M., P.P.G.D., which were to come on for discussion at the next meeting, but he, unfortunately, was again absent through ill-health. Several propositions of candidates for initiation were given in, and the lodge was closed.

The usual banquet followed.

#### LYMINGTON.

**New Forest Lodge** (No. 319).—At the monthly meeting of the members of this lodge, held at their lodge room, Bugle Hotel, on Tuesday afternoon, the 13th inst., Bro. H. Pearce, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and he will be installed at the next monthly meeting. The lodge decided to present to Bro. Slater, the retiring W.M., a Past Master's jewel in gold, to mark their appreciation of his services while in the chair. Bro. H. Doman, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer, a position he has filled since 1872; and Bro. Bailey was re-appointed Tyler. Bro. the Rev. E. H. Elers, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., was re-elected the lodge's representative of the Provincial Charities Committee.

We are glad to hear that the Countess of Zetland has quite recovered from her recent attack of typhus fever, and has been able to leave her house and take carriage exercise. Her ladyship will leave town on Tuesday next for Scotland to recruit her strength.

## Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

**RANELAGH LODGE** (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 16th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. J. Davis, W.M.; T. Jobson, S.W.; W. G. Coat, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M.; Preceptor; D. S. Long, Sec.; H. Perdue, P.M., S.D.; F. A. Barth, J.D.; C. J. C. Walker, I.G.; W. J. Coplestone, and W. W. Williams.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the 1st Section of the Lecture worked by the brethren, under the direction of the Preceptor. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed, Bro. Barth acting as candidate. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the 2nd Section of the Lecture worked by Bro. Long, under the direction of the Preceptor. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the brethren, under the direction of the Preceptor. The W.M. having risen, Bro. Jobson was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

**HYDE PARK LODGE** (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 19th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. M. T. Tuck, W.M.; W. J. Hakim, W.M. 141, S.W.; O. W. Battley, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; E. Gilbert, 173 (visitor), S.D.; C. G. Wetzlar, J.D.; E. Coleman, I.G.; C. A. Milnes, Stwd.; James Sims, P.M. 834; W. Death, W.M. 511; D. Stroud, P.M. 2045, W.M. elect 1637; J. R. Allman, I.P.M. 1425; and J. Cruttenden.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st, 4th, and 5th Sections of the Lecture were worked by Bro. Read, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Death being candidate. Bro. Gilbert was elected a member. Bro. Hakim was elected W.M. for the next meeting—the officers to be in rotation. A cordial vote of thanks was passed, to be entered on the minutes, to Bro. Tuck for the able and efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of W.M. for the first time, which compliment was duly acknowledged. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

**COVENT GARDEN LODGE** (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on the 15th inst., when there were present Bros. F. M. Noakes, W.M.; A. Clark, S.W.; W. Barringer, J.W.; J. Greenway, Deputy Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas. and Sec.; W. Fowles, S.D.; J. Rowe, J.D.; F. Jackson, I.G.; T. C. Seary, Org.; T. E. Weeks, Tyler; E. C. Mulvey, F. C. Fort, R. E. Cursons, J. D. Bromley, G. H. Foan, W. Hoggins, G. A. Bergholz, G. Deaton, R. Kirk, W. J. Short, and G. H. Reynolds.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the meetings held on the 1st and 8th instant were read and confirmed. The Deputy Preceptor worked the 1st, and Bro. W. Fowles, W.M. 1681, the 2nd Section of the First Lecture. Bro. W. Hoggins offering himself as a candidate for initiation, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony. Bro. R. E. Cursons worked the 3rd Section of the First Lecture. On rising for the first time, Bro. W. J. Short, 1623, was unanimously elected a joining member. On rising for the second time, Bro. A. Clark was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. G. Reynolds, Sec., proposed that Bro. W. Fowles, W.M. of the Ebury Lodge, and a very old member of this lodge of instruction, work the ceremony of installation on Thursday evening, the 29th instant—seconded by Bro. J. Greenway, Deputy Preceptor, and carried unanimously. The lodge was then closed.

**KENSINGTON LODGE** (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 20th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwars-square, Kensington, W., when there were present Bros. Heath, W.M.; Cory, S.W.; Knight, J.W.; Read, P.M., Preceptor; R. H. Williams, P.M., Treas.; Hubbard, Sec.; Craggs, S.D.; Woods, J.D.; Swann, I.G.; W. C. Williams, P.M.; Sims, P.M.; and Bath.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the Second Degree. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Craggs, and Bro. W. C. Williams, P.M., answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the 1st Section of the Lecture worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Heath resumed the chair. Bro. Cory was elected W.M. for the next meeting and the officers were appointed in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

**CREATON LODGE** (No. 1791).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 15th inst., at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. Present: Bros. F. W. Woodard, W.M.; T. Jobson, S.W.; J. W. Jolly, J.W.; J. Davies, Preceptor; E. Austin, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, Sec. (pro tem.); G. E. Higginson, S.D.; W. Hillier, J.D.; H. Cotton, I.G.; J. Sims, P.M.; A. J. Lathbury, P.M.; W. Williams, P.M.; E. Child, P.M.; W. J. Coplestone, A. Love, W. G. Jennings, L. Cox, Arnott, J. B. Cory, T. W. Biggs, H. P. Gilbert, F. Dusterwald, W. W. Williams, Brown, and Sanson.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Cox offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed in an admirable manner. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The 1st and 2nd Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Dusterwald was elected a joining member. Bro. T. Jobson was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

**LOUGHBOROUGH LODGE**.—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 19th inst., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham-road Station (L.C. and D.R.), when there were present Bros. Poole, W.M.; Hudson,

S.W.; Steele, J.W.; Westley, Preceptor; J. Andrews, Sec.; Elson, S.D.; J. Mitchell, J.D.; Windsor, I.G.; Cochrane, Caink, Bate, Hargrove, W. Hill, Griffith, Langdon, and Weeks, Tyler.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the 1st Section of the Lecture worked by Bro. Westley, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Cochrane having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was resumed to the Third Degree, and the ceremony of initiation rehearsed, with Bro. Cochrane as candidate. The W.M. gave the traditional history. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Hudson was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Hudson returned thanks, and appointed the officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

**ANDREW CHAPTER** (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 14th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith. Present: Comps. H. Purdue, M.E.Z.; J. Sims, H.; J. Davies, J.; F. Craggs, S.E.; and W. C. Williams, P.S.

The usual formalities being dispensed with, the companions proceeded to discuss many matters of importance in connection with the chapter, and the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, the 28th instant.

## Queensland.

### BRISBANE.

**Fortitude Valley Lodge** (No. 319, I.C.).—

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Protestant Hall, on Thursday, July 4th. The meeting proved of more than ordinary interest, being the occasion chosen for the annual installation of the officers for the ensuing year, which ceremony was, after the disposal of the formal business, conducted by the W.M., Bro. J. Rose. The following officers were duly installed, Bro. A. Imrie, acting as Installing Master: Bros. W. Osbourne, W.M.; Leney, S.W.; H. J. Brown, J.W.; W. Silcock, Treas.; G. R. Flower, Sec.; Taylor, Chap.; Gilbert, S.D.; Keenan, J.D.; Bryant, I.G.; J. Maynard and White, Stwds.; and Hinks, Tyler. The ancient charge was impressively delivered by Bro. W. Soutar, and the ceremony concluded.

At the close of the lodge an adjournment was made to the refreshment tables, where between 70 and 80 brethren sat down.

The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were proposed and responded to, and some excellent harmony at intervals added to the general enjoyment of the evening.

## Canada.

### GRAND LODGE.

The meeting of Grand Lodge is a re-union that is anxiously looked forward to, and this year there was a great gathering in Owen Sound, nearly 500 brethren being present from every part of the province. Some of the familiar faces were missing, notably those of Bros. Spry and Col. Stevenson. It was also with keen regret that the brethren learned of the serious illness of Bro. Judge Macpherson, who was stricken down while active in his work as Chairman of the Local Reception Committee. It was at his earnest solicitation that Grand Lodge consented to meet in the northern town, and it was his desire to make the sojourn a pleasant and memorable one. He was not there, however, to welcome the body in which he himself was a leading and esteemed figure, and many messages of sympathy and condolence were daily sent to his bedside.

The members of the Board travelled from Toronto to Owen Sound on the morning of the 15th July in a special car attached to the morning C.P.R. train, while others came in by the several steamboats. The brethren of Owen Sound had quarters prepared, so that little time was lost in settling down to what may be truly regarded as the laborious part of the session. At two o'clock the Board of General Purposes, under the presidency of the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. J. Ross Robertson, assembled in the Masonic Hall for roll call, and afterwards the several Committees met as follows:

**Audit and Finance**—Bros. T. Sargent, Chairman; Allan McLean, R. B. Hungerford, F. C. Martin, Jas. Waying, W. Freeman, W. S. Calvert, and Jno. Boyd.

**Benevolence**—Bros. Otto Klotz, Chairman; Ross, Jas. Moffatt, W. J. Morris, H. J. Wilkinson, J. F. H. Gunn, S. W. Ray, and W. Smeaton.

**Grievances and Appeals**—Bros. L. H. Henderson, Chairman; D. Spry, H. Robertson, D. H. Martyn, E. E. Wade, J. C. Hegler, John Creasor, J. H. Burritt, J. Walsh, and W. L. Hamilton.

**Jurisprudence**—Bros. Henry Macpherson, Chairman; J. A. Henderson, J. K. Kerr, C. G. McDermott, Wm. McDonald, G. Monk, and B. Shortley.

**Warrants**—Bros. Donald A. Stevenson, D. McLellan, J. E. Harding, Jas. Newell, R. Mahoney, J. A. Anderson, W. C. Duff, and David Taylor.

**Condition of Masonry**—Bros. E. T. Malone, Chairman; Hugh Murray, F. J. Meret, J. A. Willis, Joseph Beck, J. S. Dewar, and L. Secord.

On Wednesday at two o'clock the Grand Lodge was opened in the large assembly rooms of the Town Hall, which had been tastefully fitted up for the occasion. Bro. R. T. Walkem, O.C., Grand Master, took the chair, having on his right Bro. J. Ross Robertson, Deputy Grand Master, and on his left Bro. Henry Robertson, LL.B., Past Grand Master. On the plat-

form were Bros. J. A. Henderson, Q.C., Hugh Murray, Col. Jas. Moffatt, and Otto Klotz, Past Grand Masters; Dr. Freeman, Col. Wayling, W. Smeaton, W. J. Morris, D. Taylor, Col. S. W. Ray, W. S. Calvert, Jno. Boyd, Geo. Monkman, R. Mahoney, H. J. Wilkinson, B. Shortley, and J. A. C. Anderson, District Deputy Grand Masters; J. A. Wills, S.G.W.; Joseph Beck, J.G.W.; J. J. Mason, G. Sec.; Ed. Mitchell, G. Treas.; Dr. D. H. Martyn, J. H. Burritt, John Creasor, Q.C.; J. F. H. Gunn, R. B. Hungerford, Dr. G. G. Rowe, J. E. Harding, T. Sargent, Donald Ross, L. H. Henderson, D. McLellan, Allan McLean, Dr. L. Secord, J. C. Hegler, E. T. Malone, Fred C. Martin, J. S. Dewar, and many Past Grand Lodge Officers.

Addresses of welcome were read from the local brethren and the municipal authorities, to which the GRAND MASTER fittingly responded, after which the latter opened the 34th annual communication of the Grand Lodge by delivering the usual address, in which he passed in review the most important occurrences of the past year, and congratulated those present on the position to which the Craft had attained. He enumerated with many expressions of regret the losses it had sustained, and paid well-merited compliments to the late Bros. C. D. Macdonnell, Past D.D.G.M. Ontario District; C. Doebler, Past G. Stwd., and T. B. Bain, Past D.D.G.M. Wilson District; J. S. Loomis, Past D.D.G.M. Prince Edward District; D. Curtis, Past D.D.G.M. Wilson District; R. Robinson, Past G.S.B.; and H. Bickford. He enumerated the lodges he had visited, the ceremonies he or his Grand Officers had taken part in, the decisions he had laid down, the position, statistically and financially, of Masonry in the jurisdiction, and all such other matters as he considered worthy of being mentioned.

At the conclusion of the address, sundry business was dealt with, and G. Lodge adjourned.

The Grand Lodge resumed business next morning with the elections for the office of District Deputy Grand Masters. The brethren of the several districts assembled at stated places and selected the officers to preside over them for the ensuing year, in some the competition being keen and exciting, notably in the Hamilton, Georgia, and Toronto districts.

The election of Grand Officers did not occasion the interest that usually accompanies that function, this being the off year of Grand Lodge as it is called. Both Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master were re-elected by a practically unanimous vote, and both, on rising to return thanks, were enthusiastically received. Nothing could have so demonstrated the popularity of these two brethren as the reception of the announcement of their re-election.

The GRAND MASTER, in his own graceful style, assured the brethren that his best efforts would be put forth in behalf of the interest of Grand Lodge. The confidence they had reposed in him would to him be a sacred trust to guard jealously until he could again render an account of his Stewardship.

Bro. J. ROSS ROBERTSON was greeted with an outburst of applause. He thanked with heartfelt thanks the brethren of Grand Lodge for the renewal of their favours, and so long as he was chosen to assist their Grand Master in upholding the dignity and interests of their beloved Craft nothing would be wanting on his part, no matter at what sacrifice, to sustain and defend the honour which had been entrusted to his keeping.

Bros. J. J. MASON and E. MITCHELL were of course re-elected Grand Secretary and Treasurer respectively, and both responded to the enthusiastic calls for them.

For Senior Grand Warden Bros. J. McLean Stevenson, C. Brown, and Jas. McLauchlan, were nominated. The latter secured the coveted honour by a large majority, and an equally popular and deserving brother, Michael Walsh, was elected J.G.W.

Bro. Rev. Dr. Armstrong, who had gained a host of friends by his eloquent advocacy of the claims of his "Irish" brethren in London, was elected Grand Chaplain over Bro. Rev. Canon Petit, the other nominee, whose absence from Grand Lodge diminished his chances. The reverend brother, however, is regarded as the coming man. For the office of Grand Registrar there was no one with hardihood enough to oppose Bro. Judge Morson, an evidence of the popularity he enjoys generally. His deserved promotion was the subject of many congratulations throughout the afternoon.

A motion by Bro. J. ROSS ROBERTSON that the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Masonry in Canada, which occurs in 1892, be celebrated, and that the several Grand Lodges within the Dominion be notified, in order that the celebration of Canada's Masonic Centennial be simultaneously observed, was carried by acclamation.

The next place of meeting of Grand Lodge was the occasion of a warm discussion, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, London, and Hamilton finding most supporters. Kingston, however, being the home of the Grand Master, was out of deference to him chosen by a large majority.

Grand Lodge, after a series of notices of motion had been given and the new Grand Officers installed, was closed with the usual formalities.

## GRAND CHAPTER.

The companions of the Royal Arch were out in force on the morning of the 19th July, and taxed the accommodation of the Masonic Hall, at Owen Sound, to its utmost. Seats were arranged four and five deep, and the large number, the comparatively small room, and

the hot weather, all combined to accelerate business to a wonderful degree.

The Grand Chapter assembled after 10 o'clock, Comp. R. B. Hungerford, G.Z., presiding, supported by Comps. J. J. Mason, G.H., and J. E. Harding, G.J. The representation from the chapters in the jurisdiction was satisfactorily large, and, although the proceedings were comparatively uneventful, owing mainly to the peaceful progress of Capitular Masonry in the province throughout the year, nevertheless interest in the matters discussed was uppermost, and an emulative spirit evinced to the close.

Among those present were Comps. L. H. Henderson, Henry Robertson, LL.B., Donald Ross, T. Sargent, C. W. Postlethwaite, D. Mitchell, Hugh Murray, David McLellan, D. H. Martyn, M.D., Wm. Gibson, J. Ross Robertson, T. L. M. Tipton, A. Patterson, W. R. Hawse, J. A. Wills, D. Taylor, Joseph Beck, R. Radcliffe, E. T. Malone, R. T. Walkem, and others.

Grand Chapter having been opened, and the regular routine business despatched, Grand Z. HUNGERFORD delivered the usual annual address, in which he carefully reviewed the events of the past year, referring with much satisfaction to the successful efforts which the Grand Superintendents of Districts had made to arouse greater interest in the proceedings of R.A. Masonry in those chapters of which Comp. D. McLellan, G. Scribe E., had given him a list on his assuming office, and in which a considerable amount of indifference had been shown to the Degree, so that they were far from being in a flourishing condition. He announced that he had granted dispensations for four new chapters, and had approved of by-laws for several others. He had officially visited several chapters, and in every case had been received by the companions with the utmost kindness. He referred in suitable terms of regret to the losses which had been sustained through the deaths of Comps. C. D. McDonald, Past G.Z.; Seymour Porter, Past G. Supt. Toronto District; A. W. Francis, Past G. Supt. Ontario District; and D. Curtis, Past G. Supt. Wilson District. He announced that the funds had improved considerably, the balance at the close of the year, after defraying all expenses, being \$2205, as compared with the balance of \$1486 at the close of 1887. He considered he was justified in claiming that there had been an all round improvement in R.A. Masonry in 1888; he thanked the G. Officers, and especially Comps. McLellan, G. Scribe E., and E. Mitchell, G. Treas., for their great services, and offered some useful advice as to the rendering, and especially as regards the knowledge which should be exhibited by First Principals.

The following were elected G. Officers for the ensuing year, namely:

Comp. R. B. Hungerford (re-elected) ...	G.Z.
" J. J. Mason (re-elected) ...	G.H.
" J. E. Harding (re-elected) ...	G.J.
" David McLellan (re-elected) ...	G.S.E.
" E. T. Malone ...	G.S.N.
" E. Mitchell (re-elected) ...	G. Treasurer.
" J. W. Wallace ...	G. Prin. Soj.
" G. G. Rowe, M.D. ...	G. Registrar.

Executive Committee—Elected: Comps. J. Creasor, Q.C., W. Gibson, J. Ross Robertson, A. Patterson, and Hugh Murray. Appointed: Comps. A. G. Smith, W. Forbes, W. G. Reid, J. W. Coy, and J. McL. Stevenson. Comp. J. S. Dewar was elected Representative on the Benevolent Board for three years.

Grand Chapter was shortly afterwards closed.

## New Zealand.

### PITONE.

**Ulster Lodge** (No. 475, I.C.)—The installation of Bro. Davis as W.M. and the investiture of officers of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 19th June, in the presence of a very large number of brethren. Among the visitors were Bros. Lawry and Harkness, the W.M.'s of the Waterloo, Wellington, Leinster, and Aorangi Lodges, and numerous Past Masters and brethren of the three Constitutions. Bros. R. C. Hamerton, G. C. Fownes, F. F. Grady, and J. M. Goldfinch, P.M.'s of the Leinster Lodge, No. 469 (I.C.), acted as Installing Masters, and performed their several duties in a very efficient manner. The officers invested were as follows: Bros. S. Curtis, S.W.; J. Curtis, J.W.; L. Payne, Treas.; J. T. King, Sec.; R. Colquitt, S.D.; J. G. A. Castle, J.D.; W. Lodder, I.G.; R. Mothes, Chap.; R. C. Kirk, D.C.; J. H. Sherwin, Org.; W. Gough and A. Marsden, Stwds.; and Wm. Ashcroft, Tyler. During the ceremony some appropriate solos were sung by Bros. S. Robinson and R. C. Kirk, and several vocal selections were also contributed by a choir under the able direction of Bro. Sherwin, Organist of the lodge.

Before closing the proceedings, the W.M., in a few well-chosen remarks, presented Bro. R. C. Hamerton with a P.M.'s jewel in recognition of his many services to the lodge, over which he has ably presided for two years.

The presentation was suitably acknowledged, and Bro. Hamerton took the opportunity of assuring the brethren that he would continue to further the interests of Ulster Lodge in the future as he hoped he had done in the past.

"Hearty good wishes" were then tendered by the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed.

### WELLINGTON.

**Wellington Lodge** (No. 1521, E.C.)—There was a large attendance of the Order at the hall in Boulcott-street, recently, on the occasion of the annual installation of the W.M. and the investiture of the officers of the lodge. There were no fewer than 23 Past Masters present, and sister lodges were well represented, as also the District G. Lodge (E.C.), the Provincial G. Lodge (I.C.), and the Provincial G. Lodge North Island (S.C.). Bro. H. J. Williams,

P.M., acted as Installing Master, the beautiful ceremony being given in most impressive form. The musical portion was conducted by Bro. Warren as Organist, and some admirably sung solos were given by brethren. The following were the officers invested: Bros. W. D. Lyon, P.M.; W.M.; Geo. Robertson, I.P.M.; J. H. Richardson, S.W.; D. C. Inness, J.W.; W. D. Hudson, Treas.; B. N. Manley, P.M., Chap.; J. H. Brooke, Sec.; A. S. Chapman, S.D.; W. Jessup, J.D.; A. Moat, I.G.; and Buck, Tyler. Bros. W. H. Meek, P.M., and T. Larchin, P.M., acted most efficiently as Directors of Ceremonies. After the investiture a presentation was made to the retiring W.M., Bro. Geo. Robertson, and it was also intimated that the members of the lodge intended to ask Mrs. Robertson to accept a gift which would show how highly her husband was esteemed by his brethren.

At the conclusion of the business an adjournment was made to the banqueting room, where refreshments were provided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and musical selections were given. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

**Leinster Lodge** (No. 469, I.C.)—The annual installation of the W.M. of this lodge, and the investiture of officers, took place on Monday, 24th June, at the Freemasons' Hall. About 60 members of the Craft attended the ceremony, and the proceedings were carried out with solemnity. The District Grand Lodge of Wellington, F.C., was represented by the D.D.G.M., and the W.M.'s, officers, and members of all the city lodges attended, beside the W.M.'s and members of the Ulster and Killarney Lodges. Bro. Arthur Clothier was installed as W.M., and the service was performed in a very efficient manner by Bros. Goldfinch, P.M., Grady, P.M., and Fownes, P.M., the following members being invested as officers for the ensuing term, viz.: Bros. H. H. Tippler, S.W.; T. P. Coveney, J.W.; A. A. Bowley, S.D.; J. F. Bulford, J.D.; R. C. Hamerton, P.M., Treas.; H. B. Mason, Sec.; C. H. Chatwin, Chap.; W. H. Warren, Org.; F. F. Grady, P.M., D.C.; and F. H. Arrowsmith and C. Tilley, Stwds. The musical portion of the ceremony was attended to by Bro. W. H. Warren, who was assisted by a large choir. Appropriate solos were also sung by Bros. Clothier, Robinson, and Bishop. Before closing the lodge, Bro. Arthur Clothier, in suitable terms, presented the retiring W.M., Bro. J. M. Goldfinch, with a P.M.'s jewel in recognition of his services to the lodge, and the presentation was feelingly acknowledged by the recipient.

"Hearty good wishes" and congratulations were then offered by the visitors, and the proceedings terminated.

## FREEMASONRY IN QUEENSLAND.

The following correspondence, which is from the *Brisbane Courier*, and relates to the question now troubling the minds of our Queensland brethren, will be interesting to our readers. It gives—so far as it goes—both sides of the question, and the subject will be better understood, perhaps, from a study presented by brethren on the spot. Our own opinion about the proposed Grand Lodge of Queensland has already been expressed in these columns:

"To the Editor of the 'Brisbane Courier.'"

"Sir,—The article reprinted in your journal of 29th inst., headed as above, may lead to considerable error in the minds of the public, and, possibly, of some of the members of the Order, if the statements and assertions in the article are permitted to be regarded as altogether truthful and a fair statement of the facts of the case.

"It is evident that the writer of the article believed all that was said by the speakers at a meeting of the District Grand Lodge of the English Constitution, held at the Masonic Hall on 6th March, attended by some 20 or 30 persons, the proceedings being printed and circulated the following day. Strange to say, all the speeches on one side were read from printed slips, and it is stated that they were all written by the same hand, and distributed amongst those willing to take charge of them. The great similarity of style gives some force to this statement. This goes to show the opposition to the movement was carefully pre-arranged some time before the meeting was called. But even at the meeting of the English District Grand Lodge, the expression of those present was far from being unanimous, as some of the oldest and most respected members differed altogether from their colleagues; but their speeches not having been prepared beforehand and printed may not have run so smoothly as those on the other side. It is evident that the Editor of the *Freemason* (the paper from which the extract was taken) arrived at his conclusions solely from an *ex parte* statement; or it is quite possible that the article may have been written by the same hand which is supposed to have concocted the speeches. Be that as it may, it was manifestly unfair to come to any conclusion or to express decided opinions before hearing what was to be said on the other side!

"Now, what are the facts. On 7th March (one day after the District Grand Lodge met) the most numerous and influential meeting of the members of the three Constitutions ever held in Queensland took place in the Masonic Hall, having been called by public advertisement, and open to all who wished to attend. The actual number of those who signed the attendance roll was as follows: There were 63 of the English, 69 of the Scotch, and 84 of the Irish Constitution—216 in all. Of this number only seven voted against the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Queensland, and one of those was not an English Mason, so that really 63 of the 69 English Masons present were in favour of the new Grand Lodge; and when it is considered that strong efforts had been made to prevent the attendance of the English Masons, the result of the voting shows what the real opinion of those present was.

"The Grand Lodges of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria were at once recognised by the Grand Lodge of England. The highest and most influential Mason in England, or perhaps in the world—the Prince of Wales—has most unhesitatingly expressed his approval of the formation of Grand Lodges in the Colonies, believing that they would greatly extend the influence and power of the Order; and it is manifest that those who oppose his wishes disobey the supreme authority of the English Constitution.

"It would appear from the tone of the utterances from those opposed to the Queensland Grand Lodge, that the English Constitution is the principal representative of Queensland Masonry. Figures prove the opposite. There are not more than 32 Masonic bodies holding authority under English warrants, including the higher Degrees; while there are 45 under the Scotch and Irish Constitutions. The actual number of members of the two Constitutions is supposed to be nearly double that of the English, so that so far as numbers go an overwhelming majority is in favour of the proposed change.

"Much more could be said on the subject, but I fear to make this letter too long.

"Lastly, all discussion has been forbidden in the English lodges on the subject of the Queensland Constitution, showing the fear which exists of the matter being fairly and openly discussed.—I am, Sir, &c.,  
"MASTER MASON."

"To the Editor of the 'Brisbane Courier.'"

"SIR,—It is not my intention to reply fully to the statements made by 'Master Mason' on the above subject in this morning's *Courier*, as I do not think the public print the proper place to conduct such a controversy. There are, however, one or two statements of fact, or want of fact, which might be drawn attention to. 'Master Mason' says that at the meeting held on 7th March there were present 63 English, 69 Scotch, and 84 Irish Masons; and that, because when the vote was taken, only seven Masons were against the change, therefore 63 (*sic*) English Masons were in favour of the same. In this calculation the fact is lost sight of that, after the first hour, the English Masons were leaving the room by dozens; and that, when the vote was taken, certainly not more than 15 remained; the eight who voted for the resolution representing the prime movers, &c. 'Master Mason' goes on to say that there are only 32 Masonic lodges in the colony holding English warrants, against 45 lodges holding Scotch and Irish warrants. But in this calculation is included higher Degrees, which form no part of the present agitation. They hold warrants from different governing bodies altogether. The scheme under view is that of having a Grand Lodge for all the blue lodges, of which there are 31 English, against 28 Scotch and Irish. The English are practically unanimous *against* a change. Certain few members are of a different opinion, as there always will be amongst a large body of men. Would it not be better for those few to bow to the overwhelming majority, instead of working up the feeling of uneasiness at present existing. In conclusion, a great point is made of the way matters were managed in South Australia, but it hardly applies to this colony, for in South Australia the three District Grand Lodges were unanimous—here a very different feeling exists.—I am, Sir, &c.,  
"Brisbane, 2nd July."

"E.C."

### MASONIC ORATIONS.\*

It was a happy thought of the Editor of this handsomely printed volume to gather together, in the lifetime of the Orator, and to publish the Orations which during a period of some 15 years Bro. L. P. Metham, M.R.C.S., was accustomed to deliver to his brethren in the Provinces of Devon and Cornwall on occasions of important public events, such as Grand Lodge meetings, the consecration of lodges and chapters, and the installation of the Grand Masters. These Orations, which were heard with great pleasure by many of the older Masons of the two western provinces, were published at the time of their delivery in some of the papers, but hitherto they have remained uncollected, and were of course not available to the Masons generally. As each of the speeches, which were prepared by their author with great care, contains an embodiment of the high and lofty principles of Freemasonry, the whole of them may be read with interest and with profit not only by those who are either old or young in Masonic life, but by the uninformed in the mysteries of the Order. Since the last of these Orations was delivered by Bro. Metham, on the installation of the R.W. Viscount Ebrington as Grand Superintendent of Devon, on June 4th, 1881, we are not aware that any brother has taken the place which was so worthily filled by him from the date of the consecration of H.R.A. Chapter "Harmony" in Plymouth, in February, 1866, down to the time that he, on account of increase of years, gave up the position which he so admirably filled. For 15 years he should be regarded as the Public Orator of the two western provinces, and Masonic literature will be benefited, as will be intelligent brethren everywhere, by the collocation of this treasury of well-defined Masonic principles.

\* "Masonic Orations," by Bro. L. P. Metham, P.G.D. Eng., P.D.P.G.M. Devon, &c., delivered in Devon and Cornwall, from A.D. 1866, at the dedication of Masonic Halls, consecration of lodges and chapters, installations, &c. With an introduction by Bro. Wm. James Hughan, P.G.D. Eng., &c., on Freemasonry in Devon and Cornwall. Edited by Bro. John Chapman, P.M. 1402, &c. London: George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

In the preface Bro. Chapman says—"The wise counsel—the faithful caution—that marked the unstinted admonitions of the able Orator, indicated how much he loved our fraternity; for while he dilated in glowing terms upon the distinctive basis of our Society, he failed not to point out the dangers and difficulties attending those un-Masonic elements that sometimes force their unhappy way into our Institution." Having remarked upon the leaps and bounds of late years that have taken place in the increase of the Order, the Editor says it is most essential that the rulers in the Craft should guard more closely the sacred precincts of the Masonic Temple from the approach of the unworthy and profane.

The Editor has had the great advantage of being able to associate with himself Bro. Hughan, who is the Masonic historian of the West, standing probably second to none in England for the attention that he has given to the great historic past of the Masonic world, to whose study he has devoted a large portion of his life. He commences his account of Freemasonry in Devon and Cornwall with a few words on the Masonic career of the Orator, prior to a short history of the Fraternity of the two counties. It appears that Bro. Metham was initiated in Lodge Sincerity, No. 189, East Stonehouse, on March 21, 1844, and from thence he proceeded through various Degrees, till in 1867 the Earl of Zetland invested him as Junior Grand Deacon of England, in "commemoration of which the brethren of the Three Towns presented our brother with a full dress suit of Grand Lodge clothing." The further career of Bro. Metham is briefly stated, and his great work of honorary Secretary of the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, which has lately been so fully set forth in these columns, is ably condensed. The fraternal feelings and the high regard in which his brother Masons held his work is shown in their generous contributions towards the Asylum, amounting to nearly £1800, while he has been equally regardful of the claims of the orphans of those who have died in the country's service by obtaining the election of 35 orphans in the Asylum. Bro. Hughan then gives details of the earliest of the lodges of the two counties, the premier lodge being formed in Exeter in the year 1732. We must leave the reader who is interested to consult the work itself for an account of the progress of the Brotherhood in both counties. In 1866 the late beloved Rev. John Huyshe was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Devon. The Freemasons of the province subscribed for and presented him with a beautiful and costly gold chain, as an heirloom to the province, to descend from each retiring Prov. G.M. to his successor. They also subscribed 500 guineas, at another period, to purchase the "Huyshe Presentation Fund" in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The gold chain is now worn by Lord Ebrington, who has, in the kindest manner, effected an insurance on his own life, so that the privilege of presentation to the Boys' School may be continued by his lordship's successor. We are obliged to be brief in our summary of these events; but what an amount of generous doing we have thus briefly chronicled! The Masons have certainly lived very much up to the great standards that they have set up, for their works are seen in many other benevolences to which we have not even alluded. We pass on to say there are lists of the lodges and chapters in the two counties and 25 orations. The book closes with a list of subscribers. The price of the work is 5s., and whatever profit may accrue from its publication will be given to the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum, of which the distinguished Orator still remains the zealous honorary Secretary.—*Mercury*, Plymouth.

### CERNEAU MASONS FIGHT.

#### BRETHREN OF THE SCOTTISH RITE CARRY A QUARREL INTO COURT.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, July 30, 1889.—Judge Preston, of the Eighteenth Judicial district, on the petition of C. E. Barnes, of Burlington; J. C. Graves and Henry Bennett, plaintiffs, and Grand Officers of the Iowa Consistory of that branch of Scottish Rite Masonry, commonly known as the Cerneau, ordered yesterday a temporary injunction against the Grand Lodge of Iowa Ancient Free and Accepted Masons restraining them from putting into effect the legislation of the last session of the Grand Lodge referring to the Cerneau bodies which commanded Master Masons to leave the Consistory of Iowa of that Rite under punishment of expulsion.

The petition states that as the body represented by the plaintiffs does not confer the blue lodge Degrees, and the Grand Lodge or its subordinate lodges do not confer the 29 higher Degrees, the Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction whatever, and its action is illegal, arbitrary, oppressive, proscriptive of their individual consciences and Masonic relations, and hurtful to their standing as good and reputable citizens.

The time for hearing the arguments for a perpetual injunction will be in the October term of Court at Marion.—*New York Herald*, July 31st, 1889.

#### RECEPTION BY BRO. F. H. GOTTLIEB, FRENCH CONSULAR AGENT IN PENANG.

Sunday, the 14th July, being the day of the Fête Nationale of France, Bro. F. H. Gottlieb, the Consular Agent representing that Government in the Settlement of Penang, held a reception at his residence, "The Priory," in Northam-road.

The Consulate was tastefully decorated with the national flags of many countries, and a sympathetic gathering took place, the presence of ladies considerably enhancing the pleasure on the occasion.

At noon those present adjourned for a slight refectory to a table covered with the French tricolour, and spread over with sundry refreshments, of which they partook most cordially.

The proceedings were brought to a close by Bro. F. H. GOTTLIEB proposing the toast of the day, which was "To the Prosperity of the French Republic," with which he embodied the health of M. Carnot, the President of the French Republic. The Consular Agent took occasion, at the same time, to refer to the Exhibition, and to speak of the Eiffel Tower as a masterpiece of engineering skill. Bro. Gottlieb added he much regretted the absence of Monsieur Raffray, the Consul for France, but he had been deputed by that gentleman to thank all those who were present for their visit; nothing but ill-health prevented the presence of the French Consul and his amiable bride at the reception.

The Consul-General for the Netherlands, Mr. KRUIT, in an appropriate speech proposed "The Health of Bro. Gottlieb," and referred to the absence of Mrs. Gottlieb and family, but more especially to that of Mrs. Mills, whom most of them had the pleasure of knowing.

After a most cordial hand-shake all round, Bro. Gottlieb's guests left "The Priory," highly pleased at the reception they had met with under cover of the French flag at the house of their popular host.

### Obituary.

#### BRO. WILLIAM GREEN.

The remains of the late Bro. William Green, who died on the 14th inst., at the age of 50, were interred at St. Anne's Hill Cemetery, Gosport, on Monday last, the 19th inst. The deceased brother was late Sergeant-Major on the staff of the Royal Engineers, Gosport, in which corps he was very highly respected. He was also a prominent Mason in the Province of Hampshire, being a founder and first S.W., and subsequently a P.M. of the Hope Lodge, No. 2153, P.Z. 903, P.M. and P.P.G. Officer in the Mark Degree, P.M.W.S. in the A. and A. Rite, Royal Naval Chapter (Rose Croix); also a member of the Royal Naval Preceptory and Priory, Portsmouth, and a Knight of the Red Cross Rome and Constantine. The body left deceased's residence at 3.45 p.m., the principal mourners being Mr. Green, son of the deceased; Bro. Hodgson, P.M. (I.C.), an old friend and late comrade in the service; Bro. G. F. Lancaster, a deservedly well-known Mason in this province, and Bro. H. Crisp, W.M. 2153. The funeral cortege was met at the gates of the cemetery by a large number of brethren, viz.: Bros. T. Stretton, I.P.M., G. Dunbar, Treas., Seidenstucker, D.C., Leonard, I.G., W. Phillips, and R. G. King, and many other brethren of the Hope Lodge, besides representatives of other lodges, amongst whom were Bros. J. Jenkins, I.P.M. 1069; Darby, P.M. 1705; Pearman, Adams, Appleton, and John Read, P.M. 720, 2105, P.Z. 720, Z. 449, P.P.G. Org. Middx. The service was most impressively read by the Rev. Howard Betts, M.A. The deceased was buried in the robes of a Knight Templar. At the conclusion of the service and before leaving the cemetery the coffin was covered with wreaths, flowers, and sprigs of acacia by the friends and brethren present.

#### BRO. JAMES ALBERY.

The remains of the late Bro. James Albery were interred at Kensal Green Cemetery, on Tuesday. The funeral cortege left the deceased's late residence, Melina-place, Grove End-road, shortly after 12 o'clock, arriving at the burial ground about one o'clock. At the cemetery the procession was met by the Rev. H. E. Johnston, the chaplain, who officiated. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, many friends of the deceased assembled at the cemetery to witness the funeral obsequies. Among those who attended were several of Bro. Albery's fellow members of the Savage Club. The chief mourners were Master Irving Albery (son), Mr. Walter Albery (brother), Mrs. Walter Albery, Mr. W. T. Hemsley, Bro. B. L. Farjeon, Mr. J. Barnes Amor and sisters, Bro. Price, Mr. R. D. Hall, Mr. Wm. Duck, Mr. J. L. Moore, Mr. F. W. Broughton, and Mr. Joseph Hatton. The grave, which is a new one, is situated on the south side of the cemetery, and adjoins the family vault of Bro. J. L. Toole, and close by are the tombs of Tom Hood, Balfe, and Mrs. Thomas Thorne. The sides of the grave were lined with ivy, laurel, and other evergreens and flowers; whilst around the opening were placed several beautiful floral wreaths, crosses, &c. These latter came "from his three loving sisters, Mellie, Lilly, and Carry," "from his loving brother Walter," Bro. Usher Back (brother-in-law) and Mrs. Usher Back and son, Mr. C. Anderson, from "M.H.F., with sincere sorrow," Mr. Thomas Thorne, and others. On the coffin, which was of polished oak, with brass mountings, and bearing an inscription of the name of the deceased, and the dates of his birth and death, were floral tributes from the widow and children, the Savage Club, Bro. Farjeon, Mr. Hatton, Mr. Hemsley, Mr. Amor, Mr. Duck, Mr. Moore, Mr. Broughton, and Mr. G. R. Sims. Many members of the theatrical profession wrote expressing sympathy with Mrs. Albery, and regretting their inability to attend the funeral. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Banting and Sons.





Bro. the Duke of Portland gave a dinner to his Caithness tenants at Berriedale, on Saturday last, when the splendid candelabra, subscribed for as a wedding gift, was presented, both his Grace and the Duchess being present.

The early Norman church of Upper Helmsley, near York, has been enriched by a stained-glass window, from the studio of Mr. Taylor, of Berners-street, the gift of the Farrow family, in memory of their parents.

Bro. Sir H. Drummond Wolff, as at present arranged, will return to his post as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Shah's Court at Teheran in October. It has, however, been asserted that he will shortly receive another appointment.

Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Prov. G.M. of Berks and Bucks, and Chairman of the Great Western Railway Company, who has been latterly somewhat indisposed, returned to his residence at Clewer Park, near Windsor, on Saturday afternoon last.

Bro. the Earl and Countess of Carnarvon have gone to Cromer instead of paying their intended visit to Germany, the change being due to the indisposition of the countess. After staying for a short while at Cromer they will probably pay a succession of visits in the north.

It is said that Bro. Alderman Davis, who was Conservative candidate at the recent bye-election of Rochester, has purchased the large estates of the Musters' family at Colwick and West Bridgeford, near Nottingham, the famous Trent Bridge Cricket Ground being part of the estate.

Arrangements are being made by which Prince Albert Victor of Wales, who is about to visit India, will take part in the operations at the Cavalry Camp of Exercise, when European and Native mounted regiments, with Horse Artillery, will manoeuvre against each other from points 60 miles apart.

Bro. Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill are not going abroad this autumn, but will first of all spend some weeks at The Foresters, near Egham. His lordship will then fulfil his political engagements in Wales and Scotland, and afterwards visit Lord Wimborne at Beaufort Castle, and Bro. the Earl of Zetland at Kerse House.

We are given to understand that the joint author (Mr. Herbert Clark) of the burlesque "Ruy Blas," about to be presented at the Gaiety Theatre, is the nephew of Bro. George Reynolds, of the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614, and Secretary of the Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191. We wish Mr. Leslie and the young author, Mr. Herbert Clark, every success in their undertaking.

The members of St. Aubyn Lodge, No. 954, had their annual outing on Wednesday, the 14th inst. The brethren, with their wives and other relatives, drove to the Bedford Hotel, Tavistock, where a substantial luncheon was served, and, after visiting the Horticultural Exhibition and viewing objects of interest in the locality, the company drove home, Devonport being reached at a quarter to eleven. An enjoyable day was spent in spite of the weather.

Madame Adelina Patti, accompanied by Signor Nicolini, arrived at Southampton from Buenos Ayres on the Royal mail steamer Elbe, on Saturday last, and met with a very hearty welcome from her friends. On Monday she left London for her residence in South Wales. Her winter engagements include a series of concerts in London under Bro. W. Kuhe, P.G. Org., commencing from 15th October, and an American tour commencing 20th November.

At the annual convocation of the St. George Chapter, No. 2025, held on the 15th inst., at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, the officers elected for the ensuing year were Comps. J. T. Bond, Z.; C. G. Withell, H.; S. Jew, P.Z.; P.P.G.T., J.; J. Gifford, S.E.; F. Hooper, S.N.; E. Aslat, P.S.; L. Wells, 1st A.S.; R. Brickwood, 2nd A.S.; W. J. Pengelley, Reg.; J. H. Bannerman, Std. Br.; W. Sweet, D.C.; J. Harvey, A.D.C.; H. Reynolds, Stwd.; J. Harvey and H. Reynolds, Auditors; and J. Gidley, Janitor. Comp. G. R. Barrett was re-elected the Treasurer.

In consequence of the serious railway accident sustained by Bro. Sir Randal Roberts, on March 9th, 1888, which has resulted in loss of sight in one eye, and seriously affected the other, it is proposed to give Sir Randal a complimentary matinee, to take place on September 25th, at Terry's Theatre, the house having been generously given by Bro. Terry for that purpose; on which occasion a new and original play will be produced, the artistes giving their services gratuitously. Tickets can be obtained of Bro. H. T. Brickwell, who has kindly consented to undertake the business management.

On Thursday, the 8th inst., the members of the Coupar o' Fife Lodge, No. 19 (S.C.), had an excursion to Glenfarg. The company, which numbered about 50 ladies and brethren, and included Bros. Nicol, R.W.M.; Miller, P.M.; Clark, P.M.; Edmonston, D.M.; Bryson, S.W.; Balfour, J.W.; and Watson, Sec., left the lodge shortly after ten o'clock, and proceeded first to Falkland, where an hour was pleasantly spent within the Palace grounds. Glenfarg was reached at 1.15, and here lunch was served, after which several of the company paid a visit to the new railway works and tunnel, while others enjoyed a dance. At Newburgh the company had tea, and, after a short stay, the homeward journey was begun, and Coupar was reached at ten o'clock. The excursion was a most enjoyable one throughout, and the purveying, which was done by Mr. D. Miller, gave the utmost satisfaction.

NO MORE DEAF.—Nicholson's Patented Artificial Ear Drums cure Deafness and Noises in the Head in all stages, 132 page Illustrated Book, with full description, free.—Address, J. H. Nicholson, 21, Bedford Square, London, W.C.

SCIENCE (EXTRAORDINARY).—TERRY'S "HOUSEHOLD PURIFIER" (Registered) for Universal Purposes.—Acts like magic. A strong and pleasant Disinfecting Fluid for Sanitary Use. Treble the Disinfecting Strength of Carbolic. A new and valuable Discovery has been made in the manufacture of this Fluid, there being no Sediment. Dissolves at once in Water, making a Milky appearance. Where this is used all Infectious Diseases are kept away. Sold by Chemists, Stores, Grocers, Oilmen, &c., in 6d. and 1s. bottles, or in gallons 4s., delivered free. 1s. charged for cans (returnable).—TERRY BROS., 55, Chester-street, Kennington.—ADVT.

Bro. Sir E. Baldwin Malet, H.M.'s Ambassador at Berlin, is at present enjoying a brief holiday in Paris. He will resume his duties at the end of next week after paying a visit to London.

A Cabinet Council was held at short notice at the Foreign Office on the 16th inst. The sitting lasted about an hour, and Bro. Akers-Douglas, the chief Ministerial Whip, was in attendance.

It is announced that a new and hitherto entirely unknown series of letters by the famous Earl of Chesterfield will shortly be published under the auspices as editor of Bro. the Earl of Carnarvon.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new church of St. John at Barmouth will be performed by H.R.H. the Princess Beatrice—Princess Henry of Battenberg. The arrangements for the event have been completed, and the Princess, who will be accompanied by her husband, will receive a most hearty and loyal welcome. The day appointed for the ceremony is Tuesday next, the 27th inst.

At the annual meeting of All Saints Chapter recently at Gainsbro', the election of officers took place as follows: Comps. Alfred Kirk, P.Z., re-appointed M.E.Z.; Baines, H.; Baines, J.; Bowby, S.E.; H. Wright, S.N.; Liver-side, P.Z., re-appointed Treas.; A. Curtis, Org.; and Scott, Janitor.

The Commander-in-Chief has issued instructions to the effect that the employment of Volunteers to keep the ground at inspections and public ceremonies is to be discouraged, and sanction is only to be given in very exceptional cases, where their employment is considered advisable or necessary.

At the request of the Council of the National Sunday League, Grosvenor House, the London residence of the Duke of Westminster, was again opened to the public, and about 2000 persons were admitted to view the splendid picture gallery, his Grace's kindness in allowing the visit being greatly appreciated.

From the report of Bro. L. D. Croninger, Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, it appears that there are 1563 affiliated Templars in Kentucky—a net increase of 48 over last year, and of 420 during the last decade. De Molay Commandery, No. 12, is the largest, having 273 members; Louisville, No. 1, is next—179 members; Maysville, No. 10, 128 members; and Covington, No. 7, 113 members.

The surplus goods from the bazaar lately held under the auspices of Kelburne Lodge, No. 459, Millport, for the purpose of clearing the debt off their lodge room, were exposed for sale in the hall on Saturday. There was a goodly number of visitors, and the goods were quickly disposed of. The sum realised being £21 3s. 8d., this, added to the sum already drawn, brings up the total proceeds of the bazaar to £269 10s. 11d., a sum which is sufficient to meet the requirements of the lodge.

On Wednesday, the 12th inst., the brethren of the Fingal Lodge, Inverness, met to re-lay the foundation-stone of the hall. Owing to the new post office being built out nearer to the public street, the Masons resolved to have the hall extended two feet further out than the post office building, consequently the first foundation-stone had to be removed. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Kenneth Grant, the oldest Mason. When finished, the building will have a very attractive frontage. It is proposed to have offices in the new addition.

A special meeting of the Star Lodge, No. 219 (S.C.), was held in the Masonic Hall, 12, Trongate, Glasgow, on the 14th inst., to take farewell with Bro. Alexander, Treas., who is leaving for Brisbane. Bro. George Miller, R.W.M., occupied the chair, and Bro. James Wilson, S.W., acted as Croupier. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Bro. Miller, R.W.M., presented Bro. Alexander with an apron, jewel, and a purse of sovereigns, in the name of the lodge. The lodge also conferred on Bro. Alexander the honour of life membership, Bro. Alexander replying.

The meetings of the St. Ambrose Lodge of Instruction, No. 1891, will be resumed on Monday, the 2nd prox., at the Baron's Court Hotel, West Kensington, at 8 p.m. Bro. James Sims, P.M., is the W.M. elect for that evening, with Bro. Jesse Collings, P.M., as Preceptor. Monday, the 22nd prox., is the date mentioned for the working of the Fifteen Sections, and the Secretary will be pleased if any brother, desiring to assist in the working, will forward his name and the section he would like to work to him as soon as possible. Bro. F. Craggs, 4, Shaftesbury-road, Hammersmith, W., is the Secretary.

The remains of Bro. General Paoli, the Corsican patriot, who, by the way, was a member of our Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 259, are about to be exhumed from their resting place in London and conveyed to Corsica, where great preparations are being made in order to receive them with due honour. The Committee charged to carry out the arrangements will arrive in London to-morrow (Saturday). Previous to their removal from here, a religious service, at which Cardinal Manning is expected to preside, will be held, and then they will be conveyed to Marseilles, and thence to Corsica, where they will be consigned to the family grave at Morosaglia.

Bro. Sir Somers Vine, Assistant Secretary to the Imperial Institute, left St. Andrew's, New Brunswick, on Monday for the West Indies, *via* New York and Washington. He visited Ottawa and the several Provincial capitals of Canada on his way from British Columbia, and has the satisfaction of knowing that the Dominion and Provincial Governments have cordially received the proposals of which he was the bearer, for establishing sample collections of the products of the country, and for co-operating in the development of the Department of Commercial Intelligence of the Imperial Institute. The various Boards of Trade have also entered most warmly into the plan of operations. So that on his return to England he will be the bearer of very welcome news to the Council of the Institute.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Though it is impossible, in this climate of changing temperature, to prevent ill-health altogether, yet its form and frequency may be much mitigated by the early adoption of remedial measures. When hoarseness, cough, thick breathing, and the attending slight fever indicate irritation of the throat or chest, Holloway's Ointment should be rubbed upon these parts without delay, and his Pills taken in appropriate doses, to promote its curative action. No catarrhs or sore throats can resist these remedies. Printed directions envelope every package of Holloway's medicaments, which are suited to all ages and conditions, and to every ordinary disease to which humanity is liable.—ADVT.

Bro. the Earl of Hopetoun, who has recently been appointed Governor of Victoria, is taking out with him to Melbourne some 20 servants, a dozen carriages, and several horses.

The Lodge of Fortitude, No. 281, Lancaster, will complete its centenary on the 13th November next, the warrant having been granted on November 13th, A.L. 5789, A.D. 1789, No. 559. At the lodge meeting held on the 14th inst., a circular was read from Bro. Shadwell H. Clerke, G. Sec., stating that a centenary warrant had been granted, and would be ready in November.

Bro. J. L. Toole appeared on Tuesday evening at the Grand Theatre, Islington, in "The Don," and "The Birthplace of Podgers," before a crowded audience, who were anxious to see him before his departure for Australia. The programme was repeated on Wednesday, but on Thursday he was to play in "A Fool and his Money" and "Ici on Parle Français."

The marriage of the Lady Wilma Pleydell Bouverie, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Radnor, with Lord Skelmersdale, eldest son of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Lathom, which had been postponed in consequence of the death of the bridegroom's brother, was solemnized at Britford Church, near Salisbury, towards the close of last week. The wedding presents were very numerous, including gifts from the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duchess of Fife, and the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales.

Viscountess Combermere, widow of Viscount Combermere, P.G.M. of Cheshire, died last week at her residence in Belgrave-square, at the advanced age of 89. The deceased lady had survived her husband, who was Wellington's famous cavalry general during the Peninsular War, and received his peerage for his services in capturing Bhurtpore, some 24 years ago. The late Lord Combermere was Prov. G. Master of Cheshire from 1830 to 1865, and the deceased lady was eminently popular among the Freemasons of that province.

The fourth party of emigrants, consisting of 109 trained young girls, which have left this country from Dr. Barnardo's Homes for Canada, sailed from Liverpool in the Allan s.s. Caspian on the 15th inst. for Montreal. On their arrival they will proceed to the branch establishment at Peterborough, Ontario, whence they will be distributed amongst the noted families in the Dominion. This raises the number sent out from these Homes during the present year to 506, and the total number from the beginning of the movement to 4179. Other colonies besides Canada have benefited by this emigration.

On the 17th inst., at the International Shorthand Congress now sitting in Paris, one of the English delegates, Miss M. P. Ellis, at the end of some remarks on the value of typewriters for transcribing shorthand notes, demonstrated the speed of the Bar-Lock Type-writer, which machine she now uses, by allowing herself to be timed by the Committee. At the conclusion of the test it was announced that Miss Ellis had written at the high speed of 135 words per minute, thus beating the record of 126 words per minute done on the Caligraph by Mr. Osborne, and 123 on the Remington by Mr. McGurrian at the contest for the championship of the world, held at Toronto in November, 1887. Special attention was drawn to the even quality of the writing though written at such a remarkable speed.

Bro. Arthur Scarlett Thomson, President of the Southern Counties Cycling Camp, and a well known brother at the Holborn Cycling Club, was raised to the Third Degree in the Huguenot Lodge, No. 2140, on Wednesday evening last, by Bro. Major George Lambert, P.G.S.B., W.M., and P.M. of the Anglo-American Lodge, No. 2191. Afterwards Bro. Arthur Scarlett Thomson attended a supper at the Talbot, 64, London Wall, E.C., given to him by the different clubs who attended the Southern Counties Cycling Camp, held at Bushbridge, near Godalming, at the beginning of the month. Bro. A. Scarlett Thomson had a most hearty reception. He proceeds to New York on Saturday next on board the Arizona, and carries with him the good wishes of all cyclists for a pleasant voyage and a safe return to his native land. The supper which followed was served under the personal superintendence of Bro. C. Calvert, and gave great satisfaction. Bro. Calvert is well known to many brethren, especially when he was manager at the Gaiety Restaurant.

PROMENADE CONCERTS AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The two opera houses are once more in direct competition, and at last it seems as if this house, after so much ill-luck, is started on what cannot prove other than a successful venture. The house, both inside and out, has been altered almost beyond recognition, the entire auditorium being built up to represent a bit of Old London—after the manner of the old street at the South Kensington Exhibitions—and also of the scene in "Doris" at the Lyric Theatre. The house fronts are so disposed that each window is a private box, the latticed frames being thrown open. The proscenium is a large gateway, with raised portcullis, through which you pass into a garden, enclosed by a low wall, beyond which is a scene of fields and woods, while at the side are cool rocky recesses and an abundance of comfortable garden seats. Every available inch of space has been utilised, and the whole is a masterpiece of scenic art, reflecting the greatest credit on those responsible for its design and execution. The orchestra is ample for the size of the house, and, though not too full, quite up to the high standard we look for in promenade concerts. We have always held that there is room in London for a permanent entertainment of this class, and trust the promoters of the undertaking will receive such support from the public generally as will warrant an effort in this direction.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's Matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1000 a week more in wages.—ADVT.