

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;
RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF HADDINGTON, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1892.

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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The time is rapidly drawing near for the celebration of the 104th Anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The Festival will be held as usual at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 18th prox., under the auspices of the Duke of CONNAUGHT, P.G.M., Prov. G.M. of Sussex, and Dist. G.M. of Bombay, and great efforts are being made in order to raise a sum that shall be worthy of so illustrious a Chairman. Indeed, for the sake of the Institution itself, and quite apart from this very natural desire on the part of the Craft to respond generously to the interest in the Charity exhibited by his Royal Highness, it is very desirable—we ought almost perhaps to say imperatively necessary—that those efforts should be made and made successfully. The School scored a grand success at its Centenary Festival in 1888, but since then a reaction has set in and, as we have mentioned on a previous occasion, the proceeds of the three Festivals held in 1889, 1890, and 1891 have not exceeded in the aggregate, or but very slightly exceeded the sum total of two ordinary Festivals. But the Institution added 20 children to its establishment in 1889, while the successes obtained by its pupils at the Cambridge Middle Class and other public examinations bear ample testimony to the continued excellence of its training. Thus its claims on the support of the brethren have gone on increasing, while, at all events, since the year of the Centenary, that portion of its income which is derived from voluntary subscriptions and donations has exhibited a decided tendency to fluctuate in the wrong direction. We trust, therefore, that advantage will be taken of the Chairmanship of the Duke of CONNAUGHT, and that a supreme effort will be made at the approaching anniversary to arrest this downward tendency, which, if it should be maintained for a year or two longer, is certain to prove disastrous to our senior Charity. We fully realise the difficulties of the situation. We see clearly enough that just as the success of the Girls' Centenary exercised a depressing influence both on the Boys' School Festival, which followed three weeks later, and the Festivals generally of the following year, so the still greater success of the Jubilee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February last will not fail to exercise a similar and probably even a still more depressing influence on the remaining Festivals of the current year. We must also take into our consideration that the Boys' School found it necessary last year to make a more than usually urgent appeal for support, and the very large total of contributions which was forthcoming in response to that appeal must have enhanced the difficulties of those brethren who are engaged in canvassing for this particular Festival. But the more exacting the duty which devolves upon these brethren, the more important it is that it should be done thoroughly and well. Therefore, to encourage and assist them in their task, the School should be kept well in evidence before the Masonic public and its claims to support as frequently and strenuously advocated as possible at the meetings of provincial and private lodges and chapters. This, however, is a matter of detail, on which we do not propose to dwell. The point we are desirous of impressing on our readers and the Craft generally is that our Institution for Girls is sorely in need of support. For three years running, it has not received that amount of voluntary assistance which is necessary to its efficient maintenance, and we now earnestly appeal to the brethren to take advantage of the opportunity afforded them by the Chairmanship of one of our Royal Craftsmen and make good the shortcomings of the said three years. As far as the Board of Stewards is concerned, the progress made during the last four weeks has been very satisfactory. By this time there are probably about 230 brethren who have volunteered their services, and it is quite on the cards that between now and the day appointed for the celebration such a further increase in the number will have taken place as will place the Board, in respect of numerical strength, on a level with ordinary years. Moreover, it is just possible that a goodly proportion of these will be representatives of lodges, chapters, or provinces, but we do not know as yet how these are distributed and what chances there are of any of them being able to compile big lists. We understand that the Chairman's Province of Sussex, though not as numerous as it undoubtedly would have been but for the prominent part it played at the Boys' School Festival in June, 1891, and the more recent Jubilee Festival of the Old People, has sent up a fair contingent of Stewards, and that there is every likelihood it will be found worthily fulfilling the part which of late years has been assigned to the "Chairman's Province." We know also that there are several Provinces, as there are several lodges in the Metropolitan district, which may be relied upon with tolerable certainty to contribute each of them a fair amount towards the general total. But we are

also aware that there will be nearly, if not quite, the usual proportion of Unattached, while those who may take up Stewardships during the next three weeks will not have much time available for serviceable canvassing. In respect of these matters we shall doubtless be better informed later on, and therefore in a better position to estimate the prospects which await us on the 18th prox. In the meantime, therefore, we must content ourselves with the hope that a Board of Stewards of average strength will succeed in raising a total of average dimensions; or, at all events, such a total as will go some way towards restoring the income derived by the Institution from voluntary support to somewhere about the ordinary figure. We earnestly appeal to all brethren who are able and have the opportunity to unite together in the accomplishment of this object.

SPECIAL PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. Grand Master, held a special Provincial Grand Lodge at Chester Castle, on the 18th inst., the object being the laying of the foundation-stone of the Randle Holme Porch at the church of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, which is situated in the immediate vicinity. There was a large attendance of members of the Fraternity, a special train conveying a goodly number from Manchester, Altrincham, Knutsford, and Northwich. About 140 signatures were attached to the muster roll. The large room in the Castle was fitted up for the lodge, admission to which was denied until the Provincial Grand Officers had taken their seats.

Among those present were the following:

Bros. Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M.; his Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, D.P.G.M.; A. C. Meir, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Finch, P.G. Reg.; T. Letherland, P.G. Stwd.; W. M. Collier, P.G.P.; H. Jackson, P.S.G.D.; J. O. Jolly, P.G.S.; M. Longridge, P.A.G. Sec.; C. W. Phillips, P.G.S.; R. Newhouse, P.G.S.; T. H. Arnett, P.G. Treas.; T. W. Sturges, P.G.C.; J. Norris, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Dennis, P.P.G.S.B.; F. W. Lockwood, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; Thomas Coxhead, P.P.S.G.W. North Wales; S. W. Ramsden, P.P.S.G.D.; H. A. Steer, P.P. G.D.C. North Wales; J. Lewis, P.G.D.C.; J. M. Cantland, P.G.S.; T. Haddon, P.G.S.; Thomas E. Mason, P.P.G.T.; J. B. Piercey, P.P.J.G.W.; Staffordshire; Hon. H. Holbrook, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.M. British Columbia; J. H. Evans, P.P.G. Standard Bearer; J. H. Belyse, P.P.J.G.W.; G. H. Denby, P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. Howard, P.P.S.G.D.; W. J. Ogg, P.P.S.G.W. Shropshire; H. R. Giles, P.G. Reg. Shropshire; J. Clayton, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Leigh, P.P.G.S.; W. Peers, P.P.G.S.; F. Broadsmith, P.P.G. Reg.; Alf. Ingham, P.P.G. Steward; G. M. Milland, P.P.G.D.; W. Wildgrove, P.P.G. Treas.; R. B. Pill, P.P.G.P.; R. Hunter, P.P.S.G.D.; W. H. Finchett, P.S.G.D.; S. Smith, P.G.T.; T. J. E. Young, P.P.S.G.W. North Wales; J. Matthews, P.G.S. of Works; Ed. Cuyner, P.P.G.O.; F. Bookson, P.P.G. Treas.; D. Kinsey, P.P.G.T.; H. E. Heywood, P.P.G.S.B.; and others, including present and past officers and members of various lodges in the province.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then opened.

Subsequently the P.G.M. moved that a sum of £10 be granted by Prov. G. Lodge to the Randle Holme Porch Fund, as an index of the good feeling of the lodge to the object for which they had assembled that day, and by which they would be contributing to the erection of a lasting memorial of one of the oldest Freemasons of whom they had any record in the province.

The D.P.G.M. seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

The brethren then formed in procession, with the prescribed regalia and in the order decreed for such occasions. At the door of the Castle the Venerable Archdeacon Barber, of Chester Cathedral, the Rev. J. R. Price, Curate of St. Mary's, and the surpliced choir of the church, with cross-bearer, met the Masonic body, and led the way to the church where Divine service was held. The nave was occupied by the members of the Fraternity, while the aisles and other portions of the sacred edifice were crowded with parishioners and visitors. The service was conducted by the Archdeacon, assisted by the Rev. J. R. Price. Bro. G. Tinkler presided at the organ. The processional hymn was "The Church's one foundation." The lesson read was I. Chronicles, chap. 28, verses 1 to 12. This was followed by the Apostles' Creed and four collects. During the singing of the hymn "Christ is our corner-stone," the offertory was collected, the Archdeacon announcing that it would be devoted to the porch fund, for the completion of which between £40 and £50 were still required. The choir then sang the anthem "This is the day" (Johnson). The recessional hymn was "Christ is made the sure foundation."

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone with full Masonic ritual was then proceeded with. By this time there was a large attendance in the churchyard and its vicinity. A considerable number of persons, including a number of ladies, had gained access to the roof of the church, from which they obtained an uninterrupted view of the proceedings. All the available roofs of buildings in the vicinity were also requisitioned for the same purpose, and there was a crowd of anxious sightseers in the adjoining street. The ceremony opened with the singing of the Old Hundredth hymn, after which the Archdeacon, on behalf of the Building Committee, asked the P.G.M. to lay the corner-stone.

Lord EGERTON then delivered a brief address. He said he must congratulate the brethren on the large numbers present on the occasion. The porch to be erected was in memory of one of the oldest Freemasons of the county of whom they had any record, Randle Holme, and who had

written the first book printed in Chester which had any reference to Freemasonry. There were five generations of the Randle Holme family which had been connected with that city, and especially with St. Mary's Church. One of them had been Mayor and another Sheriff of the city in very troublesome times in English history. He was glad that the Freemasons of the province had decided to take part in the erection of the porch to a church which had for so long a period been dedicated to the service of Almighty God. The porch would remain an integral part of the fabric, and would be a lasting memorial of a celebrated Freemason. His lordship then quoted from a work written by Randle Holme, setting forth the objects of Freemasonry, and the high ideal sought to be attained by the brethren, and said those present could not do better than endeavour to attain that ideal which Randle Holme had so carefully and so beautifully laid down.

The stone having been laid in the prescribed form, an ode, "Now thank we all our God," and the "Gloria in Excelsis" were sung.

In the cavity below the stone a bottle, hermetically sealed, was placed containing several coins of the realm, three circulars of Provincial Grand Lodge, and a copy of the *Times*. The cavity was covered with a polished brass plate bearing the following inscription:—"Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire. This corner-stone was laid by the Right Hon. Lord Egerton of Tatton, P.G.M., Easter Monday, 18th April, 1892."

Bro. E. BRASSEY, W.M. 425, on behalf of the Building Committee, moved a vote of thanks to the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire for their attendance.

Bro. H. TAYLOR, S.W. 425, in seconding the vote of thanks, gave some details of the history of the Holme family. Thomas Holme, the first member of the family, came from Tranmere, and settled in Chester in the 16th century. He died in 1610, and was buried at St. Michael's Church. His son, Randle Holme, who was bound apprentice in 1598 to Thomas Challoner, "herald, antiquary, poet, player, and permanent member of the Chester Company of paynters, glasiars, imbroiderers, and stacioners." He was Sheriff of the city in 1615, Mayor in 1633, and churchwarden of St. Mary's. He died in 1635, and was buried at St. Mary's, where his monument still exists. Randle Holme, son of the preceding, who was baptised at St. Mary's on the 16th July, 1601, was Sheriff in the same year that his father was Mayor (1633), and was himself Mayor in 1643, when the city was besieged by the Parliamentary forces, and in the defence of which he took a leading part. He was also a justice of the peace and one of the city treasurers, likewise a churchwarden of St. Mary's, at which church he was buried in 1659. Another Randle Holme, who was baptised at St. Mary's on the 30th of December, 1620, similarly distinguished himself in life, and died in 1699. A fourth descendant was born in 1659, filled the office of Sheriff in 1705, was also a churchwarden of St. Mary's, and died on the 13th August, 1707. This ended the line of the Randle Holmes, his only son dying before him. All were Freemasons, all distinguished members of the Stationers' Company, and all filled various important offices in the city.

The vote of thanks was accorded with acclamation.

The National Anthem (Masonic version) was then sung; the members of Prov. Grand Lodge then returned to the Castle in reversed order, where the especial lodge was closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SUSSEX.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Sussex was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Monday, the 11th instant. Comp. Lieut.-General C. W. Randolph, Grand Superintendent, was unable to attend, having become suddenly prostrated through falling down the lift at the Orleans Club, just previous to the time for holding the meeting. Happily the General sustained no serious injury, but he was very much shaken and unable to leave the club. Comp. Dr. Alfred King presided in his absence, the other chairs being filled by Comps. R. Clowes and B. Roberts.

The formal business of the Prov. Grand Chapter having been transacted, The PRESIDING OFFICER addressed the companions on the work of the past year, and alluded in feeling terms to the unfortunate circumstance which had led to his presiding. He proposed a vote of sympathy with General Randolph, expressing a fervent hope that no serious results would attend the accident which they all so much regretted.

Comp. CLOWES seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Officers for the year were invested as follows:

Comp. W. E. Morrison, P.Z. 916	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" J. St. Clair, P.Z. 38	...	...	Prov. G.I.
" V. P. Freeman, P.Z. 311, 315, 732	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" C. Bampfylde Warre, P.Z. 1466	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. M. Reed, P.Z. 732	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" R. Pidcock, P.Z. 916	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" L. R. Styer, P.Z. 315	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" E. Histed, P.Z. 732	...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" G. Holman, P.Z. 311	...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" J. Easter, P.Z. 916	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" R. B. Higham, P.Z. 811	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" F. Holford, P.Z. 271	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" W. N. Roe, 811	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. S. Burrows, P.Z. 271	...	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" C. C. Cook, P.Z. 732	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.
" H. H. Hughes	...	...	

At the close of the Provincial Grand Chapter, Comp. W. E. Morrison (Mayor of Eastbourne) presided at a banquet served by Comp. J. Sayers in the banqueting room. About 30 were present. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and a very pleasant evening spent, thanks to an excellent musical programme provided by the outgoing Stewards, Comps. W. E. Morrison and Bampfylde Warre.

LIBRARY OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

With the exception of the four Masonic MSS. of the old Constitutions, particulars of which have been announced in your columns from time to time, no addition to the library has been made which approaches in importance the one I have now the pleasure to announce. By the generosity of our Provincial Grand Master (R.W. Bro. T. W. Tew, J.P.) I have been enabled to secure a copy of "A Serious and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of

the Present Decay of Freemasonry in the Kingdom of Ireland," &c., by Dr. Dassigny, A.D. 1744.

I can scarcely fully estimate the value of this acquisition to our noble collection. During this century but one copy has been traced until now, and that passed over to America some years ago to form part of one of the largest Masonic libraries in the world—that of the late Bro. Bower's, which is now the property of the Grand Lodge of Iowa. The chief value of this almost unique volume consists in its containing the first known reference to the Royal Arch Degree, having two interesting passages on the subject. Bro. W. J. Hughan's "Memorials of the Masonic Union of A.D. 1813" contains a reprint of Dr. Dassigny's work. Bro. Hughan's "Memorials" is now almost unobtainable, and purchasable only at rare intervals at a heavy premium, but those so fortunate as to get a sight of a copy may read a faithful transcript of this original essay of such importance.

I feel sure that all students and lovers of Masonic literature will heartily congratulate West Yorkshire on securing this invaluable prize, and be grateful to Bro. Tew for stepping in to prevent any chance of its following many other precious treasures of the Craft to the New World, which our own supineness in the Old Country in the past has allowed to drift there.

WILLIAM WATSON,
Honorary Librarian West Yorkshire.

Leeds, April 16th.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

It has always been a matter of great wonderment to us why there are so few Masons who take any special interest in Masonic literature. It cannot be because it is of no value or interest to them, for every reading Mason will bear testimony to the contrary. More than that, it is essential to every Mason who would acquire a sufficient knowledge of Masonry to enable him to appreciate its purpose and enjoy its benefits.

There are hundreds and thousands of Masons who know nothing of Masonry beyond the little communicated to them while receiving the various Degrees. They were then simply learning the alphabet of Masonry, and were thus given the right and privilege to attain a more complete knowledge of the marvellous wonders of this great and mysterious Institution. Stopping at this point in their search for light and knowledge, they may appropriately be compared to the child who has just entered school and learned his letters. Much more must be acquired before he becomes a ripe scholar.

Again, it seems strange that men will go on and take all the Degrees and orders in the several branches of Masonry, at an expense of some 200 dollars or more, and thus entail upon themselves the payment annually of quite a sum of money in the way of dues, and be content to get so little in return. Having satisfied their curiosity, their interest likewise seems to be satisfied. They might advance and explore the vast fields of Masonic history, traditions, symbolism, laws, and regulations for the government of the Craft, all of which are exceedingly interesting and instructive. Eminent and learned authors have furnished valuable works on these and many other Masonic subjects. The Masonic journals of the day enable their readers to keep posted in all important events as they transpire, and present to them the best thoughts of well-informed brethren on all matters affecting the welfare of the Craft. At a very small sum in addition to what he had already invested, a Mason can thus acquire a knowledge of the science of Freemasonry which will benefit him an hundredfold more than the little smattering of it unfolded to him while taking his Degrees.

In our experience of nearly a quarter of a century as publisher of the *Masonic Advocate*, we have found it much easier to get renewals of subscriptions than to obtain new subscribers. From this we infer that a brother who has been reading the paper more fully appreciates its value to a Mason than one who has not enjoyed the benefit of it. In our experience we have learned, too, that the best and most prosperous lodges are generally those which have the largest number of members who read Masonic literature. Is it not then the duty of every brother who appreciates the value and importance of Masonic reading to recommend it to his less informed brethren? Is it asking too much of the readers of the *Advocate* to request each one to use his influence in extending its circulation, even to soliciting subscriptions from the brethren around them who are not taking it? We would greatly appreciate such favours, for they would be of great benefit to us, while at the same time every new reader thus obtained would be more largely benefited. Brethren, please act upon this suggestion, and Masonry in general, and your lodge in particular, will also reap a benefit.—*Masonic Advocate*.

BAVARIA.—The history of Freemasonry in Bavaria is a very chequered one, and a very long one, so that we can only give a précis of it here. Mackey says that Freemasonry was introduced into Bavaria in 1737, but the "Handbuch" declares that though in 1777 the Lodge "Theodor zum guten Rath," at Munich, was in existence, hailing from the Lodge Royal York, at Berlin, and irregular lodges had previously existed, 1777 was the beginning of Freemasonry in Bavaria proper. Mackey is probably thinking of the old lodge at Baireuth "Zur Sonne," founded in 1741, but Baireuth did not come to Bavaria until 1810. About 1780 the Illuminati, those pests to Freemasonry, seem to have got the upper hand in the Lodge "Theodor," etc., and in consequence, in 1784, the reigning prince, Karl Theodor, issued a decree against the lodges. This order was received in 1785. The government officials were ordered to withdraw from Freemasonry, which weakened the Order greatly. In 1799 another adverse order was issued and renewed in 1804, under the ministry of Graf Von Montgelas. In 1806 the principality of Ausbach, Nürnberg, and other territory, fell into the Bavarian succession, and in these localities several lodges existed, so that a new rescript in 1807 was published allowing the existence of the lodges under certain conditions of surveillance. This concession seems, we are told, to have been mainly owing to the personal good-will of the King Maximilian Joseph. But in 1808 all officers of the state, schoolmasters, and other employes, even retired public servants, were forbidden to belong to Masonic lodges. In 1810, by the accession to Bavaria of other portions of territory, many old and active lodges came under its authority, and in 1812 some dozen of lodges were in consequence in active life. In 1814 another order appeared, and in 1815 another, by which all functionaries had to leave even the lodges of the late attached provinces. Many of the lodges accordingly ceased to meet. In 1831 another order appeared by which for many years the Masonic lodges were directed and controlled in Bavaria until quite recently. At the present moment many lodges are working in Bavaria, as the "Kette," at Munich, "Augusta," Augsburg, "Maurer Kränchen zur Verbrüderung," Bamberg, "Maurer Kränchen," Kissingen. There are three lodges at Nuremberg, the "Bruder Treue," at Schweinfurt, "Zu den drei Säulen am Stein," Würzburg, and many more.—*Kenning's Cyclopaedia of Freemasonry*.

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The *Freemason* of May 16th, 1891, says—"Messrs. Gilliam Bros., Gold and Silversmiths, of 6, Serle Street, Lincoln's Inn, have been very fortunate in securing so fine a site for their new establishment as 446, Oxford Street (near Orchard Street), and we congratulate them on the beauty and artistic design displayed in their new premises; the stock is of the most rare and choice kind, and our brethren, who are fond of old and good things in precious metals, would do well to pay them a visit."

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To Correspondents.

J. WILLIAMS.—We refer you to the latter part of Article 9 of the Book of Constitutions—"nor can he regain the right of membership of the Grand Lodge, as a Past Master, until he has again duly served the office of Master of such a lodge." We consider this governs the answer to your question, and that though it is of course impossible to deprive such a brother of the further knowledge he acquired of Freemasonry when he became an installed Master, he cannot again resume his full status as a P.M. in a private lodge any more than a Grand Lodge, until he has again served as W.M.—ED. F.M.



SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1892.

Masonic Notes.

The Grand Festival will be held at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of the Pro Grand Master, on Wednesday next, the 27th inst., when the Grand Officers for the ensuing year will be appointed and invested. The usual banquet will follow.

We beg to inform our readers that the first meeting of the Board of Stewards for the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Thursday, the 5th prox. We do not imagine the Board is very strong at present, and, therefore, a move to organise and strengthen it at as early a date as possible is undoubtedly wise. The Festival, as we are advised at present, will be held on the last Wednesday in June, under the presidency of Bro. Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Gloucestershire.

We are given to understand that the Board of Management of the Boys' School have arranged for the scrutiny demanded at the declaration of the poll last week, to take place to-day (Friday). We believe it will be found that a serious error in the counting of the votes in two of the cases was made by the Scrutineers on the day of the election, and that the second scrutiny will result in the admission of Kent and Brown. Happily this will be done without either of those who were declared higher on the poll being displaced, in consequence of the Board of Management deciding to admit two more boys to fill extraordinary vacancies that have occurred. It is exceptionally fortunate in the case of Kent, as it was his only chance of election.

We warmly congratulate "Our Boys" on the continued excellence of their monthly magazine, "The Masonian." It is admirably printed, and, in addition to the usual School news, there are one or two contributions of merit. In all respects "The Masonian" is a most creditable periodical.

We have been favoured with copies of the "One Hundredth Annual Report" of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, and the Masonic Orphan Boys' School for last year. Both contain a mass of information relating to the Schools, which cannot fail to be interesting and to which we shall take an early opportunity of referring. We may as well mention, however, that in the case of the Girls' School, which was founded in 1792, and is shortly about to celebrate its Centenary, the distribution of prizes will take place

on Monday, the 16th prox., while the Bazaar and Fancy Fair in behalf of the Centenary, will take place on Tuesday, the 17th prox., and the four following days.

The "West Yorkshire Masonic Library and Museum" has made another grand acquisition, as our readers will find noted in another portion of the *Freemason*, by the indefatigable Honorary Librarian, Bro. William Watson, of Leeds. The rarity and value of the important "Enquiry" by Dr. Dassigny, Dublin, of 1744, are beyond question. The work, in fact, is not only extremely scarce, but of vast consequence, in relation to the history of Royal Arch Masonry.

The only other copy known was purchased by Bro. Hughan many years ago, and after reprinting it in his "Memorials of the Masonic Union" (A.D. 1872), he parted with it to his lamented friend Bro. Bowers as the *pièce de résistance* in that ardent collector's library. Until now, this was the only one known in the world, and even to-day there is but one copy in each hemisphere. Personally, we always regretted Bro. Hughan's good nature leading him to send the rare work across the Atlantic. Under present circumstances, however, we are more than satisfied, especially as it is understood that Bro. Watson intends to ask the R.W. Bro. T. W. Tew's consent to reprint it in full facsimile. It is curious in this instance to see two title pages to the volume, but the plate, or frontispiece, is still untraced, and we fear untraceable. We warmly congratulate the Provincial Grand Master, the Librarian, and all West Yorkshire brethren on this splendid find.

The *Scottish Masonic Record*, Glasgow, has done a very neat and graceful act by reprinting Bro. Hughan's "Bibliography of Scottish Lodge Histories," and placing the portrait of that respected brother on the title page. Only fifty copies are printed, however, so Bro. Hughan will find it a difficult task to distribute them, and, as they bind with a similar work he has ably done for English Histories, the souvenir is both welcome and useful.

Our Sydney namesake is slightly too clever—"too clever by half," as the saying is, and as spiteful in some recent remarks it has seen fit to make in respect of this journal, as it was intemperate and vulgar in those we criticised in one of our January issues. In writing of Bro. Lord Carrington's installation as Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, we described his lordship by the highest title in English Freemasonry he was then entitled to, and the Sydney *Freemason* at once fell foul of us for our ignorance. In replying to this criticism in January last, we justified our description of his lordship on the ground that we were writing of him in his capacity of an English Mason, with which his position as Past Grand Master of New South Wales had nothing whatever to do, and now our contemporary charges us with "rabid antipathy to colonial Grand Lodges" in ignoring "Bro. Lord Carrington's Grand Master's title." We have spoken of Lord Carrington scores of times either as Grand Master or Past Grand Master of New South Wales, but it is no good attempting to mollify a journal which resolutely declines to be mollified, and, therefore, we give the matter up as a bad job.

Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., will no doubt be mightily amused on hearing that he has been described as an "acrobatic brother." The legal adviser of our Grand Lodge, who is a Q.C. and Recorder of Colchester to boot, perched on the top of a long pole, or balancing a chair on the tip of his learned nose, were a sight to make all the gods on Olympus shake their immortal sides with laughter. We are almost inclined to forgive the Sydney *Freemason* its spitefulness for having suggested so funny an idea, especially as it has done us the honour to attribute the authorship of our "Masonic Notes" to the said "acrobatic brother."

There is a good deal of presumption about the members of the new-born irregular Grand Lodge of New Zealand. They appear to imagine they represent all the Masonry that exists in the Colony, and that no one else has a right to an opinion but themselves and the organ which writes in their interest. They ignore the fact that if they had the right to secede from their Mother Grand Lodges and establish one of their own, the other lodges holding under the same Constitutions had an equal right to remain true to their allegiance. They argue also as if they were a majority of the lodges in New Zealand, whereas from a list published not very long ago in the *New Zealand Craftsman*, there are certainly as many under the English, Irish, and Scotch Constitutions as under the irregular Grand Lodge.

Again, if Freemasonry in New Zealand is in the position of a house divided against itself, it is not the fault of the lodges that preferred to remain as they were. These, as we have said, had at least as good a right to remain as the others had to go elsewhere. They are to blame who created the schism, not those at whose expense it was created. Had the vote in favour of establishing a local Grand Lodge been anything like a preponderant one, Bro. the Earl of Onslow would long ago have been Grand Master of an independent Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and our Grand Lodge would have recognised the new body, as it had previously recognised the Grand Lodges of New South Wales and Victoria.

We congratulate the *Australasian Keystone*, which is now the property of a Company composed of prominent members of the Craft in Victoria. In its review of what has been accomplished during the nine months it has been under the control of this company, it speaks well of its position both as regards subscribers and advertisements, and in spite of the depression which has prevailed in all directions. It anticipates also that when a full year has been completed the *Keystone* will be found to have prospered exceedingly, and that the shareholders will receive a fair dividend on their investments. We trust our worthy contemporary will have a long and prosperous future.

Our Bro. E. P. Delevante, who does so much to charm us in the *post prandial* proceedings of many lodges, has kindly arranged to give, with the assistance of his pupils, the opera of "The Mikado" to "Our Boys," at Wood Green, on the 6th May. We hope to be able to give further particulars in our next issue.

"In Vino Veritas" writes to complain of the practice so much on the increase of using the Craft for the purpose of advertisement, but in the instance referred to the announcement that a certain brand of champagne had been chosen for a festival dinner can hardly be called a Masonic offence any more than the vendor of a soap who had contracted to supply the members of a church congress could be accused of violating the code of Christian ethics. It is another thing when a brother uses Masonry for trade purposes. Our correspondent does not even suggest that the vendors of the champagne in question are Masons.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

983] "THE NEW ATLANTIS."

Many thanks to Bro. Macbean for his useful information. I at once wrote for the edition he mentions. It is strange that I could not hear of it before, though I have inquired of more than one bookseller.

LEX SCRIPTA.

Reviews.

FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR LEICESTER AND RUTLAND, 1892.

This artistic and accurate compilation is in its 20th year of publication, and is quite an indispensable adjunct to the Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. B. A. Smith, B.A., L.L.M., is the editor, and this year, by vote of the Provincial Grand Lodge, his portrait is inserted as the frontispiece, to the great satisfaction of his numerous friends, who will value such a pleasing souvenir of that worthy brother. There are one or two new features in this issue, but the work done is mainly on the old lines, as they have been proved to be suitable and useful. The roll of Grand Officers of the Provincial Grand Chapter from 1873 is an excellent addition and possibly a similar list will follow ere long for the Mark Provincial Grand Lodge so as to complete the trio. The roll of members of each lodge must have entailed considerable labour, because so much else is given, but the value of such a register is patent, and so the "Roll of Honour," or list of votes for the Charities, viz., 1889, which is a magnificent total for only a dozen lodges.

FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR SOMERSET.

Bro. C. L. Fry Edwards has again edited this very handy volume, larger, fuller, and as accurate as ever. Our fear is that brethren thus so ably catered for do not sufficiently appreciate the labour involved in such compilations, for we know by actual and long experience what a deal of time has necessarily to be taken up in the arrangement, classification, and securing so much varied information. Bro. Edwards has kindly presented his portrait to the subscribers as the frontispiece for 1892, and no more welcome addition to the special features of this year's issue could have been made. There is a mass of figures, lists, and particulars carefully and systematically arranged by Bro. Edwards, extending over some 130 pages, which certainly leaves little to be desired even by the most exacting, and in the hands of the provincial authorities must be a real boon and infallible guide. The Charity votes are all inserted under lodges, and then summarised, amounting to 3154, held by a province numbering 26 lodges and 1236 members. Mark Masonry flourishes in Somerset under its genial Prov. Grand Master, and in fact the Craft is prosperous throughout the county.

