

THE BOYS SCHOOL.

THE report of the proceedings at the anniversary festival of this institution, which we publish in another part of to-day's *Magazine*, will be read by the brethren with mingled feelings of pain and pleasure ; with pleasure, that the Craft should so nobly have responded to the call made upon them as to add nearly £2000 to the funds of the institution ; and pain, to find the course of education pursued so utterly condemned as it is in the report of the Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. A. R. Ward, who kindly acted as examiner, and who says : "Some of the boys acquitted themselves very well indeed, especially Crichton and Guanzioli ; some of the others, however, *very indifferently*. The subject in which there was the greatest deficiency was arithmetic ; this was badly done by *all*, several of the boys not answering or trying to answer *one single question*. The spelling also was *generally bad*."

We would, before more particularly alluding to the report of our reverend brother, congratulate the stewards on the success of their arrangements for the accommodation of the guests at the festival, by which the utmost order was maintained throughout the proceedings ; and we would express the obligation of the Craft to the Deputy Grand Master for the dignity and courtesy with which he presided on the occasion, being assured that his Lordship felt his best reward to consist in the announcement that the subscriptions of the evening amounted to the handsome sum of £1,850, with three lists to come in. Of this sum we were gratified to notice that upwards of £300 came from the province of West Yorkshire, a noble example to the brethren of the other provinces, and a convincing proof that the efforts of Bros. Symonds and Lyall have not been without beneficial results.

Reverting to the report of our reverend Bro. Ward, we must say that we can scarcely agree with him "that an assistant master should be appointed as soon as possible at Lordship Lodge"—believing that one master competent to his duties should be sufficient, with the assistance

of the elder boys, for the education of twenty-five pupils, all of whom, be it remembered, had made some advances in their studies before their admission into the school house.

We protested, at the time of the appointment of the present master, against the principle of entrusting the duty of organising a new school to a gentleman at an age when he should be rather seeking retirement than undertaking duties which ought to have been confided to one comparatively young and active, though sufficiently advanced in years as to have acquired those habits of self control and that steadiness of character which should secure for him alike the confidence of the governors and the respect of the pupils.

We do not wish to revive the recollections of the general feeling that existed amongst the brethren at the time of the appointment of the present master—that his election was secured by trick and favouritism; but now that it has been proved that the school is deficient in its educational requirements, it becomes the committee of management to see that it is put upon a footing equal to other establishments. It will be quite time enough to talk of appointing additional masters when the arrangements are made for taking a larger number of boys into the school and extending the course of education. We observe that of the four first prizes awarded, two for arithmetic (in which *all* are bad) and two for writing—only one, for writing, is taken by a boy who has had the advantage of a year's education in Lordship's Lodge—one of the out boys, Crichton, taking one in each of the departments and standing honourably high in the estimation of the examiner in other branches of knowledge. The other three prizes certainly go to Lordship Lodge—Guanziroli taking two and Ward one; but we should like to be informed how long they were under education before they went to that establishment, as we find both names honourably distinguished in last year's report, when Lordship Lodge had been only six months opened. We would further ask why there is no longer any examination in French? Is it because the master at Lordship Lodge is unable to teach the language, and that no provision has yet been made with regard to the boys who, prior to their being admitted into the new schoolhouse, had the benefit of instruction in that language, for continuing their studies in one of the most important branches of modern education?

Before closing this notice, we may remark that we observe in the report of a Provincial Grand Lodge of Emergency of Hampshire, the Provincial Grand Master, Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, to have said:—

“He was convinced that the Boys School was most ably conducted; they were all educated according to their individual ability, and he was happy to

find that none had left but who had done credit to their important society. They received a most superior education, and it had given him exceeding great pleasure to see some of them receive their prizes for proficiency in learning. He had witnessed one boy's success in obtaining three or four prizes for his improvement in *mathematics, Greek, Latin,* and particularly *French* and penmanship; this was one boy alone—but others were also conspicuous for their progress, though not to the same extent. These boys, when put out, made respectable and honourable members of society. He was sorry to say he could not speak with the same satisfaction in regard to the Girls School. For himself, he saw no reason why the girls should be left in a state of ignorance, while the boys received such a superior education. He did not mean to go so far as to say the girls should learn mathematics and the dead languages, but he thought the girls should be trained according to their capacity, so that they might go out in the world and rise as their merit deserved. No doubt many of the girls might possess a talent for music, singing, and drawing. Where these talents were found let them be cultivated, so that such girls may go out as teachers and governesses. At present the girls in their school received no better training than was given to many national charity school children—they were principally taught to scrub, make beds, and wash pots and kettles. He did not mean to say that the domestic training of any girls should be neglected; such instruction was very needful, especially that they should be taught the useful forms of needlework. He thought that no disgrace to the highest lady in the land; and, further, no lady could properly conduct her household without domestic abilities. He had referred to these things because he thought the girls of their school had not been brought up as they ought to have been."

We know not whence our Right Worshipful brother has obtained his information, as we can find no record of prizes being given either for Latin or Greek, or their ever having been made part of the educational course of the Boys School. If they ever were so, then must the institution have lamentably deteriorated; and the boy quoted by Sir Lucius must be a specimen of the past not the present—of the out door education not that at Lordship Lodge. As Sir Lucius Curtis, however, overrates the education which is given to the Boys—so does he underrate that of the Girls. It is perfectly true that for too many years the education of the Girls School stood at the point which it had attained fifty years previously, and the hand of improvement was stayed, owing to Mrs. Crook, the matron and schoolmistress, never having been aided by the introduction of new blood—her assistants having been selected from her own imperfectly educated pupils.

On the death of that highly respected lady, however, this state of things was changed—the offices of matron and schoolmistress were separated, the former being confided to Miss Jarwood who had had considerable experience under Mrs. Crook, and the latter to Miss Souter, a young lady who came recommended by a high certificate from the government commissioners of her educational attainments; and latterly French and music have been added to the course of

education so that as the industrial training was lately pronounced by the committee who made inquiries into the subject to be equal to that of any similar establishment, we need not now fear of pointing to the Freemasons' Girls School and taking pride in its education and management. There is one point, however, in which we should wish to see an improvement, and that is in the selection of the assistants to the schoolmistress. We speak in no disparagement of the abilities of Miss Kernot, for we know not what they are; but when we are told she was formerly a pupil in the school—a just matter of congratulation if she be properly qualified for her office—we should be pleased to hear that steps had been taken to enable her to obtain the government certificate of merit, without which, in the present day, no teacher should be elected to a public school. We would make it an object of ambition for girls on leaving our school to be sent for two or three years to a government training school to be educated as governesses, and if needed, the Institution should bear the expenses of those who by their talents and conduct could gain so high a prize.

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#### MASONIC MISSIONS.

Bro. Henry Hadley, Secretary of No. 55, is properly zealous for the honour of his Province, and he sends us a letter with the view of correcting our remarks at page 441. He says that we have only given Nottinghamshire the credit of possessing three Lodges, whereas it has four. What we said was, that Nottinghamshire was one of the shires possessing only three Lodge towns, our object being to illustrate the topographical distribution of Masonry.

Our brother will find that in the list of towns containing Lodges, Nottingham is correctly returned as having three Lodges, and in so far the town takes a very fair rank, but the shire stands in a very different situation, for we find we were wrong after all (though as we acted on the last official return, the calendar, we could not know it), in that we placed Nottinghamshire too high instead of too low. This we learn from Bro. Hadley's letter. Guided by the calendar we placed Nottinghamshire as a shire having three towns possessing Lodges, and therefore ranking with Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire. We now find that Nottinghamshire is to be placed among the shires having only two Lodge towns, and to be ranked with Bedfordshire, Leicestershire, and Monmouthshire; for as the warrant of the Marquis

of Granby Lodge, No. 558, has been surrendered, the only Masonic towns in Nottinghamshire are Nottingham with three Lodges (Nos. 55, 576, and 594) and one Chapter, and Mansfield with one Lodge.

This condition of Nottinghamshire is one by no means favourable to its character; and as we observe Leicestershire is as low in condition. We shall, therefore, take these as the subjects of our investigation. In fact, such is the state of some of the Masonic provinces, with the Lodge towns so far apart, that we very much question whether a Scotch or foreign Rose Croix would feel much compunction in exercising his privilege of initiating candidates, for he would find places where there is no Lodge within the prescribed distance which limits his jurisdiction. There are parts of England that are as ill provided with Lodges as parts of France, and this is far from creditable to England, the fatherland of Masonry, or to the Grand Lodge of England, which is venerated as the mother Grand Lodge.

Nottinghamshire is fifty-one miles long, by twenty broad. It covers an area of 822 square miles or 526,076 acres, and in 1851 had a population of 270,427. Besides being a rich agricultural county, it is a great seat of manufactures, including bobbin net, lace, cotton and silk hosiery, silk throwing, cotton and woollen yarn. It has a coal-field.

It constitutes a Masonic province of which Bro. Col. T. Wildman is the Provincial Grand Master. Its Lodge towns and Lodges are—

Nottingham, No. 55, Newstead Lodge, date 1735.

” No. 576, Royal Sussex Lodge, date 1829.

” No. 594, Commercial Lodge, date 1832.

Mansfield, No. 840, Forest Lodge, date 1850.

The Eastwood Lodge, dating only from 1838, just lingered twenty years and then expired. It will be seen that Masonry is of ancient date in the Province, for there is one Lodge above a century old, but the other three Lodges are quite recent. No. 55 meets in the assembly rooms; No. 840 in a town hall; the other two in public houses, as did the defunct Lodge. To complete the picture we may add that there is no Masonic hall in the Province.

The borough and market towns are—

\* Nottingham. Population 57,407 for the borough, but in reality having 100,000 with the outlying villages.

\* Mansfield. Population 10,627 for the borough, but having 20,000 in the town and neighbouring villages.

Newark. Population 11,321.

East Retford.

Bingham.

Southwell.

Worksop.

Tuxford. Population 1,211.

Arnold. Population 4,704, near Nottingham.

Basford. Population 10,093, near Nottingham.

Beeston. Population 3,016, near Nottingham.

Blyth. Population 3,982.

Bridgeford. Population 1,155.  
 Bulwell. Population 3,786.  
 Carlton. Population 2,329, near Nottingham.  
 Greasey. Population 5,284.  
 Hucknall. Population 2,970.  
 Kimberley. Population 2,392.  
 Kirkby. Population 2,363.  
 Lenton. Population 5589, near Nottingham.  
 Mansfield Woodhouse. Population 1,972, near Mansfield.  
 Misterton. Population 1,743.  
 Radcliffe. Population 1,273.  
 Radford. Population 12,637, near Nottingham.  
 Sneinton. Population 8,440, near Nottingham.  
 Stapleford. Population 2,968.  
 Sutton in Ashfield. Population 7,692, near Mansfield.  
 Warsop. Population 1,398.

Nottingham with that vast population should have at least five Lodges and two Chapters; Mansfield should have two Lodges and a Chapter. There ought further to be Lodges at—

Newark.  
 East Retford.  
 Southwell.  
 Worksop.  
 Bingham.  
 Blyth.  
 Greasey, and  
 Bulwell.

The Province as it is :—

	Lodge Towns.	Lodges.	R.A.	Halls.
Present .....	2	4	1	0
As it should be	10	15	7	10

We have no reason to presume there are any libraries in the Province, and we know of no local charitable fund.

Leicestershire adjoins Nottinghamshire, and is forty-four miles long and forty broad, with an area of 80,319 miles or 514,164 statute acres, and a population in 1851 of 230,308. It is a rich grazing country, and the seat of great manufactures of worsted and cotton hosiery, lace-making, and wool-combing.

It constitutes a Masonic Province, of which Bro. Earl Howe has for many years been Provincial Grand Master, and which was for some time under the immediate care of Bro. Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., as Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Under the recent efforts of the Prov. Grand Master, Masonry is reviving. Some observers will be of opinion, before these sketches are concluded, that to appoint Provincial Grand Masters for life, like the holders of the high degree of Grand Master—*ad vitam*, is contrary to that law of Masonry, which allots dignities and responsibilities to merit, and is attended by the result of the decline of such Provinces. They will

find facts in support of a doctrine sometimes broached, that the Provincial Grand Mastership should not be held perpetually, and that it should, according to Masonic constitutions, originate in the choice of the Brethren governed, and not in the delegation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master after the first Master on the creation of a Province has once been appointed.

Its Lodge towns and Lodges are :—

Leicester, No. 348, St. John's date 1789.

„ No. 706, John of Gaunt, date 1846.

Hinckley, No. 58, date 1735.

The two Leicester Lodges have Chapters. It will be noticed that the old Lodges in Leicester have become defunct, but there is a very old Lodge in Hinckley attesting the antiquity of the institution. The province has now in progress a Masonic Hall at Leicester, which does credit to its energies, but it has much more to do to redeem its reputation, and we have not the least compunction in laying before the R.W. Bro. Earl Howe and his Provincial Grand Lodge, their relative condition, in the hope that it may incite them to greater efforts.

The boroughs and towns of Leicestershire are :—Leicester ; population of the borough 60,584, but having a much larger population available in the surrounding districts.

Ashby de la Zouch. Population 5,855.

Market Bosworth.

Market Harborough. Population 2,325.

\* Hinckley. Population 6,111.

Lutterworth. Population 2,446.

Melton Mowbray. Population 4,391.

Castle Donington. Population 2,729.

Mount Sorrel. Population 1,597.

Whitwick. Population 2,836.

Barrow-upon-Soar. Population 5,720.

Earl Shilton. Population 2,364.

Kegworth. Population 1,782.

Kilworth. Population 1,752.

Wigston. Population 2,189.

Leicester ought to have five Lodges, and there ought to be Lodges in Melton Mowbray, Market Harborough, Barrow-upon-Soar, Ashby de la Zouch, and some other towns.

As early as the means of the province will allow, after the completion of the Masonic Hall at Leicester, one should be built at Hinckley, the most ancient Masonic site in the province.

The province as it is and as it should be :—

	Lodge Towns.	Lodges.	R.A.	Halls.
Present.....	2	3	2	1
Future .....	8	12	4	8

We now take Derbyshire, which adjoins the two former shires. Its length is fifty-six miles, its breadth thirty-four, and its area 1,030 square miles. Its population in 1851 was 296,084.

It is a Masonic province, having R. W. Bro. the Marquis of Hartington for Provincial Grand Master. Its Lodge towns are seven :—

Derby,	No. 315, Tyrian Lodge,	dated 1784
"	No. 1033, Arboretum Lodge,	" 1857
Chesterfield,	No. 981, Scarsdale Lodge,	" 1856
Glossop,	No. 908, Devonshire Lodge,	" 1853
New Mills, near Glossop,	No. 940, Peveril of the Peak Lodge,	" 1855
Ludworth, Stockport,	No. 335, Lodge of Union,	" 1786
Repton,	No. 446, Royal Sussex Lodge,	" 1817
Shipley,	No. 744, Munday Grove Lodge,	" 1844

We regret to say that the whole of the above Lodges meet in public houses, and that there is no Masonic hall in the province. There is a Royal Arch Chapter at Derby, No. 315, and one at New Mills.

The ancient Lodges in the province have become defunct, but in the last few years four Lodges have been founded.

The boroughs and towns of Derbyshire are :—

\* Derby. Population 40,609.

Alfreton.

Ashbourne.

Ashover.

Bakewell.

Belper.

Buxton. Population 1,235.

Chapel-en-le-Frith. Population 3,214.

\* Chesterfield. Population 7,101.

Crich. Population 3,670.

Ilkeston. Population 6,122.

Wirksworth.

Cromford. Population 1,190.

Dronfield. Population 2,469.

Heanor. Population 3,427.

Melbourne. Population 2,227.

Tideswell. Population 2,035.

Eckington. Population 1,958.

Ironville. Population 2,276.

\* New Mills. Population 4,366.

\* Repton. Population 1,863.

Ripley. Population 3,071.

Staveley. Population 3,998.

\* Glossop. Population 5,467.

Matlock. Population 4,010.

There should be three Lodges at Derby, and Lodges at Ashbourne, Bakewell, Belper, Buxton, Crich, Ilkeston, Ripley, Staveley, and Matlock.

The following shows what the province is and what it should be :—

	Lodge Towns.	Lodges.	R.A.	Halls.
Present .....	7	8	2	0
Future .....	16	18	6	16



We will now make a comparison of the three provinces.

	Population.	Lodge Towns.	Lodges.	R.A.	Halls.
Derby ...	296,048	7	8	2	0
Notts. ...	270,437	2	4	1	0
Leicester	230,308	2	3	2	1

The contrast between Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire is very striking, and yet the difference of the population is only about ten per cent.

What these provinces ought to be, may now be shown :—

	Lodge Towns.	Lodges.	R.A.	Halls.
Derby .....	16	18	6	16
Notts. ....	10	15	7	10
Leicester.....	8	12	4	8

The estimate we have made of the requirements of these provinces is very moderate, and yet we show that thirty Lodges ought to be founded, and thirty-five halls, and this can be done, and we hope will be done.



A MASONIC FUNERAL ORATION.

By the kindness of an esteemed Jersey correspondent we are favoured with a copy of the oration delivered over the grave of the late Dr. Cuquemelle by Bro. F. Gustave Ratier, Orator of the Lodge La Césarée. The translation from the original French has been purposely made as literal as possible.

For what purpose do we see assembled around this tomb these Freemasons, bearing in their dress the peculiar marks and decorations of the Order, and publicly displaying their banners to the gaze of the multitude? To what end is this crowd collected, earnestly intent on our proceedings? All of us, either as brethren or as friends, are met together to commit to the earth the mortal remains of a member of the great family of Freemasons.

Yes, my brethren, Freemasonry has lost one of its most devoted children, and the Lodge La Césarée one of its most accomplished and useful members. To all of us, it is a source of the deepest grief. Let us give free course to our sorrow; but after having prostrated ourselves at his tomb, after having shed a tear of sympathy on the soil which is about to cover his remains, let us revive our drooping courage; let us again become firm and undaunted as he was in his last moments; and, as Masons, let us glory in his death as in his life.

Louis François Benjamin Cuquemelle was born at Monteburg, in the *arrondissement* of Valogne, department of La Manche, on the 24th Messidor, third year of the Republic, (12th July, 1795). He commenced his studies at the College of Valogne, but soon after, seized with the martial fever which was then drying up the best blood of France, though scarcely fourteen years of age, he joined the regiment of the Pupils of the Guard,\* to

\* This was a regiment of youths from twelve to fourteen years of age, which was fully equipped and disciplined by the first Napoleon, for the amusement of his infant son.

play at mimic war for the amusement of an imperial Prince, as yet but a child in the cradle, who was thus, as it were, to be taught at his tender age, that war, which is so fatal to the happiness and liberty of the people, is the only safeguard of despotism. In 1812 Benjamin Cuquemelle became a member of the *grande armée*, whose gigantic efforts were the wonder of the world, and in all the reverses of which he bore his part. After the year 1815 he obtained the rank of captain in a regiment of dragoons; but finding himself unable to reconcile his principles with those of the Restoration, he abandoned the career of arms, and determined to pursue the liberal profession which was most in accordance with his inclination and taste. The horrors of war, of which he had been an eyewitness, having produced a deep impression on his mind, he decided to devote his life to the alleviation of human suffering, and accordingly entered with heart and soul upon the study of medicine. He obtained his diploma as a physician in 1821, at the University of Paris, where for two years he had been a fellow pupil with the celebrated and lamented Dr. Brohier, and also with the no less distinguished Drs. Hooper and Lowe, as if the decrees of Providence had especially marked out this period, in order to give to Jersey men as eminent for their skill and scientific knowledge, as for their public and private virtues. In 1825 he came to settle among you, inhabitants of Jersey, and your experience enables you to know better than myself, that he practised in his profession with a charity, a devotion, and a disinterestedness, which change the physician into an apostle of kindness to his fellow men. The grief manifested by the poor on receiving the report of his death is to my mind sufficient evidence that in order to mitigate and assuage the woes of the indigent, he was ever ready to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked. Such sentiments at an early period prepared him for the Masonic life upon which he was destined soon to enter.

Brother Masons, it is as a Freemason that Benjamin Cuquemelle belongs to us; suffer me, therefore, to relate to you all his claims to our regret. He first received the light of our Order in the Farmers' Lodge in 1847. Since that period, how great are the services which the science of Freemasonry has received at his hands. In 1851 he took an active part in the formation of Lodge La Césarée, to which I, an old Mason of the Orient of France, am proud to belong. How little could I foresee, when for the first time accepting the office of Orator by his appointment, that I should ere long be called upon to discharge at his grave the duties thus devolving upon me!

In the name of the whole Masonic body, let me be permitted to express our gratitude for the share he took in this great work; great—yes, my brethren, since from that date, the language of Jersey has made itself heard in the bosom of English Freemasonry, and all members of the Order, whom the storms of political strife drove from the inhospitable shores of France, were henceforth enabled to find a temple in which the gentle accents of the Fraternity shed a healing balm over their afflictions.

In the year 1852 Benjamin Cuquemelle was elected Worshipful Master of Lodge La Césarée. In 1853, his Mother Lodge also, which now bears the name of the Yarborough, committed to him its first chair. In 1854, Lodge La Césarée presented to him a Past Master's Jewel, in acknowledgment of his devotedness to the cause, and of his especial services to its members, who so highly appreciated his attention to their interests, that during the years 1856 and 1857, the direction of the Lodge was again entrusted to his guidance. In the Chapter of Harmony he successively filled the offices of Principal Sojourner, and of third, second, and first Principal. In the Provincial Grand Lodge he held the rank of Senior Warden, and also that of President of the Board of General Purposes.

Here then, my brethren, you have the history of an active and usefully spent Masonic life of twelve years. Brother Cuquemelle stepped on in his career by giant strides; but the cause of so rapid a course was, that in his advancement he was sustained by the two fundamental principles of our Order—love to his fellow men and fidelity to his obligations.

Now, brethren, let us sum up the whole. Let us recal the solemn words recently uttered by our Provincial Grand Master;—"The last offices paid to the dead are only useful as lectures to the living." Well, not only must we be struck at the honours with which Freemasonry has invested Bro. Cuquemelle, but at his fidelity in acting up to the sacred principles of our Order. In the grave all fallacies are detected, all ranks levelled, all distinctions done away.

Brethren! by the side of this open grave, in the presence of this inanimate corpse, which in obedience to the immutable laws of nature will, ere long, be transformed and mingled with the earth whence it derived its origin, in order to contribute to the reproduction of new wonders—let us not forget the great law of which the Masonic level is the emblem—the great law of equality, the basis of our institution, without which the fraternal affection which unites us in one boundless family would be but a vain mockery.

In the presence of this life of love, of charity, and of self-denial, let us remember, brethren, that Freemasonry is indeed universal; that it embraces the whole human species; that in its emanations human nature stands alone, and bears a resemblance to that God by whom it was created; that each man, regarded as an individual, is to the whole human race as the most minute particle of matter is to the whole body; that if the body suffer when one of its limbs is diseased or impaired, the whole of mankind must suffer when one of its members is called upon to endure sufferings; and then we shall understand this great law of human union (*la solidarité humaine*), without which man will never attain the summit of happiness and of well-being allotted to him in this transitory abode. Holy and sacred is the law which Freemasonry has introduced into the social world, in recommending its adherents to share as brethren with those who are in need; in commanding them to do unto all as they would have done to themselves.

Brother! who at thy latter end didst so grandly display thy firmness—thou, who didst discourse with so tranquil a calmness on the anticipated fatal result of the operation which thou wast about to undergo—thou, who, like the wisest of the ancients, didst in death contemplate only a law of nature, which would deliver thy immortal soul from the bonds of gross earthly matter—thou, who, when on the point of quitting this vale of tears, didst mark the serenity of thy mind by directing thy thoughts to tokens of remembrance for thy friends—to him whose noble nature and scientific skill were powerless to save thee, that thou mightest in future delight him with thy expressions of grateful thanks—to thy enemies, to forgive them—to the wretched, to recommend them to thy brethren—thou, who now beholdest us from celestial realms, bear witness to our good resolutions.

And we, my brethren, after having once more exhibited to the world the religious character of our ceremonies, the purity and nobleness of our principles, when we shall have laid aside these badges of mourning, let us zealously resume the implements of labour; let us apply ourselves diligently to the task of the advancement and the happiness of mankind; let us act, each in proportion to his strength and his abilities. It is thus that we shall deserve to be one day reunited to the companions of our former toils in the Grand Lodge above where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

Farewell, Brother Cuquemelle; thou hast died firm in the Masonic

faith; thou hast expressed a wish that thy mortal remains should be entrusted to the care of thy brethren; thou hast desired that at thy grave the influences of Freemasonry should be fully and openly displayed, in order that by its acts it may be enabled to give the lie to any of its detractors who stand around. We have accepted this sacred legacy. These sprigs covered with verdure, which have been deposited in thy grave, were symbolical of thy hopes; these flowers are to us appropriate emblems of the happiness which thou art called away to enjoy.

And now, my brethren—Apprentices, Fellow-Crafts, Master Masons—to our work! It is high twelve, and labour will never cease so long as the human race shall endure.

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### MASONIC BAPTISM.

[From a special American Correspondent.]

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER.—In my last I promised you an account of the “adoption of Masonic children” by the *Foyer Maçonique Lodge*, in New Orleans, on the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the Lodge. I may here mention, that this Lodge must not be confounded with one of the same name in that city, under the control of the spurious “Supreme Council.”

The ceremony performed on the occasion, was the grandest and most imposing ever witnessed in New Orleans. The large room of the Odd Fellows' Hall was selected for the occasion, and was fitted up as a Masonic Temple. In the centre of the platform was a throne with crimson drapery, and an altar with appropriate surroundings. In front of the altar, seats were placed for the children and their godmothers. The sides of the hall, the gallery, and the highest platform, were crowded with members of sister Lodges and invited guests.

At ten minutes past seven the W. M., Bro. Joseph Santini, and the Wardens having taken their places, and on either side of the W.M. the Sec. and Treas., the brethren of the *Foyer Maçonique* and sister Lodges, entered in procession. A grand overture was then played, after which the other orders entered as follows—Knights Rose Croix, Royal Arch, Scotch Masters; Knights Templars; Knights Kadosh; and the members of the Grand Consistory of S.P.R.S. of the thirty-second degree; and the Most Illustrious Brethren of the thirty-third degree; the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, and the M.W.G.M., Bro. Amos Adams.

Bro. Santini then delivered a very eloquent address as follows:—

“Most Worshipful Grand Master, and you, brethren—the *Foyer Maçonique*, one of the oldest Lodges in this East, has met this evening to commemorate, in a worthy manner, by the sublime ceremony of Masonic Baptism, its two hundred and tenth anniversary. The invitation extended to sister Lodges, Chapters, and Councils, and to the Grand Lodge, to unite with us on this solemn and most interesting event, has met with a hearty response; and it is with great pleasure that we greet you here as adding one more to the many evidences of the esteem and brotherly love which govern all true Masons, and causes us to forget, at least for a while, in the enjoyment of fraternal affection, those dissensions which so often afflict mankind. It is truly a gratifying, a memorable occasion that brings us

together in this temple, but unfortunately for you and for myself I am called upon as the Master to address you in a style worthy of the event; and my task becomes the more difficult when I reflect that it is to be performed in presence of a distinguished audience and those illustrious Masons with whose noble powers of oratory all here are familiar. My courage fails me somewhat, and nothing could induce me to accept so prominent a position on this occasion, were it not for the consciousness of my sacred duties as a Mason, and the imperative necessity of fulfilling them. I ask your indulgence then, brethren, and you ladies and gentlemen, for it is especially to you that I would address a few explanations, based on the grand principles of our constitution, and point out the object of our constant labour. Happy shall I be if I can do away with the unjust prejudices which ignorance and fanaticism have ever sought to establish against Masonry. Thus it is that Masonry ever recalls to its disciples the obligations of duty, and by not separating the useful from the agreeable puts a noble stamp on the record of its festivals, and bestows a dignity even on its pleasures.

“Man thrown on the earth by the hand of God, was destined by his marvellous organization for the accomplishment of a holy mission. And, indeed, does not the sublimity of our origin point out to us the grandeur of our destiny? Does it not tell us that we are not created to lead a useless, an ignoble career on this earth; that the world is not the term of our pilgrimage? Does not the instinctive belief possess us also, that a nobler country than this awaits us; that we must labour to become worthy of it; and that knowledge and virtue form the only path that will lead us through the storms of life safely to our harbour. But in the midst of those elements of discord and trouble that formerly swept over the world, arose an institution, the object of which was to ennoble men and draw them closer together in the bonds of affection. Freemasonry built up among the bewildered nations temples, beneath whose arches soon gathered a multitude of eager disciples, and she implanted in their hearts germs of virtue, equality, tolerance, humanity, and legitimate independence, which prepared the way for the progress of that divine civilization which it is her destiny one day to achieve.

“For ever teaching men that they are children of the same Father, Masonry never tires of teaching them too that they must love each other even as brothers. At her voice quarrels cease, fanaticism flies, the barriers which separate nations give way, war calms its fury, intolerance ceases, differences of faith are no longer persecuted, and mankind call to each other from all parts of the globe, hold out the hand of friendship, and the helping hand of charity, regardless of country, manners, opinions, and sects. Far different from most other associations of men, which disseminate troubles and exercise a dangerous ambition, give birth to intrigue and hatred—our noble institution preaches disinterestedness, indulgence, and love of humanity.

“To those who are governed by self-interest, she speaks of charity. Those who are driven on by ambition, or bewildered by pride, can enter into her precincts only by bending beneath the yoke of equality, which takes into account only man's virtues and talents. Vainly do the clamour of passion, or the invective of intolerance rage around her; she opposes to them only the language of reason and truth; answers them only by deeds of beneficence; confutes them only with good acts, and confides in the powers of time to bring about her triumph.

“Freemasonry, in a word, is the practical school of virtue; for by virtue alone can society exist. Take from men virtue, probity, reciprocal faith—that faith which the Romans early worshipped—and nothing noble remains, nothing stable and solid lives in the world's affairs; the human race itself is on the road to destruction. But of all the virtues which the Great Architect

of the universe has placed in the heart of man, that which holds the first rank is charity. It is upon charity and beneficence that Freemasonry bases its edifice. Unfortunately it is only too clear that society, as now constructed, is cursed with unequally distributed riches and comforts; and the interests of man, far from being united and thoroughly combined, are too often opposed, were it not for the teachings of Masonry, which hold that the body must not completely govern the soul, but that we must all, for the common welfare, seek to extend the sphere of the heart's affections, and teach the beauties of charity and fraternal love. Thus it is that Masonry addresses itself first and above all to the mind, and calls for the highest development in the midst of life's trials of the soul's nobility and tenderness. A wide sphere opens before the Mason who, beyond the material wants of life, feels a necessity for reciprocal affections. He needs a family, he needs friends, and he is impelled even beyond those circles in order to satisfy the wish for affectionate intercourse with his fellow-men. Imbued with a humanity superior to that of the votaries of ignorance and sensuality, he lives for others, sacrificing his personal material wants to the generous promptings of his heart. He will not hesitate to risk his material life to obey the dictates of friendship, a tender humanity, because the desires of the soul reach beyond him to sympathise with those of his fellow-beings. These are the virtues of the true Mason, these the results of charity and fraternity as we always have and always shall understand them to be. Such are the teachings of Masonry, such the virtues that her sons endeavour to practice; such the institution that has ever been sought to be calumniated and injured in public opinion. Men, who from principle should be tolerant, full of good faith, inclined to forgive injuries, disposed to the observance of charity, fraternity, and justice; men who, far from disseminating feelings of hatred, should be without bitterness or guile; for is it not true that our patron saint, St. John the Evangelist, teaches them, as well as all of us, "Love one another."

"Do or say what they may please, our adversaries can do us no harm, their weapons are powerless and cannot stop our onward march. Let them all, one and another, talk and say what they please. What matters to the swift moving chariot, that this or that grain of sand is crushed beneath its wheels; Freemasonry will, nevertheless, carry out its divine mission; she will outlast Utopias, quarrels, tempests; and whilst the great river of time carries upon its stormy waves all human sorrows and joys, the blazing star, ever brilliant in heaven, warms with its life giving rays the hearts of true Masons. From this short review, you will see what Masonry accomplishes. She does not occupy herself with trivial matters, as the world are taught to believe. She does not conspire against society, as has been calumniously asserted. Masons have a more elevated and nobler object—the cultivation of the powers of reason and of the heart, philanthropy, practical morality, the central point that unites all good men, who are both virtuous and intelligent, both free and beneficent. In fine, Masonry is the most reliable association for him who understands and practises fraternal affection; for the philanthropist who asks that respect for his opinions that he always exhibits for the opinions of others; where the immortality of the soul is not looked upon as a chimera; where hypocrisy is not concealed beneath a pleasing mask; where goodness is not weakness of character, benevolence not ambition in disguise, talent not another word for tyranny, wealth not a means of seduction, power not despotism; where all talents, qualities, powers, are on the contrary, subject to the same forms, bound by the same oath, bowed, without humiliation, beneath the bonds of equality. This is what is seen among Masons; for, united under the same banner, subject to the same sign, the same word, they practise among themselves the rules of a primi-

tive morality, of civic obligations, of brotherly love, devotedness, concord, and of peace; taking for their motto and rule of action that fine sentence of Sallust:—

‘Firmanda sunt concordia homi, et discordia malis expellenda.’”

During an invocation chorus, from Mozart’s “Mysteries of Isis,” the children accompanied by the godfathers and godmothers entered. Bro. Hedges, Grand Chaplain of Louisiana, then offered up an appropriate prayer which was followed by an appropriate hymn in the French language written for the occasion. The ceremony of adoption was then commenced; it was partly in French and partly in English.

The W.M. said—“As once before I told you the principal object of this day’s solemnities is to bestow the rite of Masonic Baptism on the children of some of our beloved brethren; in other words to lay thus far in advance the foundations for the strength and durability of our institution, by imparting the influence of the principles of our Order to the minds of these youths. But to attain so desirable a result we must not be content, my brethren, with their simple adoption among us. Our institution tends eminently to civilization and must bestow on these children all the resources of education. And while surrounding them here with the care and tenderness required by their age we must teach them the rules of obedience, labour, order, and justice—we must teach them to become men useful to themselves and useful to others. Let them learn at an early age that they cannot reach that position except through useful labour which will place them above want, and persevering labour which will give them strength to overcome the evil chances of life. Let us make them understand that without order all things languish and perish. Finally, let us teach them that justice requires them to be kind to their fellow man as to themselves, and that the more a man acquires by his labour the more means he creates to enlarge his sphere of action, and the more succour he should bestow on those who have been more unfortunate than himself; for the maxim of humanity is, “labour justice, and order.”

The W.M. then turning to the godfathers said,—“Brethren what seek you of us?” One of the godfathers, Bro. Stelle, replied,—“We come to ask for these children of our brethren light and protection.”

W.M.—“You are welcome, my brethren. Receive our thanks. Praise is due to you for having thought of appealing to our feelings of fraternity and charity. My young friends, may your first steps in the temple be guided by the dazzling brilliancy of the purest light. May it be as clear to your sight as later we will make it to your intellect; let the dark veil which the world of error wishes to throw around you for ever disappear before the brilliant star of Masonry.”

W.M.—“Brother Master of the Ceremonies, place these lowtons at the altar with their godfather. Bro. Senior Warden, why do Masons meet thus together?”

S.W.—“To endeavour to restore the good seed to earth.”

W.M.—“Brother Junior Warden, in what manner do Masons labour to realize this great end?”

J.W.—“By making use of those means contained in friendly persuasion and pure example.”

W.M.—“Brother Senior Warden, what should a Mason teach?”

S.W.—“He must teach the divine morality that, ‘You should do unto others what you would they should do unto you.’ As an application of this maxim and its results, we look upon all men as our equals and our brethren; we ever persist in attacking pride, error, and prejudice; we struggle against

ignorance, the chief cause of the world's miseries; we recommend reciprocal justice, thanks to which the rights and interests of each are protected; tolerance, which leaves each man's mind free; patience, which enables us to endure with resignation those sufferings against which all other efforts are powerless; we love all men, the rich, the poor, the weak, the powerful, the wise and the ignorant; we pity him who has erred, whatever be his condition, and we endeavour to bring him back to the true path; we come with all our power to the assistance of the afflicted and unfortunate; for us man and the material pleasures have no other attractions than that which results from the normal condition of man and his inevitable position in this world; in our age the rewards to be conquered and preserved are above all the esteem and affection of our fellow men, together with that honour and virtue which bestows on the soul those infinite pleasures that are alone worthy of being enjoyed beneath the eye of the G.A.O.T.U."

W.M.—“Godfathers, you know the evils that afflict the world, the objects and labour of Masonry have been recalled to you; do you still persist in asking admission into our family of these lowtons?”

Godfather.—“We do.”

W.M.—“Do you promise for them that they will endeavour to vanquish their passions, that they will labour for our objects and laws, never let themselves be corrupted by companionship with bad men, nor ever obey other men without first inquiring of themselves—‘Is this just and reasonable;’ and that they will always be willing to sacrifice their personal interests for the general good.”

Godfathers.—“We promise all this.”

The children were then presented to the W.M., and as he dipped the left hands of the children in water he said to them, “May your hands be ever pure; may they never shed human blood; let it never be said of them that they deprived a fellow being of what was justly his, nor of having written word injurious to your fellow men.” He then placed round their necks the Lodge jewel, and said, “May this medal—which is an emblem of that unity which we all, as members of this Lodge always profess—always recall to your minds the promises made in your name this day. Receive also the kiss of peace as a pledge of our unalterable affection, and also the name of son, which will be your title among us till we call you brother. After kissing them he said, “My young friends, your hearts are, doubtless, touched on seeing yourselves the object of such interest on our parts; forget nothing of what you have this day heard and seen; endeavour to merit the inscription of your name beside those of the illustrious brethren who honour the Masonic Order.”

On behalf of himself and the other children, young E. Fahrembach recited a beautiful poem written for the occasion, and as soon as the young gentleman had concluded, the W.M. again embraced him, and hung round his neck by a blue ribbon a small trowel, emblematical of tolerance. He then made an appropriate address to the mothers of the children, after which he put on their fingers a gold “alliance ring,” with these words engraved on the inside “*La Loge Foyer Maçonnique, No. 44, à la Sauc—Fevrier, 1859,*” saying, “May this ring recall to you, as to us, your future steps in the Masonic temple; always remember what you have seen and heard. Henceforth, Masonry can have no secrets for you, you know her laws, obligations, &c., be then satisfied, dear sisters, for this name which it gives us pleasure to bestow on you makes us feel that there cannot exist true fraternity and happiness unless accompanied by the presence of woman.”

He then addressed the godfathers, after which, one of them replied, and the W.M. placing his hands on the children's heads confirmed them in



Masonic adoption, and proclaimed them lowtons of the Lodge, and invited all the brethren on all occasions to give them aid and protection. There were sixteen thus adopted. The ceremonies were then ended by an eloquent address in French, by Bro. J. M. Hernandez. The entire ceremonies of the day passed off with great *éclat*, and the hand of that eloquent brother and champion of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, Ill. Bro. Chas. Loffon de Ladebat, 33°, was visible throughout the whole proceedings. That he may live long to enjoy the fruit of the trees planted that evening, is the sincere prayer of his numerous friends.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
F. W.

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THE CURSE OF AVARICE.

I.

What man in his wits had not rather be poor,  
That for lucre his freedom to give?  
Ever busy the means of his life to secure,  
And so, ever neglecting to live.

II.

Environed from morning till night in a crowd,  
Not a moment unbent or alone;  
Constrained to be abject, though never so proud,  
And at every one's call but his own.

III.

Still repining, and longing for quiet each hour,  
Yet studiously flying it still;  
With the means of enjoying his wish in his power,  
But accursed in his wanting it still.

IV.

For a year must be passed, or a day must be come  
Before he has leisure to rest;  
He must add to his store this or that pretty sum,  
And then will have time to be blest.

V.

But his gains, more bewitching the more they increase,  
Only swell the desires of his eye,  
Such a wretch let mine enemy live, if he please—  
Let not even mine enemy die!

## CORRESPONDENCE.

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[THE EDITOR *does not hold himself responsible for any opinions entertained by Correspondents.*]

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BRO. THORNTON HERAPATH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Allow me to correct a slight inaccuracy in the very interesting memoir of the late Bro. Thornton J. Herapath, contained in the last number of your magazine. You therein state that Bro. Dr. Wm. Bird Herapath is at present W.M. of the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality. This is not correct, the Lodge of which he is now the W.M. being the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 986. Bro. W. B. Herapath was initiated, and has served the office of J.W. in the Royal Sussex Lodge.

I am, dear Sir and brother, yours fraternally,

CHAS. HOSKINS LOW,

W.M., Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, No. 221.

Clifton, 2nd April, 1859.

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## THE MARK DEGREE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It may suit the views of the *Observer* party, who are so largely embarked in the English Bon Accord Mark speculation, to "deplore" the continued issue by the Grand Chapter of Scotland of warrants to brethren in this country who are desirous of forming Lodges on a basis which shall be just, perfect, and regular; but to those Brethren so situated and interested in the Mark Degree, the granting of such warrants by the Scottish Supreme Chapter was accepted as a great boon—tempered only by a natural regret, which was felt by all, that our own authorities should have so inconceivably slighted an ancient degree, which it was their interest and duty to restore to the Craft. There was a time when those who are now so obnoxiously known by the above title, could by perseverance have achieved this desirable result in Grand Lodge, had their efforts been solely directed for the benefit of the Craft. But alas! by some

fatuity they missed their opportunity, and contented themselves with the formation of an "English Grand Mark Lodge," which has been, and will be, barren and useless in the endeavour to establish unanimity with the great body of Masons hailing under the United Grand Lodge of England.

To your correspondent signing himself "Δ" (if one of the English Mark) I would recommend a little more reflection, if not a little more modesty on the subject; for the right of an authorized body like the supreme Chapter of Scotland to grant warrants for the Mark in England (where the supreme Masonic heads at present refuse to recognise it) must be clear and indisputable.

But if "Δ" be a recreant from a Scotch Lodge established in England, it will be perfectly unnecessary to hold argument with him, let him rather remember the stringent nature of his obligations and for evermore keep silence on the question.

No, sir; whenever it shall please Grand Lodge to re-establish the Mark degree, you will hear no more of Scottish authority in this realm, for the Scotch charters are limited to that period.

But until then, be assured, no other authority will be deemed legitimate or possible by hundreds of Mark Masters in this country, to whom a second Grand Lodge for Masonic purposes is distasteful, and it is thought inexpedient, constituting an *imperium in imperio* to which all Freemasons should be strongly opposed.

I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,  
P.(Mk.)M.

## MASONIC IMPOSTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I beg leave to caution the brethren against two impostors professing to belong to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 126, Kilmarnock, Scotland, who, I have no doubt, will be able to impose upon the unwary, as they have done to some extent upon me, although I suspected them both at the time I relieved them. The first, named Robert J—, called upon me about two years ago, and had a document purporting to be a private Lodge certificate, apparently signed by the Master, Wardens, &c., of the above Lodge, and dated 4th July, 1855, the particulars of which I took down, intending to write to the R.W.M. of such Lodge, but it at the time escaped my attention, and only came into my mind on Tuesday last, when a person calling himself Robert C—, and producing what purported to be a private Lodge certificate, dated 4th July, 1850, signed by C. Brown, as R.W. Master; Matthew Neil, S.W.; Wm. Hyslop, J.W.; James Black, Sec., with a red wax seal attached, which I suspected at the time. (and have no doubt of now), had been impressed from a mould taken from another impression.

However, I relieved the man, after having shown him that I suspected him, and wrote by the next post to the Master of the Lodge he professed to belong to, and yesterday morning I received a letter from the R.W.M., from which I extract the following:—"There has been no private Lodge certificate granted to any brother for many years, consequently the two you mention must have been forged or altered from some very old ones.

I had a communication from our Grand Secretary some time ago concerning Robert C——, who was wishing to get a Grand Lodge diploma; his name could not be found on our books, and none of the oldest members could recollect any person of that name, so I have no doubt his request would be refused. As for Robert J——, such a party never belonged to St. Andrew's, Kilmarnock," &c. The R.W.M. also suggests that the certificate should be destroyed, and that it is a pity any private Lodge diploma is granted at all, &c.

If the endorsements on the back of C——'s certificate be not counterfeits also, he appears to have imposed upon other brethren, amongst whom the W.M. of the Northern Counties Lodge, No. 586.

It is suggested by several brethren, and by yourself, I believe, amongst the number, never to relieve any person who has not a Grand Lodge certificate, but I have known impostors have such certificates, and they have been able to obtain relief from some generous brethren; and, if I mistake not (but I cannot just now spare the time to search up correspondence), I have known brethren apply for relief without Grand Lodge certificates who have afterwards been found to be worthy, so that brethren should exercise a great deal of judgment and be allowed certain discretion in granting relief. I certainly would advise, as a rule, that none should be relieved who do not possess the Grand Lodge certificate, but, like all other rules, I think it may, in some cases, be departed from. I send you my name as a guarantee of good faith, and remain,

Yours fraternally,

April 1st, 1859.

A P.M. OF FOURTEEN YEARS' STANDING.

## SONNET.

BY BRO. GEO. MARKHAM TWEDDELL. \*

Not among smoke of busy, crowded town,  
 ¶ Where manufactures for the world are made,  
 And man's best nature seems all trodden down  
 To suit the vile necessities of trade—  
 Has my life's Spring been past: but I have learnt  
 To gaze upon each mountain, brook, and plain,  
 With poet's rapture; and my soul would fain  
 Attempt a task for which it long has burnt  
 With the unquenched fire of holy zeal,—  
 To chant the beauties of my native vale,  
 Preserve each legend, and record each tale  
 That aged greybeards, e'en from sire to son,  
 Have told, of love despised, or battle won,  
 And add my mite unto the public weal.

\* Author of "Shakspeare, his Times and Contemporaries," &c.

## THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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### MASONIC MEMS.

THE installation of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Derbyshire, the Marquis of Hartington, is appointed to take place at the Royal Hotel, Derby, on the 30th inst.

THE annual Prov. Grand Lodge for West Yorkshire will be holden in the Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, the 13th instant, at eleven o'clock.

THE R.W. Prov. Grand Master for Kent, Bro. Purton Cooper, will hold a meeting of his grand officers, at Canterbury, on Monday, May 16th, preliminary to the annual Grand Lodge, which, with the accompanying festival, will be held at Margate on Monday, the 20th June, the anniversary of her Majesty's accession to the throne. On the previous Saturday, the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, a new Lodge will be consecrated by the Prov. Grand Master, at Deal.

THE Grand Chapter of K.H., 30°, will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday next, the 12th inst.

WE are requested to state that the annual banquet of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, which regularly meets every Wednesday evening, at Bro. Wadson's, Bengal Arms, Birchin lane, will take place on the 13th inst, when Bro. Brewer, the W.M. of the parent Lodge will preside.

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### ROYAL FREEMASONS' GIRLS SCHOOL.

A SPECIAL meeting of the governors and subscribers to this institution was held at the offices in Great Queen-street, on Thursday, the 31st inst., Bro. Udall, P.G.S.B. in the chair, to take into consideration the report of the sub-committee on the means of promoting the interests of this Institution, and the Boys School and the following recommendations contained therein :—

1. That each province be requested to form a committee, to be called "The Provincial Committee of the Province of \* \* \* \* \* for promoting the interests of the Masonic Schools," (or, if the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution should wish to be included, "of the Four Masonic Charities.")
2. That such committee do consist of a member of each Lodge in the province, to be annually elected or re-elected by the Lodge on the night of installation of W.M.
3. That each Lodge be requested to transmit to the Secretary of each School (or Charity) the name, title, and address of the brother so appointed.

4. That the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master, be requested to take the offices of President and Vice-President of such committee.
5. That the said Provincial Committee be requested to hold a general meeting at least once a year, and to present to the Provincial Grand Lodge a report showing the results of the labours of its members individually and collectively.

After a short conversation it was resolved, on the motion of Bro. Hopwood, S.G.D., seconded by Bro. C. Purton Cooper, Prov. G.M. for Kent, "That the report be approved; and this Court being much impressed with the importance of uniform action on the part of the supporters of the Institution throughout the country, earnestly recommend the brethren in the provinces to adopt the suggestions offered on page 9 (given above) of the printed report."

It was also resolved, on the motion of Bro. Symonds, seconded by Bro. Cooper, "That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted to the M.W.G.M., and that his lordship be respectfully solicited to forward it to the R.W. Prov. Grand Masters, with a request that they will take the subject into their serious consideration, and bring the resolution and report under the notice of the brethren of their respective provinces, either at a Provincial Grand Lodge, or in such other way as they may deem most fitting."

A vote of thanks to Bro. Udall for presiding, closed the proceedings.

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#### ROYAL MASONIC BOYS SCHOOL.

ON the afternoon of the same day a Special Court of the governors and subscribers of this Institution was held under the presidency of Bro. G. Barrett, V.P., and similar resolutions agreed to.

#### THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

THE Anniversary Festival was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday last, March 30th. The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. Lord Panmure, R.W.D.G.M., supported by Bros. Bowyer, Prov. G.M., Oxfordshire; C. P. Cooper, Prov. G.M., Kent; Hammond, Prov. G.M., Jersey; B. Bond Cabbell, Prov. G.M., Norfolk; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; W. P. Scott, S.G.D.; Hopwood, J.G.D.; Potter, P.G.D.; Evans, P.G.S.B.; Le Veau, P.G.S.B.; Walmisley, P.G.S.B.; Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; F. Slight, Prov. G.W., Surrey; Shaw, P. Prov. G.W., West Yorkshire; Job Austen, Prov. G. Orgt., Essex; Col. Western; Ald. Rose; Frederic Ledger, F. Crew, G. Barrett, F. Binckes, Stuart, Head, Z. Watkins, Herapath, Symonds, and about one hundred and eighty other brethren.

At the conclusion of the dinner, which was most admirably served,

The R.W.D.G.M. rose and said, on quitting the labour of refreshment he would ask them to join with him in giving utterance to those sentiments of loyalty and charity which he was convinced pervaded their meeting that evening. He had risen to propose to them to drink the health of "Her Gracious Majesty, the Patroness of the Masonic School for Boys." In giving that toast he need not appeal to their loyalty to the ladies, because one great characteristic of Freemasonry was loyalty to them as well as to their sovereign. He called upon them to drink the health of Her Majesty with that respect and love which was due to her as their Queen and as patroness of their institution—he called upon them to drink her health in her private and domestic capacity as a wife and a mother, and he called upon them to drink to her health as the first lady in the land, as setting a bright example to her sex, which was held most dear by every Mason. (Applause.)

The next toast was "H.R.H. the Prince Consort and the rest of the Royal Family." In proposing this toast the R.W.D.G.M. said that, as regarded the Prince Consort, he felt that from the moment of his royal highness's arrival in this country no one had been actuated by a more earnest desire to make himself a useful subject of the realm. They all knew how assiduously and with what success he had exerted himself to promote the useful arts, and everything which could aid the industry of the people. With reference to the Prince of Wales, their future sovereign—though he trusted at a very distant day—he should observe that he had recently entered the service of his country by joining the army, whilst his brother, Prince Alfred, had entered the navy—both devoting themselves to those services to which the country owed so much, and to which she looked for protection in the hour of necessity and danger. As one was now in the centre of Europe—in a city illustrious for its learning and the arts—whilst the other, he believed, was somewhere in the antipodes, he was sure they would wish them every prosperity, and should circumstances require it, that they might display that true English spirit which had ever distinguished the members of their illustrious family, whether in the army or the navy. (Cheers).

The R.W.D.G.M. said he had now to ask the brethren to drink to the health of a nobleman who was at the head of Freemasonry in England—the M.W.G.M. the Earl of Zetland. (Cheers). He was extremely gratified to hear them so warmly receive the name of the noble earl, as it proved to him the estimation in which the noble earl was held by the Masons of England over whom he so worthily presided. He had been much pained of late to see some attempts made to depreciate the value of the services of the noble earl by a few members of the Craft. He believed their numbers, however, were very few, and that the majority of the brethren held him in the highest esteem for his valuable services and the support which he had given to their various charities. He was convinced that the noble earl held his office from no selfish motives, but from a sincere desire to advance the interests of the Order. Their Grand Master held his office in virtue of the free election of the Masons of England, and he was convinced that it was his earnest desire to do everything in his power to promote the interests of the Order, *not only in England, but throughout the world*, without reference to any personal consideration but that of being as extensively useful as possible to his brother Masons. (Cheers).

Bro. Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M. for Oxfordshire, rose with great pleasure to propose the next toast, though he could have wished it had been placed in the hands of some brother who could have done greater justice to it. He felt, however, that very few words would be required from him to induce the brethren to give it a warm and cordial reception. The noble brother whose health he was about to propose had devoted his time, his high position, and great talents, not only to the service of his country but to promote the best interests of Freemasonry. He need only mention the name of the R.W.D.G.M., who so ably presided over them that evening, and who so ably performed his duties in Grand Lodge, to ensure for the toast a cordial reception. They owed to the R.W.D.G.M. a deep debt of gratitude for presiding over the meeting of that evening, and he trusted that their contributions in aid of the object for which they had met would be such as would be gratifying to him as compensating for his labour, whilst it evinced the estimation in which his lordship, as well as the charity was held by the Craft. He called upon them to drink to the health of the Rt. Hon. Lord Panmure, R.W.D.G.M. (Cheers).<sup>5</sup>

The R.W.D.G.M. returned thanks for the handsome manner in which his health had been proposed and responded to, assuring the Brethren that he regretted circumstances had prevented his paying that close attention to his duties in Grand Lodge he could have wished; but he could truly state that he was not the less anxious to promote the good of Freemasonry, or to assist in aiding their charities. He believed that there was no period in the history of the world when Masonry was more highly estimated than at present, and that no charities were more nobly supported than those of the Masons of England. He was proud of the name of a Mason, and of the distinguished position he held as Deputy Grand Master of England. He would now, with their permission, drink to the health of the brethren present, and to the happiness and prosperity of every Mason, from the highest to the humblest in the land. (Applause).

The R.W.D.G.M. again rose, and asked the brethren to join him in drinking to the health of the Prov. Grand Masters, and to the Grand Officers, past and present, without whom the business of Grand Lodge could not be transacted. He felt that the Prov. Grand Masters and Officers were a most useful body, as it was to their zeal and intelligence they were mainly indebted for the high position which Freemasonry held in England.

Bro. Capt. Bowyer, Prov. G.M., Oxon., acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the delight that he and the Grand Officers by whom he was surrounded experienced at having the opportunity of being present that evening and supporting their noble chairman in his endeavours to promote the interests of a charity in which they must all feel the deepest interest. He knew from his experience in Grand Lodge how anxious the Grand Officers were for the promotion of the interests of the Craft, and their attendance at the various festivals showed the interest they took in the prosperity of their charities. The Prov. Grand Masters and the brethren generally he was sure were equally anxious to promote those interests, and to fulfil the duties of their respective positions to the utmost of their power and ability.

The report of the committee having been read, a number of the boys were introduced into the room, and ranged in front of the dais.

The R.W.D.G.M. said he now rose to propose a toast which, after the interesting spectacle they had just witnessed, of the young boys entering the room, he was sure would require very few words from him to recommend to their notice, it being what was generally called the toast of the evening. He felt sure that they were all most anxious to respond to the toast, and he should therefore detain them with but few observations. One of the peculiar objects of Freemasonry was to cultivate the practice of virtue, and more especially that crowning virtue, charity. There was no charity more important than that of affording a good and sound education to the children of their poorer Brethren, who, from misfortune, were themselves prevented doing so. It had been truly said that there was no more important legacy to the young, and no greater blessing in their power to bestow than that of educating the child, so that when he entered the world he might not only be enabled to provide for himself, but, should they require it, to aid his parents in the decline of life. Formerly they only educated and clothed the sons of Masons, but within the last few years efforts had been made to obtain a school-house, in which twenty-five of the boys were educated, and it was hoped that within a very short time the whole seventy whom they now educated might be brought under one roof. It seemed that an opinion some time since got abroad that the benefits of the institution extended little beyond the metropolis; but it was not so, and it had been shown that it was open to all the Craft, and that the children of the brethren in the provinces were equally cared for with those of the metropolis. He was pleased also to find that the brethren of the provinces were now beginning to take a greater interest in the prosperity of the charities than they had formerly appeared to do; and he was sure that with their united efforts, their institutions would be placed at the head of the various noble charities which adorned the country. It was the more important that they should extend to the children of their brethren the advantages of a good education—because he would remind them, and now he spoke to the boys themselves—that owing to the free constitution of this country, there was no man having the talent and the determination to make his way, there was no position, however dignified, which a subject could hold, to which he might not aspire—and even some of the children then before them might arrive some day at the distinguished position of Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master of England. In proposing success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, he would ask to be allowed to couple with it the name of Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell, their Treasurer. He was sure there was no one to be found who had devoted himself more thoroughly to the promotion of works of charity than Bro. Cabbell, and it was his earnest hope that he might long be spared to be amongst them, and add dignity to their Order, whilst, by taking care of their funds, he greatly benefitted the charity.

The toast having been received with loud applause, Bro. B. B. Cabbell, Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk, and Treasurer of the Boys School, thanked



the R.W. Deputy Grand Master for the handsome manner in which he had connected his name with the last toast, and the brethren for the very kind and affectionate manner in which they had received it. He could assure them that he had ever taken the greatest interest in the prosperity of the institution, and of the children who were educated in it. The noble president of the evening having alluded to an impression that had gone abroad, that a greater preference was given to the children of metropolitan brethren than those of the provinces, he might be allowed to state that two-thirds of the children educated by the institution had come from the country, whilst it had been mainly supported in its efficiency by the London brethren. He was gratified to find that exertions were making, as far as possible, to bring the whole seventy boys on the funds of the institution under one roof, and he trusted that speedy success would attend the efforts of the committee.

The R.W.D.G.M. then proceeded to distribute the medals and prizes to the boys whose names are given at the close of this account, addressing to each some appropriate remarks. In addressing the first, by name Crichton, his lordship reminded him that there was formerly a countryman of his who bore the same name, and who so far excelled in everything he undertook, that he obtained the title of the Admirable Crichton. It was not to be expected that the youth he was addressing should excel in everything, but it gave him great pleasure to see his name in the report of the examiner; and he reminded him that if he only persevered after leaving school in the course which he had so well entered upon, he might fairly look for honours and rewards which all present would rejoice to see him receive. The noble lord exhorted the boys generally to habits of obedience, punctuality, and attention to their studies as the surest and most enduring aid to prosperity in their future career in life.

The R.W.D.G.M. proposed "The Vice-Presidents, Trustees, General Committee, House Committee, and Auditors of Accounts," which toast was acknowledged by Bro. Binckes, as a member of the House Committee.

The R.W.D.G.M. next gave "The Royal Freemasons' Girls' School and the Benevolent Annuity Fund, coupled with the name of Bro. Crew, the indefatigable Secretary of the Girls' School," who he was glad to see amongst them in renewed health. He should never forget the support which he gave him (Lord Pamnure) when he presided at the festival for that school, or the liberal response which was made by the brethren to his appeal on behalf of the institution. He could not resume his seat without announcing to the brethren that the festival for the Girls' School was fixed for the 11th of May, when the chair would be filled by their noble brother, the Earl of Ripon.

Bro. Crew, who was loudly applauded, expressed his gratitude to the brethren for the very handsome response to the toast, and to his lordship for the very kind manner in which he had coupled his name with it. He was proud to find how nobly they continued to support the charitable institutions of the Order, all four of the funds appearing to command a fair share of their favour. It was only about two months since they had subscribed upwards of £2,000 for the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Masons and their Widows; he believed a somewhat similar amount would be announced for the Boys' School that day, and he trusted that he should see all their faces at the Festival of the Girls' School in May, and have the honour of announcing an equally liberal subscription on behalf of that institution. The great object of his life was to promote the interests of that school, which he strongly exhorted all the brethren to visit, for though the distance to and fro might be something like twelve miles, they could easily reach the school in ten minutes from the Waterloo station.

The list of subscriptions was then read, headed by the name of Her Majesty for £10 10s., and amounting in the whole to £1,851, with three lists to come in. The combined lists of Bros. Shaw, No. 342, and Batley, No. 937, (Stewards for West Yorkshire), amounted to £306.

The R.W.D.G.M., in announcing the amount of the subscriptions, specially commended the exertions of the brethren of West Yorkshire, whom he considered entitled to the warmest thanks of the company, and felt that he could only say to the other provinces "Go ye and do likewise."

"The Health of the Ladies" was then given, and responded to by Bro. F. Cossens, of No. 605, who had officiated as one of the ladies' stewards. He assured the noble lord in the chair and the brethren, that the ladies were extremely pleased by the arrangements made for their accommodation, and at observing how nobly the institution, in which they took the greatest interest was supported by the brethren.

The list of Bro. Cossens, as representative of No. 605, Dorchester, amounted to £39 15s.

The health of the stewards having been drunk, the company separated; the excellent example of the stewards of the Royal Benevolent Institution, in January last, in dispensing with the glee room, being followed on this occasion, to the evident satisfaction of all parties concerned.

The musical arrangements, under the direction of Br. Donald King, were of more than usual excellence, and included the talents of Bros. Francis, Winn, and Lawler; Mrs. Gilbert, Misses Susanna Cole, Lefler, and Eyles. Bro. Count Montemerli, of No. 4, volunteered his valuable assistance, and delighted the brethren by his excellent vocalization.

The following is the annual report of the Committee with that of the Examiner of the boys in the school, circulated in the course of the evening.

"In presenting to the subscribers the annual statement of receipts and expenditure, the Committee cannot but congratulate themselves and the supporters of the Institution generally on the success which has attended their efforts during the past year—the amount received being larger than that of any former year. The Committee must regard this as the best evidence of the approval by the Craft at large, of the steps they have taken with a view to improve the efficiency of the establishment and to extend, as far as possible, the benefits it is so well calculated to afford. The future remains with the brethren who have never been appealed to in vain when their support has been solicited, and who, it is confidently hoped, will at the ensuing festival not only renew, but increase, the assistance which the Committee now so gratefully acknowledge.

"Plans for the extension and enlargement of the present building have been submitted to your Committee, by the adoption of which adequate accommodation may be provided for seventy boys, and they feel sure that the members of the Craft will at once recognize the manifest advantage of having the whole of the boys on the Institution (or so many of them whose parents shall sanction their admission) under one roof, and under the control and direction of an adequate staff of masters, &c., who will be directly responsible to the executive into whose hands the management of the school is annually entrusted. The estimated cost of the contemplated enlargement is £1,500.

"5th March, 1859.

(Signed)

JOHN HERVEY, Chairman."

The balance sheet for 1858 shows the total revenue for the year (including £493 15s. 10d. brought forward from the previous account) to have been £2810 16s. 1d., and the expenditure £2,130 4s. 3d. £100 Stock had been purchased at a cost of £385, and there remained in hand on 30th December a balance of £295 11s. 10d.

"To the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

"Brethren,—Having undertaken for the first time the examination of the boys connected with your institution, I have much pleasure in sending you the accompanying classification of them, and report.

"Besides written papers, I subjected each boy separately to a *vivâ voce* examination, and consider that I gained much by this plan, as it enabled me to come to a much more correct conclusion as to the merits of the different candidates, than I could otherwise have done. Some of the boys acquitted themselves very well indeed, especially Crichton and Guanzirali; some of the others, however, very indifferently. The subject in which there was the greatest deficiency was arithmetic; this was badly done by *all*,—several of the boys not answering, or trying to answer, one single question. The spelling also was generally bad.

"I have put two boys as equal for the writing prize. I thought the merits of the writing they brought with them equal, and therefore gave them an exercise to write during the examination; this, however, led to the same result as before. I therefore recommend them both for prizes.

"I would take the liberty of suggesting, in conclusion, that an assistant master be appointed as soon as possible at Lordship Lodge, as I do not think that one is sufficient. I would also recommend that examinations of the boys under instruction there, be held more frequently than at present (say one every three months). Also that a prize should be instituted for general good conduct during the year.

"I award the prizes as follows:—Arithmetic, Crichton; General Knowledge, Guanzioli; Geography, Guanzioli; History, Ward; Writing, Crichton and Robinson.

"The arithmetical examination I left solely in the hands of Mr. J. P. Tuck.

"Should my suggestion of instituting additional examinations at Lordship Lodge be adopted, I will willingly undertake the office of examiner for the present year, and would visit the school for the purpose of examining the boys, on the days following the Quarterly Communications at Grand Lodge.

"I remain, Brethren, yours faithfully,

"March 15th, 1859.

"ARTHUR R. WARD, M.A., Grand Chaplain.

"ARITHMETIC.—First Division Prize Crichton. "Second Division Prize, Stean.

"WRITING.—Equal, Prizes Crichton, \*Robinson.

"GEOGRAPHY.—\*Guanzioli, Crichton; \*Lang, Mackey, equal; \*Ward, \*Robinson, Bennett, \*Fountain, \*Smellie, Willis, \*McLaren; Speight, Wiber, equal; \*Fisher; \*Reeder, \*Bolton, \*Feddon, Johnson, equal; Stean, Meyer, Bonorardi. Three not classed.

"HISTORY.—\*Ward, Crichton; \*Lang, \*Robinson, equal; Mackey, \*Guanzioli, \*Smellie, Bennett, \*McLaren, \*Feddon, Wiber; \*Fisher, Willis, equal; Speight, \*Fountain, \*Bolton, \*Roach. Eight not classed.

"GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.—\*Guanzioli, \*Robinson, Crichton; \*Lang, Mackey, equal; \*Ward, Willis, \*McLaren, \*Feddon, Bennett, \*Smellie, \*Bolton, \*Fisher, \*Fountain; Johnson, Meyer, equal; \*Roach, Speight, Stean, \*Reeder. Four not classed.

"The Boys under instruction at Lordship Lodge, are distinguished by (\*)."

## METROPOLITAN.

### APPOINTMENTS.

*Wednesday, April 6th.*—Lodges, Westminster and Keystone (10), Freemasons' Tavern; Florence Nightingale (1,003), Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich.

*Thursday, 7th.*—Lodges Egyptian (29), George and Blue Boar; Strong Man (53), Falcon Tavern; Good Report (158), Radley's Hotel; Lion and Lamb (227), Bridge House Hotel; Ionic (275), Ship and Turtle; St. Andrew's (281), Freemasons' Tavern; Yarborough (312), George, Commercial-road East; Crystal Palace (1044), Crystal Palace. *Chapters.*—St. James's (2), Freemasons' Tavern; Moriah (9), Thatched House.

*Friday, 8th.*—Lodges, Caledonian (150), Ship and Turtle; Bedford (183), Freemasons' Tavern; Union (195), London Tavern; High Cross (1056), Railway Tavern, Northumberland Park, Tottenham.

*Saturday, 9th.*—Lodge, Phoenix (202), Freemasons' Tavern.

*Monday, 11th.*—Lodges, George and Corner Stone (5), Freemasons' Tavern; Fortitude and Old Cumberland (12), ditto; St. Alban's (32), London Coffee House; Domestic (206), Falcon Tavern; Confidence (228), Anderton's Hotel; St. Andrew's East (269), London Tavern.

*Tuesday, 12th.*—Lodges, Burlington (113), Albion Tavern; St. James's Union (211), Freemasons' Tavern; Percy (234), Ship and Turtle; Israel (247), Bridge House Hotel; St. Michael's (255), George and Blue Boar; United Strength (276), Old Jerusalem Tavern, Clerkenwell; Nine Muses (286), Freemasons' Tavern; Wellington (305), Lord Duncan, Deptford. *Chapter.*—Jerusalem (218), Dick's Coffee House.

*Wednesday, 13th.*—Lodges, Fidelity (3), Freemasons' Tavern; Enoch (11), ditto; Union of Waterloo (13), Freemasons' Tavern, Woolwich; Kent (15), Three Tuns, Southwark; Royal Athelstan (19), George and Blue Boar; Royal Naval (70), Freemasons' Tavern; Vitruvian (103), White Hart Tavern, Lambeth; Eastern Star (112), Old Globe, Mile End Road; Justice (172), Royal Albert, Deptford; Pilgrim (289), Ship and Turtle; Zetland (762), Adam and Eve, Kensington. Committee Royal Benevolent Institution, at 3.

*Thursday, 14th.*—Lodges, Friendship (6), Thatched House; Regularity (108), Freemasons' Tavern; Friendship (248), Ship and Turtle; Bank of England (329), Radley's Hotel; Polish (778), Freemasons' Tavern; Canonbury (955), Canonbury Tavern, Islington. Quarterly Committee Girls School, at 12.

*Friday, 15th.*—Lodge, Jordan (237), Freemasons' Tavern. *Chapter.*—Moira (109), London Tavern.

*Saturday, 16th.*—Lodge, Honour and Generosity (149), London Tavern.

[The appointments of Lodges of Instruction appear in the last number of each month.]

**NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).**—At the regular meeting of this Lodge, held on Thursday, March 31st, at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge-street, there were present Bro. Robert Farran, W.M.; Bro. Boughey, S.W.; Bro. Pratt, J.W.; Bros. Partridge, Wilcox, Bone, Goodwin, Batty, P.M.s and others. Messrs. Augustus Great Rex, and Frederick Kent were initiated, Bro. Philpot was passed to the second degree, and Bro. Child raised to the degree of M.M., Bro. Farran performing the whole ceremonies in a manner that reflected high credit on his application to his duties in the Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Clark, P.M., in pursuance of notice, after a brief eulogium on Bro. Batty's ability, kindness, and courtesy, moved, "That the Lodge present to Bro. Batty a jewel bearing a suitable inscription, in acknowledgment of the able manner in which he performed the duties of Master of this Lodge during his year of office." This being seconded by Bro. Townend, P.M., and put from the chair, was carried *nem. con.* The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. There were present as visitors Bros. F. Crew, Past Grand Steward, J.H. Great Rex, No. 25; Dawbarn, W.M., No. 258; Jackson, P.M., No. 223, and C. Melson, No. 4, Dublin. Bro. Dawbarn in returning thanks for the visitors mentioned that the three Lodges in Norwich had arranged to meet on the first, second, and third Tuesdays in every month, and that on the fourth Tuesday a Lodge of Instruction, in which all the Lodges were united, was held.

**LODGE OF UNITY (No. 215).**—This Lodge met on Saturday, 26th March, at the London Tavern, when Bro. Muggeridge, P.M. and Treasurer, raised four brethren to the sublime degree of Master Mason in his usual impressive manner. The brethren afterwards proceeded to the election of their W.M. for the present year, their choice being unanimously in favour of the S.W. Bro. Fourdrinier, jun., and most gratifying it must have been to his father, an old P.M. of the Lodge, by whom he was initiated. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. Leo Berger, P.M., at the conclusion of which about thirty brethren adjourned to partake of a very elegant banquet, the usual toasts following, which were given in excellent style and feelingly responded to. Among the visitors we observed Bros. Lemanski, P.M., No. 778; Paas, No. 778; Scott, Cosens, &c. The W.M. was pleased to appoint Bros. Dodd, S.W.; Adams, J.W.; Hardwick, S.D.; Lupton, J.D.; Muggeridge, Treasurer; Speth, Secretary.

**PRESTON LODGE (1068).**—This Lodge met for the third time on Saturday, the 26th ult., at the Star and Garter Hotel, Putney, when Bro. W. H. Cole, S.W. (P.M. No. 996) took the chair in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Owen Bowen, W.M., and duly initiated Messrs. A. F. Jackson and J. Greathead into the mysteries and privileges of the Order, in which ceremony he was most ably assisted by Bro. S. E. Nutt, P.G. Steward, P.M., No. 32, who gave the explanation of the working tools and the charge with his usual ability and impressiveness. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree in due form, and Bros. A. Christie and E. Hutchins raised to the degree of Master Mason by Bro. A. Cole in his accustomed excellent manner; after which, the Lodge was again resumed in the first degree, and several questions were brought forward and discussed, not the least important of which was one by Bro. Blake, J.D. (W.M., No. 21) requiring all names of new members to be submitted to a committee consisting of the officers of the Lodge before being

placed in the summons, so that due caution might be exercised in the admission of members, and the unpleasant occurrence of black-balling prevented: this was carried unanimously and duly entered in the Lodge minutes. Some joining members were then proposed, and the Lodge closed with solemn prayer. The Brethren then proceeded to the banquet, and under the able presidency of the W.M., Bro. Owen Bowen, who had arrived in the mean time, spent a pleasant and social evening, enlivened by the excellent singing of the W.M. and others, including Bro. Cole who sang his new song "The Queen and the Craft" (music by Bro. M. Cooke) with considerable applause. This Lodge, established on the 22nd January last, has added very materially to its ranks, good men and true; and the W.M. has not only served as steward to the Boys Festival, but is also about to serve on behalf of the Girls School, on the 11th of May next. We heartily wish success to this new and flourishing Lodge, and doubt not that at some no very distant period we shall find it occupying a very high position in the Craft.

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## PROVINCIAL.

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### BRISTOL.

**APPOINTMENTS.**—*Lodges.*—Monday, April 11th, Royal Clarence (81), Freemasons' Hall, at 7; Tuesday, 12th, Jerusalem (986), ditto; Wednesday, 13th, Royal Sussex (221), ditto; Friday, 15th. *Instruction.*—Ditto, at 7½; Thursday, 14th. *Chapter.*—Clarence (81), ditto, at 7.

### CHANNEL ISLANDS.

**APPOINTMENT.**—*Lodge.*—Tuesday, April 12th, St. Ann's (863), New Street, Alderney, at 7.

**JERSEY.**—*Lodge La Césarée*, No. 860.—The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the 31st of March, being the first occasion since the proceedings in connexion with the funeral of the late lamented Past Master, Bro. Dr. Cuquemelle, which were fully recorded in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of the 30th ult. The Lodge was in mourning, but the marks of it were restricted within much more narrow limits than is usual in England, since the capitals of the columns on the pedestals were merely covered with black crape, and the brethren wore their usual decorations and aprons without any such covering. Whether this is the usual practice in Jersey we do not know, but certainly it is in accordance with the expressed desire of the deceased, when he said that "Death in itself is gloomy enough, without any additional blackness to make it more so." Outward signs, however, are frequently but empty show, and the more deep the grief is, the more does the heart shrink from ostentation in its display; such, it may unhesitatingly be affirmed, is the case in the present instance. In anticipation of a long and interesting meeting, the brethren assembled at five o'clock, when the Lodge was opened in the three degrees by the W.M. (or, as here styled, the *Venerable*) Bro. Le Cras, the chair of Senior Warden (or *Premier Surveillant*) being temporarily occupied by Bro. Schmit, P.M., till the arrival of Bro. Durell, the appointed officer. The duties of the evening being heavy, Bro. Schmit changed chairs with the W.M., with a view to afford him some relief, and raised two brethren to the sublime degree of Master Mason; at the conclusion of which, Bro. Le Cras, having again taken his chair in the East, resumed the Lodge in the first degree, when some routine business in connexion with accounts was transacted. By this time a large number of visitors and affiliated brethren had arrived, which caused the room to assume an animated appearance, not less than fifty being present. Mr. Vincent, a profane, was then balloted for as a candidate for Freemasonry at seven days' notice, since he is shortly about to leave Europe; and after a satisfactory report as to his eligibility, the votes being unanimous in his favour, he was duly initiated into the Order by the W.M. On this occasion, three excellent large tracing boards for the different

degrees were displayed for the first time, executed in truly artistic style, and presented for the use of the Lodge by the Orator, Bro. Ratier, P.M., of the first of which he availed himself, when called upon for the discharge of the duties of his office, by delivering the customary address and exhortation to the new apprentice. In this instance, Bro. Ratier seemed to excel himself, not only in point of eloquence, but as regards argument and reasoning, and the powers which he thus brought to bear upon the subject. The members present listened with almost breathless attention to a most interesting extempore address of nearly an hour's duration. After explaining carefully, intelligibly, and at full length, not in the customary verbal routine, but in his own forcible and original language, all the emblems depicted on the diagram, he declared his firm conviction of the high antiquity and universality of Freemasonry, for which he adduced ample evidence, and then entered into a learned historical disquisition on the revival of the science at the time of the Crusades, and on the peculiar forms which it assumed at that time in connexion with the Knights of St. John. He briefly traced Freemasonry from that period in its progress through the different countries of Europe, remarking the singular circumstance of its start from Scotland, and its extension thence through England and France towards its original seat in the east; and, having given his views on the proofs which may be brought forward in support of his opinions, expressed his regret that by the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of England, a large portion of the force and historical continuity of the science has been lost to that country; thus depriving its members of much that is grand and beautiful, and diminishing its value and importance as a study. He concluded with an earnest appeal to the newly initiated ever to act up to the principles of the Order, and assured them of the profit they would derive from its ardent and zealous pursuit. At the close of this address, of which our slight sketch can afford but a very faint idea, the W.M., having called upon his Director of Ceremonies, Bro. Asplet, and his Senior Deacon, Bro. Binet, to place the Orator in front of the pedestal, addressed him in a short but affectionate and feeling speech; and, after enumerating the services he had rendered to the Lodge, and the full appreciation which they could not but command, presented him in the name of the brethren with a handsome silver snuff box, bearing the following inscription:—"Au Frère Gustave Ratier, Orateur, témoignage d'estime, de reconnaissance, et d'affection, fraternelle, de la part de ses Frères, membres de la Loge La Césarée, No. 360. Jersey, 31 Mars, 1859." This substantial compliment was acknowledged by Bro. Ratier, briefly, but with deep emotion, in which the brethren marked their sympathy by loud and renewed acclamations. Several new candidates were proposed, and also two joining members, one of them having belonged to a Lodge in France, and the other being Bro. Peagam, a Past Master of the Royal Sussex, No. 722, from which he has lately seceded. The Lodge was then closed, and thus the interesting events of the evening terminated. Not being a member of La Césarée, but merely an occasional visitor, your present correspondent may, without impropriety, remark on the strict order and decorum which prevail in this Lodge, and on the correctness of the ceremonies, even to minute detail, with but very few exceptions, as given in the Lodge of Unions in London. This is mainly owing to the fact, that when the late Bro. Dr. Cuguemelle rendered it into French, the accuracy of the Jersey Lodges was perfect, as your correspondent distinctly remembers to have reported to his Lodge in England, on his return from a visit to this island seven years ago. In the other Lodges, some few ritualistic changes have since been made, which would now render such an observation incorrect with respect to them, though they are nevertheless well and efficiently worked. [Communicated by Bro. H. H.]

#### CHESHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—Lodges.—Wednesday, April 13th, Fidelity (623), White Hart, Flowery Field at 6; Thursday, 14th, Mersey (701), Angel Hotel, Birkenhead, at 5; Industry (465), Norfolk Arms, Hyde, at 7. Encampment.—Monday, 11th, St. Salem, Dog and Partridge Inn, Stockport.

#### CORNWALL.

APPOINTMENTS.—Lodges.—Tuesday, April 12th, Druids of Love and Liberality (859), Lodge Rooms, Redruth, at 7; Cornubian (659), Crotel's Hotel, Hayle, at 7.

## DERBYSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Devonshire (908), Norfolk Arms, Glossop, at 7.

## DEVONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Sun (123), Globe Hotel, Exmouth, at 5; Sincerity (224), St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, at 7; Wednesday, 13th, Fortitude (122), Prince George Hotel, Stonehouse, at 7. *Chapter*.—Thursday, April 14th, Fidelity (280), Three Tuus, Tiverton, at 7. *Encampment*.—Friday, 15th, Royal Veteran, Golden Fleece, Plymouth.

## DORSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Montague (963), Lion Inn, Lyme Regis, at 7; Thursday, 14th, Friendship and Sincerity (694), Town Hall, Shaftesbury, at 7.

## DURHAM.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, St. Hildas (292), Golden Lion Hotel, South Shields, at 7; Tuesday, 12th, St. John's (95), Phoenix Hall, Sunderland, at 7; Thursday, 14th, Palatine (114), Bridge Hotel, Bishop's Wearmouth. *Chapter*.—Thursday, 14th, Tees (749), Mason's Court, Stockton, at 6.

CONSECRATION OF THE HARBOUR OF REFUGE LODGE, NO. 1066, BY THE  
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

ON Thursday, the 31st ult., the Prov. Grand Lodge was holden at the Royal Hotel, West Hartlepool, by the R.W. Bro. John Fawcett, Prov. G.M., assisted by the Rev. Bro. Cunliffe as R.W.D. Prov. G.M.; R. B. Ridley as Prov. S.G.W.; John Shelly, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. John Kenyon, Prov. G. Chaplain; E. D. Davies, Prov. G.D.C.; B. Levy, Prov. S.G.D.; W. H. Crooks, Prov. G. Sec.; W. E. Franklin, Prov. J.G.D.; Rev. J. Milner, Prov. G. Treas., and many Past Grand Officers of the province. There were also present, Bros. C. J. Banister, W.M. No. 56, P.M.; Rickards, P.M., No. 78; J. Hodgson, P.M., No. 774; Rutherford, W.M., No. 959, and about one hundred and twenty brethren of the province. The prayer having been offered by the Rev. F. Kenyon, Prov. Grand Chaplain, an ode was performed by the choir and brethren, after which the ceremony of consecration was performed by the R.W. Prov. G.M. and Officers.

The W.M. and Officers of the new Lodge were next presented, and the Prov. G. Sec. read the petition and warrant. The Prov. Grand Chaplain delivered an address to the brethren in a most impressive manner, which was followed by the chant "Glorv to God on high, &c.," by the choristers and brethren. The W.M. Bro. Geo. Moore was then installed by the Prov. Grand Master, and having been saluted in ancient form by the brethren, invested Bros. David Garrock as S.W.; J. Sutcliffe J.W.; F. E. Clarke, S.D.; Wm. Mowbray, J.D.; Jno. Carter, I.G.; Wm. Hodgson, P.M., kindly accepting the office of Secretary. The anthem from the 133rd Psalm having been sung, the Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

## THE BANQUET.

The brethren assembled at three o'clock at an elegant dinner, provided under the direction of Bro. Murry, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Geo. Moore, supported on his right by the R.W. Bro. John Fawcett, Prov. G.M., and Bros. Cunliffe as D. Prov. G.M.; Rev. J. Milner, P. Prov. Grand Chaplain; B. Levy, Prov. S.G.D.; Crooks, Prov. G. Sec.; and on the left by Bros. Rev. John Kenyon, Prov. Grand Chaplain; John Shelly, Prov. J.G.W.; R. B. Ridley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; E. D. Davies, Prov. Grand Dir. of Cers.; G. J. Wilson, P. Prov. J.G.W.; W. E. Franklin, P. Prov. J.G.D.; the Masters of Lodges Nos. 56, 128, 146, 292, 749, 774, 959, and nearly a hundred other brethren. *Non nobis Domine*, having been sung by the choir, the W.M. successively proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "The Right Hon. the Earl of Sutherland, M.W. Grand Master," "Lord Pammure, R.W. Deputy Grand Master."

The W.M. in suitable terms proposed the health of their esteemed R.W. Prov. G.M. Bro. Fawcett, which was responded to in true Masonic spirit. Upon rising to return thanks, the R.W. Prov. Grand Master was received with great applause. He explained the fundamental principles of Freemasonry and the great duties we

owe to our country neighbours and ourselves, and exhorted all to prove to the outer world that Freemasonry was indeed a name to be proud of. He advocated support to the great Masonic charities by all the Lodges in his province, and individual members in particular. He was pleased to see that the new Lodge had commenced so well, the beautiful furniture of the Lodge, the well-known standing and respectability of their W.M. and Officers, and the many propositions for candidates and joining members, augured a prosperous and successful year, and that the Harbour of Refuge Lodge would be a credit to the province. He thanked them for the kind manner they had responded to his health, and sat down amidst the continued applause of the brethren.

"The Grand Officers Past and Present, and the Past and Present Prov. Grand Officers" was proposed by the W.M. and responded to by Bro. R. B. Ridley, D. Prov. S.G.W.

"The Clergy," particularly those present, was proposed by the W.M. and responded to by Bro. the Rev. J. Kenyon, Prov. Grand Chaplain.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed the health of the W.M., who returned thanks in a neat speech.

"The Visiting Brethren" was proposed by the W.M. and responded to by Bro. E. D. Davies, in his usual good style.

Bro. the Rev. John Cunliffe proposed "The Officers of, and harmony and prosperity to, the Lodge No. 1,066," in an excellent and feeling manner, which was listened to and appreciated by all present. The S.W. returned thanks.

"The Ladies," proposed by Bro. Rickards of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, in a spirited manner, which drew forth rounds of applause.

The last toast was proposed by the Prov. Grand Master in a very telling and affectionate speech, after which, the brethren from a distance left by special train, highly pleased with the day's proceedings.

GATESHEAD.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 56).—This Lodge held a meeting on Monday, March 28th, when it was opened in due form by the W.M., Bro. Antony Clapham, and his officers. After the minutes of last meeting were confirmed, Bro. C. J. Banister, P.M., and W.M. elect, was introduced by Bro. H. Hotham, P.M., (Prov. J.G.W. of Northumberland,) to the installing Master, Bro. E. D. Davies, P.M. (Prov. G.D.C.), who performed the ceremony in the most impressive manner. After the W.M. had been regularly installed and proclaimed, he invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Rev. Samuel Atkinson, M.A., Chaplain; A. Clapham, P.M.; J. Dobson, S.W.; W. J. Kimpster, J.W., P.M.; F. P. Jonn, Treasurer; H. Wyatt, Sec., P.M.; J. L. Monro, Director of Ceremonies; J. Bryden, S.D.; T. Ward, J.D.; T. Jensen, I.G.; A. Dixon, Tyler. A brother was then passed to the F.C. Degree with the usual earnestness displayed by the W.M. The brethren of the district, willing to show their esteem for Bro. Antony Clapham, P.M., decided to present him with a silver salver on leaving the chair of No. 56. Bro. E. D. Davies, P.M. (Prov. S.G.W.), of Northumberland, was unanimously solicited to present it, which he did in a most appropriate and feeling manner. Bro. A. Clapham, P.M., in returning thanks, said "Brethren, I feel as though I had not words fully to express to you the heartfelt pride and pleasure which this mark of your friendship and esteem so thoroughly awakens in my bosom. When I consider that my humble exertions and endeavours to promote the welfare of Freemasonry have been appreciated by my brethren to the extent which is here attested by this handsome testimonial, I cannot help experiencing a sensation of pride on being considered worthy of such a high mark of your esteem and approbation. Believe me, I shall ever keep and respect this valuable token of your regard; and, as often as I look upon it, my thoughts shall revert to those who have so kindly contributed to its presentation, with sincere desire that they may enjoy health, happiness, and prosperity. And should I, at any future period, have to remove from this locality, it would become doubly valuable, in recalling to my memory those kind friends with whom I have so often met, and with whom I have spent so many happy hours. Allow me, from the bottom of my heart, to return to you my sincere thanks for the very kind and handsome present now before me: and may the cause of Freemasonry flourish! May there always arise young Masons capable and



zealous to do the work when the older ones have to retire; and may brotherly love and charity increase and abound amongst us." Several candidates having been proposed, the Lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. Amongst the visitors were Bros. R. B. Ridley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Puncheon, P. Prov. S.G.W.; E. D. Davies, Prov. S.G.W.; John Barker, Prov. G. Treasurer; H. Hotham, Prov. J.G.W.; J. B. Franklin, Prov. G.D.; J. L. Monro, Prov. G.D.; and F. P. Jom, P. Prov. G.D.

The joint annual festival of Lodges Nos. 56 and 614 was held at the Lodge room, Grey Horse Inn, Gateshead, on Tuesday, the 29th ult., under the presidency of the Masters of both Lodges, assisted by their officers, and a large attendance of Provincial Grand officers and brethren, of Northumberland and Durham. The usual loyal and Masonic honours were given and responded to with that earnestness which at all times characterize Freemasons, and the evening was spent in love and harmony. The brethren separated, after expressing their intention to attend the regular meetings of the Lodges.

#### ESSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—Lodges.—Monday, April 11th, Star in the East (935), Private Rooms, Harwich, at 7; Tuesday, 12th, Angel (59), Cups Hotel, Colchester, at 7; Wednesday, 13th, United (295), George Hotel, Colchester, at 7; Thursday, 14th, Good Fellowship (343), White Hart, Chelmsford, at 7.

#### HAMPSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—Lodge.—Thursday, April 14th, Royal Gloucester (152), Freemasons' Hall, Southampton, at 7.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency of this province was held on Monday, 28th of March, by command of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., at the Masonic Hall adjoining the Black Swan, High-street, Winchester.

The Lodge was opened in due form soon after noon. There were present, in addition to the R.W. Prov. G.M., the R.W. Bro. Wyndham S. Portal, Junior Grand Warden of England, as D. Prov. G.M.; Bro. W. W. Beach, *M.P.*, Prov. S.G.W.; Bro. Rastrick, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. Bro. G. R. Portal, Prov. Grand Chaplain; Bro. Hollingsworth, Prov. S.G.D.; Bro. Dr. Clark, Prov. J.G.D.; Bros. C. Sherry and C. Copeland, as Grand Directors of Ceremonies; Bro. J. R. Stebbing, Prov. G. Sec., *pro tem*; Bro. Lisle, Prov. G. Purs., and about seventy other brethren. The following Lodges were represented on this occasion:—Nos. 90, 152, 319, 387, 428, 462, 555, 717, 995, and 1025.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master having opened the Prov. Grand Lodge, referred the brethren assembled to certain rules in the Book of Constitutions, as to eligibility of voting, &c., and then called upon the former Prov. Grand Sec., and now *pro tem.*, Bro. J. R. Stebbing, Esq., to read the notice calling the Lodge of Emergency. The notice was then read, in which the business for transaction was entered as follows:—

"To receive and consider a circular from the Board of General Purposes, dated 10th January last, suggesting extensive improvements in the Grand Lodge property, (Freemasons' Hall, &c.) and more particularly to reply to certain questions propounded therein.

"To receive and consider the report of Bros. Lyall and Symonds on the Masonic charities, and any suggestion of the charity committee of this province, and generally to adopt such resolutions as may extend and increase the support of the provincial Lodges and brethren in behalf of the same.

"At this meeting it will be proposed to pass some suitable resolution on the melancholy occasion of the death of the Worshipful Bro. Thomas Norcross Firmin, late Grand Secretary of this province."

Sir Lucius Curtis then said, the first business they would proceed to consider would be the third item on the notice paper, namely, the passing of some suitable resolution on the melancholy occasion of the death of their departed Worshipful

Bro. Thomas Norcross Firmin, the late Grand Secretary of the province. Bro. Firmin had been known to most of them now present, and he (Sir Lucius) felt called upon to state that he believed a better Mason never breathed in this world. He had a resolution of condolence to propose to the meeting, which he would thank Bro. Stebbing (who had kindly prepared it) to read, and he felt sure some brother present would readily second it. Bro. Stebbing read the resolution, which was as follows:—

“That this Grand Lodge desires to record its deep and heartfelt sorrow on the melancholy occasion of the death of its most valued and ever to be lamented Grand Secretary and Past Grand Warden, Bro. Thomas Norcross Firmin, whose loss to Masonry will be long and severely felt, and whose amiable manners and sincere friendship will never be forgotten.

“That this Grand Lodge embraces the opportunity of passing this sad tribute to his memory, and of testifying to his great worth and excellence as a Mason, and his high and honourable conduct as a man. In him were united the genuine characteristics of a true brother, a sincere friend, a fond husband, a kind father, a loyal citizen, a just and upright man and Mason: he truly cultivated brotherly love and practised charity, and in his life and conduct upheld the principles and illustrated the inspiration of the Psalmist, so beautifully expressed in the words—‘Behold how good and pleasant a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.’”

“That in grateful appreciation of their lamented brother’s services to this province, of sincere and earnest conviction of his distinguished character as a Mason, and in deep, affectionate sympathy and condolence with his much respected and bereaved widow and family, a copy of this resolution be respectfully forwarded to them with the earnest and heartfelt prayer of every brother in the province that it may please the Great Architect of the Universe to extend his mercy to them in their deep sorrow, and to comfort and console them in their irreparable loss and great affliction.”

Bro. Beach, *M.P.*, said he was very pleased to second the resolution. It was a subject of extreme regret at all times when a brother so universally esteemed passed away from among them, and the regret was greatly enhanced when the services of that brother (as in this instance) had been so exceedingly useful. He was sure that there were none but would feel the loss which the province had sustained; and the resolution before the meeting was but a fair acknowledgment of the worth of the deceased, a tribute from the esteem in which the province held his memory, and their deep conviction of their irreparable loss.

The R.W. Prov G.M. said the departed was not only a good man, but an excellent Mason, and his right hand in everything regarding the business of the province. In fact, he should not now be enabled to carry on the duties of his position, in consequence of the great loss he experienced, were it not for the kind and voluntary assistance rendered by Bro. Stebbing, who, from his former long fulfilment of the duties, was so well versed in the important office of Grand Secretary of the province.

The resolution was then put from the chair, and carried with perfect unanimity and general expressions of sympathy and sorrow.

Bro. Stebbing said Sir Lucius had referred to him as having again taken up the duties of Prov. Grand Secretary; he must remind brethren present that he merely performed the duties for the time being, only holding office, indeed, until a successor to Bro. Firmin should be duly appointed, which he hoped would be early.

Bro. H. Ford, (mayor of Portsmouth), and W.M. of Lodge, No. 319, then said he rose for the purpose of proposing that the resolution just carried, and which so well embodied the feelings of the Grand Lodge, should be emblazoned and framed, and handed to the family of the deceased as a heirloom, so as to perpetuate the honoured memory of their worthy brother.

The motion was seconded by Bro. Woolvin, W.M., and carried unanimously.

#### THE MASONIC CHARITIES.

Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., said he should take upon himself again to

reverse the order of subjects on the notice paper, and call the attention of the Prov. Grand Lodge to the report of Bros. Lyall and Symonds on the Masonic charities. He believed a copy of that report had been forwarded to all the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and therefore they were prepared to give an opinion upon it. He had himself read it with great attention, and he must state that it met his approval in every way. Much credit he considered was due to Bros. Lyall and Symonds for the manner in which the report had been drawn up. Their first duty, as Masons, was to look well after their charities; they ought to be careful to see that their funds should be equal to meet the desired expenditure. The proposition of the brethren referred to in their report in regard to the provincial committees, he thought most desirable; and he felt it incumbent upon them to endeavour to increase the funds of all their charities as much as laid in their power. He was convinced that the Boys School was most ably conducted; they were all educated according to their individual ability, and he was happy to find that none had left but who had done credit to their important society. They received a most superior education, and it had given him exceeding great pleasure to see some of them receive their prizes for proficiency in learning. He had witnessed one boy's success in obtaining three or four prizes for his improvement in mathematics, Greek, Latin, and particularly French and penmanship; this was one boy alone—but others were also conspicuous for their progress, though not to the same extent. These boys, when put out, made respectable and honourable members of society. He was sorry to say he could not speak with the same satisfaction in regard to the Girls School. For himself, he saw no reason why the girls should be left in a state of ignorance, while the boys received such a superior education. He did not mean to go so far as to say the girls should learn mathematics and the dead languages; but he thought the girls should be trained according to their capacity, so that they may go out in the world and rise as their merit deserved. No doubt many of the girls might possess a talent for music, singing, and drawing. Where these talents were found let them be cultivated, so that such girls may go out as teachers and governesses. At present the girls in their school received no better training than was given to many national charity school children—they were principally taught to scrub, make beds, and wash pots and kettles. He did not mean to say that the domestic training of any girls should be neglected; such instruction was very needful, especially that they should be taught the useful forms of needlework. He thought that no disgrace to the highest lady in the land; and, further, no lady could properly conduct her household without domestic abilities. He had referred to these things because he thought the girls of their school had not been brought up as they ought to have been. He thought their charities were very good, and the chief ornaments of the Order; and he hoped to see them always studying, in preference to their own comforts, how far they could alleviate the wants and distresses of their poorer brethren. Sir Lucius said he need not go through the whole of the report, but he might add that he most cordially agreed with the suggestions for obtaining more efficient and combined support from the provinces on behalf of the charitable institutions.

Bro. Perkins, W.M. No. 152, said it had struck him that, in forming the local committees for the charities, the Master of each Lodge should be included *ex officio*. That the representatives should be selected by the brethren themselves—he quite agreed with, but the Master might be added. The Master of a Lodge naturally took a vast amount of interest in all business transacted within it, and it would generally be found an advantage if the Master were added as he suggested.

Bro. Stebbing called attention to a resolution on the minute book, which almost met Bro. Perkins's views.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal alluded to a meeting at Southampton, where a similar resolution was unanimously agreed to. He might as well state that, in drawing up the report, it had been thought some plan was possible under which all members could have facilities for subscribing, according to their means, to the institutions, and this was by the use of the charity box handed round at every banquet. There was an impression amongst Lodges in favour of their having the management of the contents of their own charity box; and therefore he was willing to give up that one part of the resolution referring to the same. With regard to the W.M. of a

Lodge acting on the charities committee, it must be remembered that though a man might be found very good and efficient as Master, still, others from their peculiar business habits were more able and suitable to act on such a committee.

Bro. Perkins said it was no idea of his to withdraw the brother appointed by any Lodge and substitute another in the person of the W.M. ; still he adhered to his idea that the W.M. of a Lodge was as fit and important a man as could be appointed. He was not anxious, however, to make any motion to such effect.

Bro. H. Ford said he was inclined to support a similar proposition.

Bro. Perkins thought it would be better to adopt the report, with the addition that the W.M. should be one of the members of the charities committee.

Bro. Beach suggested that it would be advisable to adopt the recommendation as a rider.

After some further conversation, Bro. Ford moved the following resolution : "That approving generally of the suggestions contained in the report of Bros. Symonds and Lyall, it is resolved that so much of it as recommends the appointment of a special member from each Lodge, to be called the charity steward, as an addition to the committee, be adopted ; and that the committee be instructed to guide themselves by the general spirit of the recommendations of the report in question, and that the R.W. Prov. Grand Master be respectfully requested to act on the committee."

Bro. Wyndham S. Portal seconded the resolution. He did not think it was necessary on the present occasion to say anything more as to the desirability of doing more for the charities than had been hitherto done. He really believed that the difference found to have hitherto existed was caused by members in the provinces not being kept *au fait* in the work going on. The support as yet given to the charities was, in by far the greater proportion, derived from the London district alone. In the last published account it appeared that, of the subscribers to the Girls School, one thousand and forty-eight were of London, and only three hundred of the country. Of the Boys School there were six hundred and sixty-seven London supporters to two hundred and thirty-six country ones. And yet a great deal more than half the objects of the Masonic charities were provincial, and not from London. If the London district were only to demand one half of the benefits, or even in proportion to the extent of their contributions, they would deprive the provincial body of three fourths of the advantages they at present enjoyed. He was more or less acquainted with the state of the schools, and as to the matter of the girls' education, he thought at present it was only a question of funds, though it was advisable to keep up the industrial training of the children. The charity for Aged Masons and their Widows was not in so hopeful a state as could be wished, also from want of funds. The charities of the Order should be their first aim, and he had been glad to see the Right Worshipful Master take the business relative to them first, because their interest was the first, or ought to be the first in their consideration. He thought well of the recommendation that one member in each Lodge should strive to increase the charity subscriptions.

Bro. C. Sherry, P.M., said he wished to set the R.W. Prov. Grand Master and others right upon one point, namely, in reference to the Girls School. He alluded to a resolution only lately passed for including music and French in the education of the girls ; and indeed those branches of learning were now included in the instruction given in the school. He had an amendment, or rather a rider to the resolution, which he should like to move.

Bro. Stebbing said perhaps it would be better if the resolution already before the meeting was formally read and put.

The resolution being read, was put from the chair, and carried.

Bro. Sherry then continued :—He believed it was quite evident that if too many individuals were included on the committees, nothing would be done. Large bodies, to the extent of twenty eight or thirty he believed would be found too numerous for the good working of the objects they had in view. There was reason to believe the support given to the charities from London members was six times greater than that from the provinces, and this was anything but creditable to the superior numbers of Masons in the provincial Lodges, compared with those of the London

district. He could only account for this fact from the want of good management in the conducting of the business at head quarters in London. He referred to a passage in Messrs. Lyall and Symonds's report, to the following effect:—“We have reason to believe that an impression is not uncommon amongst the brethren, of good social position, and holding high Masonic honours, connected with the Provincial Grand Lodge, and, perhaps, the particular Lodges with which they are connected, are already subscribers, or can be induced to subscribe, all has been done that it is requisite to do, and that personal subscriptions may be dispensed with. It is only thus that we can account for the small portion of provincial as compared with London brethren, who contribute to the funds of the schools. Of the vice-presidents, donors, and annual subscribers to each school, we find, on reference to recently published lists, that the number resident in the London district is about six times greater than in all the provinces combined.” It was his conviction that if they were allowed to send to the charity boards one representative from each province, they would soon succeed in improving matters by their having a voice in the collecting, as well as the expenditure of the funds. He begged, therefore, to move the following resolution:—“That in order to stimulate further exertions of the brethren in the provinces, and carry out the recommendations of the sub-committee, we would recommend the appointment of a brother to be called ‘the representative of the province for the charities,’ which representative shall be selected from the charities' members annually by the Prov. Grand Master, and entitled to a seat at the four Masonic charity boards.” Bro. Sherry, continuing his remarks, said—Let each Lodge elect their W.M. if he happened to be the fittest for the office of charity member; but if there was another member of the Lodge better acquainted with the business of the charities, he were to be preferred. He could not help disagreeing with the idea of Bro. Perkins, which would make the staff of the committee too numerous.

Bro. Beach said he rose to order. The more proper course would be to rescind the resolution passed at the last Provincial Grand Lodge, which was as follows:—“That a committee consisting of the R.W.D. Prov. Grand Master; the Prov. G. Treasurer; the Prov. G. Secretary; the W. Bros. G. R. Portal, J. R. Portal, and J. R. Stebbing, and the W.M.s for the time being of the several Lodges in the province of Hampshire, to be termed the ‘Charities Committee,’ be appointed to watch over the Masonic charities, with a view to extending their benefits, and increasing the number of subscribers in this province.”

Bro. Clarke wished that Bro. Sherry would withdraw his proposition and propose a different one, or allow him (Bro. Clarke) to do so. He felt quite satisfied that he was the delinquent alluded to by Bro. Sherry when he spoke of so many members being proposed on the committee at the last Provincial Grand Lodge. He was certain that they influenced the members taking part in the charity committees, for they were one of the strongest out of London. He thought the majority of them were of one mind, that the W.M. of each Lodge, or such other party as the Lodge should think fit, be put on the list of charity members.

Bro. Sherry said he wished it distinctly to be understood that he went for the adoption of the entire report of Bros. Lyall and Symonds, and no other, with the addition of the resolution he had already proposed.

Bro. Castell, P.M. No. 717, said it was a most important thing that this subject should be well ventilated. He felt satisfied from many years' acquaintance with Masonry that the little support given to the charities from the provinces arose from the fact that they were comparatively unknown amongst the majority of the members of Masonry in provincial towns. The hearts of those Masons in the country were not less warm, and it was only requisite that the thing should be brought before them in order to secure their sympathy. As an example, he might state that in his own Lodge twenty-two subscribers had been obtained, on the subject of the charities only being mentioned by himself, and many others had dropped in since as regular subscribers to the benevolent fund. He was ready to fall into anything which was calculated to promote the object of the charities. He really did think some means should be devised to let every member know what the various charities were; and one of the first objects of care for the committees about to be appointed, he hoped would be the making the business and working of the charities thoroughly known among all Masons in the provinces.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Port observed that it had been said the charities' committee appointed at Basingstoke had done nothing. It was not in their power to do anything until they were governed by the majority, in their decision to adopt a local Grand Lodge committee which included the W.M. of each Lodge, he was not prepared to draw from it, and he thought they had tried the best scheme then before them. The question now before them was, should they or should they not consider the W.M. of every Lodge an *ex officio* member of the charity committee, in addition to the member of the Lodge to be elected by the members generally. He thought it would be better if Bro. Sherry moved the rescinding of the resolution adopted at Basingstoke, and he suggested that Bro. Sherry should do so.

Bro. Ford, in explanation, said the representative committee for the charities would extend over the whole province. He wished this, that the W.M. of the Lodge be one of those who attend the committee, so that there be two members from each Lodge, one elected, and the W.M. *ex officio*.

In accordance with the expressed wish of several brethren that Bro. Sherry should withdraw his proposition and let it be a matter for the consideration of the committee, when appointed—many of the members present apparently approving of the idea conveyed in the said proposition—Bro. Sherry accordingly withdrew it. In some further remarks he expressed his opinion that the London brethren were deserving of much credit for their management, but they were not infallible. He could account for the want of support from the provinces to some extent from the fact that the provincial brethren had no voice in the management of the charities. He thought if the Board were to infuse a little provincial blood into the management of the charities it would be the means of stimulating the members of the country Lodges to further exertion and they would no longer be open to the reflection that they did not contribute their proper share to the charities in the way of annual subscriptions or donations.

It was then proposed by Bro. Sherry, seconded by Bro. Durant, P.M. No. 90, and carried unanimously, "That the charities' committee select their own treasurer and secretary from their own number."

#### GRAND LODGE PROPERTY:

The R. W. Prov. Grand Master next called the meeting to the consideration of the first item on the notice paper, namely, the circular from the Board of General Purposes, in respect to the suggested improvements in the Grand Lodge Property (Precinasons' Hall, &c.). He said he had read the questions propounded therein, and he had his own private opinion regarding them. He had called this Lodge of Emergency to take into consideration these questions, and he thought a great deal of serious consideration was required in respect to them. Whatever resolution might be passed, he should very probably still adhere to his own opinion; though at the same time he should, he thought, if necessary, abide by the voice of the meeting. He could state in the first place that the circular's suggestions did not meet his views, and he had required further information from Bro. Havers. He considered that the room in which the business of the Grand Master was conducted was large enough, and the Grand Secretary's also. The clerks' room, where three or four of them were cramped up together, was a miserable and crowded place; and he would be inclined to throw the library, so called (a room he believed without a book in it), into the said clerks' office. Then, with regard to the great hall, it was a most extraordinary thing that they were paying their own tenant twelve guineas every time they used it. If their tenant happened to have a public dinner there on the day of quarterly communications, then he turned them out. He thought the grand hall should be reserved exclusively for the use of Masons. He conceived this might be easily done when there were thirty-eight Lodges meeting there, and one Chapter. If they abolished the tavern as a public place, their rent would be reduced, but to counteract that loss they would receive something from the various Lodges, which would then probably make a difference to the extent of one thousand one hundred and sixteen pounds instead of one thousand three hundred and sixteen pounds. If they meditated opening the tavern themselves on a large scale as proposed, an enormous outlay would be required to purchase fur-

niture, plate, &c., and then they would have to pay managers, waiters, domestics, cooks, &c. At present it was stated they paid five thousand pounds a year to the tenant for Masonic banquets, and though this included those of private Lodges, still the amount was exceedingly high, and he really thought it might be done much lower. If brethren would drink champagne and claret let them pay for it out of their own pockets. Why not supply all the dinners upon a certain scale at so much per head? Of course, before anything was done in respect to alteration of the building, estimates would be prepared and laid down for consideration. The R.W. Prov. Grand Master here referred to certain observations published on the question in the *Masonic Observer*, some of which he said he certainly could not agree with. He objected to the provincial brethren paying for the convenience and benefit of those in London; many of the provincial brethren went but seldom to London, and could not avail themselves of benefits regularly open to and enjoyed by those resident in the London district. He sincerely hoped no measure would be adopted by means of which the Masonic body might become involved. He really thought the best plan would be for the persons who had the care of the hall to provide whatever Masons may want, and they in return pay for whatever they received.

Bro. Ford enquired if the meeting intended to consider the questions of the circular *servitium*?

Bro. Stebbing called attention to the fact that it was then past three o'clock. He should take but little part in the discussion himself, because he felt but little disposed to trust the executive of Grand Lodge with the exclusive management of anything. If brethren present confined their remarks to the contents of the circular they would save time and easily come to a conclusion. They must either approve of the principles set forth in the first four, or that of the last of the questions.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal, after some introductory remarks, said the question mainly turned upon this—were the Craft to become tavern keepers or not. They held this—that it would not be exactly a creditable thing for Lodge to meet in a room, that the next moment might be occupied by a body of teetotallers. For his own part he was extremely averse to Grand Lodge becoming a body of tavern keepers. They well knew that no club in the west of London answered, so far as the subscriptions of the actual members who partook of its advantages were concerned only. The funds were made up from the pockets of all those who did not go and partake of the advantages and conveniences. Again, a farming gentleman did not make so much by farming his land himself as he did by letting it out to practical men. Even supposing the tavern keeping should pay, if in case he was dissatisfied with anything provided by a tenant, he should require better or go elsewhere, and it would be to the tenants' interest to serve things well; but if they were merely dependent upon their own house steward, that officer could say, in answer to any complaint, "I am backed up by those who appointed me, and they will support me, therefore I care not if you go or stay." The victualling department would, under such circumstances, be made as much a party question as any other matter. He approved of the victualling being left to the tavern lessee, who should supply what was required and be paid for it by the consumers the same as in any other tavern. The reverend brother proceeded to argue, that by saving expenses to the Board of General Purposes Fund there would be all the more for application to benevolent purposes. Special grants of money had already been made from the one fund to the other, but it could not again be the case if the General Purposes Funds were unwisely squandered in speculation. He concluded by proposing a resolution, which was afterwards modified as follows:—"That it is the opinion of this Provincial Grand Lodge that a Masonic library of reference improved offices, and exclusive Lodge-room should be provided; that the tavern should be increased, and a coffee-room opened; that Grand Lodge should not provide refreshments—and that as large a sum as possible should be annually given from the fund of General Purposes to the Masonic charities."

Bro. W. Russ, P.M., No. 90, said he cordially concurred in the observation of the Rev. Bro. Portal, and with great pleasure seconded his resolution.

Bro. Wyndham Portal confessed there was some difficulty in handling this subject. It included a question of very great importance both to the London and Provincial brethren, and it was a misfortune that the facts as discussed in Grand Lodge concerning it were so little known among the brethren generally. The present accommodation of the officers was wholly insufficient, and he wished their R.W. brother had spoken more strongly on that point. He and many other brethren had found the difficulty arising from not having a general place of assembly where they could meet with Masons when in London. There was an excess of £2500 a year and the Board of General Purposes might spend that either in giving the Craft a general accommodation, or in benevolent purposes. The Worshipful brother expressed his objection to any funds at all being expended for the purpose of providing refreshment in any shape.

Bro. Stebbing further addressed the meeting in explanation of the exact appropriation of the funds of the Board of General Purposes; and expressed his anxiety to make every brother present feel that any very considerable expense for alteration of the Grand Lodge property would diminish the likelihood of assistance to the Benevolent fund from that of General Purposes.

Bro. Beach thought that these were very fit points upon which to call the attention of the brethren. Although it was of some importance that they should have a building in accordance with the dignity of the Craft, still at the same time they should be careful not to entrench too far upon the funds. He thought a library of reference would be useful on matters of Masonry, but a general library containing the standard authors of the day he was of opinion was undesirable. He approved of the Rev. Bro. Portal's resolution.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried without a dissentient voice.

The R. W. Prov. Grand Master then said he believed the business was concluded for which they had been called together, and he would therefore proceed to close the Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. Stebbing then proposed a motion appreciating the kindness of the Prov. Grand Master in submitting the points to the discussion of the members of the province; which was seconded by Bro. Perkins, and carried by acclamation.

The R. W. Prov. Grand Master briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

#### THE BANQUET

took place at the Black Swan, at four o'clock, and was most excellently served by Bro. Sherry. About fifty brethren sat down, Sir Lucius Curtis in the chair, and the vice chair was occupied by Bro. W.W. Beach, *M.P.*, and afterwards by Bro. Dr. Clark, of Southampton. The viands, wines, and dessert, were of very superior quality, and gave general satisfaction. The chief brethren who had been present at the business of the day were also in attendance at the banquet. After the cloth had been removed, and thanks returned by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given by Sir Lucius and properly celebrated. In the giving and responding to the toasts, several excellent speeches were made; but a general report of each would render our account too lengthened for the limits of the *Magazine*. Amongst other toasts drunk was the health of that useful and respected brother, Henry Ford, mayor of Portsmouth, and Bro. R. S. Hulbert, mayor of Basinstoke. In returning thanks, Bro. Ford, after some general observations, remarked on the honours and privileges of the Fraternity. He said he had not found it at all incompatible with his office of mayor of Portsmouth to be the W.M. of a Lodge of Freemasons. He loved Masonry as he hoped and believed they all loved it; and he loved these social and brotherly gatherings, but above all the beautiful sentiments which their noble Order taught them to feel and express towards each other. It was his firm conviction that on this earth, as far as human means could give it, Masons enjoyed the purest possible bliss within the four walls of their Lodge. As long as he was the Master of, or connected with the Phoenix Lodge, No. 319, he hoped to continue to give satisfaction to the members of the Lodge, and all other Masons.

Bro. Hulbert said he could not boast, like Bro. Ford, of being a Master of a



Lodge, being comparatively young in Masonry, only having had the honour to belong to the Craft about two years. He was told when he was elected that if he acted up to the principles of Masonry, he could but be a good man, and he hoped by the blessing of God to be able to carry out for a long time all those high principles which the Order inculcated. As to his mayoralty, he hoped that so long as he held his office, the duties and the dignity would not suffer at his hands.

The health of the Grand Chaplain of the province was drunk with marks of much honour and respect, and Bro. the Rev. G. R. Portal responded in an able speech.

Sir Lucius Curtis proposed the health of Bro. J. R. Stebbing, Esq., Prov. Grand Secretary *pro ten*, who responded in an interesting and energetic speech, in the course of which he complained of the uncourteous treatment he had experienced at the hands of the Grand Secretary, which he said might be regarded as an offence to every brother in the province.

During the evening the enjoyment of the company was greatly enhanced by the vocal contributions of Bro. J. Snary, of the cathedral choir, and other brethren.

#### KENT.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, April 12th, Belvidere (741), Star Hotel, Maidstone, at 7; Friday, 15th, Union (149), King's Head, Margate, at 7. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 12th, Adams (184), Masonic Hall, Sheerness, at 7.

#### LANCASHIRE (EAST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, April 13th, Antiquity (170), One Horse Shoe, Bolton, at 7; Lime Rock (481), Brownlow Arms, Clithero, at 7; Friendship (310), Angel Hotel, Oldham, at 7; St. John's (107), Rose and Crown, Pendleton, at 8; Thursday, 14th, Samaritan (355), Green Man, Bacup, at 7; Perseverance (432), Old Bull, Blackburn, at 8. *Chapters*.—Monday, 11th, Perseverance (432), Old Bull, Blackburn, at 8. *Encampment*.—Friday, 15th, Old Bull, Blackburn, at 7; Saturday, 16th, St. John of Jerusalem, Queen's Hotel, Todmorden.

#### LANCASHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Unity (889), Searisbrick Arms, Southport, at 6; Tuesday, 12th, Royal Preston (418), Cross Axes, Preston, at 8; Merchants (294), Masonic Temple, Liverpool, at 5; Wednesday, 13th, Harmony (845), Wheatsheaf, Ormskirk, at 5; Loyalty (101), Royal Hotel, Prescot, at 6.

#### LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

LIVERPOOL.—*Merchants' Lodge of Instruction* (No. 294).—This Lodge, which was formed in January last, under the sanction of its parent Lodge, No. 294, is now in full working order. Its meetings are held at the Masonic Temple, Hope-street, every Tuesday evening in the month, except the second, at half-past five o'clock; the work for each meeting being previously arranged. On Tuesday last, in addition to the routine business of the evening, the lecture on the tracing board in the first degree was effectively delivered by Bro. Youngusband, the zealous and energetic J.W. of No. 294, who was mainly instrumental in the establishment of this Lodge of instruction and improvement, and to whom the younger brethren of the Craft must feel indebted for the deep interest he takes in their Masonic training and progress. Considering the great benefits to be derived from Lodges of this description in preparing brethren to fill with efficiency any office to which they may be appointed in a chartered Lodge, it is much to be regretted that they are not more encouraged in the provinces.

LIVERPOOL.—*Mariner's Lodge*.—(No. 310).—We are requested to notice that this Lodge meets on the first and third Friday in each month, under the patronage of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale. We learn from a circular just issued, inviting the members of No. 310 to join the Lodge of Instruction, that it numbers upwards of fifty-three members, viz:—Four Provincial Grand Officers, five Past Masters, four Worshipful Masters, nine other Officers and Past Officers, and thirty-one other members. The ceremonies practised in the third degree and installation, are those established in 1813 by the Lodge of Reconciliation. The sections are worked, lectures and original essays delivered, inquiry invited, and information mutually given and received. Brethren subscribing to any Lodge are eligible for membership on payment of six shillings annually. The *Freemasons' Magazine* for

1854-5-6-7 and 8, together with several other masonic works, (the property of the Lodge) are at the service of the brethren. [We shall be happy to receive some of the original essays for publication.]

#### LEICESTERSHIRE.

##### PRESENTATION TO BRO. JOSEPH UNDERWOOD.

A large number of gentlemen, including several influential members of the Craft in the province of Leicester, dined at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, on Wednesday, the 23rd March, 1859, on the occasion of the presentation to Bro. Joseph Underwood, P.M. of the John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766, P. Prov. G.W., and Prov. G. Treas., Leicester, of the testimonial plate subscribed for by his fellow townsmen, to mark their sense of the ability, zeal, and impartiality with which, during two successive years, he discharged the onerous duties of mayor of Leicester. The chair was taken by Dr. Noble, the present mayor of Leicester, the post of honour being occupied by Bro. Underwood. The testimonial is of a very handsome character, consisting of a massive silver centre-piece, an elegant silver magisterial inkstand, with a figure of Justice, a large round, chased, silver tray, a handsome set of tea and coffee service, consisting of coffee-pot, teapot, sugar and cream ewer, and an elegant silver claret jug, the value of the whole being about £300.

In proposing the toast of the evening, the chairman said they were now about to drink the health of a man who for the two past years had been the king of Leicester, and a very mild, wise, and popular ruler he had been. Without the exercise of any very despotic power, by his good sense, and excellent example, and kind sympathy with the wants of the poor, he had so recommended himself to the confidence and affections of all, that they submitted to his rule with great willingness, and had been glad for the two past years to acknowledge themselves his willing subjects. He begged them to join him in wishing Bro. Underwood the best possible health, and a long continuance of life in the enjoyment of it, with his family.

Bro. Underwood (who was received with immense applause) said: "I thank you for the honour you have now conferred upon me, and accept, with pleasure, your presentation. When, on a former occasion, I stood the invited and honoured guest of my fellow townsmen, I said it was the proudest day of my life. I then received expressions of approval for the manner in which I had fulfilled my year of office as chief magistrate, and then accepted it for another year under depressing circumstances, when the trade of the town was in that state that the operatives were almost without employment. Nevertheless, I had full confidence in the working classes as to their peaceable disposition, and shall be ever ready to render to them my meed of praise for their patient endurance under these trying circumstances. The crisis was passed, and without anything occurring to endanger the peace of the town, or call for the interference of the authorities. But amidst all my highest hopes and most ardent wishes, I never could conceive of, or expect, such a token of the esteem and approbation of my fellow townsmen as that splendid and valuable testimonial. But I accept it with pride and pleasure, and will treasure it to the latest hour of my existence. I really regret that I cannot find language to express my feelings on this occasion; the presentation of so magnificent a gift is beyond all language. I can only say it is far beyond any merit of mine for the poor services I may have rendered to the town, and can only tender my sincere thanks to the generous donors, and hope all the after part of my life may assure them that I will endeavour to continue to merit a continuance of their good opinion. I cannot let this opportunity pass without giving my most cordial and sincere thanks to the gentlemen of the committee of management for their indefatigable zeal and attention in the furtherance of the object of the meeting to-day, and also for their kindness in the selection of so magnificent a gift. And when it shall please God to take me away, I can only assure you, as you are aware that I have a family, to them it will be given, not as an inheritance from me, but as a gift from the town; and I hope—as I feel satisfied they will—that they will preserve it with pride and pleasure, and hand it down to their children's children for many years to come. I only hope I shall be spared to satisfy all present and the town at large, that in

accepting this testimonial, I may render myself for ever worthy of it. I beg once again to thank you, and to drink all your good healths."

Other toasts followed and the evening was spent in the full enjoyment of happiness, none perhaps experiencing their share of it with more real delight than the numerous body of the Craft, who attended to do honour to their Bro. Underwood, who lives among his brethren beloved and respected. He has done good suit and service to the Craft as well as to his native town, and richly deserves the high and valued compliment awarded him.

#### LINCOLNSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Tuesday, April 12th, Harmony (339), Masonic Hall, Boston, at 7; Thursday, 14th, Shakespeare (617), Town Hall, Spilsby, at 6.

#### NORFOLK.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, April 11th, Perseverance (258), Lamb Inn, Norwich, at 7.

#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Monday, April 11th, Fidelity (652), Talbot Inn, Towcester, at 6.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, St. Peter's (706), Hope and Anchor, Byker, Newcastle, at 6; Tuesday, 12th, All Saints (161), Sun Inn, Wooler, at 7; De Ogle (919), St. James's School, Morpeth, at 7. *Instruction*.—Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7; Wednesday, 13th, Blagdon (657), Midley Arms, Blyth, at 8; Friday, 15th, De Lorraine (793), Freemasons' Hall, Newcastle, at 7. *Mark*.—Wednesday, 13th, Newcastle, Bell's Court, Newcastle, at 7.

#### SOMERSETSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Honour (525), Milson Street, Bath, at 8; Friday, 15th, Rural Philanthropic (367), Highbridge Inn, Huntspill, at 1. *Mark*.—Thursday, 14th, Royal Cumberland, Masonic Hall, Bath, at 8. *Chapter*.—Wednesday, 13th, Royal Sussex (61), Amery's Hotel, Bath, at 7½.

TAUNTON.—*Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity* (No. 327).—The Brethren of this Lodge met on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., Bro. Bluett, the W.M., in the chair. The business of the evening consisted chiefly of discussing the questions submitted by Grand Lodge as to the contemplated dealings with the Masonic Hall and other property, to render the same more beneficial to the Craft; these questions having been freely canvassed, suitable answers thereto, embodying the wishes of the brethren, were prepared and agreed to. The case of a deceased brother's widow and seven children was next brought under consideration. The brother was initiated in this Lodge and had been a subscribing member thereof from the date of his initiation about ten years since, and had served the several offices up to that of Senior Warden; he died somewhat suddenly, leaving a widow and seven young children (the eldest of whom is not more than twelve years of age), and in very indifferent circumstances. The Lodge at once voted the sum of £25 to the widow, to assist her in her present distressing position. We hope an appeal on their behalf will be made to the Grand Lodge, and to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset at their next meetings, and we feel assured that this case only requires to be made generally known to the Craft to call forth from those Lodges grants worthy of such an occasion.

#### STAFFORDSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, April 14th, St. Martin's (115), Freemasons' Arms, Burslem, at 6; Friday, 15th, Sutherland of Unly (974), Castle Hotel, Newcastle-under-Lyne, at 7; Noah's Ark (435), Navigation Inn, Tipton, at 7.

#### SUFFOLK.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Thursday, April 14th, Virtue and Silence (417), Lieou Hotel, Hadleigh, at 7; Unity (64), Suffolk Hotel, Lowestoft, at 7.

#### SUSSEX.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Derwent (47), Swan Hotel, Hastings; Tuesday, 12th. *Instruction*.—Old Ship, Brighton; Wednesday, 13th, Mariner's Lodge (878), White

Hart, Little Hampton; Thursday, 14th, Wellington (426), Crown Hotel, Rye; Royal Brunswick (1034), Old Ship, Brighton; Friday, 15th, Royal Clarence (339), Old Ship, Brighton.

## WARWICKSHIRE.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Monday, April 11th, Rectitude (730), George Hotel, Rugby, at 6½; Howe (857), Masonic Rooms, Birmingham, at 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Howe Lodge* (No. 857).—The following reply has been sent to the Board of General Purposes regarding the Grand Lodge Property. "The members of the Howe Lodge, No. 857, having carefully considered the report from the Board of General Purposes, dated 10th January last, beg to express their entire approval of the principles and practice suggested by the first three questions therein propounded; being firmly of opinion that an adoption of the system they propose, cannot fail—to use the language of the report—to elevate the character of Masonry in this country; feeling also, that no pecuniary return whatever, which might result from an extension of tavern accommodation, would counterbalance the reproach which such a proceeding must inevitably and justly entail upon an Order already too much subjected to the stigma (however undeserved) of being mere 'gluttonous wine bibbers, the friends of publicans and sinners.'"

## WILTSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, April 12th, Elias de Derham (856), White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, at 7½.

## WORCESTERSHIRE.

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Tuesday, April 12th, Royal Standard (730), Dudley Arms, Dudley, at 6½.

KIDDERMINSTER.—*Lodge of Hope and Charity* (No. 523).—This Lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Monday, March 28th, when Mr. Thomas Poultney Griffin, of Kidderminster, was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, the charge being most impressively given by Bro. Thomas Porter, W.M., the ceremony and the explanation of the first tracing board by Bro. Fitzgerald, P.M. We are happy to say that at the next meeting a resolution will be passed that this Lodge shall annually subscribe to the Masonic charities, and doubtless a subscription to the *Magazine* will follow.

## YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

APPOINTMENT.—*Lodge*.—Wednesday, April 13th, Minerva (311), Masonic Hall, Hull, at 7.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—*North York Lodge* (No. 876).—The monthly meeting of this Lodge was held at the Station Hotel, on Friday, 25th March, Bro. Hornung, P.M., presiding in the absence of the W.M., Bro. J. S. Peacock. The Lodge was honoured by the company of Bro. Crosby, P. Prov. G.J.W. for Durham, and Bro. Lund of the St. John's Lodge, Christiania. The Rev. R. Bradley was initiated into the privileges and mysteries of our ancient Order. The ceremony was gone through in a most impressive manner, by Bro. Hornung; Bro. Thompson, P.M., giving the charge, and Bro. Robinson, P.M., presenting the working tools. After which Bro. Manners, J.W., gave an illustration of the tracing board in a very efficient manner. A gentleman was then proposed as a candidate for initiation after which the Lodge was closed in love and harmony and with solemn prayer.

## YORKSHIRE (WEST).

APPOINTMENTS.—*Lodges*.—Wednesday, April 13, Wakefield (727), Old Rectory, Wakefield, at 7; Thursday, 14th, Britannia (169), Music Hall, Sheffield, at 7; Three Grand Principles (251), Masonic Hall, Dewsbury, at 6; Harmony (342), Masonic Hall, Huddersfield, at 7; Friday, 15th, Holme Valley (937), Victoria Hotel, Holmfirth, at 7; Alfred Instruction (384), Griffin Hotel, Leeds, at 7. *Chapter*.—Tuesday, 12th, Fidelity (364), Freemasons' Hall, Leeds, at 7.

• MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

*Thistle Lodge* (L.C.)—This Lodge held its regular meeting (being the second which has taken place under English authority) at Dick's Coffee House, Fleet Street, on Friday, April 1, when the following brethren were duly advanced to the Mark degree:—Bros. Young (P.M., No. 237), Hind (No. 219), Gates (No. 219), and Taylor (No. 752). The ceremony was most ably performed by Bro. Cotterell, W.M., after which Bro. Capt. Hamilton was admitted as a joining member. A copy of the amended by-laws was then submitted, and after some conversation they were adopted, and ordered to be printed. It was then proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that a jewel be presented to Bro. Sheen, P.M., as well for his services whilst in the chair as for the interest he has taken in the prosperity of the Lodge from its formation. The business completed, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, and the evening passed most pleasantly. The only visitor present was Bro. Conery, St. Andrew's Chapter, Boston, Massachusetts.

PROVINCIAL.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Northumberland and Berwick Lodge* (Leigh Constitution).—The members of this Lodge held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 30th, the W.M., Bro. John Barker in the chair, assisted by Bro. Punsheon, Prov. G.S.W.; Bros. Joseph Bell, S.W.; Henry Hotham, J.W.; A. Gillespie and C. J. Bannister, Deacons; G. Ludwig, Reg.; and other brethren. The ballot was taken for Bros. Banning and Twigg, and being both in attendance, they were reciprocally advanced by the W.M. The time of meeting of this Lodge has been altered from the Wednesday nearest the full moon to the fourth Wednesday of every month. The majority of the brethren present agreed to accompany the Worshipful Master to Hartlepool on the 14th April, who, in his capacity of Grand Dir. of Cers., is to open in form the Eclectic Lodge of Mark Masters, which has just obtained a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England.

ROYAL ARCH.

PROVINCIAL.

BAIRDON.—*Chapter of Moravia* (No. 543).—At a regular meeting of this Chapter, held at the Angel Inn, on Wednesday, March 30, present, Comp. Thomas Hill, as M.E.Z.; J. Walker, P.Z., as H.; John Walker, J., and the rest of the officers. Comp. Wainman Holmes, E., called attention to the very beautiful paraphernalia now exhibited for the first time, the whole being voluntarily contributed by the various Companions; the example of Comp. John Thomas Robinson having had so good an effect, that a Chapter without any regalia, and no funds, had become completely furnished, with the exception of the jewels and five banners, within six months. It was hinted that another worthy Companion expressed a desire to be amongst the contributors; if so, there is little doubt the whole will shortly be completed. Comp. Mann was highly complimented on the painting of the floor and the standards, but all mention of individual contributors was deferred until next meeting, when every contributor would be duly noticed. An apology for absence was received from Comp. Henry Smith, H. The Chapter was then closed, and the Companions retired at an early hour, highly pleased with the harmonious meeting.

## THE WEEK.

HER Majesty and all her family we are happy to say continue in good health at Buckingham Palace. Last Wednesday evening the Queen and the Prince Consort were present at the performance of "King Henry the Fifth," at the Princess's Theatre; and Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the Princesses Alice and Helena, visited the British Museum on Saturday afternoon. On Monday the Adelphi Theatre was honoured with the visit of the Queen as was the Royal Italian Opera last evening. The visits of the Earl of Derby have been of course frequent at the palace since the defeat of the government.—Count Cavour left Paris on Wednesday evening. He has gone to Turin and not to London. We have no further intelligence in the Paris papers with regard to the congress. The review in the Champs de Mars on Sunday was favoured with splendid weather. There were about 50,000 troops present. The Emperor and Empress were received by them with enthusiasm. Great consternation was felt in Paris at the news of the ministerial defeat in the House of Commons, it being felt that with Lord John Russell or Lord Palmerston at the head of affairs, war would be inevitable. It is said that General Lamorieière has left for Turin, with the intention of offering his sword to the Piedmontese Government.—It is not yet known who will represent Austria at the Congress. Count Hartig is spoken of. The Count is a very able man, and knows Italy and its ailments well. Count Buol will probably himself attend the congress. The *Memorial Diplomatique* says that it has reason to know that Austria has made no objection to the admission of Piedmont to the congress, if the same permission be extended to all the Italian states.—With respect to the evacuation of Rome, it is stated in the *Memorial Diplomatique* that Count Buol has given an assurance that the imperial government will immediately occupy itself with the regulation of the details in concert with the holy see and the court of the Tuileries.—The *Courier du Dimanche* a French weekly journal, gives an analysis of a despatch addressed to the diplomatic agents of Piedmont at foreign courts, by Count Cavour, in which he complains in a high tone of the intended exclusion of Piedmont from the congress, and refers to the great sacrifices she made in aid of the cause of the Western powers during the Crimean war. He says that Piedmont was called upon to take part in the Paris congress for concluding a peace, and also in the Paris conferences on the Danubian Principalities, questions in which she had no interest, and he cannot see any reason why she should be excluded now when her own existence is at stake.—The *Correspondencia Autografa* says that a settlement of the Riff question has been effected between Spain and Morocco by means of a convention.—There is no fresh intelligence with regard to the health of the King of Naples. A letter of the 19th ult. says:—"He continues in a most wretched state, and I am assured on good authority, that he cannot live more than three months."—The Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands has appointed a commission with the concurrence of the Senate, to inquire into all public departments, for the purpose of effecting such improvements as could be legally done by the government. The commission was to meet for the first time on the 13th inst.—The latest advices informs us that the new Portuguese ministry had only brought forward in the Cortes a bill to authorise the continuation of the state receipts and expenditure until the budget can be discussed and voted. The ministerial explanations seem to have been satisfactory, and little doubt was entertained of the approval of the money bills. The Cortes is likely to close on the 2nd of April. It is believed that the railway will be put up to competition.—By a telegram from Bombay, received at the India Office on Monday, it appears that the rebel chiefs are still at large; but one of them, Rao Sahib, had sent his agent to arrange for his submission.—The overland mail has brought us intelligence from Hong Kong to the 15th February, at which date Lord Elgin was at Canton. Our troops have been constantly on the move, visiting the various villages in the neighbourhood of Canton. An expedition has just returned from Fayune,

and another is projected on a grander scale, to explore the western branch of the Canton river as far as practicable. As to Lord Elgin's future movements little is known.—The *Breuch* has arrived at Southampton, with dates from New York to the 19th March. The political news is unimportant; the question of an extra session of Congress was still undecided. The American minister in China states that an extensive trade in coolies is carried on between China and Cuba. The coolies are entrapped and barbarously treated. Sickles's trial for murder was to commence on the 22nd ult.—A fearful explosion occurred at the Hounslow powder mills of Messrs. Curtis and Harvey this day week. The precaution to prevent accident seemed to be perfect, and the origin of the disaster is a mystery. Six men were killed instantaneously, another died of his wounds soon after, and many are hurt, more or less seriously. Medical gentlemen arrived speedily to render aid to the wounded. The bodies of the killed were torn in pieces, and carried by the force of the explosion to a great distance. About 320 men, women, and boys were engaged in the various departments at the time, who rushed about in a frantic state of terror when the buildings blew up.—The Marquis of Waterford has met with his death, in the prime of life, by accident. This melancholy event occurred while hunting with his own hounds. In leaping a small fence, not much more than two feet high, the marquis's horse missed its hind legs on the bank and dropped his fore legs into a small cut on the other side, which threw the animal on its knees, so that his lordship was thrown off on his head, and never after spoke. He lived about ten minutes. The marquis dying without any issue, his estates descend to his brother, the Rev. Lord John Beresford.—In the House of Lords on Tuesday, Lord Campbell moved the second reading of the *Juries in Civil Causes Bill*. He dwelt on the hardships which one wrong-headed jurymen could inflict on the others, and the injury and expense to the suitors. He thought that the decision of a majority of nine should be sufficient for a verdict. Lord Lyndhurst opposed the second reading of the bill because its object was to change one of the fundamental laws of the kingdom. On a division the bill was thrown out by a majority of sixteen. On Friday the Earl of Derby, in reference to the defeat of the government in the Commons, said that he had consulted with his colleagues, and had had an interview with the Queen, but declined to state the result until Monday. On that day he rose, amidst profound silence and attention, to make his statement. The noble earl said: With the unanimous concurrence of my colleagues and myself it was decided that that vote left to Her Majesty's government only two courses which they could with honour pursue—either immediately to resign, or to appeal to the constituencies of the country at large. The noble lord proceeded to trace the action of parliamentary parties during the last ten years; and reviewed the tactics and intrigues of the coalition to prevent the discussion of the bill, stating that he believed there was not one of his colleagues that would not have gladly accepted the alternative of relieving themselves from the labours and responsibilities of office, and retiring to the enjoyments of private life. But I (said the noble earl) believe there is no country in Europe in which the lovers of peace do not look with serious apprehension to the overthrow of the present government, to substitute for it a government presided over by either of the two noble lords, the member for the City of London or the member for Tiverton. My lords, Her Majesty was graciously pleased, without any hesitation, to intimate her pleasure that we should continue to hold the offices entrusted to us, and she now sanctions an appeal by us to the judgment and to the opinion of the people. To that appeal I look with confidence. We do not appeal to the country on the subject of parliamentary reform; we appeal to the country on a much larger and more comprehensive scale—to know whether the present state of the House of Commons, split in hundreds of party divisions, each incapable of carrying on the business of the country, but each capable of obstructing the proper discharge of that business—to know whether that state of parliament will receive the countenance and support of the people of England.—Tuesday and Thursday were occupied in the House of Commons by the adjourned debate on the Reform Bill, of which it is impossible in our narrow limits to give even the most meagre outline. One of his finest orations was delivered by Mr.

Gladstone in support of the government, and the debate was concluded by Mr. Disraeli in a speech of great power. On a division the bill was rejected by a majority of only thirty-nine in a house of six hundred and twenty-one members. The House was then adjourned to Monday, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer said it was not the intention of the government to proceed with the Reform Bill, nor to propose to Parliament any other bill. The Conservatives in that house had displayed a high spirit, which would be appreciated throughout the country. The want of cohesion on the other side of the house, and its want of union of purpose and policy, domestic and foreign, showed that the leaders of its different sections differed in what they anticipated to be the result of their vote of censure. Under these circumstances, ministers had advised her Majesty to dissolve the present Parliament, and he hoped the result would be for the convenience of her Majesty, for the honour of Parliament, and for the best interests of the country. Lord Palmerston said he did not consider the resolutions as a vote of censure; and if such votes were to be so considered no government could go on. The result of a dissolution, he believed, would be that they would have a new Parliament, more likely to require a change of government than the present. Mr. Bright thought the government could take no other course, under the circumstances, than that which it had adopted. Lord J. Russell said that the government had no right to force on such a measure as that of reform if they thought it likely to injuriously affect the state of Europe unless they felt certain of its success. The dissolution of Parliament was a constitutional proceeding, but whether it was a wise one Parliament would have hereafter to consider.

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## NOTICES.

The Brethren and others are requested to notice, that George W. Bower has no connection with the *Freemasons' Magazine*; and all persons are cautioned against paying him anything on our account.

Advertisers will oblige by forwarding their favours at the latest by 12 o'clock on Monday morning.

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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GRAND LODGE PROPERTY.—In the first line of the second paragraph of Bro. Roberts's letter, page 596 of last week's *Magazine*, read "at most the eight hundred," instead of "almost all the eight hundred," which destroys the sense the writer intended to convey.

BRO. HAMILTON's communication has been received. We are extremely sorry that the error should have occurred, but we must at the same time repeat our request to the brethren who favour us with communications, to write all names clearly and distinctly. We have a tolerably large acquaintance with the leading members of the Craft, both at home and abroad, but occasionally the MIS. which we receive from valued correspondents contains names written in a way which would puzzle any one to decipher.

"G. E. P."—We consider a brother perfectly justified in writing to a candidate, warning him that he is likely to be blackballed, should he be acquainted with him—not otherwise. The proper course would be to communicate with the proposer of the candidate.