

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1867.

EXPATiation ON THE MYSTERIES OF
MASONRY IN MALLING ABBEY LODGE,
No. 1,063.

(Continued from page 362.)

We now come to the third degree of Craft Masonry. For this the other two are in a great measure preparatory. From the Creation and fall of man to the Exodus, and again from the Exodus to the termination of the Jewish economy, many of the types and symbols of Masonry had reference to something *future*. Year after year, and century after century, commencing in the east and passing from thence to the west, and extending over a great portion of the inhabited world, mysterious ceremonies, which had their origin in remote traditions, were carefully observed in Masonic lodges; some of which, as regards their full purport and signification, must have been unintelligible to most of those who used them.

In the three degrees there is something which is common to all; yet each has something which is peculiar to itself. The first sets before us, more especially, truths derived from the light of nature, and from the traditions of early revelations. The second brings us to the study of things cognisable by the understanding, and the principles of the moral law. And the third degree calls us to the consideration of all that may be acquired by the highest exercise of our reasoning powers, and even invites us to the pursuit of something beyond this, the knowledge of things which transcend the limits of our natural faculties.

In the symbols and allegories of the third degree, when fully understood, we may find the type and the antitype; the mystery and its development; the sign and the thing signified; the hidden wisdom, and the revelation which enables us to comprehend it. It follows from this that whilst part of the symbolism of this degree is of the highest antiquity, setting forth the mystery so far as it was taught from the beginning, other parts of it are, comparatively speaking, modern; inasmuch as they were introduced for the purpose of guiding us to that *full knowledge* of the meaning of those ceremonies, which could only be obtained by means of light communicated in a later age. But as the *things taught* were in both cases the same, the older and the more

modern parts of the symbolism correspond so closely with each other, that they set before us a perfect and harmonious system of instruction.

The name given by Pythagoras to Master Masons was "Physici." This is very significant. For the Physicists belonged to an earlier age of Grecian philosophy than the mathematicians. The former originated with Thales, the father of Greek speculative philosophy. Pythagoras himself was a principal founder of the mathematical school, yet he gave the name of "Mathematici" to the second, and that of "Physici" to the third degree. In this we have one of the important lessons of Masonry, viz., that we must not venture far into speculation and contemplation, until we have first strengthened and prepared our minds by observation, moral culture, and practical work.

We must here notice an error which has crept into the charge in the second degree, in which it is said that Masonry and geometry were originally synonymous. Whereas, geometry belongs to operative, and Masonry (derived from the Greek *Mesouranon*), to speculative Masonry. The former is more particularly an object of study for the "Mathematici" in the F. C. degree; and the latter, for the "Physici" in the third degree.

The characteristic number of the third degree is three. This number in its most natural and obvious application, represents the third period of intellectual development comprehended in the three years from thirteen to fifteen inclusive. It is the stage of "Reason, by means of which," says Algazzali, "the intellect perceives the necessary, the possible, the absolute, and all those higher objects which transcend the understanding."

According to this, Masonry would fix the time of coming of age, so to speak, at fifteen; which, to our modern ideas, and in our northern climate, appears very early. But Masonry came to us from the East, and it is, therefore, not surprising that it should contain traces of oriental views and customs. And we have, still remaining, evidence that even in Britain the law was once in harmony with them. Under the law of Gavelkind, in Kent, persons are competent to convey estates at the age of fifteen; a custom which may have been originally introduced into this country by the Druidical Masons. More recently, English bishops have, perhaps unconsciously, followed this ancient Masonic practice by fixing fifteen as the age for confirmation.

Twenty-one, the time at which men come of age, according to the general law of England, is formed by multiplying seven by three; so that, instead of three periods, of seven, five, and three years, we have now three of seven. This may have had its origin in the Pythagorean doctrine, that important changes took place in man at his seventh year, and at subsequent epochs indicated by the numbers produced by multiplying three, seven, and nine into each other. Divisions founded upon this theory of climacteric periods of human life have not superseded those of ancient Masonry in our lodges. It is a curious fact that all the regulations, as to the time of coming of age, in our English laws are founded on multiples of three. For ordinary purposes men come of age at twenty-one, being seven threes. In the case of a king or queen, it is necessary, for political reasons, to anticipate this time; and this is done by *subtracting three*, making the age eighteen. For the time of admission to the priesthood, three years are *added*, making the age twenty-four; the full number of divisions on the Masonic gnage. This number is also made up by the addition of the successive odd numbers, three, five, seven, and nine.

The sublime degree of Master Mason must have been the great object of ambition to all initiated into the mysteries of the Craft. And we may imagine the delighted expectation and eager hopes with which one who had passed successfully through the lower degrees would anticipate his admission to it. He had, in his previous course of training and instruction, learnt the principles of moral truth, benevolence, and charity; his understanding had been exercised and enlightened by the investigation of the secrets of nature and science; his conscience had been exercised to discern good and evil; he had acquired habits of temperance and purity; and the chief obstacles to the reception of true wisdom had been removed. Another step in advance was now to be taken; another intellectual height was to be surmounted; and light, brighter than any which he had yet seen was to gladden his eyes. But Masonry neither flatters nor deceives. The doors are opened and, instead of what he would naturally expect, he finds . . .

The light of a Master Mason is but darkness visible; there is a veil which the light of human reason cannot penetrate. In the exercise of our understanding in the pursuit of science, there is continual progress from one degree of light and

knowledge to another. But when men have, in successive ages, devoted all the powers of unaided reason to speculative philosophy, each in his turn, has looked upon the same troubled sea, hoping to detect a shore; and each, in his turn, has found that all human philosophy

— is an arch where through
Gleams that untravelled world, whose margin fades
For ever and ever as we move.

As the author of the "Biographical History of Philosophy" has shown, centuries of thought did not advance the mind one step nearer to a solution of the problems with which, childlike, it began. Not only did it doubt the solutions of the great problem which others had attempted; it even doubted the possibility of any solution. The last cry of despair seemed to be wrung from the baffled thinkers as they declared their predecessors to have been hopelessly wrong, and declared that their error was without a remedy. Then it was that reason felt her weakness, and in her perplexity saw that she could only find a refuge in faith.

And so the wisest and the best looked anxiously for the rising of the star which was to be their light in darkness; to give them a knowledge of divine truth even in this life; to conduct them safely through the valley of the shadow of death; and to enable them to look upon the grave as the door of everlasting life and perfect illumination.

It is unnecessary to tell the Master Mason how forcibly all this is expressed in the ceremonies of the third degree. They are well calculated to remind us of the words in which St. Paul has described the feelings and aspirations of the disappointed searcher after truth, wearied in the darkness of his way, and anxiously waiting and watching for the time when it should be dispelled—"The earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected (him) in hope, because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." The Master Mason, whatever advances he might have made, was still taught to look for some further light, whereby, to use again the language of Algazzali, "they might see things that escaped the perceptions of reason, as the objects of reason escape the understanding, and as the objects of understanding escape the sensitive faculty."

The insufficiency of human reason and the need

of regeneration and spiritual illumination, are truths veiled under the symbols and allegories of Masonry. A figurative death, burial, and resurrection has, in one form or another, been an important part of its regular ceremonial from the earliest ages. Of this we have an interesting monumental record in Kit's Coity house, situated west of the high road from Maidstone to Chatham. It has been conjectured that it may have been erected over the grave of Catigern; but the most ancient historians have spoken of this and similar erections as things beyond tradition, the use of which could be even in their time but barely conjectured, and Dr. Oliver has given good reasons for the belief that they were neither tombs nor altars for sacrifice, but ancient chambers used in Masonic initiations. According to Grose, these monuments are not peculiar to the Britons, but common to all the northern nations. In the antiquities of Sweden and Norway, many of them are represented; and several are said to remain in Denmark; nor were they confined to those countries only, there being one of them in Minorca. Kit's Coity house is composed of four large stones; three of them are set upright in the ground, enclosing three sides of a square, and fronting the north, west, and south points; the fourth, which is the largest, is laid transversely over, and serves as a covering, but does not touch the south stone. It is not parallel to the horizon but inclines towards the west, in an angle of about nine degrees; owing to the west or end stone on which it rests, being somewhat shorter than the other supporter. Perhaps the east end, now open, was once also enclosed; as, about seventy yards to the north-west, lies another stone of the same kind and form as those standing. "Grose's Antiquities," vol. iii.

The stone on the east side was, doubtless, intentionally left so as to allow of its removal to admit the candidate for initiation into the mysteries of Druidical Masonry. He was thus enclosed within it, as in a tomb, and remained for a long time in darkness; after which the stone on the east was moved aside, so as to admit the rays of the rising sun. Probably not less than three thousand years have elapsed since this ritual was first introduced into Britain. Its full signification will be understood if we carefully consider it in connection with the ceremony of raising to the degree of Master Mason.

(To be continued.)

AN ANALYSIS OF ANCIENT AND MODERN FREEMASONRY.

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(Continued from page 422.)

It would be interesting to know a little more of the ancient company of Operative Masons than we do. We are told in "Ahiman Rezon," 3rd edition 1788, xxxviii., that "The Operative Masons are the 30th company in London; they have a hall in Basinghall-street, the number of livery men about seventy. Admission one pound sixteen shillings, and livery five five pounds. They were originally incorporated in the year 1410 by the name and style of the Society of Freemasons, and William Hankstow, Clarencieux, King-at-Arms (in the year 1477) granted them their arms, which the modern Masons have usurped, as well as that of their title, for the said Company is the only society in the kingdom who have a right to the name of Freemasons of England." According to a modern list of the Companies and Liveries of London, inserted in Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates," the "Masons" were again incorporated A.D. 1677. It would be a mistake to limit the term "Craft" or "Craftsmen" to Masons or Freemasons, as it has been generally applied to several trades for centuries, and the "Wrichtes" are frequently placed before the "Masons" in various Acts of Parliament. The "Goldsmiths' Company" is a very ancient one, having commenced existence about A.D. 1327, and was incorporated 16 Richard II., A.D. 1392, at which date we believe no incorporated society of the Masons existed. We anticipate considerable information will be afforded as to the nature of the Operative Masonic body by Bro. David Murray Lyon, who is about to publish his valuable and accurate "History of Mother Kilwinning," Ayr, Scotland, by request of the "Masonic Authors' Society and Literary Union," under whose sanction it will be issued as the first work printed by the society. Our friend Bro. D. M. Lyon intends at the same time to examine the various Acts of Parliament in reference to Masons, and hence the work will be of great value in the elucidation of the ancient history of the Craft, and especially as an authoritative record of the proceedings of one of the oldest Operative lodges in the world, of universal fame, and widespread influence.

It is believed by many who have examined the matter that before A.D. 1717 no trace of Freemasonry, apart from its Operative nature or connections, can be found; and, after a series of extended researches, we fully endorse such an opinion.

We shall conclude the first part of our analysis by a few examples of the Christian character of the Craft, from which the Grand Lodge of England and all the other Grand Lodges have been derived. Whilst, however, holding the opinion that Masonry is of a Christian origin, we do not find any evidence to warrant the belief that chivalry was connected with it, or materially assisted in its preservation during the Dark Ages, as throughout the Fraternity has shown sufficient activity and influence to look after its own, and its services were too valuable in any nation to be lightly dispensed with or require protection so long as the society was mainly of an Operative character.

The Constitutions of the German Masons of Strasburg, A.D. 1459, commence thus: "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and of our gracious Mother Mary." They provide that "No Craftsman or Master shall be received in the Fraternity who goes not early to the Holy Communion, or who keeps not Christian discipline;" and, "although by Christian discipline every Christian is bound to provide for his own salvation, yet it must be duly remembered by the Masters and Craftsmen—whom the Almighty God has graciously endowed with their art and workmanship, to build houses of God and other costly edifices, and honestly to gain their living thereby—that by gratitude their hearts be justly moved unto true Christian feelings, to promote Divine worship, and to merit the salvation of their souls thereby" (Findel's "History of Freemasonry").

The Constitution of Masonnrie, A.D. 1704, is introduced as follows: "The might of the Father of Heaven, together with the wisdom of the blessed Son, through the grace of God, three persons in one Godhead, be with us at our beginning, and bestow upon us grace so to govern ourselves in this life, that we may obtain to His blessedness, which will never end."

The old York Constitutions commence the first charge by declaring "That yee shall be true men to God and the Holy Church, and to use no error or heresie by your understanding and by wise men's teaching."

The prayers of the Craft further elucidate this subject and abundantly prove that the Christian religion was held in great veneration by the Fraternity all over the globe.

(To be continued in Vol. xviii.)

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 427.)

CHAPTER X.

GRAND MASTER—GERARD DE RIDEFORT.

Renaud de Chatillon continues his raids.—Saladin terminates the truce.—Assembles an army.—Council at Jerusalem.—Saladin storms Tiberias.—The Christians assemble at Sefhour. —Intrigues of the Count of Tripoli. The Christians advance upon Saladin.—Heroism of Templars.—The first day's battle.—Dismay and exhaustion of the Christian army.—Treachery of the Count of Tripoli.—Battle of Tiberias.—Loss of the true Cross.—Slaughter of the Christians.—Capture of the King and Gerard de Ridefort.—Saladin kills De Chatillon, and massacres the captive Templars.—A.D. 1187.

The truce which had been entered into between the Christians and Saladin had not yet been put an end to, for the irruption of the Mussulmen, which had been headed by Malek-el-Afdal, was more caused by the rebellion of the Count of Tripoli than by any direct act of the Sultan's. The army had not been sent to battle with the Christians, but rather to assist the Count in any war he might be engaged in with his brethren. Saladin, however, was anxious to renew hostilities, and an opportunity for throwing the *onus* of such a proceeding upon the Christians occurred. This he eagerly seized upon to terminate the truce. The brave but unscrupulous leader, Renaud de Chatillon, in spite of the solemn treaty of peace, refused to lay down his arms, or cease to continue war with the Musselmen. He was the commander of a fine body of Knights, who obeyed him as an oracle, and followed him through all difficulties and dangers with unswerving fidelity. He carried his raids into the heart of the Musselmen territory, defeated and slaughtered the armies sent against him, pillaged and fired the villages, and then returned with great deliberation to his own place, burdened with booty. Saladiu complained bitterly of these inroads, but was unable, on account of the rebellious state of the Turcomen, to avenge himself upon the Christians; while the commands of King Guy were laughed at by the

reckless Renaud. About the time of the slaughter of the Templars at Kedron, the mother of Saladin, who had been residing in Egypt, on her way to Damascus, with a numerous and splendid retinue, passed through the Christian territories, which lay on the other side of the Jordan, trusting to the treaty of peace to be unmolested on her journey. The tidings were brought to Renaud, who, tempted by the richness of the spoil, assaulted the company, carried off all their valuables, and the Sultan's mother only saved herself from death by a precipitate flight. Saladin, aroused by this injury, demanded restitution and satisfaction, according to the terms of the treaty; but Renaud when called upon to do so, only returned a contemptuous answer. At the same time the news was brought to the Sultan of the reconciliation of his ally, the Count of Tripoli, with the king. He thereupon declared the truce ended, and determined, at the head of a large army, to carry destruction into the lands of the Christians, to punish the perfidy of his late ally, and to revenge himself upon De Chatillon. He gave instructions for the summoning of his troops to the field, and placed them under the leadership of his most distinguished generals. Everything conspired to aid him in his schemes, and to bring about the destruction of the Christians. The news of the slaughter of the Templars at Kedron broke the spell which had compelled the Musselmen to flee before them. They found that the Knights were not immortal; that, though brave, they could be slain, although as yet they could not be made to flee. The ancient dread of fighting against the supernatural fled, and the Infidels proudly told of the slaughters of their determined enemies, both at Jacob's Ford and Kedron. But their religious enthusiasm was increased to a maddening degree, when the Sultan declared his intention of wresting Jerusalem, the sister of Medina and Mecca, from the hands of the Christians, and of restoring it to the worshippers of the Prophet. Saladin had succeeded in reducing his rebellious vassals, and his vast kingdom was completely under his sway. While disunion and ill-feeling reigned in the councils of the Christians, he had consolidated his kingdom on a surer basis, so that when he raised his standard against the Holy Land, the crowds that flocked to it to follow so renowned a leader, were numberless. Turks, Arabs, Kurds, and Egyptians daily trooped in to take part in what was devoutly considered to be a holy war, and to

share in the plunder of those cities which might fall before their victorious arms, as well as in the rich spoil of the holy city of Jerusalem itself. Saladin, to inflame them the more against the Christians, distributed towns and provinces beforehand among his faithful emirs, and held out to his followers the tempting bait of a certainty of booty, or a glorious martyrdom, and consequent immediate entrance upon the joys of Paradise. The Caliph of Bagdad, and all the imauns of Egypt, Syria, and Mesopotamia, put up daily prayers for the triumph of his arms, and the deliverance of Jerusalem from the Christian yoke.

The news of this immense gathering filled the hearts of the Christians with dismay, and nothing but desolation and destruction was prophesied to the Holy Land. The heavens were filled with signs, that proved how plainly God held in abomination their wickedness. Impetuous winds, tempests, and storms arose on all sides; the light of the sun was obscured during several days, and hailstones as large as the egg of a goose fell from heaven. The earth, equally agitated by frequent and horrible earthquakes, gave notice of coming ruin and destruction, with disasters and defeats in war, which were soon to visit the kingdom. Neither could the sea confine itself within its bounds and limits, but announced to the Christians, by its horrible floods and its unusually impetuous waves, the anger of God ready to fall upon them. Fire was seen blazing in the air like a house in flames; all the elements and architecture of God were angry, as if they abhorred the excesses, wickedness, dissoluteness, and offences of the human race.

At Ashtara, Saladin was joined by his son, Malek-el-Afdal, the leader of the Musselmen at the Kedron, and other famous commanders, and there he reviewed his troops. Confident of success, at the head of an army of eighty thousand horse and a great host of footmen, he crossed the Jordan, and advanced into Galilee. The march of his army is compared, by an Arabian historian, to mountains in motion, and the rolling billows of a tempestuous sea. On Friday, the 17th of the month Rabi, he marched, in three divisions, upon Al Soheira, a village situated at the head of Lake Tiberias, where he encamped for the night. Next day he approached, in battle order, Tiberias, which he stormed on the 21st, put all to the sword who resisted, and made slaves of the survivors. The Countess of Tripoli, upon the capture of the

town, retired with the garrison into the citadel, and from thence despatched messengers to her husband, imploring immediate aid. The rest of the town was fired and reduced to ashes.

The news of the advance of Saladin struck terror into the hearts of the Christians, and the bravest leaders doubted whether a successful head could be made against the vast hordes which surrounded the Infidel standard. Scarcely able to bear the weight of his armour, weak from the loss of blood, the valiant De Ridefort, no sooner heard of the advance of the enemy, than he sprang from his sick bed. His soul burned within to be revenged upon the Infidels, for the defeat which the Order had sustained at their hands; the spirits of the slaughtered De Maillie and his brethren called aloud for vengeance, and the disgrace which sullied the proud folds of the Beauseant, could only be washed out in the blood of the scum of the false prophet. By his advice a council was held at Jerusalem, to consult regarding the measures to be adopted for the preservation of the Holy Land. The king, the Count of Tripoli, and the barons of the kingdom, were present. This council was divided by opposing factions. The Count of Tripoli proposed sending messengers to Saladin to treat for peace; but Gerard de Ridefort, suspicious of the good faith of the Count, urged the Barons to prepare for immediate war. This advice was approved of by the majority of the assembly, to the chagrin of the Count. An order was issued commanding the three military Orders, the garrisons of the cities, with all Christians capable of bearing arms, to assemble on the plain of Sephouri. At the same time, De Ridefort offered to employ the money sent by Henry II. of England, and which was in his keeping as Grand Master of the Templars, to the prosecution of the war. This offer was gladly accepted; and it was furthermore determined, to encourage the Christians, that the true Cross, which had so often animated them in battle, should be carried at the head of the army. The Templars and Hospitallers came with a large force; the Count of Tripoli, too, brought his men of Galilee and Tripoli into the field; Prince Reginald of Mont Royal made his appearance at the head of a fine body of light horse; the Lord Balian of Naplous came with his retainers; while Reginald, Lord of Sidon, brought with him the men of the sea coast. An army of fifty thousand fighting men, the flower of the Christian soldiers of the East, were

assembled on the plain of Sephouri to do battle with Saladin. Gerard de Ridefort, as he had promised, brought with him the money sent by Henry, and which, in the impoverished state of the treasury, was most acceptable, the funds of the Christians having been almost completely exhausted.

Thus far the Grand Master succeeded in the measures which he had proposed for the protection of the Holy Land; but while encamped at Sephouri, the Count of Tripoli had an opportunity of stultifying the whole of his schemes, and blasting, before the enemy was in sight, all chances of success. He had again resumed his correspondence with Saladin, and resolved at all hazards to assist his ally. For this purpose he prevailed upon Guy de Lusignan to remain encamped at Sephouri, while Saladin took up position after position, and occupied the passes in the mountains, which alone could, had they been garrisoned by the Christians, have prevented his march upon Jerusalem. Gerard de Ridefort in vain implored the king to set out on his march, pointed out to him the necessity of stopping the advance of Saladin, and implored him not to permit the opportunity to slip through his fingers of turning the tide of victory. To all his arguments the feeble king turned a deaf ear. The homage paid him by the wily Count of Tripoli flattered his vanity, and he abode by the counsels of the one who could only rise through his fall, and forgot the advice of the other, whose interests were bound up with the king's own. But from this inaction the Christians were speedily and painfully aroused. The messenger arrived from Tiberias with tidings of its fall. The Christian leaders awoke from their lethargy, but, like the shorn Sampson, when it was too late.

A council was convened on the evening of the 2nd July, 1187, in the royal tent, at which were present, Gerard de Ridefort, the newly elected Grand Master of the Hospitallers, the Archbishop of Tyre, the Count of Tripoli, Balian d'Ibelin, and nearly all the bishops and barons of Palestine. The assembled barons at once declared for a march against Saladin; but the Count of Tripoli rose and said—"I am about to lay before you advice which will surprise you; but I offer it with the greater confidence from its being opposed to my personal interests. My desolated country, my subjects ready to submit to death or slavery, my wife exposed to the insults of the Musselmen, all implore instant succour from me and you; but it is my duty to think of the safety of Christian

cities now left without garrisons. In this army assembled on the plain of Sephouri exists the only hope which the Christians of the East have left. You behold here all the soldiers of Christ, all the defenders of Jerusalem; if they perish, the Infidels have no other foes to dread. Beware, then, of leading this multitude of men and horses into a dry and arid country where the season, with thirst and hunger, must soon deliver them up without defence to the enemy. The number even of the Christian soldiers inspires me with more alarm than confidence. They present nothing but a confused troop of men got together in haste, and totally unable to support fatigue. The Musselmen archers are more skilful than our soldiers in casting javelins, and may harass us on our march without our being able to defend ourselves. The cavalry of Saladin is more numerous and better trained than ours, and may attack us with advantage on the plains across which we must pass. Abandon, then, I entreat you, Tiberias to the Musselmen, and let us save an army which may yet repair our losses. I swear before God, and before man, that I would willingly abandon the country of Tripoli, with all the lands I possess, to procure the safety of the city of Christ. Our only aim must be to destroy the power of Saladin, and at the same time to preserve some defenders for the kingdom of Jerusalem. If we go to meet the enemy and should be conquered, God himself will not be able to save the Christians, but will allow us to be delivered up to the Infidels. If, on the contrary, the enemy come to offer themselves to our arms, all our losses will be repaired, and the evils that will fall upon me will become for me a source of gratification, since I shall have suffered for the cause of Christ and the safety of his people."

This was a skilful speech, and undoubtedly the advice contained in it was the best that, in the circumstances, could have been followed. Had the army, instead of marching against Saladin, fallen back upon Jerusalem, the loss of the city might have been prevented, and the Christians have succeeded in either driving back Saladin, or forcing him to conclude a favourable peace. This, however, was not the wish of the count. He desired Saladin to have the Christians completely in the Musselmen power, when peace would necessarily be declared, and the terms of that peace result in the deposition of Guy de Lusignan from the throne of Jerusalem, when the Count hoped, by intriguing, to be raised to the supreme power.

There cannot be the shadow of a doubt that the Count's advice was meant by him to be the opposite of friendly to the interests of the Christians, and in all probability was given utterance to, in unison with a certain line of operations, concerted between him and Saladin. On hearing this advice, the Grand Master of the Templars, certain of the Count's secret understanding with Saladin, and weary of an inaction which was becoming dangerous to the discipline of the forces, rose and stigmatised him as a traitor, reminded the assembly of his former alliance with Saladin, and exclaimed that he could perceive the wolf's skin under the fleece of the sheep. When the Count mentioned the name of Christ, Gerard exclaimed with bitterness, that the name of Mahomet was better fitted for his lips. The Count only replied—"I will submit to the punishment of death if these things do not fall out as I have said." The Grand Master then loudly demanded that the army should be led against Saladin, but the barons, influenced by his seeming candour, sided with the Count of Tripoli, and it was resolved to remain where they were encamped, although Saladin's army was now ravaging all the country about Tiberias, and his light horse had laid waste the country around the brook Kishon.

(To be continued.)

BANKERS' OR MASONS' MARKS.

Under this title in "Notes and Queries," No. 309, for November 30th, 1867, appears the following interesting communication from the pen of a correspondent and querist, Mr. P. Hutchinson. As many of our readers have, we know, devoted themselves within the last few years to similar investigations, we shall be glad if some of them will contribute to the general stock of knowledge upon this interesting subject:—

"In November, 1864, when I was last staying with my late cousin, the Rev. Canon Hutchinson, in the Close at Lichfield, a stranger visited the cathedral, and passed a considerable time one morning in the pursuit of a branch of archaeological study to which I had not then turned my attention. He examined many parts of the interior walls of the building in search of ancient masons' marks scratched or cut on the stone. The subject, to me, having the charm of novelty, induced me to make inquiry from stone-cutters and others as to the employment of such marks, whether in ancient or modern times, and whether they were merely fanciful, or were intended

to answer any useful purpose. When a man is about to work a block of stone, he places it upon a stool or stout table, or more commonly a heavy junk of wood. This table or support is termed in the trade a "bank," and the men who work at it are called "bankers." Hence it follows, by an easy sequence, that the marks of these men should be termed "bankers' marks." One or two reasons were given me in explanation of their use. It is plain that every man must work his different pieces of stone so as to make them fit well together when they are placed in the building, and, to know those which he has himself worked, he will put his own mark upon them. This might be his own private reason for their employment, but another was also given me. The foreman or clerk of the works will sometimes require to know what work was executed by what men; for where a block of stone has been sent up to the building (among others) badly shaped or carelessly worked, the foreman would require to know who did it, in order to reprimand the bad workman. The use of such marks, therefore, nails every bit of work upon its author. The employment of such marks in masonry is said to date from a very early period. Down to about the fourteenth or fifteenth century, I was informed, it was customary to put these marks on the outside face of the stone, where they remained visible after the building was completed; but, subsequently to that time, for some reason or other (perhaps they were thought to be unsightly), they were placed on the bed of the stone, where they are concealed. When Sidmouth parish church, in Devonshire, was rebuilt in 1860, by a whim of the clerk of the works the masons' marks were put on the outer face where they may still be seen—that is, in such cases as where the lamentably soft stone has not decayed away.

"During the process of restoring Lichfield Cathedral, nearly the whole of the interior had been scraped, so as to remove the successive coats of whitewash, by which operation any scratches still retaining the lime revealed themselves clearly upon the darker coloured stone. Mr. Yeend (pronounced Yend), the head verger, and a very intelligent man, by the way, informed me that the gentleman who was engaged in the researches alluded to was named Ford, and that he had it in contemplation to bring out a book on the subject of these marks, illustrated with facsimiles of them. Having been shown some of the marks by Mr. Yeend, and fired by the newness of the subject, I set to work examining the cathedral, and made rubbings of such as I found. As further tending to give interest to the practice amongst workmen of using such devices, I was told that men jealously adhered to them through life, and that they were frequently transmitted from father to son.

Before I left Lichfield I had collected nearly thirty of them, all of which I still retain, pasted into a book, together with memoranda noting the places where they occurred. In illustration of this I will mention some of them, as, for instance, a plain cross occurring on the south side of the large south-west pier of the central tower; the fylfot on N. side of presbytery, this part of the building having been erected about 1325; the saltier, three examples on first pier (from the west door) on N. side of nave; the saltier crossed again like a cross-crosslet, on third pier, S. side of nave, built about 1250; a rude Greek λ , two examples on columns E. side of N. transept near the organ; figure like a bent bow with string, or chord and arc, two on seventh pier N. side of nave; arrow head, two on W. side of N.W. pier of central tower; arrow on E. side of N. transept; two lines conjoined, making a figure like a flail, three examples, from N. transept, built about 1240, and central tower; two flails saltier-wise, W. side of N. transept; a perpendicular line with three side lines sloping upwards out of it, two or three on fourth pier on S. side of nave; a saltier between two perpendicular lines, two on fifth pier on S. side of nave; a triangle crossed at the points, two on N. side of first pier on S. side of nave, nearly twenty feet from floor; a trefoil of three vesica-shaped figures conjoined in point, almost regular enough to have been struck with the compasses, two on S. side of S.W. pier of central tower; a trefoil of three triangles conjoined in point, one near great west door, N. side, and two behind S. half of chapter-house door; a star like eight spokes of a wheel, third pier S. side of nave; a star like six spokes of a wheel on left side of organ; a star on six points formed of two equilateral triangles, one on left of organ front on wall in N. aisle of choir, and another on left of door going to chapter-house, in same aisle; a star of five points on W. side of S.W. pier of central tower, near the floor. I may also mention rudely-formed letters used as marks, such as M, V, R, W, &c., occurring in different places. They are all Roman capitals. On the wall to the left of the organ front are apparently the letters I—R, conjoined by a horizontal line. In looking for masons' marks, the inquirer ought to find at least two of the same sort, in order to be certain that the scratches are not accidental.

With regard to the modern marks used by the masons who rebuilt Sidmouth church in 1860, I may as well add that I copied the marks at the time, and I also took down the names of all the men who used them. It would be interesting now to know the names of those who had put them on the stonework of Lichfield Cathedral more than 600 years ago.

"Such are my notes. By way of query I would ask whether Mr. Ford has gone on with his book?"

TENTH DECADE OF MASONIC PRECEPTS.

(From Bro. PURTON COOPER'S Manuscript Collections.)

XCI.—CONTRARIETIES.

Brother, when thou risest in the morning consider the contrarieties which thou mayest, not improbably, encounter in the course of the day, both within and without thy house; and resolve to bear them, not indeed with the indifference of an ancient Stoic, but with the equanimity of a good Freemason.

XCII.—FAITH.

Brother, let not thy faith vary with every fresh doctrine that ariseth, like the vane on the spire, moved by every new wind that bloweth.

XCIII.—INTELLIGENCE.

Brother, the greater the intelligence, the greater the sin.

XCIV.—THE POOR MAN'S SORROW.

Brother, let not the poor man have reason to regard thee as the wilful cause of his sorrow.

XCV.—THE MISER.

Brother, for receiving the miser's hand is ever open; but for giving it is ever shut.

XCVI.—TEDIOUS DISCOURSE.

Brother, if thou must hear a tedious discourse, it is better that thou should'st listen with patience and good humour.

XCVII.—CALAMITY. DUTY.

Brother, in a calamity do as conscience and piety dictate that thou oughtest to do; and the mental suffering occasioned by the calamity will, in general, be compensated by the satisfaction arising from the sense of having performed thy duty.

XCVIII.—LICENTIOUSNESS.

Brother, licentiousness in youth bringeth tribulation in old age.

XCIX.—ELEVATION. HUMILITY.

Brother, is thy elevation great? Then let thy humility also be great.

C.—METAPHYSICS.

The Great First Cause; its incomprehensibility; man's intuitive knowledge of the Moral Law; the immutability of the laws of nature; the freedom of the human will;—thou hast here, brother, the contents of two stanzas of Alexander Pope's Universal Prayer. In these contents thou may'st find as much as metaphysics shall ever teach thee.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BRO. PATON'S TRACT.

My dear young friend, the three parts of the recently-published little tract of Bro. Paton are thus entitled:—1. The responsibilities and duties of a Mason as a subject and a citizen to civil government.

2. The duties and responsibilities of a Mason to his own Order in the lodge and out of it. 3. The responsibilities and duties of a Mason to his family and friends, and to society at large. Hasten to procure and to read the tract, and read it not once only, but frequently. Read it until every passage has become familiar to your mind. All true Freemasons will join in the expression of hope and trust with which Bro. Paton concludes what he has written—"that so much of the good seed that he has endeavoured honestly and faithfully to sow will sooner or later ripen into a harvest abundant in quantity, delightful in quality, and refreshing, stimulating and strengthening to the world, as it now is, and to generations still unborn."—C. P. COOPER.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

It is not known in what lodge Franklin was initiated. The date of his initiation must be as early as 1732, for, in that year, he was "Senior Warden under Grand Master William Allen." See FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, No. 372, page 124. A correspondent sadly misapprehends the object of a "very enthusiastic American Freemason" in desiring that a copy of the extract from "Caillot Annales Maçonique" should be sent to the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE. See vol. xvi., page 467.—C. P. COOPER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents.

A BEGGING IMPOSTOR.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—As I think it the duty of every Mason to try to put a stop to imposition, may I ask your insertion of the following facts?

A few days ago a man called on me soliciting charity. His name is James Black. He told me he was initiated in the St. Stephen's Lodge, Edinburgh, in 1858. On production of his certificate, however, I found it bore date August 15th, 1867. I felt suspicious that all was not exactly "on the square," but, as the man was undoubtedly a Mason, and stated that his wife and family were at the point of starvation, I relieved his immediate want. By the same day's post I wrote to the W.M. of St. Stephen's Lodge, and received an answer, of which the following is an extract:—"You, unfortunately, forget to state the name of the man, but I have a notion that it is Black, for, in August last, he wrote me, stating he was going to Paris, and would like his diploma, and, as he did not know the cost, he would remit the cash by return of post. Finding his name all right in the books, I sent his certificate, but he forgot to send the cash, and, on my writing to him for it, my letter was returned. I have since heard sufficient to induce me to think he obtained the diploma under what appears, I fear, like false pretences, and for begging purposes, and I think the diploma should be detained until he remits the fee."

Now, I trust this letter will meet the eye of some brother who will be called upon by this man, and that he will act up to the suggestion of the W.M. of St. Stephen's Lodge. At the same time, I cannot help thinking that it is very unadvisable to supply

certificates to men who, although they are Masons, are parties of whom the W.M. has no knowledge. I have noticed that the majority of the "begging fraternity" are supplied with Scotch certificates, which, I have no doubt, are frequently obtained for no other purpose than that of using it as Black is using his. Yours fraternally,

H. A. WILLIAMSON, W.M. 200.

SCOTCH MASONIC LECTURES.

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

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In the report of a Scotch lecture on Masonic ceremony, contained in your impression of the 23rd ult., there are two or three errors, which, perhaps, you will allow me space to correct. In referring to the olden times, in your impression it is "every tenth man was a Warden. Two Wardens with the Master were twenty-one; and a third of that is still considered necessary to constitute a lodge." On looking at my notes, I find I stated "every tenth man was a Warden, who presided over nine others. Two Wardens, *with the men under them*, and a Master in chief, were *twenty-one*, and a third of this number, viz., seven, is considered indispensable to open a lodge in Scotland." On the office of Depute yours is "It is the Depute who fills the chair in the absence of a past or substitute Master." What I stated was "The Depute fills the chair in the absence of the Master, should no Past Master be present." The Grand Lodge has an extra office, that of substitute Master, who fills the chair, should neither Master, Past Master, or Depute be present. I also stated that in many lodges the Depute's office was turned to good account, as it was made a probation and office of practice for the future Mastership. Another slight error in your impression is "the Master's decisions are important." Mine was "imperative." In the introductory notice in your publication to "Scotch Masonic Lectures" there is an expression "whether it be legitimate to extend the subject matter of lectures given in a Masonic lodge, so as to embrace those delivered in No. 225." I sincerely trust that there is nothing in the Masonic code to prevent the subject matter of lectures delivered within our circles from embracing a wide range of subjects in literature, science, and art. My own have been principally confined to matters strictly Masonic, but I have heard from several of our brethren lectures on scientific discovery and readings from the best authors, which would have done honour to the ablest conducted literary institutes. There have been many complaints that speculative Masonry is too much hampered by the "hammer and mallet," where subjects being circumscribed and getting tedious from oft repetition, has caused the hours of refreshment to be unduly extended, which the judicious introduction of literary and scientific discourse might have prevented. Any interference with our ancient muniments may not be allowed, but I humbly think a careful examination of the intent and purpose of our Order will allow of the introduction of a wide range of subjects being introduced as Masonic lectures, which might add to the respect for, and would certainly not be detrimental to, our ancient landmarks.

Yours fraternally,

R. COWIE.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

* * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

THE installation of the W.M. of the Carlisle Lodge will take place on Tuesday, the 17th inst., at about four p.m., on which day a R.A. convocation will be held at 10 a.m., and at about 1.30 p.m. a Mark meeting will also be holden. All brethren who may be visiting Carlisle on that day will be made welcome. In the evening, at about six p.m., the anniversary.

NEW AMERICAN MASONIC MAGAZINE.—The *Masonic Sun* is the title of a new Masonic monthly just issued at Wilmington, North Carolina.

THE ceremony of consecration of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction (No. 192) will be performed on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the Sugar Loaf Tavern, St. Mary Axe, E.C., by Bro. R. W. Little, P.M. The chair will be taken at seven o'clock p.m. precisely, and the arrangements for the rehearsal provide for the introduction of appropriate music at certain parts of the ceremony.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall. The Right Honourable the Earl de Grey and Ripon occupied the throne in the absence of the M.W. Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland. Bro. Lord Eliot, S.G.W.; Bro. Algernon Perkins acted as J.G.W.

Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer.

MINUTES OF THE LAST QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

The G. SECRETARY read the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, held on the 4th of September last, which were confirmed.

NOMINATION OF THE GRAND MASTER.

Bro. SHARPE, D.C.L., nominated the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland as M.W. Grand Master of Masons for the ensuing year, and adverted to the fact that he had occupied that position for twenty-five years, showing the esteem in which he was held by the Craft.

Bro. MATTHEW COOKE criticised the acts of the Grand Secretary, and said, as there was no mode of getting rid of him but by getting rid of the Grand Master, he nominated himself for that office.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

Several recommendations came up for grants from the Board of Benevolence, viz., Bro. W——, Lodge No. 87, £10; Bro G——, Lodge 271, £30; Bro. M——, Lodge 231, £30; and the widow of Bro. L——, Lodge 205, £50; all of which were agreed to.

Twelve Past Masters were nominated to the Board.

THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

This report was presented, but it contained no topic of interest.

COLONIAL BOARD.

A long report was presented from the Colonial Board as to persons being admitted into lodges of Nova Scotia, who were previously rejected by the lodges of North Carolina, and a

communication was ordered to be returned to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina on the subject, which will be given in our next impression.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

A long report was also presented from the Building Committee, which led to a very long and somewhat animated discussion as to how far the committee were justified in charging the tenants of the Tavern an increased rental from the 11th of November last, it being contended that the advance was only to take place from the completion of the building, and the bricklayers were still employed upon it. It was urged by Bro. Vallance, solicitor to the Company, that they had been improperly subjected to great loss in consequence of the building not being completed at the time specified, and that another injury was about being inflicted upon the shareholders by the taking away from them the right of using the distinctive and well-known name of "Freemasons' Tavern," which was proposed to be done under the 9th article of the lease to Bro. Shrewsbury. This would have the effect of depriving poor orphans and widows of the benefit of their money which had been invested in this establishment.

These remarks were replied to by Bro. Havers, who afterwards proposed a series of resolutions. On one of them a division took place which resulted adverse to the recommendations of the committee, as it fixed the annual subscription from the brethren belonging to the London district for the use of the coffee-room and library at one guinea per annum.

A long and uninteresting detail of an appeal from the W.M. of the Harmonic Lodge (No. 356), St. Thomas's, West Indies, against the decision of the District Grand Master, finished the business of the evening at a late hour.

We shall give a full report of the business of Grand Lodge in our next.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL OAK LODGE (No. 871).—The usual meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at the Royal Oak Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Bro. Wm. Andrews, W.M., presided, and there were present during the evening Bros. J. Hawker, S.W.; W. Jeffery, J.W.; H. A. Collington, P.M., Treas.; P. Walters, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; J. Truelove, S.D.; T. Killner, as J.D.; J. W. T. Barrett, I.G.; S. C. Cook, J. Ragg, G. Ellis, F. H. Carter, R. E. Turner, W. Dalziel, S. O. Lewin, G. S. Ditton, T. C. King, G. E. Honey, and very many others. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. R. D. Duckets, 15 I.C.; J. Mott, 147; G. Hill, 157; J. Payne, W.M. 169; W. Marriott, J.W. 169; G. E. Gale, W.M. 548, and many others. The minutes of the last meeting were read and unanimously confirmed. Ballots were taken for Messrs. C. Tilbrook and R. A. Watson, and in each instance was declared to be unanimous in favour of their admission. Mr. A. Watson being in attendance, was ably initiated into Freemasonry. Bro. R. E. Turner gave great proofs of his proficiency as a Fellow Craft, and was most impressively raised to the third degree. Messrs. Tuson and Reed were proposed for initiation at the next lodge meeting. The important notice of motion by the Secretary for providing a fund for contributing towards the support of the Masonic Charities was lost by two votes, it being arranged in another way to give support to the Charities. Bro. William Dalziel was accepted and returned as a Steward to represent this lodge at the forthcoming festival, to be held on the 29th of next January, to support the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. As arranged last year, Bro. John Hawker, S.W., kindly consented to represent this lodge at the Boys' School in March, 1868, as the Steward, and his name was duly forwarded. A petition was duly signed on behalf of a widow

of a brother once belonging to a neighbouring lodge, which proved the good feeling which exists amongst all the members of the various lodges held in Deptford, all being ever ready to aid and assist each other. The lodge was duly closed. A banquet followed, served up in the host's best style, for which he is so justly celebrated. The usual loyal toasts were given and received, and some recitations, songs, and merriment brought the last meeting of the year to a happy close.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1,158).—The usual meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., at the Montpellier Tavern, Walworth, and was well attended. Bro. Henry Thompson, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Pulsford, S.W.; Margerison, J.W.; R. Clarke, S.D.; Bartlett, I.G.; Charles E. Thompson, Sec.; and Henry Potter, P.M. The lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer. The minutes of the last regular lodge and the lodge of emergency were read and confirmed. The first business of the evening was to pass Bros. Hart, Herbert, Kiff's, and Sweet to the second degree, after which it was announced that Bros. Russell, Gillett, Davenport, and O'Conner were candidates for the sublime degree, and, having satisfactorily answered the questions as to their Masonic progress, they withdrew, and the lodge was opened in the third degree. On their readmission they were all raised to the sublime degree of M.M., the W.M. performing that important ceremony in his usual impressive manner, and the way in which this part of the ritual was gone through evidently made a deep impression upon those who were then admitted to the mysteries and privileges of the third degree. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when the following gentlemen, who were candidates for admission into the noble Order, were severally initiated into the first stage of ancient, free, and accepted Masonry, viz., Messrs. Samuel Shepherd, George Farmer, and George Walklate, and they paid great attention to the ceremony as it was rendered by the W.M. The interests of the widow of a deceased brother, who is a candidate for the benefits of the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their widows, having been introduced to the lodge by the W.M., a satisfactory arrangement was made with a view to the future operations. Some propositions for the next meeting having been made, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. The brethren then adjourned for refreshment, which was well served by Bro. Allatt, the host, and was done ample justice to. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," which was received with the customary honours and the National Anthem. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose, after having drunk the health of the Sovereign of the country, was that of the Sovereign of Freemasonry, the Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master of Masons. He was most undoubtedly a very popular Sovereign, and he might say, in these reforming times, that he was a very democratic Sovereign, for he was subjected to an annual election, and was elected by all but universal suffrage. Notwithstanding all this, he was truly respected and esteemed; and, when it was remembered that he had been annually elected for twenty-four times, it showed the respect in which he was held throughout the Craft, or he would not have been so often elected to preside over them in the elevated position of Grand Master. He, therefore, called upon the brethren to do all the honours that were so justly due, and drink the health of the Right Hon. Bro. the Earl of Zetland M.W. Grand Master of Masons. The toast was most enthusiastically responded to. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was "The Health of Bro. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers." To those who had the privilege of attending the Grand Lodge, and had seen the way in which Bro. the Earl de Grey and Ripon had discharged the duties in the absence of the Grand Master, any eulogium of him would be quite out of place, but to those who had not had that honour, he could say that he always discharged them with great ability and kindness, and if the time should arrive when the Grand Master was unable to perform his duties, or desirous of surrendering his office to some one else, he thought there would be a general feeling throughout the Craft that the mantle of office should fall upon him, and which was now so worthily worn by their present Grand Master. This toast was also warmly received and responded to. Bro. Mackney here obliged the brethren with a choice song, accompanying himself on the pianoforte. The W.M. said the next toast he had to propose was always a most pleasing

one to a Master of a lodge, but more especially to that of a new lodge like their own, when they found gentlemen come forward to join their ranks and to extend the great principles of Freemasonry. It was a great and solemn step that they had taken, but it was one that they would look back to with pleasure for the rest of their lives. They were enrolled amongst the members of a noble Order, whose great principles were the diffusion of kindness and good will amongst all mankind, and the promotion of acts of charity which were the distinguishing characteristics of their Order. Let them not be unmindful of the tenets which had that night been impressed upon their attention and carry out in life the sublime principles inculcated upon them. In Freemasonry they would find a great deal that would be useful to them in life, and when they met their brethren in the Craft they would find that there was a silver cord that united man to man; they would meet together as no other class of men met and they would find in all the transactions of life that ennobling principle which led man to higher hopes and holier aspirations. He concluded by giving "The health of their newly-initiated brethren—Bros. Shepherd, Farmer, and Walklake." This toast, like the preceeding, was most enthusiastically received. Bros. Shepherd, Farmer, and Walklake severally returned thanks. Bro. Potter, P.M., requested the brethren to charge their glasses bumpers for the toast he was about to propose. He had for a brief space of time got possession of the W.M.'s gavel, and the use he should apply it to was to propose the health of the W.M. The brethren had that evening seen the way in which he had gone through his duties, and when they recollected the strain upon the mind to go through all the three different ceremonies, he thought they would admit that their W.M. was deserving a tribute of praise at their hands. He called upon them to join with him in drinking "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Henry Thompson." The toast was drank with great cordiality. Bro. Thompson, W.M., in responding, said he wished that his imaginative powers were equal to the occasion so that he might in new and fitting terms express his thanks to the brethren for the kindness they always manifested towards him. He had on several other occasions had to acknowledge this mark of their favour, but every time it was renewed demanded from him suitable terms to express his gratitude for their kindness. He was, however, "poor in thanks," and was unable adequately to reply to the kind way in which his health had been proposed by his esteemed Bro. Potter, or the cordiality with which the brethren had received it. Therefore he had simply to thank them for their good opinion, adding only that it was a high honour to be the Master of any lodge, but it was especially so to be selected as the first Master of a new lodge, and to be supported in the way he had been by his brother officers and the rest of the brethren. They had been in existence scarcely six months, and yet during that time nearly twenty members had been initiated in the lodge, which spoke well for its future prosperity, and as long as he had the honour to belong to it, he would do everything in his power to promote its welfare and the happiness of the brethren. The W.M. said to secure the well-working of the lodge and keep it in a satisfactory state they must have good officers, and he felt that he was peculiarly fortunate in that respect, for every one of his officers was fully competent to the duties he had to discharge. His brother S.W. was quite equal to any duty, and when he should arrive at the chair he was quite able to carry out the duties of that office to their entire satisfaction. He might say the same of Bro. Margerison, J.W., and the rest of the officers, and he called upon the brethren to join him in drinking "The Health of the Officers of the Southern Star Lodge." Bro. Pulsford, Clarke, Thompson, and Bartlett severally returned thanks. The W.M. next proposed the health of Bro. Potter, P.M., and adverted to the assistance he had always received from him, and the kind and genial good nature with which he was always ready to discharge any duties assigned to him. The toast was well received. Bro. Potter returned thanks and congratulated the lodge on its present prosperity. The W.M. gave "The Masonic Charities," and alluded to the claims that the Royal Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows had upon their attention. The toast was drank with great cordiality and several of the members at once became subscribers to the funds. The Tyler's toast brought a truly happy meeting to a close, which was agreeably diversified by songs from Bro. Potter, Mackney, and several other brethren, and all separated highly pleased at the Masonic treat they had had.

PROVINCIAL,

BEDFORDSHIRE.

BEDFORD.—*Stuart Lodge* (No. 540).

The 20th anniversary of the constitution of this prosperous and well-conducted lodge was celebrated on Wednesday, the 27th ult., when brethren to the number of between fifty and sixty, including visitors, assembled in the lodge room, at the Swan Hotel, Bedford. The business of the lodge consisted of a raising, the initiation of one candidate, and the installation of the W.M. elect. The lodge was opened at four o'clock. The ceremony of raising Bro. J. J. Cooke to the degree of a M.M. was most solemnly, impressively, and beautifully rendered by Bro. John Sergeant, W.M.; all the officers of the lodge performing their respective duties in such a manner as to deserve and evoke the marked admiration of all present. Lodge was resumed in the first degree and the candidate for initiation being in attendance, the ballot was taken, and proving to be unanimously in favour of his admission he was duly initiated into Masonry. Bro. Cookson, a member of the lodge presided at the harmonium and played the appropriate selections in the several degrees with good taste.

The report of the audit committee proved the highly prosperous financial state of the lodge and also that the brethren had neither been unmindful of their duties to the noble institutions in London nor of their own local charities.

By the request of the retiring Master, Bro. Nash, P.M., took the chair, who, after the usual preliminaries, most ably installed Bro. Christopher Pickering in the chair of K.S.

The new Master, having been saluted and proclaimed, was addressed by Bro. Thomas Riley, P.M. and Sec. of the lodge, upon the nature of the duties and responsibilities of the Master.

The board of Installed Masters numbered some fourteen or fifteen Past Masters, amongst whom were Bros. Lieut.-Col. Stuart, M.P., for the borough of Bedford, P.S.G.D. of England; Capt. Polhill Turner; Goldsbro', Prov. S.G.W. North Wales and Shopshire; Nash, P.M. 540; Thomson, F.R.C.S. P. Prov. S.G.W. Herts; John Sergeant, I.P.M.; Thomas Riley, P.M. and Sec.; Wells, Hurst, Fisher. There were also present in the lodge Bros. Dr. Williams, Hayden, Rev. Sedggrave, Chap.; Russell, Piper, Lovell, Robt. E. Roberts, Capt. W. T. Deverell, 45th Regiment; &c.

The following brethren were invested as officers for the ensuing year:—

Bro. Johnson.....	S.W.
„ Ballard	J.W.
„ T. Riley	Sec.
„ Cookson	S.D.
„ Nash	J.D.
„ Reynolds.....	Tyler.

The business of the lodge being ended the brethren sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Wicks, of the Swan Hotel, the new Master, Bro. C. Pickering, presiding, supported by Bro. Col. Stuart, the I.P.M., and about fifty other brethren, members and visitors.

After the cloth was removed, grace was pronounced by the Rev. Bro. Chaplain. The W.M. proposed the toast of the "Queen and the Craft," observing that it was one which every Englishman would drink, and especially every English Freemason. The toast was followed by the "National Anthem," Bro. Cookson presiding as the piano.

The usual Masonic toasts of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master" and "Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master" of the Order were severally given and duly honoured.

Glee—"The Red Cross Knight," Bro. Riley, P.M., Piper, Clark, and Russell.

Bro. Nash, P.M., rose, and said: The gavel has been placed in my hands for a few minutes, and I cheerfully avail myself of the honour to propose a toast which I do with the greatest cordiality, it is "The Health of the Worshipful Master for the next year. He has been almost through every office in th lodge and has been most painstaking and zealous in all duties. His kindly honest, and Masonic heart is a guarantee your happiness for the ensuing year. Let us drink his health with all the honours.

Bro. C. Pickering, W.M.: Brother Past Masters, Wardens and brethren, I am very much obliged to you for the kind manner in which my health has been proposed and I can assure

you I will endeavour to do my best, and I trust my conduct will be such as to gain the respect of the lodge; I am very much obliged for the honour you have paid me.

Bro. Col. Stuart, *M.P.*, *P.G.D.* of England, then rose, and said: The Worshipful Master has allowed me to propose the next toast and which I do with much pleasure. I have had the pleasure of being acquainted and connected with this lodge since the second year of its formation. I joined it in the year 1848—I was abroad at the time it was formed—and I have had the pleasure to watch it during its career since that time; its working, its strength, and its prosperity denote the great activity and zeal which must have prevailed amongst its early members and they have been raised to high rank in it. No lodge can prosper unless its officers are efficient in their duties, it is by gradations of rank that they rise, and if they do not attend to their duties, when they hold the lower offices, it is not likely they will do so when they arrive at the higher. Without a staff of Past Masters no lodge can flourish; if illness or other grave cause prevent the officers from attending to their duties they have to be performed by others, and unless there be Past Masters present to take those duties, they cannot be satisfactorily discharged. From the second or third years of the constitution of this lodge, there have always been two or three Past Masters ready to take the chair when wanted, and it is gratifying to see the spirit with which they are animated; it is encouraging to see in those whose years are wearing on them, that they are not afraid to undertake those duties which they may have thought they had left behind them. Those who have been twenty-five years in Masonry may feel they have done their work, but they being ready to do that work at any time when called upon, manage to retain a good deal of the knowledge of the duties they have before performed, and our Immediate Past Master will bear me out in saying, efficiently. There are so many whom I see around this table; there is Past Master Nash, one of the oldest members of the lodge; I need hardly mention to you the name of Bro. Riley, he has held every office—Secretary, Master, Public Orator (though this he never aspired to), Director of the Musical Department—all these he has well and ably filled, and we can speak of him as the father and main-stay of the lodge. If it had not been for Bro. Riley it would not have been formed when it was, if at all; his zeal alone mainly caused the formation of this lodge. I scarcely know whom to select, there are our brothers, Bro. Nash, Fisher, Wells, and Bro. Captain Polhill Turner, whom we hope will always remain in the neighbourhood; if I omit any names, it is because the length of the table prevents my seeing the brethren. I hope that all the brethren, even the brother who has been initiated this evening, will rise and give this toast that honour it deserves to receive, I am quite certain the brethren will be grateful to them.

We were informed that, with the exception of Bro. Colonel Stuart and Bro. Riley, all the other members had been initiated into Masonry in the Stuart Lodge.

Bro. John Sergeant, the *I.P.M.*, replied: On behalf of the Past Masters, I thank you heartily and sincerely for drinking our healths. We are delighted to see so goodly an assemblage here to-night. I personally return thanks to my predecessors for so kindly assisting me in the discharge of the onerous duties of the past year; it has been the happiest year I ever spent in my life, and if the present Master is assisted as much and as well as I have been, I am sure he will be able to say the same at the end of his year of office. Our Secretary, Bro. Riley, has been an invaluable aid to me. I thank you all for drinking the health of the Past Masters.

Song—"The men of merry, merry England," Bro. Arthur Riley.

Bro. T. Riley, *P.M.* and Sec.: Brethren of the Stuart Lodge, I am going to address this toast to you—by permission of the *W.M.*—and I could not have a more gratifying one to suggest to you than the one placed into my hands, it is "The Health of the Visiting Brethren," and with that toast we wish them every possible prosperity to their respective lodges. Since the establishment of this lodge, it has always been a very fortunate occurrence on our anniversary that we have been favoured with a great number of visitors, but we have never had so goodly a show as we have the happiness to see around us now. There are no members of any lodge in the world that can more truly appreciate the seeing as their guests those worthy and distinguished brethren and those worthy men whom we have the happiness now to see around us. It has been our fortunate fate to be happily placed with regard to financial affairs. There are

many lodges which cannot do with the same liberality that which we can do with perfect justice to ourselves. We have this evening the happiness of seeing the largest assemblage of visitors since the Stuart Lodge was established, and nothing can be a greater pleasure than seeing them amongst us. I hope all our brother visitors understand that they are our guests; it would detract from our pleasure in seeing them unless they always understand that when paying us a visit they are received as Freemasons ought to be received—as welcome guests. There are two or three whom I would name, Bros. Collins Wells, and Dr. Williams—brethren whose admission as joining members was decided without a dissentient voice. No two members could be more decidedly acceptable to this lodge. Our brother Dr. Goldsbro' (who is the Provincial Senior Grand Warden of North Wales and Shropshire) I have had the great pleasure of meeting on several occasions, and I am sure a more honourable and generous gentleman, or a truer Mason than he is, you cannot meet with. I should be able to say something of each individual visitor who on this occasion has favoured us with his presence; but, without any further observation, I ask the Stuart Lodge to rise and give that hearty welcome which every true Mason will ever delight in giving to those guests who have honoured this lodge by visiting us to-day. Now, brethren, "Stuart Lodge, fire," short, sharp, and decided.

Glee—"Willie brew'd a peck o' maut," Bros. Riley, Cookson, Piper, and Russell.

Bros. Wells, *P.M.*; Goldsbro'; Lovell, *P.M.* of the Buckingham Lodge, and *P.Z.* No. 88; and Lear, *W.M.* of the Beaudesert Lodge, No. 1,087, respectively returned thanks, each brother expressing in the warmest terms their pleasure and admiration of the manner in which the duties of the Stuart Lodge were carried on by all the officers from the *W.M.* to the *I.G.*, and of the fraternal and hospitable welcome accorded to the visitors, and congratulated the lodge upon its possessing so estimable, distinguished, and indefatigable a Mason as their veteran Past Master and Secretary, Bro. Riley.

Song—"The Standard Bearer," Bro. J. Sergeant.

Bro. Captain Polhill Turner, *P.M.*: Brethren, the toast committed to my charge is, I venture to say, a very important one, it is that of "The Officers of this Lodge." We all know that without discipline nothing is properly carried on. As an old soldier, I feel that discipline is necessary above all things. We have heard to-night the high encomiums passed upon the officers of this lodge by the brethren who have done us the honour of visiting us. I am quite sure that those who have been appointed as the new officers of the lodge for the coming year will maintain the discipline of our lodge and keep it unsullied in its integrity, and will preserve the *prestige* it has had for so many years—second to none of the best lodges. I am quite sure, from what I know of the *W.M.* who fills the chair of this lodge, and of the officers who occupy the different chairs, they will do so. It is a great pleasure to us as Past Masters to see that the lodge keeps up its ancient name; I am sure it will always do so, and that the officers will do their best to maintain its reputation. I propose the health of the Senior Warden and the officers of the lodge.

Bro. Johnson, *S.W.*: I have very much pleasure in responding to the toast proposed by Bro. Polhill Turner, and with respect to his remarks as to keeping up the discipline and efficiency of the Stuart Lodge, I hope that in the hands of those who are going up the hill, that efficiency will never be diminished. I am happy and proud in saying for my humble self and for the junior officers we will do our utmost to promote it, and we hope we shall have at our future gatherings as many kind visitors as we can entertain. We shall do our utmost to give them as much pleasure as they have received this evening.

Bro. J. Sergeant, *I.P.M.*, proposed the toast of "The Masonic Charities."

Glee by Bros. Riley, Cookson, and Russell.

Bro. Riley, referring to the Masonic Charities, directed the attention of the brethren of the lodge and visitors to the distressing case that had arisen in London, viz., the sudden death of a brother, a medical man, whose widow, formerly a resident of Bedford, was left with a large family of young children. This case (continued Bro. Riley) is one which we feel to be especially of local and personal interest. The brother was cut off in the very prime of life, at a time when he might be expected to make provision for that family now left in a state approaching destitution. The Board of Benevolence will, on Wednesday next, no doubt obtain the sanction of the Grand Lodge of a grant recommended by that Board, and we hope that the children may

be able to receive the benefit of our Boys' and Girls' Schools. This is a very strong case, and I hope the brethren will support it.

The W. Master: The next is a toast always received and drunk with cordiality; it is the health of the newly-initiated brother. I am sure, should he remain amongst us he will become an ornament to our lodge. Should his profession call him away from us, we trust he may arrive at great honour in his profession. I give you "The Health of Bro. Lieutenant William Thomas Deverell."

Song—"The Entered Apprentice."

Bro. Deverell having returned thanks, the W.M. summoned the Tyler, and the usual toast brought to a happy close the twentieth anniversary of the Stuart Lodge.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—*Union Lodge* (No. 310).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 26th ult., when a goodly number of members and several visitors attended. Amongst the members were Bros. G. G. Hayward, W.M., Prov. G.S.B. (in the chair); J. Slack, S.W.; W. Johnston, J.W. *pro tem.*; A. Woodhouse, S.D.; T. Cockburn, J.D. *pro tem.*; G. Murchie, Sec.; W. Court, Treas.; J. Gibson, I.G.; John Barnes, Tyler; also Bros. J. Iredale, P.M., P. Prov. D.G.M.; F. W. Hayward, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W.; W. Murray, P.M., P. Prov. Assist. G. Sec.; T. Blacklock, P.M.; G. T. Clark, M. Higgins, Robert Metcalf, J. Atkinson, and W. Pratchitt. The visitors were Bros. M. Fisher, late of 310; Thomas Harris; Sergeant S. Maxwell, 70th Regt. (now stationed in this city), 402 I.C.; Bro. Dan Ritson, 209 E.C.; Thomas McCallister, D. W. Robinson, and Henry Fleming, W.M., all of 412, Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. The lodge was opened in the first degree, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Bro. Thomas McCallister, a candidate to be raised to the sublime degree of a M.M., being tested as to his proficiency, and found worthy to be entrusted, then retired for preparation, and on being admitted was raised by Bro. F. W. Hayward, who also explained the working tools of the degree in his usual correct and impressive manner. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, when Bro. Robinson was proved in his progress of Masonry, and being found correct, was entrusted, and upon the lodge being opened in the second degree was readmitted, and passed the degree of F.C. by Bro. G. G. Hayward, W.M. This being the night of election of the W.M. for the ensuing year the ballot was taken, and found to be in favour of Bro. J. Slack, S.W., who will be installed on Tuesday, the 17th inst., in consequence of Christmas and New Year's day falling on Wednesday. Bro. W. Court was re-elected Treas., after which the roll was called and duly answered. The lodge was finally closed at 10.20 p.m. The brethren, at the kind invitation of Bro. J. Iredale, P. Prov. D.G.M., walked in order to his house, where they partook of his hospitality, which was liberally provided, and to which ample justice was done. After the cloth was withdrawn, Bro. Iredale was voted to the chair, who gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts. The chairman proposed the health of the W.M. retiring and the W.M. elect, each returning thanks respectively. The toast of the evening (Bro. Iredale) was duly proposed by Bro. F. W. Hayward, in a long speech. Bro. Iredale rose amid loud applause, and returned thanks, stating that he was very glad to see so many brethren on this occasion had responded to his invitation, and hoped it would not be the last. He might state that he was glad to see one who was a younger Mason than himself elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, for although he (Bro. Iredale) had not been successful in the balloting that evening, he should be glad to do whatever duty he was called upon to fill again. He wished to return thanks for the manner in which Bro. Hayward had proposed his health. Bro. F. W. Hayward gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. Ritson, who responded in a short but feeling speech. Bro. Woodhouse, by permission, proposed "The Masonic Lifeboat," which was responded to both with applause and money as contribution. The evening was enlivened by the vocal strains of Bro. W. Johnston: the meeting breaking up at an early hour.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Lodge of Lights* (No. 148).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, at five o'clock. The W.M., Bro. Robt. Stevenson,

was supported by Bros. H. B. White, P.M. and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. as S.W.; David Finney, J.W.; John Bowes, P.M. and Prov. G. Reg., Cumberland and Westmoreland; Shaw Mewlis, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.D.; W. Mossop, S.D.; W. Richardson, J.D.; James Jackson, I.G.; A. Warring, Rev. J. N. Porter, John Anderton, W. Bryce, W. S. Hawkins, John Laithwaite, Thos. Donville, Thomas Jones, Thomas Morris, H. Syred, B. C. Coxon, James Hepherd, W. H. Spring, J. E. Goodried, R. Richardson, W. Smith, W. Cooper, P. Pearce, Peter Jones, W. Savage, Capt. Reynolds, G. Woolf, A. Pennington, James T. Mason, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Peter Robinson, J.W. and W.M. elect, 897; Edward Pritchard, 369; Robert Wright, 758; and Joseph Robinson, I.G. 1134. The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Bro. Joseph Robinson, as a joining member, and Messrs. T. W. Neison and A. F. Huttmann as candidates, which proved favourable in each case, and the gentlemen being present were duly received into the Order. Bros. Peter Jones and W. Bryce claimed preferment and having proved their claim were duly entrusted and afterwards passed. The lodge was then closed in the second degree, when the brethren proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year. The choice fell upon Bro. Jas. Hepherd. Bro. H. B. White was re-elected Treasurer; auditors were appointed, the Tyler re-elected and the by-laws read by the Secretary, according to ancient custom; after which, there being no further business, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren separated "happy to part and happy to meet again."

OLDHAM.—*Lodge of Friendship* (No. 277).—The usual monthly meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Angel Hotel, on Wednesday, the 13th ult. The W.M., Bro. Thomas Croxton, I.P.M.; Bros. Tweedale, Bamford, Hayes, and Holt, P.M.'s; Taylor and Bagshaw, Wardens; several visitors from the sister lodge, Tudor Lodge (No. 468), and a large number of brethren were present. The ballot was taken for Messrs. Thomas Mitchell and W. S. Binns, and they being approved, were initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry by the W.M., Bro. Thomas Croxton, in his usual masterly and impressive manner, ably assisted by his Wardens and officers. After the usual business of the lodge had been transacted, the W.M. read a circular announcing the death of our late D. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire, Bro. Lawrence Newall, and made the following observations thereon:—"Brethren, before closing the lodge I feel that I should not be discharging my duty were I to omit paying a tribute to the memory of a brother whose affability and cheerful countenance were well known to many of the brethren of the Friendship Lodge. These sable trappings and this funereal clothing (universal, I hope, trust, and believe, throughout East Lancashire) indicate that one of our fraternity has passed away from time to Eternity, that his sun has set, and that the place that knew him shall know him no more. Yet there is many a spot where memory will preserve, there is, brethren, many a heart in which will be enshrined, the name of Lawrence Newall, the late D. Prov. G.M. for East Lancashire. Do you ask where these are to be found? I reply in the words of the epitaph over a brother long departed—'Si monumentum queris, circumspice.' Come with me (in imagination) this evening to that spot where our Masonic Boys' School shelters its orphaned little ones. Whose exertions were more evident for this great and noble Institution than Lawrence Newall's. Pass we on to the Girls' School, and there the name of Lawrence Newall has become a household word and finds a shrine in every heart. The widow and the distressed brother ever found in him a warm-hearted friend, for 'He delivered the poor when he cried, the needy and him that had none to help him.' And now, brethren, he has passed away. He has gone to receive his reward in that Grand Lodge above where charity and love—the distinguishing characteristics of his heart—always lives and flourishes. Oh, may his mantle fall on the shoulders of some worthy brother who may be stimulated to walk in his steps. May the Great Architect of the Universe comfort and support his widow and children in this trying hour, and may his spirit, as well as his memory and name, live long amongst us, animating us to follow his bright example. We, too, must one day follow our brother to the unseen world. May we journey on through life ever keeping in view the ancient landmarks, and, above all, that bright morning star whose rising brought peace and salvation to the faithful and obedient of the human race. Let us ever bear in mind that the lodges we now inhabit are but types or shadows of a more abiding mansion, and that to have a continuing city we must build on the celestial hills above, founded and established on

the unshaken, everlasting, 'Rock of Ages.' The lodge was then closed in due form.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—On Wednesday, the 20th ult., Bro. Croxton, the W.M., held a Lodge of Instruction in the ante-room of the lodge, after which he delivered a lecture on the ethics of Freemasonry to a large and attentive audience of brethren from the Friendship and Tudor Lodges. After listening for nearly an hour to the eloquent and beautiful description he gave of the "Art," Bro. Tweedale, P.M., proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Croxton for the intellectual treat he had given them that evening, and hoped that he would take an early opportunity of again allowing them to be sharers of his Masonic knowledge. Bro. Mitchell, of the Lodge of Tudor (No. 468), seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation. In acknowledging the vote of thanks, Bro. Croxton said that nothing would give him greater pleasure than at any time to impart to the brethren that Masonic knowledge and information which his time and opportunities had enabled him to gather.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*Apollo University Lodge* (No. 347).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at seven o'clock p.m. The W.M., Bro. the Rev. J. W. F. Short, P. Prov. S.G.W., occupied the chair of K.S., and, after seven brethren had been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, the lodge proceeded to the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year. Bro. T. F. Dallin, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works, was unanimously elected to fill the chair of K.S., and Bro. the Rev. L. Lee, of New College (proposed by the W.M., and seconded by Bro. Thompson, P.M.), was elected to the office of Treasurer. The W.M. then proposed Bro. Bernard, S.W., Tyler for the ensuing year, which being seconded by Bro. Wm. Stephens, Prov. G. Tyler, he was accordingly elected. The S.W. then proposed, and Bro. Calmont, Prov. G. Steward, seconded, Bro. Norwood for the office of Assist. Tyler, who was unanimously elected. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Clarendon Hotel for refreshment. About sixty brethren sat down to supper, and, after the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the health of the W.M. elect having been drunk, he responded in a very excellent and truly Masonic speech. Several other speeches followed in the course of the evening from Bro. Bernard, S.W., on behalf of the officers, &c. Several songs having been sung by Bros. Gumbleton, P. Prov. G. Org., and Mackenzie, Prov. G. Org., the brethren separated at about twelve o'clock.

SCOTLAND.

FESTIVAL OF ST. ANDREW.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE AS GRAND MASTER MASON.

The Festival of St. Andrew was celebrated with unusual splendour on Monday, the 2nd inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh. Previous to the banquet, however, the brethren met in the lodge room above the hall. After the lodge had been opened successively in the three degrees, Bro. the Earl of Dalhousie was with acclamation elected Grand Master Mason, and the Past Grand Master, Bro. J. Whyte Melville, having intimated the election to his lordship, he thereupon took the usual obligations.

Bro. Earl Dalhousie said: Brethren, in accepting this mallet from the Grand Master, and in ascending this throne, I assure you I feel I have conferred upon me an honour the extent of the value of which it is beyond my power to express. In terms of the solemn obligation which I have just taken, as well as from my own natural inclination, I shall at all times endeavour both in this our native country, and wherever I may go, to maintain the honour and the high character which the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and Masonry in general in Scotland, have hitherto enjoyed throughout the world. It will be sufficient reward to me, after my period of service has concluded, if I shall retire with the same credit and with the same marks of your gratitude as my honourable and excellent friend Bro. Whyte Melville has received. I wish no higher reward. I only trust I may be able to acquire, as he has done, and to the same extent, your confidence, and to perform the work as well as he has performed it. I shall not detain you longer at present, as I shall have an

opportunity by-and-bye of dilating to the Craft at large, and of expressing my gratitude more fully for the high honour you have conferred upon me.

The other office-bearers (the complete list of which appeared in the *MAGAZINE* in its report of the nomination) then came forward, and their election having been intimated to them, they took the prescribed obligations. This concluded the business, and the lodge was closed in the usual manner.

THE BANQUET.

A banquet then took place in the large hall below, about three hundred of the brethren sitting down to dinner. The Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, *K.T., G.C.B., M.W.* Grand Master Mason of Scotland, and was supported right and left by the past Grand Master, Bro. John Whyte Melville, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Haddington, Bro. Captain Speirs, *M.P.*, Prov. G.M. of Glasgow; Bros. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, *S.G.M.* Peebleshire; Dr. Samuel Somerville, of Umpherlaw; W. A. Lawrie, *G. Sec.*; William Mann; David Bryce, *R.S.A.*, Grand Architect; General Griffiths, *C.B.*; Lauderdale Maitland, of Eccles, Prov. G.M. of Dumfriesshire; Colonel Houston; Alex. A. Hay, *G. Jeweller*; James Ballantyne, *G. Bard*; Lindsay Mackersy, A. Robinow, Alexander James Stewart, David Bryce, jun., Charles Stewart Law, Grand Dir. of Cers.; and Dr. M'Gowan.

The Rev. Bro. Spence having asked a blessing, dinner was partaken of. When the cloth had been withdrawn,

The Grand Master, Earl Dalhousie, proposed "The Holy Lodge of St. John," which was drunk in solemn silence.

The Grand Master: Brethren, loyalty is a marked characteristic of all Scotchmen. It requires no words of mine to ask you to drink with all enthusiasm the health of our noble and illustrious sovereign. When treason is endeavouring to rear its head in the land, it is right and proper that every loyal man should make evidence of his loyalty, and bear testimony to the feelings which he entertains towards his Sovereign Prince and Queen. I propose "The Health of the Queen"—God bless her.

The Grand Master: I beg to propose to you "The Health of the Prince Steward of Scotland, the Princess of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the rest of the Royal family." We must all rejoice to find that the Princess of Wales is fast being restored to that health in which we all wish to see her. We must also rejoice that the Duke of Edinburgh, far away from his native shores, was safe from all the storms of the seas when last we heard of him.

The Grand Master: Brethren, the next toast which I have to propose to you is "The Craft and Freemasonry all over the world." This toast refers doubtless to the Craft not only all over the world hailing from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but the Craft as hailing from other Grand Lodges in the sister kingdom. But I do not think this is an inappropriate time or place for us to call in mind that in all parts of the world Scotchmen are this day assembled as we are at present to do honour to our native saint. This is a proper opportunity for us to carry our minds into their social meetings, and to remember with fond recollection those who, I am sure, in far distant lands, are at this moment carrying their minds back to the mountain side and the mountain burn, and the bonny plains in which the thistle and the heather grow in their native country. We will drink with all the honours "The Craft and Freemasonry all over the world."

The Grand Master: I must now invite you to fill your glasses to drink the toast, "The Health of the Defensive Services in our Country." In naming to you the army, navy, militia, and volunteers, I am sure I name to you a body that will at all times be ready to come forward in the defence of their country should the hour unfortunately arrive when their services would be required. It is quite unnecessary for me to take any retrospective view of the services already rendered to their country by the army and navy of Great Britain. All those who have read our history know well the distinguished manner in which the navy has ever upheld the honour of the flag under which it has sailed, and we know too well the manner in which the army has upon all occasions rallied round the colours and standards which they followed. Numerous are the laurels which both these services have entwined round their country's brow. Brethren, I am not aware whether upon this occasion there is any representative of the navy present, but on my right hand I see a very distinguished and gallant brother, who not only is a worthy representative of the army, but in all

Scotch meetings a ready and real worthy representative of that army, having long commanded the gallant Scots Greys—who not only from their services, but from their long connection with the country, are well entitled to the applause which you now bestow upon them. There are two other branches of our defensive services to which I have yet shortly to allude—I mean the Militia and the Volunteers. I have no doubt, although I do not know any representative of the Militia here, there are plenty of Volunteers. I hope that Bro. Major Briggs, of the Rifle Volunteers, will take upon himself to speak for his brethren. The services of the Militia have already upon many occasions been tried, and never found wanting. When war has burst upon this land it has been difficult to repress their ardour, for they were volunteering to my certain knowledge in the last war, regiment after regiment, to take service abroad—which is not actually the duty required of the Militia—and many, indeed, did go to garrison our garrisons abroad, in order to give our gallant regiments time to go forward to the front to fight the battle of their country. With regard to the Volunteers, so much and so often have they been toasted and praised, that it is not my intention to bestow praise upon them at present. I will not allude to their services, but by anticipation. I am quite certain when they are called upon to discharge their duties in defence of their country that they will realise the motto which they have taken up—"for defence"—to the fullest extent of that motto.

Bro. General Griffiths, who was received with great applause, said: Right Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Wardens, and Brethren—I beg to return you my most sincere thanks for the kind manner in which the toast of the Army has been given. I believe I am also to return for the Navy. The Army is composed of the cream of mankind. There are certain heights in certain regiments. There are soldiers five feet six, five feet eight, five feet nine, and in the Guards six feet and upwards. Before a soldier is enlisted he has to be examined as to physical strength and fitness; and if he has the smallest defect he is unsound, and therefore unfit for the British Army. Thus, when you have to take mankind of a superior class of physical power, I think the country ought to value them, and although the valuation of them is far superior to bricklayers' labourers and hodmen, yet these men receive 3s. 6d. a day, whilst the soldier till very lately received 1s. 1d. You have increased his pay 2d. a day; he enlists, and after eight years service he receives 1d. more. That is not enough for you to get the cream. When I and your Worshipful Grand Master joined the army you received twenty shillings for your pound. For that twenty shillings you could obtain what you now cannot get for double the money; therefore, if other things become dear, the soldier must be dear also. The profession of a soldier should be like any other profession; he should get the benefit of the experience he has acquired by years of service. I have found from my experience of the regiment which I have commanded for fourteen years, and with which I have been connected thirty years, that there is no soldier who can come up to the Scotch soldier. The Scotch soldiers are the best behaved men—they do drink, though, and they can carry their drink at the time. They do not, however, drink when duty is required; but they drink at the right time. I am most happy to return thanks for the Navy. I have very little to do with the sea, because I detest it. In the beds I got into at sea I always found them too short, and I have no pleasant recollection of the sea, but I have of those who compose the naval service. I believe we can all admire them, because they have ever done their duty to the satisfaction of the country.

Bro. Major Briggs replied for the Volunteers.

Bro. Whyte Melville, P.G.M., proposed "The Grand Lodge of England, and its Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Zetland." He said that the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and the Craft in general, might feel very proud that the English Craft was supported and headed by a nobleman so strongly and so closely connected with Scotland as the Earl of Zetland. The Grand Lodge of Scotland was always delighted to see any member of the English Craft when it suited him to come to its meetings, inasmuch as Scotch Masons had constant opportunities of witnessing the hospitality of the Grand Lodge of England. He coupled the toast with the name of the representative from the English Craft, the M.W. the Grand Master of Scotland.

The Grand Master: Before I proceed to give the next toast, permit me, as representative of the Grand Lodge of England here, and holding office in that Grand Lodge as its Depute Grand Master, to return my best thanks for the kind manner

in which you have drunk to the Grand Lodge of England, and to her most respected and beloved Grand Master, Lord Zetland. I shall take care to report to the Grand Master of England the kindly and brotherly feeling which exists between the two Grand Lodges—a feeling which I trust will always be maintained in all its vigour. I have now to propose to you "The Health of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and the Grand Master, the Duke of Leinster." I have only one remark to make upon the subject, and that is, I believe there is no truer Mason, and I am sure there is no better man, than the Grand Master Mason of Ireland. I believe, if Masonry could only make longer strides in that unhappy country, it would be, perhaps, one of the best means of allaying the irritation there, and restoring harmony.

Bro. Dr. Somerville replied.

Bro. Whyte-Melville, P.G.M.: Right Worshipful Wardens, Masters of Lodges, and brethren—Having the permission of the chair to propose a toast, I now call upon you to drink in a very full bumper "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Scotland, the Earl of Dalhousie." It is very rarely that the toast of the Grand Master upon the first occasion of his taking the chair is proposed by the Past Grand Master. In my experience, which now dates to a long period, I do not recollect a single instance of that kind. I feel that, had I not come here, I should be wanting in respect to you and to my honourable friend in the chair. You have all heard the expression when a laird's health is proposed at any convivial meeting—"May he rive his father's bonnet." To carry on the metaphor, and regard my noble friend in the light of a son instead of a father, may he rive his father's bonnet. I believe there is no man better qualified to do so. There is no one I know whose talents better fit him to discharge the duties of the office to which he had been elected.

The Grand Master acknowledged the compliment.

The other toasts were—"The Foreign Grand Lodges," "The Past Grand Master," "The Depute Grand Master, the Earl of Haddington," "The Deputations from Daughter Lodges," "Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce," "The Provincial Grand Lodges of Scotland," "The Grand Wardens," "The Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, and other Office-Bearers of Grand Lodge," "Lady Catherine Whyte-Melville," "The Memory of Deceased Grand Officers and Members during past year," and "The Memory of St. Clair of Rosslyn."

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

EDINBURGH.

EDINBURGH.—*Rifle Lodge* (No. 405).—A special festive gathering of this lodge was held in the Freemasons' Hall, on the 12th ult., to do honour to the R.W.M. of the lodge, Bro. J. T. Douglas, by presenting him with a testimonial and an address expressive of the high estimation in which he is held, and as a mark of their appreciation of his long and valuable services to the lodge since its formation in 1860. There was a large attendance of the brethren, and the meeting being constituted, they partook of a supper prepared for the occasion. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given and responded to, Bro. Charles Mackenzie, P.M., rose and proposed as the toast of the evening, "Health, long life, and prosperity to Bro. J. T. Douglas, the R.W.M." He traced back the history of the lodge to its foundation, pointing out the deep interest Bro. Douglas had ever shown to its welfare, and his unremitting zeal on behalf of its advancement. He then read the address, which was beautifully inscribed on vellum, and explanatory of the testimonial, and in the name of the lodge presented Bro. Douglas with a massive silver water jug and salver of elaborate design and beautifully chased. Bro. Douglas, who was received with prolonged cheers, in very appropriate terms thanked the brethren for their recognition of his services, and accepted the testimonial as the expression of their satisfaction with his rule over them. The brethren spent a very happy evening together. The jug, which was designed by Bro. Francis L. Law, bore on it the following inscription—"Presented to James Torry Douglas, of the Lodge Rifle, Edinburgh, No. 405, by the brethren of the lodge, to mark their appreciation of his long services to the Order, and their sense of his worth as a gentleman and a Mason. Edinburgh, 12th November, 1867." 167 whom have been brought to the light in the Rifle Lodge, of whom 115 were initiated during the Mastership of Bro. Douglas.

Stow.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 216).—The annual meeting of this lodge for the election of office-bearers, was held in the lodge room on the evening of Saturday, the 30th ult., R.W.M. Brownlee presiding. The following brethren were unanimously elected to the various offices. Bros. Gilbert Brownlee, re-elected R.W. Master; H. Kerr, D.M.; R. Sanderson, S.M.; J. F. Walker, S.W.; J. Lambert, J.W.; J. Wilson, Treas.; D. Scott, Treas.; Rev. David Waddell, Chap.; William Waddell, Senior Deacon; George Thomson, Junior Deacon; James Hogg, I.G.; and Thomas Forsythe, Tyler. After the usual business was gone through, the lodge was closed in due form.

GLASGOW.

GLASGOW.—*Lodge Union* (No. 332).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 2nd inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Buchanan-street. The lodge was opened in the first degree by the R.W.M., Bro. James Balfour, assisted by Bros. David Ramsay, acting S.W.; William Gibson, acting J.W.; Joseph Sturatt, Treasurer; Robert Johnston, Secretary; and other brethren. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a petition was read from Mr. Thomas M. Laidlaw. He was admitted, and received the first degree at the hands of the R.W.M. The lodge was afterwards raised to the Master degree, when Bro. James Smith received that degree at the hands of Bro. James Wallace, G.S. It being the night of election, the list of names were called over, and, no objections being offered, the following brethren were duly elected, viz., Bros. James Balfour, re-elected R.W.M.; Robert Mitchell, re-elected P.M.; William Gibson, re-elected D.M.; David Sommerville, re-elected S.M.; Joseph Sturatt, re-elected Treasurer; Robert Johnston, re-elected Secretary; Thomas Hall, re-elected I.G.; Thomas Mullens, re-elected Tyler; David Ramsay, S.W.; Matthew Gray, J.W.; James Gillfillan, B.B.; and Dougald McTaggart, Architect. The other offices not being filled up, were held over until the next meeting. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. James Wallace, G.S. There being no other business to bring before the lodge, it was closed in due form. The brethren then adjourned to refreshment. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been given, the rest of the evening was enlivened with appropriate songs, toasts, &c., and the proceedings terminated to the satisfaction of all present.

IRELAND.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Board of Governors of this institution was held on Tuesday morning, the 3rd inst., at the School House, Burlington-road, and was most numerously attended. The R.W.D.G.M., the Hon. Judge Townsend, in the chair.

The ordinary business having been transacted, and the reports from the several sub-committees received and adopted, the Board proceeded to the election of three pupils, when the report from the scrutineers of the ballot was submitted and approved of, from which document we take the following extract:—

The number of voting papers submitted to our examination was 949. Of these 136 were from brethren voting as life governors, 593 from brethren voting as annual governors, and 220 from brethren voting in their official capacity.

Of the 949 brethren who exercised their privilege 50 voted for only one of the candidates, 41 for only two, and the remainder, 858, for three candidates.

Of the papers received ten were not properly signed or initialled, three were from subscribers not entitled to vote, and ten were received on the 29th instead of the 28th of November, all of which had to be rejected (as also thirteen additional papers received by the assistant secretary after the scrutiny had closed).

The total number of votes recorded was 3,327, being 1,552 more than in the June election, and 664 more than in December, 1866, on which occasion the number of votes recorded was argely in excess of those at any previous election.

Of these votes

Mary Armstrong received	404
Frances E. Baker	385
Charlotte Burdge	103
Anna Copeland	22
Ellen Dalton	17
Catherine Godbey	59
Mary H. Grubb	74
Grace Harte	437
Francis Levis	45
Kate M'Nally	168
Mary M'Neile	217
Margaret Maxwell	48
Phoebe Shegog	809
Jessie Wallace	519
Elizabeth Williams	20

The scrutineers think it right to mention that, had the rejected or late votes (110) been recorded, it would not have made any alteration in the relative position of the candidates.

It was then unanimously resolved "that Phoebe Shegog, Jessie Wallace, and Grace Harte be declared duly elected, and be admitted at such time as the Educational Committee may direct."

The Board, in expressing their satisfaction at the careful report of the scrutineers, and their thanks to those brethren for the same, desire also to record their sincere regret at the death of their esteemed Bro. Charles W. D. E. Orpen, who had so frequently acted as one of the scrutineers of this school, and had in so many ways manifested the deep interest he took in its success.

The several honorary officers and committees of the school were then re-elected for the year 1868.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

PRINCE OF WALES LODGE (No. 1,003).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, on Wednesday, the 13th ult., for the purpose of installing the newly-elected W.M. There was a full attendance of members and visitors, amongst the latter we noticed Bros. Dr. J. Le Cronier, P. Prov. D.G.M.; A. Schmitt, P.M. 590; J. Durell, W.M. 590; Ph. W. Le Guesne, W.M. 877; H. L. Manuel, P.M. 590; Ph. Binet, P.M. 491; Ed. D. Le Couteur, P.M. 491; W. H. Long, W.M. 958; E. Lott, S.W. 245; J. Oatley, S.W. 958; &c. The lodge was opened by Bro. Binet, W.M., assisted by Bros. G. J. Renouf, S.W., W.M. elect; J. R. Giles, J.W.; P. W. Benham, P.M. and Treas.; Wm. Adams, P.M. 244, Sec.; C. Donaldson, P.M. 244; and a host of others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and after their unanimous confirmation the lodge was passed to the second degree. Bro. R. W. Benham, on the invitation took the chair as Installing Master, when Bro. Wm. Adams presented G. J. Renouf, W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation at his hands. After having assented to the ancient charges in the usual manner, and taken the obligation of W.M. elect, the lodge was raised to the third degree, and all who had not passed the chair withdrew. A numerous board of Installed Masters was then formed and Bro. G. J. Renouf was duly placed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. After the board had been closed the Master Masons were admitted and the new W.M. saluted and proclaimed W.M. of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1,003, on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, for the ensuing twelve months, or until his successor shall have been regularly installed in his stead. The lodge was lowered to the second, and afterwards to the first degree, the ancient salute being given and proclamation made in each case. The whole of the ceremony Bro. P. W. Benham conducted with great exactitude, solemnity, and impressiveness. After the usual address, delivered with great effect, to the W.M., Bro. G. J. Renouf briefly remarked, that fully acknowledging the difficulty of the task he had undertaken, he was sensible of the honour conferred upon him. He congratulated the brethren on the improved condition of the lodge as well in a pecuniary, as a working point of view, and stated his conviction that, with the hearty support of his predecessors, his officers, and the fraternal assistance of the members, upon which he was well aware he could implicitly depend, he should, at the close of his term of office, have the gratification of announcing the in-

creased prosperity of the lodge. The following appointments were made, Bro. Benham in each case officiating and offering appropriate addresses:—Bros. J. R. Giles, S.W.; Walden, J.W.; G. Grigg, S.D.; Wm. Adams, P.M., Secretary; P. W. Benham, P.M., Treasurer; Toms, Tyler. The lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting-room, where about sixty sat down to an excellent dinner. The W.M. presided, having on his right Bros. Dr. Le Cronier, P.D. Prov. G.M.; H. L. Manuel, A. Schmitt, P. W. Lequesne, John Durhl, P. Binet, E. D. Le Couteur, and on his left Bros. R. Binet, P. W. Benham, C. Donaldson, and Wm. Adams. The W.M.'s of all the working lodges had been invited, several of whom were present. The only one conspicuous by his absence was the Prov. Grand Master, whose name was excluded from the list of the invited. Just when the cloth had been removed, Bro. Dr. Le Cronier was urgently called away, and left the convivial table amidst the most enthusiastic marks of sympathy and esteem. The loyal Masonic toasts "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland and his Deputy," were duly honoured. Bro. P. W. Benham then offered "The Health of Bros. Le Cronier, A. Schmitt, and the W.M.'s present," who duly acknowledged the fraternal compliment, and expressed their cordial thanks for the hospitality of this young and flourishing lodge. Bro. H. L. Manuel next proposed "The intimate union, perpetual friendship, and harmony among all the working lodges in the province." He illustrated his proposition in the most eloquent and energetic manner, especially pointing out the urgent necessity of guarding our brethren against some visible endeavours and machinations now being made to sow dissension, animosity, and antagonism amongst the various lodges. He demonstrated to evidence that the prosperity and moral interest of every lodge were strictly connected with the good will and fellowship of the others. Therefore, concord, union, and brotherhood, he said, ought ever to be the principal motors of all our proceedings, so that unitedly we might be enabled to do good, as well as to succeed in removing all obstacle of misrule and mischief from our province, and soon enjoy the blessings of peace and harmony under the banner of truth, morality, and virtue, and thus dispersing the gloom now pervading the local Masonic atmosphere. Other toasts were given, and several excellent speeches were made. At intervals some songs were given by Bros. Lott, Le Queene, Benham, Adams, Walden, and thus a most delightful evening was spent, seriousness and gaiety alternating.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

BELGRAVE CHAPTER (No. 749).—The regular convocation of this new and flourishing chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 29th ult., precisely at five o'clock, when there were present Comps. W. Ough, Assist. G. Purst, M.E.Z.; H. Garrod, II.; C. Bond, J.; W. Bourne, E.; George Pyam, acting N.; H. Y. Johnson, J.L.D., P.S.; Geo. Wm. Porter, 1st Assist. Soj.; Homewood, 2nd Assist. Soj.; Wm. Johnson, Thos. E. Edwards, J.D.; E. Wm. Mackney, H. Finch, C. Tuckett, H. Watkinson, J. James, H. Crabtree, J. Coates, C. Dimes, R. W. Hunt, A. Lefebvre, J. Zaehnsdorf, and several others, including Comp. Smeed, J. 916, who attended as a visitor. The minutes of the last convocation having been read and confirmed, the next business was that of balloting for two candidates for exaltation. This proving unanimous in their favour, Bros. Jennings and Knight were presented, and duly exalted to this supreme degree in the most imposing manner, the mystic, symbolic, and historic lectures were given respectively by Comps. Ough, Garrod, and Bond. Business being ended, the chapter was duly and solemnly closed, and the companions adjourned to the banquet room. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the meeting was congratulated by several of the members for the almost unprecedented success of the chapter, it having been in existence only a few months, and already numbering so many good and hard-working members of the Order; and the wish was expressed more than once that quality and not mere numbers should be their guide, and, likewise, a firm determination that the expenses should be kept as low as possible, consistent with the comfort of the companions, so that the chapter may put itself in the same proud position as the mother lodge; and, as the M.E.Z. expressed himself, they

will never rest satisfied till they have made the Belgrave Chapter vice-president of all the Masonic Charities. A most delightful evening was spent. Comp. Mackney excelled himself with his musical abilities, both vocal and instrumental. Comps. Bond, Pyam, and Garrod also contributed their share at the social board, which was, indeed, "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." The Janitor's toast brought the meeting to a close at the early hour of ten o'clock, as several of the companions reside at a distance from town.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

SOUTHWARK LODGE OF MARK MASTERS (No. 22).—A meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, Wellington-street, Southwark, under the presidency of Bro. A. D. Loewenstark, P.G.S., P.M., Treas., Bro. Dr. F. J. Lilley, W.M., being unavoidably absent. Bros. J. Terry, P.M., 228, collector of the Royal Benevolent Institution, and T. Killner, 871, were regularly advanced to the Mark degree. In compliment to Bro. J. Terry for selecting this lodge for his Mark degree, an officer of the lodge, a P.M. and P.Z., agreed to represent one of the chapters where he is S.E. as a Steward at the annual festival to be held for the support of the Royal Benevolent Institution, and made his son an annual subscriber to the male and female annuity funds. One visitor was proposed for advancement at the next lodge meeting, which was arranged to take place on Monday, the 3rd of February next. There were present during the evening Bros. M. A. Loewenstark, S.O.; H. Massey, J.O.; A. D. Loewenstark, P.G.S., P.M., Treas.; R. Ord, R. of M.; F. Walters, G.P., P.M., Sec.; W. Noak, J.D.; T. H. Meredith, I.G.; J. Trickett, E. Harris, A. P. Stedman, J. Hawker, E. Palmer, and others, amongst whom, as visitors, were Bros. W. A. A. Barrett, G.O.; R. Watts, G.S.B.; C. Swan, P.G.S.B.; J. J. Haybo, J.W. 86; &c.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—*Northumberland and Berwick Lodge of Mark Masters.*—On Wednesday, the 27th inst., the brethren of this ancient lodge held their annual meeting and festival at Freemasons' Hall, for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. Wm. Foulsham, S.W. The meeting was numerously attended by the brethren, including several of the Past Masters of the lodge, amongst whom were Bros. Hotham, Ludwig, Saniter, &c. The minutes of the last regular meeting, and of an emergency meeting, held on the 13th ult., were read and confirmed, and the report of the Finance Committee was brought up and adopted, which showed that they had examined the accounts, and found them correct, and that a balance of £2 15s. 4d. remained in the hands of the Treasurer after the unusual drains they had had upon their resources during the past year. The W.M. elect, Bro. Foulsham, was then presented for installation, and the ceremony was performed in an impressive and unexceptional manner by the retiring W.M., Bro. Jens Jensen. After the brethren had saluted the new W.M. in ancient form, he proceeded to invest his officers, as follow:—Bros. Jens Jensen, I.P.M.; John Stokoe, S.W.; R. J. Banning, J.W.; A. M. Loades, P.M., Treas.; A. Clapham, Sec.; J. Frolich, Reg.; R. B. Reed, S.D.; R. F. Cook, J.D.; W. Garbutt, M.M.O.; B. Huggill, S.O.; E. Borring, J.O.; J. Ridsdale, I.G.; Holboll and Lyle, Stewards; Trotter, Tyler. Bro. C. J. Dove, of Lodge No. 685, was proposed for advancement at the next meeting, and the lodge closed in usual form. The brethren then adjourned to hold their festival at Bro. Brown's, the Turk's Head Hotel, where upwards of twenty of them sat down to a sumptuous repast. After the cloth was drawn, the usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The W.M., in proposing the health of his predecessor in the chair, spoke in high terms of his performance of the duties of the office, and of his assiduity and careful attention to the interests of the lodge, sentiments which were shared by the brethren, who testified by their applause the respect they entertained for their late W.M. Bro. Jensen alluded in graceful terms to the assistance he had received from his officers in carrying out measures for the prosperity of the lodge, particularising the help and many services Bro. Stokoe, his Secretary and Registrar, had afforded him. At the close of the evening the health of the host and hostess was drank, a compliment well deserved, for the

excellence of the viands and the care and attention of the waiting; everything, in fact, was done to promote the comfort of the brethren, who separated at a seasonable hour, highly gratified with the whole proceedings of the day.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

SCARBOROUGH.—*Star of the East Lodge* (No. 95).—The first anniversary meeting since the opening of this lodge of Mark Masters took place at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., when upwards of twenty-five members were present, also Bro. F. Binckes, G.S. (London), Bros. Cooper, Monkhouse, and Ward (York). The lodge was opened at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon, when the chair was taken by Bro. W. F. Rooke, assisted by his officers, Bros. J. W. Woodall, S.W.; R. H. Peacock, J.W.; Rev. H. Blanc, Chap.; J. F. Spurr, M.O.; W. T. Farthing, S.O.; H. W. Garnett, J.O.; H. C. Martin, Reg. of Marks; W. Peacock, S.D.; and J. Raper, J.D. The minutes of the last lodge meeting having been confirmed, Bros. G. J. Cayley, Parker, Pattison, Rowan, Green, and Walshaw, were balloted for approved as candidates for the Mark degree, after which they were duly admitted and advanced to the degree of Mark Master. Bro. Binckes next proceeded to the installation of Bro. Woodall, W.M., for the ensuing year, which ceremony he performed with accuracy. The newly installed W.M. then invested his officers, Bros. H. A. Williamson, S.W.; W. T. Farthing, J.W.; R. H. Peacock, M.O.; Garnett, S.O.; D. Fletcher, J.O.; H. C. Martin, Reg. of Marks; J. A. Chapman, Treas.; W. Peacock, S.D.; J. C. D. Jackson, J.D.; J. Raper, I.G.; and Verity, Tyler. A vote of thanks to Bro. Binckes was given for his kind assistance at the installation, which he responded to in an able address, in which he strongly commented upon the good working and respectability of the lodge, which was closed at half-past seven o'clock. The brethren afterwards dined together and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

DEWSBURY.—*Fearnley Encampment*.—This encampment held its usual meeting in the Masonic Temple, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at six p.m. In the absence of the E.C. R. R. Nelson, Sir Knt. Henry Smith, Prov. G. Chancellor, presided, assisted by Sir Knts. John Wordsworth, 1st C.; John Armitage, 2nd C.; John Lobleby, Capt. of the Lines; William Richardson, Reg.; Dr. William Henry Thornton, Expert; Frank Aked, Equerry, &c. Apologies were read from Sir Knt. Dr. Senior, *L.L.D.*, Prov. G.C., and others. The muster-roll having been called, the minutes of last encampment were read and confirmed. The election of E.C. and Treas. for the ensuing year then took place, and the unanimous choice fell upon Sir Knts. J. Wordsworth and W. Richardson. The encampment was then closed, after the almoner had performed his functions.

BRADFORD.—*Faith Encampment* (No. 29).—This encampment met in the rooms of the Lodge of Hope on Monday evening, the 2nd inst., at seven. There were present Sir Knts. J. C. Taylor, E.C.; J. R. Armitage, Reg.; H. Butterworth; Thomas Hill, P.E.C., and others. After the encampment had been duly opened, the roll was called, minutes read, and the Sir Knts. proceeded to instal Comps. Joshua Brigg, Edward Haley, and John Hill, of the Chapter of Charity, No. 302. The almoner performed his duty, and the encampment was closed in peace and harmony.

KNIGHTS OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

METROPOLITAN.

PLANTAGENET CONCLAVE.—A meeting of this conclave, under the Grand Imperial Council of England, was held at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., when there were present the V.E. and P. Sir Knt. W. Turner, G. Std. Bearer, M.P. Sov.; E.P.S. T. Wescombe, as V.E.; E.P.S. J. Brett; Sir Knts. J. G. Marsh, Assist. G. Recorder; R. W. Little, G. Recorder; H. Parker, G.O.; H. G. Buss, G. Almoner; W. H. Hubbard, G. Treas.; I. G. Murray, G. F. Cook, &c. The conclave was opened in ancient and solemn form, when

Bro. Thomas Vesper, P.M. 554, was introduced, and installed a knight of the Order, after which the knights retired to one of Bro. Todd's inexpensive but really good, substantial banquets. We cannot permit this opportunity to pass by without complimenting the acting officers on the impressive manner in which the ceremony of installation was rendered.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

MASONIC BALL.

The brethren of the Lodge of Saint Oswald (No. 1,124), contemplate giving a ball in the Victoria Rooms, Oswestry, on Easter Tuesday next. A "Masonic" ball is a novelty in our province, and it is hoped that the success of the undertaking will enable considerable contributions to the Masonic Charities, which is the object with which it was projected.

SCOTLAND.

BENEVOLENT CONCERT AT WISHAW.

One of those pleasing demonstrations which bring out in favourable colours the truly Masonic virtue—charity—took place on the 29th ult., when a concert was given in the public school-room, Wishaw, by the local Masonic lodges, No. 31, Coltness; 427, Cambusnethan; and 471, Shotts, for the benefit of the poor of Cambusnethan and the neighbouring mining district. The chair was occupied upon the occasion by Bro. James Wallace (of Glasgow), G.S., who delivered an effective and neat speech, referring to this and similar gatherings. The vocal and instrumental music gave much satisfaction to the company, and the whole proceedings were a success, reflecting credit upon the promoters. Long may Freemasonry thus continue to shed its benign influences on all around, and cause even those who are outside the Masonic circle to experience the refreshing effect of her genial rays.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

QUEENS' CONCERT ROOMS.

On Thursday evening, the 21st ult., the first of a series of six concerts to be given by Herr Carl Hause, took place at the above rooms. It was the second public appearance of Herr Hause since his short arrival in this country, and we must congratulate our musical readers on such a valuable addition to the ranks of our eminent pianists. His execution of the most difficult passages was perfect, leaving no room for doubt as to his future position in the musical world. The concert commenced with Mozart's Sonata in D major for two pianos, and was brilliantly executed by Herr Hause and Signor Catalani. Both entered body and soul into this charming composition, and inspired their audience with its classical beauties. The Grand March de Concert, "Jupiter," the composition of Herr Hause, merited the highest encomiums. Of the vocalists, the star of the evening was Signorina Luigia Leale, a *debutante* from Naples, pupil of Signor Catalani, who introduced herself to an English audience by a charming delivery of the air, "To Ludia,"

from "Torquato Tasso," which called forth a most enthusiastic and unanimous encore, to which she responded with "The last rose of summer," with variations, composed expressly for her by Signor Caralani. We cannot conclude this brief notice without a word of praise to Miss Armytage, and the Misses Jewell, who severally acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of a numerous and fashionable audience. We understand Signorina Luigia Leale has kindly consented to sing at the next festival of the Girls' School.

Poetry.

STRIVE TO BE HAPPY.

By T. J. SWAIN.

Strive to be happy whilst sojourning here,
 Though sorrow may last for a while,
 There is yet much remaining to render life dear,
 Despite each misfortune and trial,
 Sweet ties of affection that give to our homes
 The pleasures of innocent joy;
 Fond hopes—in the realisation of which
 We endeavour our minds to employ.

Strive to be happy; our lives are but short,
 Yet repining will little avail,
 If we strive to fulfil God's commands as we ought,
 He will not permit us to fail.
 Let the hope of eternity lead us to bend
 To each sorrow we're call'd to endure,
 And enjoy with thanksgiving each gift He may send—
 Each blessing our means can procure.

FORGIVE AND FORGET.

By T. J. SWAIN.

In ev'ry one's life, whate'er be their lot,
 There is much to lament and regret;
 But o't retrospection its sorrow would lose
 If each would forgive and forget.

"Very easy to preach!" the vindictive exclaim;
 'Tis harder to practice we know
 But if we endeavour God's grace to obtain,
 He will on us forbearance bestow.

We ask in our prayers to be pardon'd for sin,
 As we ourselves pardon the frail
 But do we the latter injunction fulfil?
 Alas! we too frequently fail!

To our own errors blind: to our neighbour's alive,
 How easy it is to condemn,
 And visit the culprit with storms of abuse
 That we make no endeavour to stem.

But oh! do we find on perusing God's Word
 That its pages such conduct excuse;
 How can we expect that our prayers will be heard
 If Charity's task we refuse?

Does not our blest Saviour's discourse on the Mount
 Teach the duty of pardoning love;
 And did he not say that the cruel and unkind
 Cannot hope for forgiveness above.

Then let us endeavour when trespass'd against
 To remember the mercies we've met;
 And fulfilling our heavenly Master's command—
 Let us strive to forgive and forget.

MEETINGS OF THE LEARNED SOCIETIES FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 14TH, 1867.

MONDAY, 9th.—Geographical Society, at 8-30.

TUESDAY, 10th.—Institution of Civil Engineers, at 8.

WEDNESDAY, 11th.—Society of Arts, at 8.

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 14TH, 1867.

MONDAY, December 9th.—St. George's and Corner Stone, 5, Freemasons' Hall. Lodge of Fortitude and Old Cumberland, 12, Freemasons' Hall. Royal Naval Lodge, 59, Freemasons' Hall. Lodge of Confidence, 193, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. St. Andrew's Lodge, 222, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. Peckham Lodge, 879, Edinbro' Castle Tavern, Peckham Rye.

TUESDAY, December 10.—Burlington Lodge, 96, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Lodge of Union, 166, London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street. St. James's Union Lodge, 180, Freemasons' Hall. Percy Lodge, 198, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. St. Michael's Lodge, 211, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Lodge of United Strength, 228, Old Jerusalem Tavern, St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Lodge of Nine Muses, 235, Clarendon Hotel, Bond-street. Wellington Lodge, 548, White Swan Tavern, Deptford. Ranelagh Lodge, 834, Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith. Jerusalem Chapter, 185, Freemasons' Hall.

WEDNESDAY, December 11th.—Com. R. Ben. Inst., at 3. Lodge of Fidelity, 3, Freemasons' Hall. Enoch Lodge, 11, Freemasons' Hall. Union Waterloo Lodge, 13, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Kent Lodge, 15, Three Tuns Tavern, Saurhark. Vitruvian Lodge, 87, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth. Lodge of Justice, 147, White Swan Tavern, High-street, Deptford. Pilgrim Lodge, 238, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Zetland Lodge, 511, Camden Arms Tavern, Kensington. Merchant Navy Lodge, 781, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limchouse. Doric Lodge, 933, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street. Montefiore Lodge, 1,017, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, December 12th.—Royal Athelstan Lodge, 19, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bank of England Lodge, 263, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Polish National Lodge, 534, Freemasons' Hall. Canonbury Lodge, 657, Haxell's Hotel, West Strand. Lily Lodge of Richmond, 820, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond. Dalhousie Lodge, 860, Falcon, Fetter-lane. Copper Lodge, 1,078, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham.

FRIDAY, December 13th.—Caledonian Lodge, 134, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Bedford Lodge, 157, Freemasons' Hall. Domatic Lodge, 177, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street.

SATURDAY, December 14th.—London Tavern, 108, Freemasons' Hall. Phoenix Lodge, 173, Freemasons' Hall.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * All communications to be addressed to 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

J. C.—If you forward your correspondence it will be published. FOREIGN LODGE.—We can only report the proceedings of legitimate and regular Masonic bodies duly recognised by the properly constituted authorities.

KNIGHT.—Bro. Douglas Jerrold died on the 9th June, 1857. He was initiated in the Bank of England Lodge, No. 329, now 263.

T. J. SWAIN.—We have this week exhausted the last of your contributions; accept our thanks; shall be happy to hear from you again.