

Contents.

	PAGE.
Masonic Discipline—By Crux	121
Bibles, &c.—By Bro. Henry Melville.....	123
Lodge Minutes—By Bro. W. P. Buchan	124
Freemasonry in Sweden	125
The Earl of Dalhousie and the Grand Mastership of Scotland ...	126
Masonic Notes and Queries	126
Correspondence	128
Masonic Memos.	129
CRAFT LODGE MEETINGS:—	
Metropolitan	130
Provincial	130
Scotland	134
Ireland	134
Ceylon	135
Royal Arch	137
Mark Masonry.....	137
Masonic Festivities	137
Literature, Science, Music, Drama, and the Fine Arts.....	139
Masonic Lifeboat Fund.....	139
List of Lodge, &c., Meetings for ensuing week	140
To Correspondents.....	140

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1869.

MASONIC DISCIPLINE.—XVIII.

By CRUX.

The term "Masons," it will be universally acknowledged, is general in its signification, and unless qualified by a distinguishing prefix or adjunct cannot be properly applied to denote brethren of any particular degree, where it is necessary to mark the distinction between that degree and others. This observation is made *à propos* to the command of the W.M. to the brethren to "appear to order." We have known it to be strongly insisted upon that the command of the W.M. at the opening of a lodge in the first degree, should be, "to order brethren as Masons," thereby implying that the term "Masons" signifies Masons of the first degree. To this opinion we do not assent, nor do we see upon what grounds it can be defended. Upon calling to memory the similar commands given at the opening and closing of a lodge in the two other degrees, it will be found that the degree in which the lodge is at the time, is distinctly specified, and that the brethren are addressed by the W.M. as Masons in the second and third degrees respectively. In the cause of uniformity, consistency, and in order to establish that sequence, that necessary and obvious connection which ought to run through the whole of the ritualistic dialogue in all the degrees, we submit that the correct words of the command are "to order, brethren, as Masons in the first degree." The principal reason for insisting upon these points, is that they all constitute the separate links of the great chain of uniformity which is so urgently needed in the Craft. It is true that some of the

links may not appear of so much importance as others, but it must be borne in mind that the strength of the whole depends upon that of its components, and that one unsound link will jeopardise the safety of the entire chain. After the parting of the cable, comes the wreck of the vessel!

The next point that claims our attention, is the answer given by the S.W. respecting the number of assistant officers in the lodge. If this be compared with the previous answer returned by the J.W., it will be at once apparent, that there is a want of similarity of diction in the two, whereas they should resemble each other as closely as possible. Nothing can be more distinct, terse, and satisfactory than the reply "Three; namely the W.M. and the S. and J. W's." The exact number of principal officers is first specified, and then they are named in the consecutive order of their rank and precedence in the lodge. Let us now examine the other answer "Three; besides the O.G. or T.; namely, the S. and J.D.'s and the I.G." In the first place, neglecting for the moment the qualifying clause, the number stated is incorrect. There are not three, but four assistant officers. The first paragraph of the "Constitutions" relating to "private lodges" includes them all under that category in the words "with their assistants the two D's. I.G. and T." As the reply stands, the impression left on the mind of the hearer is that the O.G. or T., has no claims to be included strictly in the list of assistant officers. He is thrown in, as it were, as a kind of supernumerary official, but the pith of the answer relates to his superiors. It is very important that this impression should be altogether removed, and those, who like ourselves are well aware of the working value of our T's. will at once endorse our observation. We do not mean, for an instant to imply that any slight or depreciation of the one officer is intended at the expense of the others, but merely to point out that the imperfect wording of the sentence, renders it possible to place that construction upon it. There is a still more important point involved in the phrase "besides the O.G. and T." This violates the order of precedence which is stringently adhered to, by the laws of Masonic etiquette. No Mason ever thinks of assuming a rank to which he is not entitled, or of claiming a superior position in the scale of "order," than that for which his office or degree qualifies him. In the above reply the O.G. is alluded to before his superior officers, and it is therefore im-

possible for the hearer to learn from the answer, the relative rank of the officers mentioned. In the paragraph quoted from the "Constitutions" it will be observed that the assistant officers are mentioned in the exact order of their relative rank and precedence in the lodges. The very reverse is the case, for arguing analogically from the order of precedence observed in the naming of the principal officers, it might be fairly supposed that the O.G. was the chief assistant officer. It is essential that all the questions and answers, all the dialogue, the whole ritual in fact, should be so worded that the misconstruction of any part of it should be rendered as difficult a matter as possible. Were this once accomplished, there would be an end to all doubt, all controversy regarding the different interpretations which many parts of it, at present are capable of bearing. To assimilate the reply respecting the assistant officers in a lodge, to that relating to their superiors, it should be as follows "Four; namely, the S. and J.D's.; the I.G. and the O.G. or T." The wording of the answer in this manner, makes no change, no innovation in the ritual, but renders it easier to remember, since it is in some measure an exact repetition of a former answer, and conduces to the general simplification and harmony of the dialogue.

Having fixed upon the correct reply in which the name and rank of the O.G. is introduced at the opening of lodge, let us now proceed to discuss that which relates to his position or "situation." We say, "relates to" as the word "defines," which would be the right term to employ, cannot be used with propriety, when the utter vagueness of the reply is taken into consideration. This is capable of four renderings, slightly differing from one another, but every one is equally worthless as a definition of the "situation" referred to. "Without the door of the lodge," "Without the entrance of the lodge"; "Outside the door of the lodge," "Outside the entrance of the lodge." Such are the answers we have heard, and it is obvious that none of them define the "situation of the O.G. or T.," any more than they do that of any one in the ante-rooms, or even in the street itself. At the same time the situation of every officer belonging to the lodge, ought evidently to be defined in terms which would apply to no other but the one intended. "Outside, or without, the door or entrance of the lodge" simply implies that the O.G. is not situated inside during the proceedings, but his exact situa-

tion, which it is all important to define, is as much undetermined as if he were placed on the top of the monument. The same may be said respecting the reply, alluding to the situation of the I.G. It is equally vague, and merely implies the contrary of its predecessor, by indicating that the I.G. is placed inside or within the lodge, but he might be in the Master's chair, for all the information afforded on the point. From the duties devolving upon the O.G. he must clearly be sufficiently close to the door of the lodge, to bar the passage of anyone attempting to enter, whom he might consider it right to keep out. If we imagine an effort being made to effect an entrance into a lodge *à l'outrance*, it would be the duty of the O.G. to place himself against the lodge door, resist the attempt *vi et armis*, and call for assistance to the brethren. It is rather difficult sometimes to frame an exact definition, for in order to define sufficiently, it frequently becomes necessary to define superfluously. In this instance however we think that the situation of the O.G. is precisely and succinctly defined by the reply "At the door of the lodge, on the outside." It not only determines his relative position to the lodge room, but also what is the most important point, his necessary proximity to the door. This consideration is entirely disregarded in the ordinary answer, although the gravity of it needs no comment. But for this indispensable part of the reply, the O.G. has no more connection with the lodge, than anyone else who is not absolutely within it. From what has been stated, it will be anticipated that the succeeding answer requires alteration likewise. In fact the same arguments apply to both cases, and therefore the situation of I.G. is correctly defined by the analogous reply "At the door of the lodge, on the inside." It is impossible to prevent perceiving that there is a manifest propriety, in the wording of the answers we have given, and the actual position of the two officers at the opening and closing of a lodge. It is very easy to test the comparative efficacy and value of the ordinary replies and those we have suggested, by considering them as commands addressed to ourselves. In the one case supposing the O.G. to be referred to we should leave the lodge and probably walk into the ante-room; in the other, we should place ourselves in the exact situation allotted to that officer. What was required of us would not be communicated by the vague language of the one, while the situation would be unmistakably defined by the other. Clearness and perspicacity is of equal importance in the ritual as simplicity and uniformity.

BIBLES, &c.

By Bro. HENRY MELVILLE.

The library of William Euen, Esq., according to Bro. Buchan, contains "about 568 ancient and peculiar editions of the English Bible." This certainly must be a splendid private collection, but the National, or British, museum has twenty-three large folio volumes of catalogue to Bibles, and one volume of the same size is a mere index to the contents of the twenty-three volumes.

Bro. Buchan in writing respecting Miles Coverdale's Bible in the above collection, says—"The title is a fac-simile, the original having been worn away or lost." "The Coverdale Bible in the British Museum is translated from the *Douche* and *Latyn*. It has four title-pages all bound up together, three being dated 1535, the fourth 1536. It is certainly strange and unusual to give one book so many titles, three of which are precisely alike. That of 1536 explains what is meant by the translation being from the *Douche*."*

The same writer I referred to in my last notice (who mentions that the greater portion of Latin Bibles from the Mazarene to 1554 are without title-pages) gives the following observations:—

"Cranmer's Old and New Testament, printed by Richard Grafton and Edward Whitchurch, 1539. In 1538 Henry the VIII. being so often importuned to authorise the printing of the translation of the Bible, he committed the care thereof to Cromwell and the printing to Richard Grafton, who pretending the want of good paper here, got our King's and Francis's license to print it at Paris both in Latin and English in a large volume." Kennet's History of England, 2nd vol., p. 213. The idea of Grafton getting permission from the King of England and the King of France to print the work in Paris is somewhat strange, and if paper was scarce why not import it to LONDINI IN OFFICINA RICHARDI GRAFTONI TYPIS IMPRESS, where a multitude of other works were being produced!

* The text of the first engraved title-page is translated from the *Douche* and *Latyn* in to English MDXXXV. The second title-page is the same engraving, but the text title, has been cut out to answer some purpose. The third title-page is the same engraving; the text says the Holy Scripture of the Old and New Testament translated in to English, MDXXXVI, not a word about the *Douche*! The fourth title-page the same as the first. There has been very lately a fifth title-page pasted in the book, it is a copy of the third only making the year 1535 instead of 1536. If these four first title-pages are mere fac-similes of originals, they are certainly excellent imitations, but it is wonderful how old books have been dressed to please the taste and fashion of this enlightened age!

Kennet further says, that Henry the VIII. "in 1546 did severely forbid the translation of the New Testament by Tindal and Coverdale, or any other than is permitted by Parliament,"—p. 262.

This Cranmer's Bible, as it is called (dated Paris and London) is edited by Wm. Coverdale at the instance of Thomas Lord Cromwell, and therein is an epistle of Coverdale dedicated to Henry himself—why should Henry allow Coverdale to print the first Bible in English in 1536, and sanction his editing Cranmer's Bible in 1539, and then, in 1546, severely forbid the translation of the New Testament by Coverdale? The pictured title-page of Cranmer's Bible represents King Henry the VIII. on his throne giving books with both hands, on the covers of which are *Verbum Dei*. The title is "The Byble in English, that is to say the contents of all the Holy Scripture, both of the Old and New Testament, truly translated after the veryte of the Hebrew and Greek textes, by the dilligent study of divers excellent learned men expert in the aforesaid tongues." There is a prologue by the Reverend Father in God Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury. For a frontispiece there is an engraving of Cranmer. It is pasted on a fly-leaf, and would suit any other folio work. The superscription on the engraving is "Martyrio Coronatis 1556, Mar. 21. Cranmer was one of Foxe's martyrs.

"Grafton's Bible, of London, 1540, is in three volumes. This is printed on vellum, remarkably well got up and very new in appearance. The pictured part of the title-page is the same as that of Cranmer's, only highly illuminated, and so are all the introducing letters, &c. The text of the title-page is merely 'The Bible in English.' At the end it says, 'finished in April 1540.' The kalender and the prologue of Thomas are the same as in Cranmer's, in fact it is the very same book with trifling typographical variations.

"Grafton's Bible, of London, 1540, printed on paper, in one volume, finished in Dec., 1540, 'Bible in English, that is to say, the content of all the Holy Scriptures both of the Old and New Testament with a prologue thereto, made by the Reverend Father in God Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury,' otherwise similar to the preceding.

"Another of London like production of 1540, finished in 1540, but printed by Edward Whitchurch."

These four specimens of Grafton and Whit-

church's establishments must convince any one that there was for some reason or other an endeavour to palm these bibles off as different publications. Any printer must detect the fraud, inasmuch as page after page of all the four works are impressed from the same form of letter. There must have been some mysterious object in view, or why such trouble to conceal the truth? why these trifling variations of dates? why one publication on vellum in three volumes and the others on paper in one volume? When Henry, VIII., sanctioned Cranmer's Bible did he also sanction the other three? and were they printed at Paris on account of scarcity of paper in England?"

Bro. Buchan mentions Robert Baker's Bible of 1607, and says Christ is represented as treading grapes in a wine-press. It would have been as well had he quoted the superscription around the press, CALCAVI SOLUS EGO TORCVLAR—Isaiah, 63 ch., v. 3. It was a Robert Baker that printed the prayer book in 1642, in which K. Char Martyr is entered in the Calendar on the 30th January.

Most probably the Hanoverian Bible is in the Euen collection. I have "no doubt the title-page will gladden the eyes of Bro. Buchan." There is the winged horse Pegasus, two horns of plenty, the caduceus of Mercury, certain mark signs and two right hands closely united very fraternally.

The Mazarine Bible is set down at page 70 as of 1543—this is a strange misprint, which every biblical scholar will at once perceive; at p. 110 it says, from the Mazarene to 1514, &c. To set the matter correctly, the Mazarene Bible has pasted on a fly-leaf at the end of the first volume. "This coliphon and another at the end of the second vol. is transcribed from a copy in its original binding in the Bibliotheque Royal at Paris. Date mccccvi.

LODGE MINUTES, ETC.—No. 6.

(Continued from page 10).

By W. P. BUCHAN.

I proceed to give a few more extracts from the last century, minutes of St. Mungo's Lodge No. 27

"At Glasgow, 28th Nov. 1783."—"When it was agreed that Bro. John Austin should receive their proxy and appear for them in the Grand Lodge, at the ensuing election of Grand Master."

On 6th Dec. 1783,—“Having taken into serious

consideration the great number of members who have not paid up there quarter accounts, owing to the lodge not being so regular in there meetings as formerly. It was unanimously agreed that as the by-gone quarterly accounts must be very heavy upon the brethren; and to promote the good of the lodge as much as possible, every brother will be received upon paying one years' quarter accounts, which is one shilling. It is likewise agreed that the entry into this lodge shall be ten shillings and sixpence, including all dues, beside the officers dues being one shilling. And that any person being a brother entry'd with a regular lodge shall at his admission pay two shillings and sixpence to the funds of the lodge together with one shilling to the clark and one to the officer."

"And any clandestine Masson at his admission shall pay into the funds of the lodge the sum of four shilling together with one shilling to the clark and one to the officer, as also two shillings and sixpence to the Grand Lodge." "And further agrees that there shall be a meeting of the lodge upon Wens-day come eight days being the 17th Currant." "Robert Hunter."

"Same night Bros. Willm. Buchanan and Willm. Niven were made honorary members of this lodge, as also Bros. John Gourlie and James Allan were admitted members of this lodge upon paying the dues having been formerly entry'd in a regular lodge. Bro. Gourlie made application and was accordingly past to the degree of a Fellow Craft, and afterwards raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason."

"Willm. Buchanan."

In Jan. 17th 1784.—“Five weavers and one shoemaker were admitted apprentices.” “There after the brethren took under their consideration that the cloathing belonging to the lodge had been greatly abused in Mrs. Gourlie's house and therefore it was unanimously agreed to give them a thorow repairing.”

In 17th July 1784.—“The next lodge meeting was proposed to be held “in the large hall above the Weigh house at Glasgow or in case it cannot be got, or that it may not be convenient to meet there, at any other place to be appointed by the Master.”

In 25th Sept. 1784.—Five pounds sterling being “needed for the use of the lodge” it was got from “the kings free linen weavers society in Glas-

gow," a number of the office-bearers being "cationers."

In 2nd Oct. 1784.—It was intimated that their original charter from the Grand Lodge which had been sent to Edinburgh about ten or eleven years ago and about which they had enquired and been informed "that the Grand Clark knew nothing about it" had been recovered after "a good dale of troble" by "Mr. Lewis Grant, Marchant in Edinburgh and Senior Warden of the St. Steven's Lodge," who had sent it to them and they had received it all right, the lodge therefore thanked him &c.

In 5th Nov. 1784.—Bro. Grant attended their meeting and was made an honorary member and next day he seems to have been invited to dinner when as the minute says they "gave him a very hansom trate." Old St. Mungo no doubt smiling benignly all the while upon the fortunate recoverer of his charter.

In 27th Dec. 1784.—Deputations received from the Argyle, Union and Crown, St Marks "and from the operatives—which were respectfully returned from the St. Mungo as their senior lodge."

In 13th Jan. 1785.—"Bro. Mahomet Edfie* of the kingdom of Algiers, being introduced and vouched for by Bro. Ingram is admitted a member."

Some hieroglyphics appended to the minute which I take to be Mahomets signature.

In 8th Feb. 1785.—"A great number of brethren being present, the night was spent in a most joviale manner as is usual among brethren, &c."

In 1st June 1785.—There was a large meeting when they "finished the night with proper decorum" at this and many former meetings a large number of "honorary" or "honoured" members were made, independant of initiations, &c.

In 6th July 1785.—"After passing the evening in the greatest harmony in their new hall the lodge was shut with the usual ceremonie."

In 14th December, 1785.—Lodge met in "Shaw's Tavern."

In January 13th, 1786.—"Enacted and agreed in all time coming that the Entry of this Lodge should be one guinea, and the money to be paid down before proposition, and it was further enacted

* I am not quite sure upon the correctness of the spelling of the name.

that by next meeting; those that had paid their quarter accts. Entg. money, &c., to this Lodge, their names shall be mentioned from the chair; and those that had not paid, should also be mentioned, and proper means taken for recovery of same, and further it is agreed that there be an inventory taken of all the articles belonging to the Lodge, and Entd. in this Book accordingly," &c.

In 21st January, 1786.—"Under their consideration that they should remove from Shaw's Tavern to James Buchanan's Saracen Head Inn," &c.

2nd March, 86.—A Joining Apprentice promised "to pay his—dues—in a day or two," another in 4th March promised "to pay his dues when called for," which shows that the regulation of January 13th was not very strictly adhered to; they found it easier to make laws than to walk up to them.

November 30th, 1786.—"Brother James Ross being formerly a clandestine mason was admitted a Regular member of this Lodge and paid twelve shillings sterling being his entry money," &c.

In 22nd December, 1786.—In Black Bull Inn a brother becomes security for the fee (one guinea) of a party becoming an apprentice.

(To be continued.)

FREEMASONRY IN SWEDEN.

We have received the following from a correspondent in Sweden:—

"A closer union between the different Masonic bodies throughout the universe, is, in the interests of humanity, highly to be desired; and it may not be uninteresting to many of the brethren to learn that a preliminary step in this, the right direction, was adopted on the 21st of May at a chapter held at Gothenburg, and by the able and zealous P.G.M., Comp. Dr. Dickson, assisted by the D.P.G.M., Comp. Dr. Ewert, and a large array of P.G. officers and companions, in exalting Comp. John Denton, of Leeds, of the Robert Burns (No. 25), and Philanthropic Chapters (No. 304), into the 7th degree under the Swedish system of Masonry (this degree being a preliminary one to the 8th). Next year, should Comp. Denton desire it, he will no doubt be permitted to be exalted into the 8th, when he will be able fully to appreciate the superiority of the Swedish system.

"For the information of the Craft at large, it may be stated that the Swedish system of Masonry consists of three divisions, viz.: the first three are called St. John's degrees to Craft Masonry; the three next are termed St. Andrew's, and considered equivalent to Royal Arch Masonry in England and Scotland, and the remainder are Knight Templars, &c.

"The first three degrees are open to all brethren

from foreign countries provided with an authentic certificate and able to prove themselves, and who are made welcome guests. Not so in the higher degrees; as a general rule none can be admitted without their having been initiated into the Swedish system; or if they have been made M.M.'s under another constitution, they must first abjure all connexion with it before they can be admitted. A special exception has been made in favour of Comp. Denton—by Royal prerogative—by His Majesty the King of Sweden and Norway, Solomon's enlightened Vicar over the 9th Province, for his deep research, ready and willing manner, and earnest endeavours at all times and seasons in promoting true Masonic principles.

"It is the earnest desire and wish that brethren will join other countries, so that the link which unites all brethren of whatever nation, rank, or station, will become more firmly united in one inseparable chain, so that the grand aim at which we are all striving will the sooner become a reality.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE AND THE GRAND MASTERSHIP OF SCOTLAND.

The following has appeared in the *Dundee Courier*:—

"It may be remembered that at the last election of the Grand Master of Scotland, the Earl of Dalhousie, who was unanimously chosen to fill the throne of the Grand Lodge, signified his intention of retiring from that most distinguished position in November next. This intimation caused a widespread feeling of regret throughout the brethren of Scotland, for his Lordship has filled the throne with universal acceptance. Accordingly, measures have been taken to represent to his Lordship the unanimous and cordial desire of the brethren that he should still retain the Grand Mastership; and with this view, after the meeting of the Grand Lodge in the Court-Room on Thursday, an elegantly illuminated memorial was placed in an ante-room to receive the signatures of the brethren. It was signed by nearly all present on that occasion. We hope that this spontaneous expression of feeling on the part of the brethren will have its due weight on the ultimate determination of the noble Earl, and that the Grand Lodge will for another year at least enjoy the presidency of his Lordship. The 'Laird of Roslin' is spoken of as the next Grand Master."

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

It is strange that the Grand Lodge of Scotland has elected the Prince of Wales Grand Patron, while the Grand Lodge of England are asked to make him P.G.M. Had this demand been made of the Grand Lodge of Scotland it would have been intelligible, because in Scotland there is no separate degree in the Craft for the chair, and the P.M. degree is given in the Royal Arch degrees to members who have not regularly passed the chair of K.S. Still, our Scotch brethren did not choose to put H.R.H. or themselves in a false and ridiculous attitude.—AN ENGLISH OBSERVER.

MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.

The Marquis of Salisbury, who gave his Masonic paraphernalia to Bro. J. Ross Dagg, was Pro-Grand Master to H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex. When the Earl of Zetland is appointed Pro-G.M. to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Bro. Dagg would without doubt allow the use of the paraphernalia of his Lordship's esteemed predecessor, the late Marquis of Salisbury.—A. CORRESPONDENT.

LODGE MUSIC.

Where can W. Bro. Younghusband's cheap lodge music be obtained?—W.J.

MORMONISM.

Masons here have seen with some surprise that a portion of the American Masons refused to allow Mormon Masons to join, or Mormon candidates to be admitted into a lodge constituted in Utah city. This has no sufficient authority, for whatever we may think individually of the claims of the Mormon scriptures, they do not deny the Great Architect of the Universe or teach Polytheism, and we can no more canvass their details than those of the Koran or the Avesta of the Parsees. If the practice of polygamy be put forward as a plea, then we must reject Jews, Mahometans, and others, who authorize this practice as of divine and moral sanction.—VINDEK.

FEMALE MASONRY IN ITALY.

The movement for woman's rights has spread to Italy. Not long since a young and beautiful woman appeared before the Roman Senate, and announced herself to be the last descendant of the Emperors of the East, living unknown with her father in a valley in Piedmont; and, producing documents, she demanded an investigation of her pretensions. The Senate complied with her request, and finally recognised her as the Princess Lascaris-Paleologus, ordering her name to be thus inscribed in the "Book of Gold" at the Capitol. The Princess subsequently went to Florence, where she has now taken a bolder step, and founded a Masonic Lodge for women.—PALL MALL GAZETTE.

BRO. MELVILLE'S DISCOVERIES.

As there has been some discussion about the proper tribunal to which to submit the examination of Bro. Melville's discoveries, and a disinclination of scientific men to undertake such duties, or a repudiation of them, I beg to offer a suggestion, with a view of assisting Bro. Melville. It appears that his labours are not only astronomical but astrological, and as the astronomers reject the astronomy, I propose the reference of the astrological matters to the London Astrological Society, or rather to their distinguished member, Zadkiel, the author of the celebrated almanack. Bro. Melville and Zadkiel could begin their conferences with the astrological life of King Charles I., the decision of Zadkiel to be final.—L.H.

GREEK LODGE.

I am desirous of promoting a lodge in London to be worked in modern Greek, and shall be glad of any communications, to be addressed to me at the offices of the Magazine.—ALPHA.

POPERY AND ROMAN CATHOLICS.

I shall be glad if Pictus can enlighten us as to the connexion of his remarks with Freemasonry. What has Freemasonry to do with Ultramontanism or Gallicanism? We have members who belong to every political shade of the Roman Catholic Church, and we have no justification for any offensive remarks with regard to their faith any more than we have with the shades of Baptist opinion. Such remarks are an offensive imitation of the Pope and other revilers of Freemasonry.—CATHOLICUS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES (p. 108).

J.A.H. may be right that Grand Patron is a bad title, and that Masonry does not want patronage; but Grand Patron is an old title, and has just been applied by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. At all events it is better than sham Past G.M.

J.A.H. is not happy in this, nor is he happy in his next suggestion to adopt what he regards as a Swedish plan; for the Book of Constitutions has provided in such a case as that of the Prince of Wales for his being G.M. with a Pro-Grand Master. The same objection must exist to H.R.H. being sham Past G.M. as to his being G.M. de facto, and simple brethren cannot understand why H.R.H. should be shunted out of the way in an irregular and unconstitutional manner.—A NEW MASON.

BRO. MELVILLE AND THE BIBLES.

Can our learned Bro. Melville inform us whether the early printed Bibles which he talks about have their dates in their title-pages or at their ends, or whether most of them have any title-pages at all? As the earliest books were in imitation of MSS., and printers names were not inserted in MSS. books before the invention of printing, Bro. Melville may, perhaps, be able to explain these other mysteries. Also why the Roman Catholic priests forgot to mutilate the written or MSS. Latin Bibles, before printing was invented, but copied them out and cared for them, so that the printed Bibles were printed from the MSS. of the priests and friars. Also what object they had in mutilating the printed Latin Bibles by tearing off title pages which had never been put on. When he has done these things he may enlighten Bro. Hughan and—A BIBLIOPHILE.

MASONIC CANDIDATES.

Instead of looking how many hands or feet a candidate has, would it not be an improvement to make him pass an examination as to his mental acquirements. Unless he were able to read intelligibly, write legibly (or, if he wanted his arms, dictate correctly), and work a sum at least in simple proportion, reject him.—PICTUS.

A MASONIC PHENOMENON.

There are phenomenons exhibited at the fairs with three legs or no legs or arms at all, but we have now in this country a Masonic phenomenon, Bro. Capt. Visnard, who was initiated in the English language in Alexandria in Africa, passed in German in Constantinople in Europe, and raised at Beirut in Asia in the Italian language. Thus he took his degrees in three different quarters of the globe and in three different languages.—H.C.

COLLECTANEA AS TO ORDERS.

I enclose some contemporary cuttings made by my late father.—HYDE CLARKE.

KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN.

"*Galignani*, 10 July, 1838.

"Cardinal Odescalchi has been received at Rome as Grand Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem by the Bailli, the Commanders, and Knights of the Order assembled in the Church of the Grand Priory dedicated to St. Basil. The Commander Montinho de Lima has been admitted to an audience by the Pope, by whom he was most graciously received."

FRENCH TEMPLARS.

"*United Service Journal*. May, 1838.

"Of all the numerous Orders conferred upon Sir Sydney Smith, Admiral of the White and Lieut. Gen. of Marines, the most distinguished of which are K.C.B., &c., that of the *Templar* Cross is the most remarkable and interesting. It is the self-same ornament which hung suspended from the neck of the chivalrous Richard the Lion-hearted during his crusades in the Holy Land, and which the Admiral wears in like manner by a gold chain. The form of the cross is Latin; it is of pure gold, and ornamented with large rubies and emeralds; an emerald of superior size in the centre on one side, and at each end, and in the centre of the reverse, carbuncles of great magnitude. Above is a crown, the upper part resembling our ducal coronets; and the whole is fastened to an oval frame of the same metal, set all round with precious stones, with curious flagree workmanship, and also studded with gems. At the bottom hang a row of emeralds and other stones bored through and secured by gold hoops to rings in the frame, much in the same fashion as the glass drops of chandeliers."

"*Galignani*, 18th January, 1838.

"Mr. Maillard de Charnbure, archivist at Dijon, has discovered among them three manuscripts, viz., two volumes of accounts kept by the Jews who formed an association for furnishing provisions and clothing for the *last* Crusade; and a third volume is of the Military Regulations of the *Templars* approved by the Council of Troyes, 1128, at the same time as the Rules of the Order. These important statutes, which have never been published, and have been considered as lost, will ere long be printed and laid before the antiquaries and men of historical research, who will no doubt supply the long-desired History of the *Templars*."

ARCHITECTURE.—SPIRES.

Since a cathedral is a "house of God," intended by its builders to carry up the mind of the beholder to that "house not made with hands eternal in the heavens," should its highest central spire not end in a point? I have often thought and felt so. I have no objection to crosses or other finial ornaments being put upon the lower towers or gables, &c., but the highest spire should end simply in a heavenward-directing point. No cross, cock, or any ornament whatever but the spire itself sloping up gradually, and going off into a simple point. To look upon the building simply as such, *per se*, an ornament upon the top of the spire may be by many considered necessary; but to view it understanding its idealism, then the intended ornament, or finial, is simply a

clog, of no more benefit than sticking a pea upon the point of a man's nose; it binds down the imagination to earth, and prevents it going off naturally, as it would otherwise do, into infinity.—W. P. BUCHAN.

ARCHITECTURE.—A THOUGHT.

The Egyptians were great as architects. The Greeks were Idealists (or, shall I say Artists?) and carried Beauty to perfection. The Romans were architects, partly from necessity, their position, or circumstances. The Mediæval Builders were great as architects they built houses to God.—W. P. BUCHAN.

JOINING BRETHREN AND INITIATIONS.

In the last number of the *Freemasons' Magazine* it is stated by the respected Bro. ✠ B ✠ that "no person can be initiated, neither can any joining member be admitted on the same day that a new lodge is opened and consecrated." To me this is quite new; nor do I find in the Book of Constitutions any authority for it. I suppose that it is based on the fact that, the lodge not having been yet formed, proper notice cannot have been given, even by inserting the names on the circular at seven days, which is a very common practice, though by law it should be adopted only in cases of emergency clearly defined. It occurs to me that it is no uncommon case for the members of a new lodge to hold meetings, to transact business, and even to perform Masonic rites, under dispensation, before the consecration. In such instances, proper notice having been possible—if my surmise be correct—surely there can be no impropriety in performing the ceremony of initiation on the day of consecration; and on this supposition, in reply to the query of ✠ B ✠, I cannot see any possible objection to the reception of propositions for admission or joining at that period. Whatever the law may be, I am quite sure that, in point of fact, admissions of new members of the Order; and the performance of the ceremonies connected therewith, have in many cases taken place on the day of the opening of a new lodge, and I am curious to know the ground on which our brother, whose opinion is of some weight, pronounces such an occurrence to be inadmissible. I candidly confess that some few years ago I initiated several brethren, the Prov. G.M. himself being present, immediately after the ceremonies of consecration and installation.—H.H.

FREEMASONRY RATHER OLDER THAN 150 YEARS.

King Edward III. had an officer called the *King's Freemason*, or *General-surveyor* of his buildings, whose name was Henry Yevele, employed by that King, about A.D. 1326, to build several abbeys, and St. Stephen's Chappel at Westminster, where the House of Commons now sits in Parliament." Page 81, The Constitutions of the Free-masons, year of Masonry 5723 :—"In the third year of King Henry VI., the Parliament made an Act that affected only the *working masons*, who had, contrary to the Statutes for Labourers, confederated not to work but at their own price and wages; and because such agreements were supposed to be made at the *General Lodges*, call'd in the Act *Chapters and Congregations of Masons*, it was then thought expedient to level the said Act against the said congregations. *Tertio* Henrici Sexti, Cap. 1. AN. DOM. 1425." The Act of Parliament

is then quoted. It is ordained that "such chapters and congregations shall not hereafter be holden, and if any such be made, they that cause such chapters and congregations to be assembled and holden, if they thereof be convict, shall be judged for felons, and that the other Masons that come to such chapters and congregations be punished by imprisonment of their bodies and make fine and Ransome at the King's will." Idem, p. 35.—SAXELBY.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents

INELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES FOR FREEMASONRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I was very much amused at reading in to-day's Magazine, p. 111, the letter of "W.L." upon the above subject; from the 17th ult. to the 2nd inst., the matter seems to have been working upon him, until at the latter date he reaches the "off" point, and out comes his grand explosion! Nitro-glycerine shall be nothing to it, says he. I'll blow these "arrant innovations" to the winds. To think of Bro. Buchan promulgating the scandalous idea that "good moral character" is the chief requisite in a candidate is, "according to my training and obligation," preposterous! It is the *outside* of the cup and platter I view. He is, therefore, past all "absolution," besides, it is a question whether he has not been guilty of "a Masonic fraud" and "liable to a penalty." Yea, verily, send him to—

"A vast unbottom'd, boundless pit,
Fill'd fu' o' lowin' brumstane,
Whase r'agin' flame, an' scorchin' heat,
Wad melt the hardest whun-stane!"
An' keep him there.

Between miscarried, silly, or fruitless courts-martial (vide p. 117, Feb. 6th), and pits "o' lowin' brumstane," it is a wonder that Bro. B. is still alive and kicking. But to return to "W.L.," I can fancy the look of holy horror which spread itself over the visage of a member of "this once pure Order" when he read my remarks at page 45. I see him waxing wroth in pious indignation until, to keep himself from bursting, he—let's off the steam. Yea, says he, Heaven may admit the lame or the blind, the one-arm'd or the no-arm'd; but into *our* "pure Order" none such shall enter, the Miltons and the Nelsons, the one-arm'd philanthropists and the one-legg'd patriots are all alike inadmissible into our fraternity; it is not mind, character, knowledge, or virtue that we require; no, it is arms and legs! So virtually says "W.L.," thereby showing how thoroughly ignorant he is of the *spirit* of speculative Masonry. His ideas might have suited the old *operative* lodge of two centuries ago, when apprentices came forward to learn the *Mason trade*; but to apply these obsolete ideas to Freemasonry is manifestly absurd. It is not *matter* we want in our lodges, it is *mind*; we have to excess of the former; but oh! how scarce is the latter? "W.L." strains at a gnat and swallows a camel, and, possibly, while passing his next candidate, he might initiate an eunuch, which would be a

more serious defect than the want of an arm; or, as he sets so little value upon "good moral character," he might enter a "sound and perfect" scoundrel. Besides, he overlooks the fact that many men who have only one arm can use it to far more advantage than hundreds who have two. However, to the honour of Scottish Freemasonry, I am glad to be able to state that what I referred to at page 45 was *in accordance with the sanction* of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and to-day our P.M., Bro. J. B. Walker, informed me that three years ago, before initiating a candidate who came forward minus a hand, he wrote the Grand Secretary, and received a letter back permitting him to do so, which letter Bro. Walker caused to be inscribed in our minute book. Therefore, Bro. "W.L.," it is *you* who are mistaken and out of order, while I have been acting upon the square. The Grand Lodge of Scotland having said—never mind his hand or his foot, or any such outward trifle, look at his head and his heart.

In the first legislative assembly in the world, I find a gentleman (Mr. Kavanah), a member, who, I am told, has neither arms nor legs; therefore, say I, if he be admissible into such a noble sodality as the British House of Commons, he and such as he, clear in head and honest and true at heart, are surely much more admissible into a Mason's lodge.

As a speculative Mason, I beg to say that I am thoroughly ashamed to see such childish ideas promulgated as those of "W.L.," they smell more of the nursery than of the world, more of the child than of the man.

I long to see the day when we shall have first class men of ability, learning, and intelligence ruling in our lodges, when it may be *truly* said—that, as the sun rises in the east to open and enliven the day, so stands the Master in the east to open and enlighten his lodge.

Yours fraternally,
W. P. BUCHAN.

DECAPITATION OF BRO. MELVILLE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Bro. Melville is so cunning of fence that there is no laying hold of him. I shall give in, as I could as soon hold an eel.

He says he has not seen the prayer-book of 1642 with King Charles' martyrdom, instituted after the Restoration in 1660, inserted in the calendar. He has never seen it, which I am glad to hear, but he refers those who wish to see such a marvel to the British Museum.

It is also comforting to find that he has discovered title-pages to Bibles, after the date when title-pages came into printing use. It is a pity the Jesuits did not tear out or stop title-pages in 1514, instead of before.

Bro. Melville is quite welcome to prove, as he is *now* prepared to do, that Charles' history is astrologically written, and the more welcome as he has already stated he knows nothing of astrology.

A lucid statement of Bro. Melville's is that his M.M.'s certificate is in Latin and English; *à propos de quoi?*

In presence of such a fact, and of the others, I retire.

Yours fraternally,
M. W.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS

UNIVERSAL MASONIC CALENDAR FOR 1869.—A few remaining copies of the second edition are for sale at a reduction of 25 per cent.

THE EARL OF DURHAM LODGE (No. 1,274) will be consecrated on Wednesday, September 8th, at three o'clock P.M., at the Lambton Arms Hotel, Chester-le-street, by R.W. Bro. John Fawcett, Prov. G.M. for Durham. The officers named in the warrant are Bros. W. Brignall, jun., W.M.; R. Linton, S.W.; and T. Robson, J.W.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—OCTOBER ELECTION.—Votes are earnestly solicited in behalf of Frank Loud, aged eight and a half years, No. 49 on list of candidates. Girls' School votes will be equally acceptable for exchange. His late father, Bro. William Loud (who died suddenly on the 23rd of May, 1869, leaving a widow and nine children), was initiated in the Prince Edwin Lodge (No. 125), Hythe, in which he held the office of Warden. He was also a member of the Invicta Lodge (No. 709), Ashford, from its foundation, in 1857, until his decease, and has been a subscribing member to Grand Lodge for eighteen years. His widow and eight of the children are entirely dependent upon their friends for support. The case is strongly recommended.

Votes are earnestly solicited on behalf of George Albion Coombs, son of the late Bro. George Albion Coombs, who was a member of No. 700, and a licensed victualler, at Shooter's Hill, Woolwich: died 18th May, 1866, leaving two orphan children depending upon their friends for support. Proxies thankfully received by Bro. J. Ewart, Royal Carriage Office, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.

The death of Bro. Wm. J. Newman, long connected with, and of late years Superintendent of the Exhibition Department, Crystal Palace, and member of the Crystal Palace Lodge (No. 742), whose talents and amiability endeared him to all who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance, has deprived his family of their means of support, as well as of their best and dearest friend. His brethren in Freemasonry are desirous of testifying their respect for the memory of their late brother by presenting one of his sons, who is of suitable age, for education in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. In furtherance of this object, votes are earnestly solicited in favour of his son Herbert Horace Newman, for the election in October next. The case is strongly recommended by several influential brethren as a most deserving one. Proxies for Girls' School, or the Benevolent Institution, thankfully received for the purpose of exchange. Communications and votes may be forwarded to Bro. W. H. Harper, Crystal Palace, S.E.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SUSSEX.—The annual meeting will take place on Friday, the 27th inst., at the Music Room of the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, at half-past two o'clock punctually. The R.W. Bro. Lord Pelham, the Prov. G.M. will preside. The banquet will be held at five o'clock at the Banqueting Room of the Pavilion.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSET.—A meeting will be held at Sherborne, on the 30th inst., at twelve o'clock, under the presidency of Bro. J. Gundry, the Prov. G.M.

BRETHREN are reminded that the Lodge Music published in several issues of the MAGAZINE, has been re-published in a convenient form for Lodge use, price 2s. 6d.

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science will hold its thirty-ninth meeting at Exeter, commencing on Wednesday, the 18th inst., and will continue to hold its sittings until the following Wednesday. The following are the places where the various sections will be held:—A (Mathematical and Physical Science), Grammar School; B (Chemical Science), Albert Museum; C (Geology), Temperance Hall; D (Biology), Episcopal Schools; E (Geography), Victoria Hall; F (Economic Science and Statistics), Athenæum; G (Mechanical Science), St. John's Hospital; H (Reception Room), Public Room; E. K. (Inaugural and other Address), Victoria Hall; B. L. (Soirees), Albert Museum. Bro. William Smith, C.E., P.M. 26, 33, 840, W.M. 1,238, &c., one of the Secretaries of Section G (Mechanical Science), will be happy to give any information (Masonic or otherwise) to brethren during his stay at Exeter.

METROPOLITAN.

ROYAL ALFRED LODGE (No. 780).—A meeting of this lodge took place on Friday, the 23rd, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge. The W.M. Bro. S. May having taken the chair, the minutes of the former lodge were read and confirmed. Messrs. George Morecroft and James Augustus Wright, were initiated into the Order; Bros. Chapuy and Alleroff were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons, and Bros. Tarling, Berry, Collins, and David James, duly passed to the degrees of F.C. Bro. George Littlewood, the S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Smith was elected treasurer. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to the W.M. Bro. S. May, jun., and he was pretented with a very elegant wine steward's collar, with a massive silver jewel attached, and of chaste design. The W.M. returned thanks in suitable terms. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a very excellent dinner, provided by Bro. Banks. Bro. H. Cary, I.P.M., then proposed the health of the W.M., and spoke of his excellent working and the very able manner he had presided over the brethren, and hoped that as this was the last occasion upon which he would be in the chair that the brethren would drink the toast with all honour. The W.M., in a very excellent speech, thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which his name had been received by the brethren, and said his only aim was to see prosperity of the Royal Alfred Lodge. Visitors: Bros. B. P. Todd, P.M., No. 27, and Jones (Vitruvian).

MACDONALD LODGE (No. 1,216).—This lodge met on the 4th inst., at the Head Quarters of the 1st Surrey Rifle Volunteer Corps, Bro. A. L. Irvine, W.M. The lodge was opened in due form by the W.M., assisted by his officers and brethren, and the minutes of the last meeting, together with this resolution, were put for confirmation—"That the day of meeting of the lodge be changed from the first to the second Wednesday in each month, in order that the lodge may be properly represented at the quarterly communications." The minutes and this resolution were confirmed unanimously. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, and Dr. Henry Blanc was then interrogated as to his proficiency in this degree. Those interrogatories were satisfactorily replied to, and Bro. Dr. H. Blanc then retired. The lodge being opened in the third degree, the worthy brother was then admitted and raised to the sublime degree of M.M. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and Mr. J. B. Pike and Capt. Norman W. Sharp, who were balloted for and approved of at the last meeting, were presented to the W.M., who initiated them into ancient Freemasonry. The whole of the ceremonies were rendered by Bro. A. L. Irvine in a very able and masterly manner. The lodge was then closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment.

HERVEY LODGE (No. 1,260).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 11th inst. Present: Bros. G. King, jun., W.M.; King, S.W.; W. H. Weaver, S.D.; T. B. Ayshford, Treas.; W. Garner, Hon. Sec.; E. Garner, I.G.; C. T. Speight, Tyler, and several other members. Among the visitors were Bros. Hyde Clarke, D.D.G.M. for Turkey; Watts, 70; D. Pullen, S.W. 144; Thompson, 813. The lodge having been opened at 6 p.m. precisely, and the minutes of the last meeting read and approved, a dispensation was granted to form a lodge

of instruction. Mr. Thomas having been balloted for, being in attendance, was initiated in due form. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bros. Davidson and Thompson, by request of the W.M. of 813, were passed to the degree of F.C. The raisings were postponed to the emergency meeting in September in consequence of the lateness of the evening through the non-attendance of the officers. All business being ended the lodge was closed. The brethren then sat down to a banquet served in Bro. J. Webb's usual liberal style. The viands and wines were of the first quality, and gave great satisfaction. The usual toasts followed, accompanied by some good harmony, and the brethren separated with one feeling, wishing the lodge every prosperity. The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Officers," called their attention to the very awkward position they had placed him in by their non-attendance, and he expressed a hope that, when they could not attend, they would have the courtesy to let him know that he might make arrangements.

INSTRUCTION.

METROPOLITAN LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—A meeting of the members of the above-named lodge took place on Friday, the 6th inst., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Among the members present we noticed Bro. J. Brett, Preceptor; W. Ashby, W.M.; H. Tanner, J. R. Foulger, Hill, Lattreil, Worrell, D'Arcy, Makowery, Morton Robins, Omerod, Frain, and several others. The initiation ceremony having been worked, and the sections of the first degree by Bro. Ashby, assisted by the officers and brethren. Two visitors were then proposed as joining members of this lodge and were accepted unanimously. The manner in which the initiations and sections were worked by Ashby reflects the greatest credit on this aspirant for Masonic honours.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND BUCKS.

MAIDENHEAD.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 795).—This lodge met on Tuesday the 27th ult., at the Orkney Arms. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the former lodge read and confirmed, it was proposed and carried, that a petition be presented for the purpose of obtaining a warrant to consecrate a Royal Arch Chapter in connection with the lodge. It was proposed and seconded that the lodge should give from its funds a sum of ten guineas to the Boys' School. It was arranged that the summer banquet should be held at the Orkney Arms, and not as previously arranged on board the *Maria Wood*, and twenty guineas were voted towards carrying out this object. After the closing of the lodge, an excellent banquet followed, and the brethren separated after having spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

ESSEX.

COLCHESTER.—*United Lodge* (No. 697).—The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the George Hotel, on Friday, the 9th ult., when the following were present:—Bros. Newman, W.M.; Ray, S.W.; J. S. Smith, J.W.; Calthorpe, S.D.; Eustace, J.D., G.M., I.G.; Rix, Treas.; Woodland, Fenn, Bell, O'Malley, Givin, Kinloch, Piper, Jenkinson. Visitors:—Bros. Bolton, Cobb, Breall, Cole, G. W. Smith. The lodge was opened in due form in the first degree, and the summons convening the meeting was read, and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. A report from the Board of General Purposes was read, stating that the characters of Robert Steen Gray, Esq., Adjutant 3rd Dragoon Guards, and James Warren Sergeant 49th Reg., had been found satisfactory. A report was read from the Royal Masonic Institution, giving a report of their half-yearly election. James P. Pattison was recommended to the United Lodge as a worthy object for their votes at the next ensuing election in November. The United Lodge unanimously gave their vote. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Fenn and Woodland being about to be raised to the third degree, were called upon to answer the questions appertaining to the second degree, which being satisfactorily answered, they retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, and Bros. Fenn and Woodland were raised to the sublime degree. Bros. Kinloch and O'Malley signed and received their Grand Lodge certificates. The lodge was then

closed to the second, and afterwards to the first degree, when Bro. Piper was called upon to answer the questions appertaining to the first degree; having answered them satisfactory, he retired. The lodge was then re-opened, and Bro. Piper was passed to the second degree. The lodge was then closed to the first degree, and Sergt. James Warren, 49th Reg., was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our ancient Freemasonry. He afterwards signed and received a copy of the by-laws of the lodge. The questions appertaining to the first degree were put round for the information of the newly initiated brother. Bro. Ray proposed, and Bro. Smith seconded, that the subscriptions of members of the United Lodge be 5s. each, and which was referred to the Board of General Purposes. Bro. Rix proposed, and Bro. Eustace seconded, that Bro. G. W. Smith, Angel Lodge (No. 51), be received as a joining member. The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren retired.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

BERKHAMPTSTEAD.—*Berkhamptstead Lodge* (No. 504).—The usual monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., in the commodious Town Hall of this ancient town. The lodge was opened at high twelve by Bro. R. A. Wright, W.M., attended by his officers and other members. The minutes of the preceding lodge having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for the admission of Mr. Martin Luther Hayward, which being unanimous in his favour and he being in attendance, was received and initiated. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Youngman and Abbot were passed to the rank of F.C. The lodge was opened in the third degree, and Bro. Glassborrow was raised to the degree of M.M. The W.M. referring to the decease of Bro. H. G. Lane, P.M., and Sec., conferred that office on Bro. W. Wilson, J.W. The W.M. suggested that the members should give expression of the deep regret for the loss the lodge had sustained by the death of Bro. H. G. Lane, and that the Secretary be instructed to communicate the same, by letter, to Bro. John Lane, his father; which being formally put, was resolved unanimously. No further business being offered, the lodge was closed in peace, harmony, and brotherly love. The brethren then prepared for the reception of the Prov. G.M.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The Prov. G.M. having elected to hold his annual meeting of the members of the various lodges in the province at Great Berkhamptstead, fixed the day on which the Berkhamptstead Lodge (No. 504), should meet on Wednesday, the 4th inst.

The business of the lodge being over, the brethren of the province assembled in the Town Hall of the ancient town, at four o'clock. There were present, Bros. W. Stuart, Prov. G.M.; G. Lambert, as Prov. S.G.W.; B. Heath, as Prov. J.G.W.; T. Rogers, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Sedgwick, Prov. G. Sec. The following were also present:—Bros. J. Havers, P.G.W.; H. C. Finch, Rev. G. Finch, A. Copeland, J. Howe, Gumpertz, Copestake, Swan, Brady, and others.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then duly opened, after prayer from Bro. the Rev. George Finch, Prov. G. Chap., and the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Watford, were read and confirmed. Bro. Thomas Rogers, Prov. G. Treas., presented his account showing, after payment of all charges, a balance of £33 16s. cash in hand.

The Prov. G. Master appointed the following brethren as Prov. G. officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. George Francis, D. Prov. G.M.; Heath, Prov. S.G.W.; Andrews, Prov. J.G.W.; J. Sedgwick, Prov. G. Sec.; Wright, Prov. S.G.D.; Bruce, Prov. J.G.D.; H. C. Finch, Prov. G. Reg.; Rev. G. Finch, Prov. G. Chap.; W. Wilson, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Rowe, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Terry, Prov. G.S.B.; Olney, Prov. G. Purst.; Swan, Prov. G. Steward; and Thomas, Prov. G. Tyler. Bro. T. Rogers wishing to retire, his son, Bro. W. Rogers, was unanimously elected Prov. G. Treas.

Bro. Heath proposed that a vote of thanks be given to Bro. Rogers on his retirement, for his long and valued services as Prov. G. Treas., which was seconded by the Prov. G. Master, who referred to the many years' intimacy with Bro. Rogers, and bore testimony of the high esteem in which he was held by one and all. This was, of course, carried by acclamation. Bro. G. Lambert, P. Prov. G.W., then said that, seeing there was a goodly balance in hand, he ventured to suggest a contribution from the Provincial Grand Lodge towards the fund for restoration of the ancient church of Berkhamptstead. A desultory con-

versation on the subject ensued; Bro. the Rev. F. B. Harvey, P. Prov. G. Chap., as a resident minister of the parish, eloquently pleaded the cause, and he mentioned that the repairs would cost about £7,000. Bro. Lambert then proposed that the sum of ten guineas be contributed by the Provincial Grand Lodge, which motion being seconded by Bro. Winter, was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Prov. S.G.W., that in acknowledgment of the long services of the R.W. Prov. G.M., and of the esteem in which he was held by every one, a committee be formed to suggest some suitable testimonial be presented to Bro. Stuart, and that a commemoration be sent to all the lodges in the province to carry it into effect. This motion was resolved upon unanimously. The Prov. G. Master then closed the Provincial Grand Lodge, and under the guide of Bro. Wilson, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., the brethren went in order to the King's Arms Hotel.

Soon after five o'clock the brethren sat down to an ample and elegant banquet, provided by the Berkhamptstead Lodge, under the direction and management of Bros. Lambert, Heath, and Wilson, which, aided as it was by some choice wines, gave the utmost amount of satisfaction to all present, there being somewhat over sixty brethren—the most numerous gathering ever witnessed in the province. A selection of music was given under the direction of Bro. W. J. Fielding, assisted by Bros. Donald King and W. Winn, the latter presiding at the piano-forte. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the day's business and enjoyment ended.

This province is awkwardly placed with respect to railway travelling, the lodges being on the three main lines. The Watford and Berkhamptstead Lodges are on the London and North Western; the Cecil Lodge on the Great Northern, and the Gresham, Hertford, and Stortford Lodges on the Great Eastern; consequently a journey to London is needed to visit the sister lodges of the province, and the general meetings not so fully attended as they otherwise would be, for so greatly beloved as Bro. Stuart is by every one, his summonses are always agreeable.

Hertfordshire is much favoured by London Masons, being convenient to the metropolis, as in little more than an hour the journey to any part can be made. It has also much pastoral beauties, being pleasantly undulated, it is well cultivated, and at the present season teems with promise of an abundant harvest. The county is happy in having many resident gentry; between Watford and Berkhamptstead are the beautiful and richly cultivated parks of Lords Essex and Clarendon, Mr. W. Jones Lloyd, at Langleybury; Mr. Dickenson's, at Nash Mills, and others. Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. for Westminster, and Sir S. Canning, of Atlantic Telegraph celebrity, reside in the pretty village of Abbot's Langley. There are few localities so near to the metropolis possessing so much historic interest. Berkhamptstead is a town of Saxon origin; the kings of Mercia had a palace or castle here, the site of which lies adjoining, only a few fragments of a wall now remain, but the works show the ancient strength and importance of the fortress. The church is an extensive building in the form of a cross, and there are several chantries and chapels which are still partially divided from the body of the church. It contains several sepulchral memorials, and among others, one to the memory of the mother of Cowper the poet, who was born in the town. At Berkhamptstead, in the seventh century, a general council of the Anglo-Saxon church was held, and among its enactments was one, that the Lord's day do commence on the Saturday even at six. At King's Langley was a palace of our early sovereigns; some fragments of the building remain. In the parish of Abbot's Langley was born Nicholas Breakspere, the only Englishman who ever filled the Papal throne. The church here, of Norman construction, has recently been put into thorough repair. Many Roman remains have been discovered in these neighbourhoods.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

NEATH.

Provincial Grand Lodge.

The annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of this province was held at Neath, on Thursday, the 5th inst.

The attendance of brethren on the whole was good, although, in point of numbers, far below the attendance expected—looking at the central position of place where the meeting was held and the great facilities of communication afforded.

The various lodges were all, with one exception, represented; but it was a matter of general regret that, with its great re-

sources and its very close proximity, Swansea should have contributed so few to swell the numbers; the Cardiff lodges also were very inadequately represented as far as numbers went.

The Neath brethren, with the earnestness and zeal which distinguish them on all these occasions, had laboured most successfully to receive and entertain the Provincial Grand Lodge with the utmost *éclat*. The Masonic Hall in which the meetings of the Cambrian Lodge are usually held, being considered not sufficiently capacious, it was determined to hold the Provincial Grand Lodge in the Town Hall, which was most kindly placed at the disposal of the brethren for the occasion. It was suitably fitted up with raised dais and every convenience, and most tastefully decorated with banners, flowers, and choice plants.

The Prov. G. officers and other brethren assembled in good time in the rooms set apart for their use. Among those present were Bros. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W.; F. D. Michael, P. Prov. S.G.W.; Charles Bath, P. Prov. S.G.W.; James G. Hall, P. Prov. J.G.W.; P. H. Rowland, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Rowland Thomas, P. Prov. J.G.W.; Revs. John Davies, David Thomas, and T. B. Hosken, P. Prov. G. Chaplains; A. B. Allen, P. Prov. G. Treas.; W. M. Rees, Prov. G. Treas.; Philip Bird, Prov. G. Reg.; M. Tennant, P. Prov. G. Reg.; John Jones, jun., Prov. G. Sec.; Walter Whittington, John Felson, and David Williams, P. Prov. G. Secs.; T. B. Bell, P. Prov. J.G.D.; E. J. Thomas, Thomas Powell, P. Donaldson, and Evan Jones, P. Prov. G. Dirs. of Cers.; J. A. F. Sned and F. A. Hopwood, Prov. G.S.B.'s; Richard Eve and W. H. Bell, P. G. Pursts.; Lawrence Tulloch, Jones Hewson, George Causick, R. Webb, J. T. Nettell, George Bradford, Edwin Pole, P. Prov. G. Stewards. Among the distinguished visitors present were the R.W. the District G.M. for China, Bro. Henry Murray; the V.W. the G. Chap. the Rev. Charles J. Martyn; S. J. Homfray, Prov. J.G.W. Monmouth; G. J. Smith, Prov. G. Sec. South Wales (Western Division); John Vaughan, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, South Wales (Western Division); Frederick Binckes, Sec. Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; E. A. Moore, P. Prov. G. Reg., &c.

The Prov. G. Lodge was opened at half-past 12 o'clock by the R.W. the Prov. G.M., Bro. Theodore Mansel Talbot, who conducted the business of the day with the ability which he invariably displays. He was supported by the Deputy Prov. G. Master, Bro. Edward James Morris; the R.W. the District G.M. of China; the V.W. Bro. Martyn, G. Chaplain; and by the Prov. G. officers and other brethren.

The minutes of the last Prov. G. Lodge held at Merthyr Tydfil, on the 3rd September, 1868, were read by the Prov. G. Sec. and confirmed.

The Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts for the past year were then presented, and on the motion of Bro. D. Williams, P. Prov. G. Sec., seconded by Bro. Philip Bird, Prov. G. Reg., were received and adopted, printed statements of same being freely circulated among the brethren.

On the proposition of Bro. Rowland Thomas, P. Prov. J.G.W., seconded by Bro. James G. Hall, P. Prov. J.G.W. Bro. William Morgan Rees was unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treas. for the ensuing year.

The R.W. the Prov. G. Master then appointed and invested the following brethren as Prov. G. officers for the ensuing year, viz. :—

Bro. Thomas Bruce Bell,	P.M. 960 S.G.W.
„ George Browne Brock,	W.M. 237 J.G.W.
„ Thomas Butterfil Hosken,	W.M. 651 G. Chap.
„ David Thomas,	W.M. 833 G. Chap.
„ William Morgan Rees,	P.M. 364 G. Treas.
„ Edward Stock Hill,	W.M. 36 G. Reg.
„ James Tregrenning Nettell,	237 G. Sec.
„ Homal Cuthbertson,	P.M. 364 S.G.D.
„ William Edward Jones,	W.M. 110 J.G.D.
„ George Robertson,	36 G. Supt. of Works
„ William Williams,	W.M. 960 G. Dir. of Cers.
„ David Longdon,	833 G. Dir. of Cers.
„ Laurence Tullock,	236 G.S.B.
„ Leonard Middleton,	364 G. Org.
„ James Williams,	651 G. Purst.
„ James Davies,	260 G. Tyler
„ Charles Pegge,	364
„ Robert Wrentmore Thomas,	364
„ Albert Harries,	110
„ William Phillips,	237

The report of the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee was

then presented, printed copies of same being handed to each brother present.

REPORT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE.

“The Provincial Grand Lodge Committee have the pleasure to place before the Provincial Grand Lodge their usual annual report.

“The lodges of the province, with one exception, continue to work most satisfactorily, in harmony and with brotherly feeling, maintaining the high character they have deservedly earned.

“The position of the St. David's Lodge, Aberdare, remains unaltered. In the last report of the committee, the hope was indulged in, and indeed the belief expressed, that its meetings would be resumed; but the committee regret to report that their expectations have not been realised.

“Since the establishment of the system of steward representation, the committee have had the gratification of annually recording its continued success.

“Up to the year 1864, the contributions from this large province to the various Masonic charities were represented by a very few small private donations, one or two annual subscriptions from lodges, and by sums occasionally voted at annual meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge, with the express object of purchasing life governorships for each lodge in succession. In 1865 the province was represented, for the first time, by a steward at the festival of the Boy's School; and from this period the work has been carried on with great zeal and energy: how successful, in its results, will be learned from the following statement of amounts contributed, viz. :—

To Boys' School :

In 1865 Bro. Edward J. Morris, D. Prov. G.M.	£	s.	d.
Steward	211	10	0
1866 Bro. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W.			
Steward	115	4	6
1867 Bro. Charles Bath, P. Prov. S.G.W.			
Steward	130	0	0
1868 Bro. H. Ll. Prichard, Prov. J.G.W.			
Steward	100	18	0
1869 Bro. David Williams, P. Prov. G. Sec.			
Steward	157	1	6
	£714	14	0

To Girls' School :

In 1866 Bro. Edward J. Morris, D. Prov. G.M.			
Steward	119	19	3
1867 Bro. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W.			
Steward	77	14	0
1868 Bro. Charles Bath, P. Prov. S.G.W.			
Steward	96	12	0
1869 Bro. H. Ll. Prichard, Prov. J.G.W.			
Steward	47	7	0
	£341	12	3

To Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution :

In 1868 The R.W. Prov. G.M. Steward	£125	11	6
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“It will thus be seen that the province is now annually represented by its steward at each of the Masonic School Festivals, and will also, at intervals, be presented at the festivals of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

“The duty of the stewards is to collect subscriptions and donations throughout the province, and generally to advocate the claims of each charity, with the object of affording the brethren more information respecting them, and of obtaining increased support. Hitherto this very honourable duty has been undertaken by volunteers from the Glamorgan, Indefatigable, and Afan Lodges—and how ably performed is amply evidenced by results above stated. The desire to share in this good work, so far from declining, is increasing, several brethren of high Masonic position and influence having intimated their wish to serve as stewards at the earliest opportunity. The committee are, however, of opinion that for the present the interests of the various charities, and the influence of the province, would be best sustained by the appointment of two stewards annually, one for each charity; and with the view of permitting each lodge in succession to contribute good service to the cause, it has been thought desirable to invite every lodge, in rotation, to nominate or to elect a steward to represent the province. This system, if approved of and adopted, would give to each lodge, in its turn, the opportunity of supplying a steward; and as by a by-law of

the Provincial Grand Lodge it is provided that every brother who shall serve the office of steward to the festivals of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, as the representative of the province, shall be presented with the charity jewel, it is hoped that, ere many years elapse, each lodge will have the pride and satisfaction of seeing one or more of its worthiest members decorated with this honourable badge of servitude.

"The claims of the Girls' School will next year be advocated by Bro. David Williams, P. Prov. G. Sec., and the duty of representing the more urgent needs of the Boys' School will, it is hoped, be undertaken by a brother nominated by the Bute Lodge.

"The committee once more desire to draw the attention of the brethren to the system of the mutual interchange of voting papers with neighbouring provinces. To this system, which has been in partial operation for the last four years, is due the fact that all the candidates supported by the province for admission to the schools have been successful but the committee regret to observe that this scheme is not as fully carried out as it might be, and they therefore recommend a more complete organisation of the system than has heretofore been adopted. The constitution of the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee renders it peculiarly well qualified to decide upon the relative merits of the candidates who may be recommended by the various lodges, and also to ascertain at other times in what direction the votes may best be given, so as to ensure an equivalent return when called for. They would therefore ask the lodges and individual brethren to place all the votes unreservedly at their disposal, on the understanding that they will be used strictly to advance the interests of candidates from the province. It will be apparent that such a scheme, fully carried out, would produce results such as individual desultory action could not accomplish. The committee pledge themselves to use every endeavour to utilise the voting papers to the best advantage of the province, and they propose to report annually to Provincial Grand Lodge the result of their operations, which they have every reason to believe would merit the confidence reposed in them by the brethren."

The adoption of the report was moved by the W. the D. Prov. G.M., seconded by Bro. G. B. Brock, Prov. J.G.W. and unanimously agreed to.

The next business on the agenda paper was the presentation of the charity jewel of Grand Lodge to Bro. H. L. Prichard, P. Prov. J.G.W., but in consequence of the indisposition of this worthy brother, he was unable to attend to receive his well earned decoration.

Bro. Charles Bath, P. Prov. S.G.W., then moved the usual vote of twenty guineas to each of the Masonic schools, which being seconded by Bro. R. F. Langley, P. Prov. S.G.W., was unanimously carried. Bro. Frederick Ritches ably responding on behalf of both the schools.

On the proposition of Bro. P. H. Rowland, P. Prov. S.G.W., seconded by Bro. Thomas Powell, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., a vote of five guineas was unanimously agreed to towards the funds of Alderman Dane's schools, for the education of poor children.

The usual collection for charity was then made amounting to £6 7s., which in conformity with custom was ordered to be placed in the hands of the rector of Neath, for distribution among the poor.

The lodge was then closed in due form.

The banquet was served in the National School rooms, which had been most elaborately decorated; the walls were newly coloured for the occasion; light stone with purple panelling; the various lodges, chapters, and encampments were represented by new and tasteful banners bearing their respective names, and each banner was surrounded by a group of flags, these were connected by festoons of evergreens and flowers; between the groups of banners, and in the centre of the festoons, were shields bearing various Masonic emblems, but conspicuous amongst them were the quarterings of the Grand Lodge.

At the head of the room, and immediately behind the Prov. Grand Master's chair, were three steps and a platform, nearly the whole width of the schoolroom covered with crimson cloth, upon which was arranged with great taste a most elegant assortment of flowers, shrubs, and ferns. Upon the platform were placed two Corinthian columns, connecting which was an arch bearing the inscription "Cambrian Lodge" in silver letters on a pale blue ground, this was surmounted by the banner of the "Cambrian Lodge," and groups of flags.

A crimson damask curtain formed a background to the design

in front of which was a marble bust of the Earl Zetland, M.W. Grand Master.

The effect of the decorations was complete, and reflected the highest possible credit upon every member of the lodge.

The "Queen and the Craft" being duly honoured, and "The Most Worshipful Grand Master" having been as usual enthusiastically received, then followed "The Health of the R.W. the Deputy Grand Masters, and the Grand Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Martin, G. Chap.

Bro. Martin, G. Chap., responded, in an amusing speech on behalf of the R.W. the D.G. Master and the Grand Officers, and in doing so fully endorsed all that had been said by Bro. Talbot with regard to the noble earl. He said that the pleasure of doing so, however, was enhanced greatly by having an opportunity of witnessing the hearty reception which his dear friend (Bro. Talbot) had received that day from brethren who had assembled from this and the neighbouring province to do him honour. This gathering, delightful though it was, made his mind revert to the days when Bro. Talbot and himself were fellow collegians at Christchurch, and members of the Churchill Lodge. Since that time they had been bound by ties of the closest friendship and brotherly regard, and he had determined that nothing should prevent him from being present that day to witness the gathering of the province who paid fealty to his distinguished friend. The very worshipful brother explained that he was not a sailor, in fact the sight of water in large quantities gave him singular qualms; however, as he resided in Devonshire there was no help for it but to screw up his courage, which he did manfully, and was fortunate to cross the "briny deep" between Burnham and Cardiff, without experiencing the slightest sea-sickness, or being overtaken by shipwreck, as he had quite anticipated.

Bro. Morris, D. Prov. G.M., then proposed the health of the R.W. Prov. G.M., which, it is needless to say, was received with great enthusiasm.

Bro. Talbot made a suitable response, and proposed the health of "The D. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Morris;" in doing so said it was unnecessary for him to expatiate at any length upon the merits of his worthy Deputy. The untiring zeal and high Masonic qualities which Bro. Morris possessed ought—as they believed they did—to endure him to every member of the Craft throughout the Eastern Division.

Bro. Talbot afterwards rose and said, that he had that day the honour of receiving a number of visitors, although scarcely as many as he had anticipated, several distinguished brethren from various reasons having been unable to avail themselves of the invitations given them, but, however great the disappointment might be in not being able to welcome them at that festive board, he had the honour of welcoming among the brethren that day no less a personage than the District G.M. of China; their acquaintance had been but of short duration, but he had seen sufficient of Bro. Murray to convince him that he was a man highly deserving of the distinguished position which he held among the fraternity and of the great responsibility entrusted to him by the Craft.

Bro. Murray, District G.M. of China, in the course of his response, expressed himself highly gratified at the gathering which he had witnessed and the reception which the Cambrian Lodge had given to their esteemed Grand Master. The welcome which he had himself received he looked upon as one of no ordinary character; it brought to his mind a flood of memories such as could only be understood and appreciated by an exiled Mason, and the impression of that day's proceedings would long remain imprinted on his heart. In Masonry he had found much consolation and many friends, and, were it not for Masonry, he, in his distant occupation, would have been as it were "a stranger in a strange land." A distinguished brother had that evening stated, in alluding to the not very numerous attendance, that large gatherings or every Masonic progress was not to be expected in a province situated in such a remote part of the country—in his (Bro. Murray's) experience he had found that Masonry has far better opportunities of being promoted and appreciated in remote districts than it could be in the full blaze of metropolitan sun. And, while thanking the brethren with very great feeling for the hearty reception he had received, and for the warmth expressed in the toast proposed by the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Murray said that he should very shortly be leaving England for China, and might never again meet the brethren or join in their assemblies, but they may rest assured that that day twelve months he should be thinking of those who had on this

occasion greeted him so cordially in Neath, and that his best wishes and prayers would be with them.

The health of the "Visiting brethren from the Western division of South Wales," was then proposed and responded to by Bro. Smith, Prov. G. Sec., who also bore testimony to the heartiness of the reception he and his brethren had received, and apologised for the unavoidable absence of Sir Pryce Price, Prov. G.M. of the Western division.

Then followed the "Visiting brethren from the province of Monmouth" which was responded to by Bro. Homfray, Prov. J.W., who expressed his great pleasure at the harmony and thorough Masonic feeling which prevailed throughout the whole gathering; he fully expected to have been accompanied by upwards of twenty-six of the Monmouthshire brethren, including Col. Lyne the D.G.M., but for some reason which he was quite at a loss to explain, there were only two representatives from his province; he was a strong advocate for the interchange of courtesies between the neighbouring provinces, and he felt sure that when he explained to his brethren the pleasure which he had derived from his visit, they would regret as much as he then did their non-attendance.

The health of "The Prov. G. Officers" was responded to by Bro. Bell, Prov. S.G.W. and Bro. Brock, Prov. J.G.W., then followed the "Masonic Charities" responded to by Bro. Biuckes in a speech of considerable length characterised by the usual fervour of his well-known eloquence.

"The Health of the Cambrian Lodge" was next proposed by Bro. Talbot, who expressed his thorough appreciation of the manner in which his brethren had laboured to afford the day's proceedings as complete as possible, and complimented the lodge upon having such a Mason as Bro. Rowland, whose name alone was a sufficient guarantee for its efficiency.

Bro. Rowland responded in suitable terms.

A number of other speeches followed, and the meeting, which was of a most satisfactory character, terminated at an early hour. The speeches were interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, which was ably conducted by Bro. Middleton, Prov. G. Org., the following being the programme:—

God save the Queen."

Song, "Have faith in one another," Bro. Middleton.

Glee, "Hands and hearts joining."

Song, "The village blacksmith," Bro. Jones Hewson.

Song, "Three times three," Bro. Green.

Duet, "The moon has raised," Bros. Middleton and Jones Hewson.

Song, "Floating on the wind," Bro. W. M. Jones.

Glee, "The Red Cross Knight."

Song, "The message," Bro. Middleton.

Comic, "Alonzo the Brave," Bro. Jones Hewson.

Glee, "Mynheer Van Dunk."

Comic, "The Belle of Camberwell," Bro. Green.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.

GRAND LODGE.

The quarterly communication of Grand Lodge was held on the 2nd inst. On the occasion there were present:—The M.W. the Grand Master, the Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, *K.T.*, *G.C.B.*, &c., on the throne, and supported by Bro. H. Inglis, of Torsonce, R.W. Substitute Grand Master; W. Mann, J.G.W., as S.G.W.; W. Officer, S.S.C., R.W.M. Lodge No. 1, acting J.G.W.; W. A. Laurie, W.S., R.W. G. Sec.; A. J. Stewart, W.S., R.W. G. Clerk; A. Hay, G. Jeweller; J. Cunningham, President of Board of Grand Stewards, as also a very large attendance of Grand Stewards and members of Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the M.W. the Grand Master prior to proceeding to the routine business of the meeting, stated that it afforded his lordship very great pleasure to report that having, under the approbation of the Grand Committee, had an interview with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with a view to H.R.H., becoming the patron of the Scottish Craft in succession to his royal uncles, King George IV., and King William IV., H.R.H. had been pleased graciously to say, that if elected he would accept the honour with gratitude. His lordship therefore moved that the Grand Lodge do now elect H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Duke of Rothesay, &c., patron of the Order in Scotland, and

which motion was enthusiastically received and carried with acclamation.

The meeting then proceeded to the business of the communication.

A proxy commission having been sustained, the Grand Secretary laid upon the table presents of proceedings from the Grand Lodges of England, France, Prussia, Hamburg, Italy, Alabama, North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Vermont, and South Carolina, and for which the thanks of the Grand Lodge were voted.

The Grand Clerk then read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting, which were confirmed, and the minutes of subsequent meetings of Grand Committee were read for information. On the recommendation of Grand Committee charters were ordered to be issued for new lodges—St. John, New Galloway, and Albany, Grahamston, Cape of Good Hope.

The G. Secretary read the reply to the letter of condolence ordered by Grand Lodge at the last meeting, on the decease of the late Bro. Capt. A. A. Spiers, *M.P.*, Prov. G.M. for Glasgow. The G. Secretary stated his regret at having to report to Grand Lodge the demise of the late Bro. Capt. P. Deuchar, G. Dir. of Cers.

A memorial from Lodge St. Thomas in the East, Howrah, for permission to remove their charter to Calcutta, was agreed to, and on the recommendation of Grand Committee, the Lodge Port Dundas and Corveadders (No. 333), was allowed to change the name of the lodge to St. George, Glasgow.

A communication from the Lodge Mother Kilwinning, to the effect that that lodge had received the resolution passed at the last meeting regarding the registration of her intrants, and the sum to be paid by her for this purpose, and that she cheerfully concurred therein, was read; and it was also stated that in accordance therewith Lodge Mother Kilwinning had now returned and paid up all arrears of intrants. This communication was received by Grand Lodge with great satisfaction.

The notices of motions tabled at the last meeting were then discussed, and disposed of, the report of Grand Committee on Bro. Thalion's motion regarding salaries being adopted. Bro. Mann's motion for fixing a specific annual date for making up Grand Lodge roll (with certain contingencies) was carried. Bro. Officer's motion for instituting an alphabetical index of intrants registered by Grand Lodge; and Bro. Douglas' motion regarding the reponal of dormant lodges, were remitted to Grand Committee for consideration and report. Bro. Macconnochie's motion was withdrawn.

Notices of motions for next meeting were then given regarding the method of tabling notices of motions and for mitigation of sentence of a suspended brother. There being no further business before the meeting the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form and according to ancient custom.

FORFAR AND KINCARDINESHIRE.

FORFAR.—*Lower Lodge* (No. 309).—At a meeting of this lodge on Wednesday the 4th inst., the brethren presented Bro. Reid with a handsome jewel, in token of their appreciation of his gift of a public hall to the town of Forfar. There was a large number of brethren present; and the worthy W.M., Bro. J. C. Anderson, made the presentation. The jewel is a Master Mason's one, designed specially for the occasion by F. L. Law, jeweller, Edinburgh, Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge. It is of solid silver, richly gilt, having in the centre the compass and square on a ground of blue enamel, surrounded by a ring of white stones, and encompassed by a cable of gilt. The medal is surmounted by gold foliage, has three clasps, for the purpose of being attached to the coat with a purple ribbon, the colours of the lodge. The jewel bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. Peter Reid, by the Lodge Lower, Forfar (No. 309), in token of their appreciation of his gift of a public hall to the town of Forfar. 5th August, 1869."

IRELAND.

MUNSTER (NORTH.)

NENAGH.

Provincial Grand Lodge.

The quarterly meeting of the Prov. G.L. was held on Thursday the 29th ult., in the grand jury-room of the courthouse, at 4 o'clock, pursuant to summons.

Rt. Hon. Lord Dunboyne, Prov. G.M. occupied the throne, supported by Bros. Dartnell, Prov. G.S.W.; Adams, Prov. G.J.W.; Fry, Prov. G. Chap.; Peacocke, Prov. G.S.D.; Captain Saunders, Prov. G.J.D.; Bassett, Prov. G. I.G.; Lalor, Prov. G. Tyler.

The several lodges, with a few exceptions, were duly represented. Apologies from those who could not attend were read. Bros. Browne, W.M. 73; Ollis, W.M. 333; Williams, W.M. 311; Fortune, W.M. 201, were in attendance.

The Prov. G.L. business having been disposed of, a splendid banquet was ordered and prepared at O'Meara's Hotel, by the W.M. Wardens, and brethren of Ormond Lodge 201, which comprised every delicacy the season could afford, and did the caterers on the occasion every credit—namely, Bros. Young, Saunders, the Worshipful Master, and Bro. Fry. Covers were laid for about 50.

The usual loyal toasts were given and responded to.

The first Masonic toast given, was "Bro. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," which was duly honoured.

The "Three Grand Masters for England, Ireland and Scotland" was next given and duly responded to.

The W.M. said he would now give them the toast of their "Great and good Prov. G.M. the Right Hon. Lord Dunboyne."

The Ormond Lodge felt delighted and highly honoured in having his lordship come amongst them, and it was he believed the first Prov. G.L. ever held in Nenagh; now that the matter had been inaugurated, he hoped that they would have the pleasure of often seeing the Prov. G.M. and the Prov. G. Officers amongst them, and it would no doubt be a stimulant to Masonry in the district. The W.M. concluded a very interesting speech.

The Prov. G.M. rose to reply, and he was received with every manifestation of respect and esteem, not only for his exalted position in the Craft, but for his urbanity and kindness, to his brethren of every lodge. His lordship said that he was accustomed to receive very warm acknowledgements on different occasions. The enthusiastic feelings of the brethren at this meeting was on no previous occasion exceeded. In the order of the different lodges in the province, he had to visit it could not possibly occur again that he could (if spared) come to Nenagh for the next five years to hold the Prov. G.L. there, but any advice or assistance he could give in the government of Lodge 201, he should be happy to render.

His lordship delivered a most interesting speech or it might be called a lecture, and before he took his seat he proposed the health of the W.M., which was duly responded to.

Bro. Minnett proposed the toast of Lodge 73, which was responded to by the W.M. of that lodge, Bro. Browne.

Bro. Williams, of 311, returned thanks for the way in which his lodge was noticed, which was also spoken to by the J.W. of that lodge (Bro. Fitzgerald).

Several songs were sung during the evening, including one sung by Bro. Watson, which delighted the brethren, and another appropriate one sung by Bro. Fitzgerald.

The brethren did not separate, however, without providing for the wants of the poor and distressed brethren all over the world, when a handsome sum was taken up.—*Limerick Southern Chronicle*.

TYRONE AND FERMANAGH.

DUNGANNON.

Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Prov. G.L. held its meeting in the Masonic Hall, on Friday, the 30th ult. The following brethren, officers, and visitors were present on the occasion:—R.W. Bros. the P.G.M. Sir John Marcus Stewart, *Bart.*; R.W. the D.P.G.M. Major J. G. Irvine, D.L.; very W. the P.G. J.W. Courtney Newton, *J.P.*; W. F. Black G.P., Treas.; Captain J. S. Wright, P.G.D.C.; J.W. Beatty, P.G.J.G.; J. Gourley, P.G. Tyler (*pro tem.*). Lodges represented—122. A. Moutry, W.M.; R. Menagh, S.W.; John Sinton, P.M.; John Anderson, P.M.; John Eccles, P.M. 185, George Glenney, W.M.; Richard Curry, S.W.; R. Gibson, J.W.; J. Gourley, P.M., P.G. Tyler (*pro tem.*) 210, R. Marshall, S.W.; H. Patterson, J.W.; 334, John Harvey, W.M.; W. Smith, S.W.; Samuel D. Montgomery, P.M. 470, H. Gunning, W.M.; H. Wilson, J.W.; J. K. Graham, P.M.; W. Bell, P.M. 479, T. Booth, W.M.; Henry Newell, S.W. Visitors—Lodge 9, Bro. H. R. Kelly; Lodge 59, Bro. McCawley; Lodge 82, Bro. Wallace; Lodge 122 Bros. John Richardson, H. Nelson, Douglas, R.

Marshall, Mulholland, Grey, Langland; Lodge 185, Bros. J. Hyde, J. Beatty, J. Simpson, J. Marshall, Atwell, Bond, Richardson, and Reid; Lodge 210, Bros. Wilson, Steenson, and Nipe. Lodge 332, Bro. Scott; 351, Bro. Thos. A. Young, P.M.; Lodge 409, Bro. A. V. Speer; Lodge 470, Bros. Devlin, Steen, and Watson; Lodge 154, Bro. Boyd. The usual banquet took place in the hall, at the top of George's-street, served up in a superior style. After the cloth had been removed, the usual loyal, Masonic, and complimentary toasts were ably given, and responded to, and the brethren retired after spending a very pleasant reunion. The band of the Royal Tyrone Artillery, under the able direction of Mr. P. Byrne, performed suitable airs during the evening. Song were interspersed by Bros. Reid, Gunning, McGhee, Watson, and many others.

CEYLON.

COLOMBO.

The Sphinx Lodge of Masonry, held its installation meeting on the 24th June, being St. John's day, shortly after six o'clock, the lodge was opened in due form, an unusually large number of brethren being present, including several visitors.

After the routine business had been disposed of, the lodge was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Grenier, S.W., having answered the usual questions, was presented for the purpose of installation. All brethren who had not passed the chair having retired, W. Bro. Larkum, assisted by P.M. Crookshank, Lorenz, Maitland, Ferdinands, O'Halloran, and Skeen, duly installed the W.M. elect. On the conclusion of the ceremony, the brethren in attendance were re-admitted and saluted the chair according to ancient custom.—(W. Bro. Nicholls presided at the harmonium and played some slow music as the brethren marched in.)

The W.M. invested the following brethren:—W. Bro. Larkum, I.P.M.; Bros. A. Adree, S.W.; Wm. Bryan, J.W.; C. A. Lorenz, Treas.; E. Koch, Sec.; W. P. M. O'Halloran, D.C.; J. Crawford, S.D.; O. Mack, J.D.; L. Ludovici, I.G.; R. Shankland, Tyler.

The lodge was then closed down, in the first degree, in peace, love and harmony, after which the members retired to the "Exchange" for refreshment.

The following is a list of the new officers of the Leinster Lodge:—Bro. G. Nicholls, W.M.; W. H. Herbert, S.W.; G. Milne, J.W.; T. Buckney, S.D.; G. S. Miller, J.D.; G. M. Bisset, Sec.; J. Robertson, I.G.

The banquet, which in the present instance was subscribed for by the brethren of the Sphinx and Leinster Lodges, was laid out in the best style under the management of Bro. Ledward. The long room was gaily decorated with flags and Masonic symbols and designs. Flowers, some natural and others artificial—the latter as pretty as nature's own handiwork—were profusely displayed on the table. The punkas played all night, and kept the room delightfully cool.

The following brethren were present:—Bros. George Milne, C. Blacklaw, W. Mitchell, J. D. Sellar, Jas. H. Scott, E. C. Roberts, W. J. Nicholls, J. Crawford, Jas. Alwis Richard Morgan, J. Maitland, Geo. Nicholls, A. C. Crookshank, C. A. Lorenz, E. Koch, Dr. Andree, J. S. Drieberg, L. Ludovici, C. Brito, John Cowell, C. P. Morgan, A. Andree, C. H. Ledward, J. Watkin, W. Leder, F. Rosemalecocq, W. Bryan, J. Storach, W. Skeen, J. W. Venn, S. Grenier, C. O'Halloran, H. Larkum, C. L. Ferdinands, D. W. Williams, Capt. Lambe, Geo. Greig, A. K. Green, H. W. Stubbs, Geo. M. Bisset, and R. Shankland.

Bro. Nicholls, in proposing the "Queen and the Craft," said:—Brethren,—It is my privilege this evening to propose the first toast, which does not require a long introduction on my part—as you are all well aware that at all public Masonic assemblies it takes precedence of all other toasts. Brethren, I give you the "Queen and the Craft."

Bro. Nicholls in proposing the next toast said:—Brethren,—The next toast I have the honour to propose is one which I am sure you will drink with that warmth and good feeling which it deserves. It is "The health of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales." Since we last met to celebrate St. John's day, I am proud to inform you we have added a member of Royal blood to the Craft in the person of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Let us hope that he will at some future time occupy a prominent position in Masonry and be an honour to the Craft.

Bro. Nicholls said:—The third toast I have the pleasure to

propose brethren is "The health of his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh." I am sure you must have all watched with interest the movements of his Royal Highness since he left the shores of England on the present cruise, especially as he is shortly to pay us a visit in Ceylon, where I am quite sure he will meet a hearty reception, and let us hope that he will be spared to visit us and to return to his native land an honour to the service he represents.

Bro. Grenier in proposing the fourth toast said:—It was his turn to propose the first purely Masonic toast of the evening—"The health of the three Grand Masters of Ireland, England, and Scotland." He mentioned Ireland first, in accordance with a well-known and long-established custom, as the Sphinx and Leinster Lodges both hailed under the Irish constitution; but whether this conventionality were observed or not, he felt sure that the names of Leinster, Zetland, and Dalhousie would be received with equal warmth and enthusiasm. In the Initiation Charge, they were reminded that monarchs in all ages had been promoters of the Masonic art, that they had not deemed it derogatory to their dignity to exchange the Sceptre for the Trowel, to patronise Masonic mysteries and join in Masonic assemblies. Freemasonry was still as truly attractive as ever, and independent of the circumstance that Royalty, in the person of the Prince of Royalty, had joined the brotherhood, there was the no less encouraging fact of three great Peers of the Realm ruling the three Grand Lodges,—a fact which was in itself a sufficient guarantee of the pure and honourable nature of the Craft.

Bro. Larkum, P.M., next proposed "The W.M.'s of the Sphinx and Leinster."

Bro. Nicholls in responding to the toast, said: W.M.'s of the Leinster and Sphinx Lodges—I rise on behalf of the Leinster Lodge to return you my best thanks for the very kind manner in which you have proposed our health on this occasion. I can assure you it will be my constant endeavour as far as lies in my power to promote the interests and welfare of the Leinster Lodge, and I feel very proud of the position I occupy in connection with the lodge this evening. Brethren, I thank you for your kind reception of the toast.

Bro. Grenier in returning thanks on behalf of the Sphinx, said he was much indebted to the brethren for the kind manner in which they had welcomed his name, as Master of the Sphinx. That was a position which he had long coveted, and which might properly be the object of every Mason's ambition, for, viewed either in the light of tradition or of history, or of actual experience, the office of Master involved a very high honour indeed. In ancient times, it was said, no brother, however skilled in the Craft, was designated a Master Mason unless he had passed the chair, while the history of the blue lodges in the island showed that some of the ablest and the best of men who had come against them had aspired to and obtained the honour. His memory carried him back that night to the days of Col. Maydwell, who had initiated him in that very room many years ago. Then followed Col. Sim, whom they all learnt to love and revere, and then the worthy Past Masters he saw around him. To succeed such good men and true at the head of the oldest, the largest, and the mother lodge in Colombo was to him—a comparatively young Mason—a source of much pride and gratification. The Treasurer had, in submitting his accounts, pointed to a falling off in the initiation fees during the past six months, but that was no criterion by which to judge of the prosperity of the Sphinx. He would point to the Leinster Lodge, which had recently sprung from them, as an indication of the welfare of the Sphinx. He would point to that very joint banquet as illustrating the truly Masonic spirit which characterised the Sphinx, and which could not fail to ensure success. The Leinster had been allowed to take the initiative, and the Sphinx had heartily supported the movement. He hoped that this spirit would pervade all their future proceedings, and that both lodges would co-operate to further the common interests of the Craft. He was conscious of the power for good which his office gave him, and with the valuable aid of his trusty officers he would do his best to sustain the reputation of the old mother lodge.

Bro. Skeen, in rising to propose the sixth toast, "The Past Officers," said that he spoke at a disadvantage; for, in the first place, he liked to have time to arrange his thoughts, and he was not asked to speak until after he had sat down to table; and, in the second, so many good things had been said by the older Masters who had preceded him, and which would have been applicable to this particular toast, that he was inclined to say

with an Irishman of old, "Och! bother the ancients, they've stolen all our best thoughts!" However, he had no doubt but that whatever his shortcomings as a speaker might be, those present would respond to the toast as heartily as they had done to any which had preceded it. The past officers had done good service in their respective lodges; and, while the Master was the mainspring, they were the pivots and train-wheels which kept the lodge in harmonious co-operation. The Past Officers had always worked well with the Past Masters; they had not allowed ill-will or dislikes to clog their bearings, or passion or prejudice to twist or turn out of gear the regularity of their action, and, as they had invariably acted in the subordinate offices of their lodges so as to win the approbation of their brethren, or, at any rate, with such rare exceptions as only to prove the rule to be as he had stated it, there was no doubt but they would in due time be welcomed to the high and honourable offices of Worshipful Master for which they had qualified themselves so well, and to which post it was the ambition as well as the privilege of all true Masons to aspire to. He proposed to their most cordial reception "The Past Officers."

Bro. Larkum returned thanks for the Sphinx, and Bro. Halloran on behalf of the Leinster.

Bro. Ferdinands, in proposing the health of the officers said that, with all deference to Princes, and Dukes, and Worshipful Masters, he would say Freemasonry could not get on satisfactorily without lodge officers. They new officers were tried and trusty men in whom they all had implicit confidence.

Bro. Andree returned thanks on behalf of the officers.

Bro. Lorenz, P.M., in proposing the health of "The Guests and Visitors," said that one of the finest features of a meeting like this was the opportunity of meeting with and entertaining strangers and foreigners. Freemasons visiting our lodges in Colombo were always welcome; and long from his experience of Freemasonry he knew that it was so in all lodges and in all countries. He was sure that those who had done them the honour of visiting the lodge that evening, and of partaking of their humble fare, had done two good things—they had asserted themselves as good Masons, and given the Colombo Masons due credit for one of the distinguished features of Masonry, a ready and brotherly welcome to all good Masons.

Bro. Crookshank returned thanks. As a military man he was apt to be considered solicitous only for his pay and allowances, and to be treated as such, but whenever he had gone on public duty—to Canada, or South America, or the West Indies, or Ceylon—he was welcomed and befriended by brother Masons. And, when he should leave Ceylon, he would carry away happy recollections of meetings like the present and of the hospitality and true fellowship accorded to him by the Ceylon Masons.

Bro. Ledward proposed "The Ladies."

Bro. Williams returned thanks.

Bro. O'Halloran proposed the absent brethren.

Bro. James Alwis proposed the first private toast—"The health of the oldest P.M. in the room." Bro. Venn was a very old resident in the Colony and was regarded as quite an institution. Both Masonically and in private life he was deservedly respected and esteemed, and the brethren would do honour to themselves in cordially responding to the toast.

Bro. Venn, in returning thanks, said he had watched with lively interest the proceedings of the evening and as the oldest man and Mason amongst them he would recommend the cultivation of that spirit of peace and harmony so prominently displayed on that occasion.

Bro. Skeen proposed, in suitable terms, "The Press."

Bro. Ludovici in returning thanks said, that while all the other toasts seemed to have fallen to the lot of the several speakers, the duty of returning thanks fell to him by an accident. He would not dilate at any length on the old established portion of the local press—whether on that of which the worshipful proposer was chief editor and manager, nor that with which he had himself the honour of being connected, but there was a recent acquisition to the local press in the character of Muniandi who deserved their best wishes. He himself had been suspected of muniandism, and some people had gone so far as to suspect of him of a tail, but all he could say was that he was perfectly innocent of the appendage. He was nevertheless glad to be in any way identified with Henry Adams, and he thanked the proposer as well as the brethren who had drunk to the press with so much enthusiasm, both for himself and that august personage very cordially.

Bro. Grenier proposed "St. John's Lodge, Kandy."

Bro. Blacklaw returned thanks.

Bro. Shankland proposed the Tyler's toast, "To all distressed Masons, and may God send them speedy relief," drunk in solemn silence.

ROYAL ARCH.

METROPOLITAN.

JOPPA CHAPTER (No. 188).—A convocation of this chapter was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on the 26th ult., Comp. J. Lazarus, M.E.Z., in the chair, supported by Comps. Littauer, S. Abrahams, and P.Z.'s Lazarus, H. Harris, E. P. Albert, A. Eskell Cohen, &c. Bro. Rice (of the Royal British Lodge, Mauritius) was exalted by the M.E.Z. The election for M.E.Z. and officers was then proceeded with, which resulted in favour of Comps. Littauer, M.E.Z.; J. Abrahams, H.; the Rev. M. B. Levy, J.; Cohen, Treas.; Hemsworth, E.; Hemsworth, E.; Pollitzer, N.; Stanton Jones, Prin. Soj.; and Smith, Jan. It was proposed that a sum of two guineas should be given from the funds of the chapter, and a subscription be entered into, for the purpose of presenting the M.E.Z. on his retiring from the chair, with a jewel. A vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to Comp. H. F. Isaacs for his serving as Scribe for the past three years. The chapter was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the companions sat down to a very excellent banquet.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—On Tuesday the 10th inst., this well-known chapter of instruction met at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury. The chapter was opened punctually at 7 p.m., by Comp. Dr. Selfe, M.E.Z., assisted by the principals. The exaltation ceremony was worked, after which Comp. Brett, assisted by the rest of the Comps. worked the several clauses of the first section, and gave the illustration of the R.A. Jewel. The officers were then chosen for the ensuing term as follows:—Comps. Gotthiel, Z.; C. Hosgood, H.; Cooper, J.; Green, N.; G. Smith, P.S.; J. R. Foulger, Assist. S., and Littauer candidate. The convocation was then closed in ancient form.

MARK MASONRY.

METROPOLITAN.

KENT LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the George Hotel, Aldermanbury, under the presidency of Bro. W. H. Warr, G. Dir. of Cers., W.M. Bro. J. T. Gower, of Lodge 410, and Bro. T. Rice, of Lodge 736, presented themselves for advancement in this degree, and were duly advanced by Bro. W. H. Warr. There being no other business before the lodge, the same was closed in due form.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).

The brethren of this lodge, in accordance with their usual custom, held their summer banquet out of town among the green and leafy bowers which surrounds Bro. Middlecott's hostelry, the Greyhound, Dulwich. The muster was not so strong as could be desired, but there were a goodly number of visiting brethren, who are always welcome to the banqueting board of the Royal Albert. The W.M., Bro. Henry J. Lewis, was in his place, and received a hearty welcome upon taking his seat at the head of the table. Supporting the W.M., were P.M.'s J. Lewis, P.G. Purst, and J. A. Farnfield, I.P.M. Bro. Chard, in the absence of the S.W., faced the W.M., while Bro. W. H. Farnfield, P.M., occupied the seat of the J.W. The brethren were glad again to meet with one of their members, Bro. Little, Commodore of the Columbian Navy, and a right hearty greeting he received from all around him. The usual Masonic toasts were quickly despatched, and the brethren ad-

journed out of doors, some to quietly contemplate the beauties of the Great Architect of the Universe, while others preferred to enjoy the outdoor amusements which Bro. Middlecott provides for his guests.

SOUTHERN STAR LODGE (No. 1158).

The annual festival in connexion with this lodge took place at Bro. Noyce's, the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Wednesday the 28th ult. A numerous company was present, and the dinner was served in first-rate style. The W.M., Bro. R. E. Clarke presided. After the usual toasts were given, Bro. Thompson, P.M. & Treas., rose and said he had a very pleasing duty to perform—to drink the health of a working brother, who now presided over that festive board as W.M.—namely, Bro. R. E. Clarke, and he hoped that the toast would be drunk with the enthusiasm it merited. The W.M., in rising to respond to the toast, said he had not only to thank the ladies and visitors for their presence, but he also had to thank Bro. Thompson, P.M., as he might call him his father in Masonry. In connexion with Bro. Pulsford, P.M., he had received the greatest assistance from these brethren, who had been instrumental in placing him in that position; and he trusted while he held that office, the Southern Star lodge would not lose any of its lustre from his connexion with it. Bro. Edward Thompson responded to the toast of "The Ladies," and Bro. H. Ebbelwhite, 11, very ably responded to the toast of "The Visitors." The brethren and ladies then adjourned to a large room, where dancing was kept up with great spirit, and the ladies and brethren returned to town after having spent a pleasant day and evening.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES,

THE BENEVOLENT FUND FESTIVAL.

The first annual festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters was held at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on Tuesday last the 10th inst., under the presidency of the M.W.G.M. the Rev. G. R. Portal, M.A., &c., supported by the V.W. Bros. Sir E. Lechmere, D.G.M., Thomas Meggy, J. Udall, and other grand officers, past and present, and Bros. J. H. Wynne, T. J. Sabine, Rev. J. Chaboe, Todd, W. Smith, C.E., R. W. Little, J. Rosenthal, H. Massey, Gower, Hudson, and several other brethren. On this occasion ladies were present, in all about fifty-four sat down to dinner, which was served by the host, notwithstanding the inconvenience which he had been put by the unexpected excess of numbers, in a highly creditable manner,—indeed the bill of fare was excellent and the wines supplied were of the first quality. Shortly after six o'clock the ladies were escorted from the withdrawing-room and were ranged in an original and excellent manner around the outer lines of the tables so that they could not suffer inconvenience from the passing of the waiters, the gentlemen being placed around the inner and centre seats of the tables, Bros. Meggy and F. Binckes occupying the vice chairs. The chaplain having said grace, the dinner proceeded, and was evidently greatly enjoyed by the majority of those present, owing no doubt to the invigorating exercise consequent on the afternoon promenade in the delightful gardens of Hampton Court Palace and a glance at the immense collection of pictures in the national picture galleries of the once famous royal residence, the dinner being over, the cloth withdrawn, and grace said by Bro. the Rev. J. Chaboe, the W.M. chairman proposed the first toast "Her Majesty the Queen" in brief and appropriate terms, and remarked that as time was short he would set a good example by curtailing as far as possible the length of the toasts. The five other toasts were given in rotation. After the first toast the National Anthem was sung, and during the evening several very excellent songs and duets, &c., were given.

Sir E. Lechmere, D.G.M. proposed "The health of the G.M.," who presided over the company that evening. His varied abilities were well known to every Mark Mason, and he (Sir E. Lechmere) was glad to think that the ladies had that evening an opportunity of joining with the brethren in appreciating those abilities. He greatly regretted the time was so short that

they would not have leisure to listen to the G.M.'s oratory, but he might inform them that the G.M. had continued to the benefit of the Mark Degree at all times, and by coming forward that evening and shewing all the energy he professed, he had displayed that energy especially. Drunk with cheers.

The M.W.G.M. begged to thank the D.G.M. and the company, and said it was with great pleasure he had presided on that occasion, the first of its kind that had been held he believed in Masonry. The brethren of the Mark Degree had been accustomed to show people the way in Masonry, and he hoped they had led the way in introducing ladies to the banquet table. As the G.M. was very dependent on his officers; he would propose "The health of the D.G.M., who had done an immense deal for country Masonry as well as for London.

Sir E. Lechmere: As time was very short he would only say he thanked the company cordially. They had had many good things put before them that night, but he thought the best things had been said by the ladies, and he hoped that on future occasions they might hear their voices in an oratorical as well as a musical sense.

Bro. Hearn proposed "The Grand Officers," and the toast having been drunk, Bro. John Udall responded.

The W.M.G.M. proposed "The Grand Mark Benevolent Fund."

The toast was drunk enthusiastically, and Bro. Binckes read a list of subscriptions amounting to about £80.

The M.W.G.M. proposed "The Ladies," and referred to the legend of the lady who had hid herself in an eight-day clock in a Masonic lodge to obtain the secrets. The ladies had now emerged from the clock and they told us that the dial of time, so far at any rate as regards Mark Masonry, pointed to the hour of success. That was owing to their kind presence and support. They all knew that when once a lady took up an object of affection she stuck to it with the greatest tenacity, and he hoped that the ladies having taken up the Benevolent Fund would stick to it, and that they would enlist not only ladies but gentlemen too in its favour. He hoped with Bro. Meggy that another time they would sit down more unanimous than they had that evening.

Bro. Henly responded.

The M.W.G.M. proposed "The Stewards." He begged particularly to mention the name of Bro. Rosenthal, Bro. Sabine, Bro. Meggy, and Bro. Binckes, and would call on the latter to reply.

Bro. Binckes: R.W.G.M., Ladies and Brethren,—I rise to return thanks on behalf of a very small body of brethren who have greatly contributed to a gigantic failure—of course, sir, you will not take my words literally. I am just quoting what was said would be the case if a few sanguine Mark Masons banded themselves together for the purpose of inaugurating a festival for their benevolent fund, and the question was asked, how would it answer? I, for myself never had any doubt of its success. Friends, so called, chose to question the possibility of that success. Now, in rising to respond on behalf of a failure (I am speaking now in a Pickwickian sense) I must say that if ever a success was achieved under a first experiment, that success has been achieved by us to-night. I take no credit for myself; I ask no credit for Bro. Meggy; I ask no credit for those few brethren who are stewards this evening; but we felt—a very few of us, that in the Mark degree there was an essential vitality—that if we held ourselves out to inaugurate a festival of this kind we would make that festival a success. Well, sir, success has an abstract notion attached to it, and a relative comparison. If we compare the number this evening with the numbers received at our charity festivals and the results achieved there, it will be said by some that this is a failure. The Mark Degree numbers within itself a certain number of sincere, honest, able, earnest Masons, who are imbued I believe most honestly and sincerely with a thorough appreciation of the value of the degree with which they are associated, and who are determined with honesty and without rivalry of any other degree, to make the merits of the Mark Degree known throughout the world. We have found there is one thing wanting—we have had no Benevolent Fund. We have applied to our lodges; we asked our lodges to consent to have their members, I do not like to say "taxed"—but to have their members consent to a small sum per cent. being put aside for the purpose of founding a fund out of which a Mark Mason in distress, his widow, or his children, could be properly relieved. So large a minority objected to that, that Grand Lodge in its discretion (and I think perhaps wisely taking into consideration the magnitude of that

minority) did not persist in the rule. We then made an attempt to get assistance (without intending to make any reference to politics, I may say,) by trying the voluntary system, and Grand Lodge out of its very great kindness voted a sum of £50. That sum of £50 was the sole nucleus we had for our fund, and by the demands made upon it by little and little it has been really exhausted. You remember, sir, occupying the distinguished position you do, the observation I made in Grand Lodge at our last meeting. Those observations were not without their effect. This festival has been the first organised to see what the voluntary principle would do. And now, sir, I dare say, many may ask why could not £80 have been added to the fund of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England for the purpose of relieving our brethren in distress without assembling at a festival like this? And this recalls to my mind connected as I am with many of our great charities, an observation made by the late Duke of Newcastle, when I had an interview with him about taking the chair at one of them,—“How is it, Bro. Binckes, that these large amounts of assistance—more especially connected with Masonry—cannot be obtained unless a certain number of brethren with a certain number of ladies are brought together to consume a large amount of bad wine and eat very bad dinners?” “Well,” I said, “Your Grace, it is this, I suppose; the *genius Anglicanus*—if I may use the term—runs in the direction of festivity.” Now, I am satisfied of this, that we hardly made an attempt to organize this fund by a special appeal to our lodges, that having been refused; we have succeeded when we have fallen back on the voluntary principle and endeavoured to enlist private contributions. We then found, to our great delight—and, when I say “our,” I mean, ladies and gentlemen, to include the gentleman who occupies the distinguished position of our Worshipful Grand Master, and who has made this first attempt to assist our benevolent fund—that we having come here to-night, some 53 of both sexes—to my intense delight and my intense satisfaction, and, I am sure, with the delight and satisfaction of my Brothers Meggy, Udall, and Rosenthal, who have also aided us—that we have, by an expenditure of 50 guineas, added £80 to our Benevolent Fund. Has our evening been expended in vain? (No, no.) We have done this. We have brought together a large number of distinguished Masons, with those of the softer sex attached to them by the nearest and dearest associations; we have proved, I think, to the outer world that we can enjoy ourselves in a legitimate manner, as none but Masons probably can do; and we have banded ourselves together for a holy object. Charity is that holy bond that has brought us together this evening. Have we failed in our scheme? (No.) Now, M.W.G.M., I appeal to you if this was not made an experimental meeting; this was to be the test as to the sincerity of Mark Masons—whether we could support a festival of this kind and make it a successful festival. Now, sir, on behalf of the Board of Stewards—and this is why I hope you will not fancy my observations not altogether inappropriate—I would say, in the first place, you have met in a room not altogether appropriate or fit for so large a company; in the second, I do not believe that our brethren of the Board of Grand Stewards ever thought we should have numbered 40, and if we did, we thought we should have achieved a success. The question was whether we should meet 45. We have met to-night 53. Had we known it, we would have provided for the large number elsewhere. We had not faith enough—even Bro. Meggy himself—in the Mark Masons and their ladies to assist in increasing their charity funds; but I believe most sincerely this—we ought to take a hint from it; it is a lesson we shall profit by; and, distinctly understand this, that if we had known the numbers had been going to be so large we should not have met at the Mitre Hotel to-night. We shall never meet again here, for the simple reason that the host has not the accommodation we shall require. I see now that this is established as an annual success. I say this first meeting is a great success. I appeal to you whether you have not enjoyed yourselves. We have combined the pleasures of the table with the society of the ladies, and we think we may naturally congratulate ourselves, as, in addition to enjoying ourselves, we have been adding a larger amount of money to our fund than we can possibly spend in the next 12 months; and then I look forward to the time with pleasure, when we shall meet in largely increased numbers, and this will always be a red-letter day in Mark Masonry. But, on behalf of the Grand Stewards, let me ask your kind indulgence and consideration for any shortcomings you may have noticed. We thought that 40 would have been collected here. Nearly 60 have sat down at this table.

I therefore beg that you will not accuse us of collecting you under false pretence in any shape or way. You have given us your support, your kind encouragement. On behalf of our Board of Stewards, our sincere trust is that you will have seen enough to give us cause to congratulate ourselves this evening, that every one here will make a point of coming, not here, but in another place next year, where larger accommodation is provided, and bringing more friends than you have brought this evening, so contribute to a still larger success than we have achieved to-night.

This concluded the proceedings of the evening, and a more agreeable or better arranged festival it has not been our good fortune to assist at, and the Stewards deserved great credit for the manner in which the whole affair was conducted; indeed, the only thing that could have been desired was a little more room for the comfort of the ladies who graced the dinner with their presence, and who thereby added so much to the real enjoyment of the evening.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MUSIC, DRAMA, AND THE FINE ARTS.

Our brother, Hepworth Dixon, on leaving the toils of his twenty years' labour at the Athenæum, proceeds on a preliminary visit to Russia, where he will remain till near the end of the year. Passing first to Archangel, he will go through St. Petersburg and Moscow to the south, and thence to Georgia and Caucasus. With the view of better accomplishing the literary purposes of his mission, he has laid the foundation of a knowledge of Russian. It is expected we shall obtain from his pen a copious examination of the social system of Russia.

Our brother, E. B. Eastwick, M.P., C.P., has started on a financial mission to Venezuela. On a previous occasion he collected the material for a work on Venezuela and some contributions to *All the Year Round*.

Mr. T. W. Robertson is writing a melodrama, founded upon the trials and troubles of Risk Allah Bey.

A new *prima donna*, Mdle. Mathilde Sessi, has been attracting considerable attention in Paris.

Mr. Charles Dickens is improving in health, and will give his final public readings early next year.

Mr. Gladstone has placed Professor Robertson, of the Roman Catholic University, on the Literary Pension List, for £100 a-year.

It is said that either Dr. Doran or Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson will succeed Mr. Hepworth Dixon in the editorial chair of the *Athenæum*.

The *Orchestra* mentions that Mr. Byron will supply the Gaiety Theatre with a new drama for Christmas, when Mr. Toole will appear at this house.

Mr. Holman Hunt, who has been for some time resident in Florence, has just left Italy for the Holy Land, the scene of some of his greatest pictorial achievements.

Lord Lytton has opened the twenty-sixth annual congress of the British Archaeological Society at St. Alban's with an address, in which he referred at considerable length to the antiquities of Hertfordshire.

A curious letter from Sir Walter Scott to Mr. Slade, disclaiming the authorship of the *Waverley Novels*, and dated 1821, has been bequeathed to the trustees of the British Museum by the late Mr. Felix Slade.

The management of the Gaiety Theatre have started a weekly journal, called *The Gaiety Newsletter and Magazine*, in which visitors to that house may see the future arrangements intended for their amusement.

The Prince of Wales has presented to the Exeter Museum a mummy and coffin, discovered during the progress of some excavations recently made in Egypt, by command of his Royal Highness, with the sanction of the Viceroy of Egypt.

The Senatus of the University of Edinburgh have conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon Sir Roderick Murchison.

The Olympic Theatre is opened for a short summer season, under the direction of Miss Constance Roden, a vocalist well known in Clifton, for the production of opera, farce, and burlesque. Mr. W. F. Taylor (brother of Miss Emily Taylor, of Clifton) is the musical director.

A Literary Art Union has been established, the prizes to consist of valuable and handsomely-bound volumes. It is stated to be the only art union of the kind, and the sanction of the Privy Council to it has been obtained. The prizes are to range from one guinea to fifty, and the drawing is fixed to take place at the Whittington Club on the 27th October.

Active preparations are being made at Worcester for the 146th meeting of the three choirs of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, which commences on the 6th of September. The following artistes have already been engaged:—Mdle. Titeas, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Madame Patey, Signor Bettini, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Lewis Thomas.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* winds up a long and exhaustive criticism of Mr. Gladstone's new book, "*Juventus Mundi*," thus:—"In short, we find Mr. Gladstone's book, speaking generally, in spite of the great capacity and the severe accuracy which it displays within a certain range, debilitated and poverty-stricken, nevertheless, by the narrowness of its method and by what we cannot help calling the perversity of some of its premises. As a contribution to European scholarship, we cannot think that it will take very high rank."

An international exhibition of select works of fine and industrial art and scientific inventions is to be held in 1871. A circular has been issued stating that "her Majesty's Commissioners for the exhibition of 1851 announce that the first of a series of annual international exhibitions of selected works of fine and industrial art will be opened in London, at South Kensington, on Monday, the 1st May 1871. The exhibitions will take place in permanent buildings, about to be erected, adjoining the arcades of the Royal Horticultural Gardens. The productions of all nations will be admitted, subject to obtaining the certificate of competent judges that they are of sufficient excellence to be worthy of exhibition.

"A painless knife," invented by Dr. W. B. Richardson, was amongst the surgical instruments exhibited at the *British Medical Association at Leeds last week*. By mechanism in the handle the knife is made to revolve twenty-five revolutions per second, and by this means Dr. Richardson, we are told, was able to cut the ears of a rabbit into strips while the creature was contentedly munching green-food in entire ignorance of the way in which it was injured. The rapidity of the infliction is so great that the sensation of pain has not time to reach the seat of consciousness.

Most English people have a natural horror of snakes, but these unfortunate reptiles have at last found a champion in Mr. Highford Burr, whose park at Aldermaston, near Reading, one of the most beautiful bits of spacious woodland and deer frequented scenery near London, now offers an asylum to English snakes. *Land and Water* truly observes that this is quite a novel experiment in practical natural history, and Mr. Burr will doubtless ascertain many curious and interesting points in the natural history of snakes which are allowed to have their own way.

MASONIC LIFEBOAT FUND.

Further subscriptions received:—Collected by Bro. Tuohy, Portsea, £2 2s.

LIST OF LODGE, &c., MEETINGS FOR WEEK ENDING 21st AUGUST, 1869.

(Abbreviations.—F.M.H., Freemasons' Hall; M.H., Masonic Hall; M.T., Masonic Temple; Tav., Tavern; Ho., Hotel; R., Rooms; L., Lodge; St., Street; Sq., Square).

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, Aug. 16th.

LODGES.—Pannure, Balham Ho., Balham; Gooch, Alfred Ho., Southall.

Tuesday, Aug. 17th.

Board of Gen. Purposes, at 3.—LODGES.—Salisbury, 71, Dean-st., Soho.—CHAPTER.—Industry, F.M.H.

Wednesday, Aug. 18th.

Gen. Com. of Grand Lodge, and Lodge of Benevolence, at 8.—LODGES.—Beadon, Greyhound Tav., Dulwich; Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.

Thursday, Aug. 19th.

House Com. Female School.—LODGES.—Westbourne, New Inn, Edgeware-rd.; Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.

Friday, Aug. 20th.

House Com. Boys' School.—LODGE.—New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton.

Saturday, Aug. 21st.

LODGE.—Lewis, Nightingale, Tav., Wood-green.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Sunday, Aug. 15th.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.—Joppa, Rose and Crown, Fort-st., Union-st., Bishopsgate.

Monday, Aug. 16th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Union Waterloo (for M.M.), King's Arms, Woolwich; Temple, Old George, St. Mary Axe; Justice, Royal Albert, New Cross-road, Deptford; St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.; Industry, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-st.; Salisbury, 71, Dean-st., Soho; Camden, Adelaide Tav., Haverstock Hill; Westbourne, Running Horse, Duke-st., Grosvenor-sq.; High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham.

Tuesday, Aug. 17th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Strong Man, White Horse, Little Britain; Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich; Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metropolitan District Railway, Victoria Station; Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; British Oak, Silver Lion Tavern, Pennyfield, Poplar; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Union, Hotel de Cologne, Haymarket; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John Tav., St. John's-wood.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Metropolitan, George Hotel, Aldermanbury.

Wednesday, Aug. 18th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Eastern Star, Royal Ho., Burdett-st., Mile-end-rd.; Confidence, Sugar Loaf, Great St. Helens; Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse; United Strength, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lambeth; Peckham, Edinboro' Castle Tav., Peckham Rye; Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-street, Poplar.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.

Thursday, Aug. 19th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-square; Kent, Duke of York, Borough-road; Globe, No. 10, Old Bond-street; United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile End-road; St. John's, Hollybush Tavern, Hampstead; Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-square; Tranquillity, Sugar Loaf Tav., Great St. Helen's, St. Mary Axe; Whittington, Crown Ho., 41, Holborn; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tav., Deptford; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-st.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Joppa, Prospect of Whitby Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, Aug. 20th.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-street; St. Luke's, Pier Hotel, Chelsea; Temperance, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford; Union's (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.), Freemasons' Hall; United Pilgrims, Horns' Tavern, Kennington; Wellington, Lord Duncan Tav., Broadway, Deptford; Belgrave, Duke of Wellington, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey; Lily, Greyhound Ho., Richmond; Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes, Surrey Metropolitan Lo. of Instruction, George Ho., Aldermanbury.

PROVINCIAL.

DORSET.

WIMBORNE MINSTER.—*Mon.*, Lodge: St. Cuthberga, Crown Inn.—*POOLE*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: Amity, M.H.—*WAREHAM*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Unity, Town Hall.—*BOURTON*.—*Thurs.*, Science, Red Lion Inn.—*SWANAGE*.—*Sat.*, Lodge: De Moulham, Mowlem Institute.—*DORCHESTER*.—*Chapter, Wed.*: Faith and Unanimity, M.H.—*WEYMOUTH*.—*Knights Templar, Thurs.*: All Souls' Encampment, M.H.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

ACCRINGTON.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Bank Terrace, Hargreave's Arms Ho.—*ARDWICK* (near Manchester).—*Wed.*, Lodge: De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Inn.—*ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Ho.—*BACUP*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Samaritan, Green Man Ho.—*BLACKBURN*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Perseverance, Old Mill Ho.—*BOLTON*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: St. John, Commercial Ho.—*BURY*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Relief, Hare and Hounds Inn.—*MANCHESTER*.—*Mon.*, Lodges: St. George, F.M.H. *Wed.*, Yarborough, F.M.H. *Fri.*, Virtue, F.M.H. *Chapter, Thurs.*: Affability, F.M.H.—*OLDHAM*.—*Mon.*, Lodge: Tudor, Red Lion Ho. *Wed.*, Friendship, Angel Ho.—*ROCHDALE*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: Hope, Spread Eagle Inn.—*SALFORD*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: St. John, F.M.H. *Thurs.*, Richmond, Spread Eagle Ho.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—*Tues.*, Lodge: Hindpool, Queens' Ho. *FLEETWOOD*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Hesketh, Fleetwood Arms Ho.—*KIRKDALE* (near Liverpool).—*Wed.*, Lodges: Everton, M.T. *Thurs.*, Ancient Union, M.T. *Chapter, Mon.*: Jerusalem, M.T.—*PRESCOTT*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: Loyalty, Royal Ho.—*PRESTON*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Concord, Shelley Arms. Inn.—*SOUTHPORT*.—*Mon.*, Lodge: Unity, M.H.—*St. HELEN'S*.—*Tues.*, Lodge: St. Helen's Lodge of Loyalty, Fleece Ho.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Mon.*, Lodge: Bedford, Ma. Ro.—*WARWICK*—*Chapter, Wed.*: Shakespeare, M.R.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH AND METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.—*Mon.*, Lodges: St. Luke, F.M.H. *Tues.*, Lodge: St. David, Café Royal; Rifle, F.M.H. *Wed.*, Lodge: Roman Eagle, 98, South Bridge. *Thurs.*, Lodge: St. Andrew's, F.M.H.; Portobello, To. Ha. *CHAPTER, Fri.*: St. Andrew's, F.M.H.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN.—*Mon.*, Lodges: No. 126, F.M.H. *Thurs.*, Nos. 93. *Fri.*, No. 53, F.M.H.—*BELFAST*.—*Wed.*, Lodge: St. John, No. 54, Ma. Ro. *Thurs.*, Lodges: Acacia, Ulster Hall; St. Patrick's, Ma. Ro. *Fri.*, Lodges: True Blue, Ma. Ro.—*BUNDORAN*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Industry.—*RAHEE*.—*Thurs.*, Lodge: Northern Star.

[This information is extracted from the "Universal Masonic Calendar," published at 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, and brethren who may detect any inaccuracies are respectfully requested to communicate the same to the Editor.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

E. B. (Invercargill, New Zealand).—P.O.O. received. The numbers have been regularly sent, and hence cannot understand how it is that you have not received them.