

Contents.

	PAGE.
Masonic Discipline and the Ritual—By Crux	381
Grand Chapter of Canada	383
Gothic Architecture and Operative Freemasonry—By Bro. W. P. Buchan	384
Masonic Celestial Mysteries—By Bro. Henry Melville.....	387
Masonic Notes and Queries	388
Correspondence	390
Masonic Memos	392
CRAFT LODGE MEETINGS:—	
Metropolitan	392
Provincial.....	393
Isle of Man	395
Scotland	395
Channel Islands	396
South Australia	396
Mark Masonry	397
Religious and Military Order of the Temple.....	397
Theatrical and Musical Notes.....	397
Reviews	397
Obituary	398
Constantinian Order of the Knights of St. George	398
Scientific Meetings for the Week	399
List of Lodge, &c., Meetings for ensuing week	399
To Correspondents	400

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1869.

MASONIC DISCIPLINE AND THE RITUAL.—XXIII.

By CRUX.

The first step towards the remedy of an evil, is the full perception and knowledge of its nature and extent. Unless a person is conscious of his fault he cannot correct it. It is true that he may be perfectly aware of his defects, and yet either neglect or refuse to "depart from his evil ways." In that case he is simply laying up for himself that punishment, which sooner or later must infallibly overtake those who despise the paths of wisdom, and voluntarily stray amid the labyrinths of folly. We have now arrived at such a stage of our discussion upon the present subject, and have elicited in their course, such overwhelming evidence of the imperative necessity that exists for improvement in the modern Masonic régime, that it may be truly said of the whole system, *corrigendum est*. We have not the slightest hesitation in asserting that the feeling is *unanimous*, that something ought to be done to impart more uniformity and regularity to the working of our lodges. This opinion is held, not alone by brethren who, like ourselves, have carefully studied the whole question, but is shared in by those who can perceive, humble as their rank of life may be, the anomalous and contemptible position in which the Craft is placed by the indecision, inaction and apathy of those, who have its affairs in their rule and governance. So far as our rites, ceremonies,

and ritual are concerned, it is a plain, but deplorable case of "Every man his own Instructor," and this, in an Institution which, in many countries it may be truthfully affirmed, "the King delighteth to honour." With no datum, no standard, no criterion of what is right, and what is wrong, the cry of Masons is *Da nobis luv*, and this, in an Institution which affixes to the certificates issued by its supreme authority, the date, A.L. However brightly the light may have shone in by-gone days, there is very little of it now remaining to enlighten its benighted and bewildered votaries. When the metropolitan brethren are so much in the dark, imagine what must be the condition of those who are in the provinces? The excellent letter of a "Provincial Grand Officer" in the last issue fully corroborates the truth of the statements we have persistently and unweariedly advanced. It has often struck us, when considering the inefficient and pitiable condition to which modern working Masonry has sunk, that the light of a M.M. is indeed a "feeble ray." The bitterest enemy of our Order could hardly have devised a more biting sarcasm than the introduction of the whole of that beautiful paragraph into the ceremony of the third degree. How many a candidate must have given his fullest, but silent assent to the remark, as he thought of the person who with great difficulty and assistance stumbled through that solemn and dignified ceremonial! It is not the physical, but the mental "feeble ray" which calls for the greatest fortitude on the part of the candidate. It is high time all this was altered; incompetent and uneducated officers are bringing the Craft into contempt even among its own members. Laxity of discipline, and a lethargic administration, which takes no pains to correct errors, reform abuses, or advocate improvement, will not advance the internal welfare of the Order. The pontifical *non possumus* is an answer that may do very well for a time and for certain classes, but there are others who do not regard it as a valid reply, and who are able to think, to judge, and if necessary to act for themselves.

Resuming our ritualistic criticism, it may be remarked that the wording of the penalty differs in different lodges, so that absolutely, it is a mere chance whether any two brethren are ever "obligated" according to the same formula. This would be equivalent to administering the oath of allegiance to one person, in certain words, and to another, in certain others. Comment is superfluous.

It is difficult for brethren to imagine themselves bound together by the same chain, when the forging of it is dependent upon ignorance and incompetency. A large proportion of W.M.'s are about as much fitted to occupy that position as the Khan of Tartary is to fill the primacy. In order to entitle a brother to wear the jewel of a P.M. there ought to be some other qualification required, than what in nine cases out of ten, is the mere farce of passing the chair. Instead of the jewel representing the 47th proposition of Euclid, that usually known as the "Pons Asinorum" would have been a more appropriate selection in many instances that have come under our own observation. There is besides a good deal of quiet satire in presenting a man with a jewel, upon which is engraved a problem of geometry, when the recipient probably knows as much about that science as he does of the "black art." Might we suggest, that as "Masonry is an art founded on the principles of geometry," it would not be asking too much of the candidates for its honours that they should be able to demonstrate that they possess, at least, some elementary knowledge of the science before they are *décoré*, as our French friends term it? It is not to be understood by this suggestion that no one but an able geometrician should wear the jewel, but it is intended to signify that one who is totally ignorant of the principles, practice, propositions, and applications of that ancient science should be excluded from receiving it. No good, earnest Mason who has the interest of the fraternity at heart, is acquainted with the sections, and can work a lodge thoroughly, is ignorant of the principles and practical application of geometry, although he may never have heard of the problem in question, or any other of a similar nature. It is not technical knowledge that is needed to render a brother eligible for distinction, but Masonic knowledge, and a sincere desire to use "the talents with which God has blessed him" for the benefit of the Institution and the advantage of its members.

The "obligation" being finished, it is a very common occurrence to witness the members of a lodge resume their seats. This is incorrect, and violates the general rule, which it is very easy for any one to remember. This rule is, that when the candidate kneels, the brethren rise, and when the candidate rises, the brethren sit down. The brethren therefore should not resume their seats, until after the W.M. has pointed out to the

Initiate the emblematic lights in Masonry, and repeated the sentence which follows. The whole ceremony is frequently completely spoiled, and its solemnity and impressiveness destroyed by some of the brethren sitting down prematurely, while others remain in a standing position. Before quitting the "obligation" we would take the opportunity of remarking that we have never witnessed its rehearsal, without noticing that but very few brethren appear to order correctly. We have watched newly-initiated members glancing from one brother to the other, in the vain hope of making up their minds which they ought to copy. If brethren would only bear in mind that the "obligations" in the three degrees are not "prayers," and that they contain an allusion to *penalty*, they will have no difficulty in remembering what is the proper "sign" to show. A word from the W.M. would be quite sufficient to put the brethren *d'accord* in points like these, but unfortunately that officer is frequently in the same dilemma himself, and is therefore unable to set them right, for fear he should make a blunder. He therefore very wisely leaves them alone, and the error is thus perpetuated on all subsequent occasions. In explaining the "three lesser lights," a mistake is very often perpetrated. This arises from the fact that the "point" of the explanation is not understood, nor the peculiar Masonic propriety of it perceived. The order of the position and that of the exposition is reversed, which is a well known Masonic *façon de parler*. The order is "East, south, and west; sun, moon, and W.M." There is nothing incongruous or unintelligible in this style of language. It is similar to that employed in geometry under the term "invertendo," and is one of those "niceties" of the Ritual to which we have already alluded, and which we hope will always be retained. It is particularly unfortunate that the parrot-like manner in which the working of a lodge is got up, altogether precludes the possibility of the brother either comprehending or appreciating the many beauties of the Ritual. They are oftentimes altogether omitted, slurred over, or delivered in such a manner that they become absurd, and pass from the sublime—which they really are—to the ridiculous—which they certainly are not. The transit is but a step, and it is the commonest remark in the world that "extremes meet." While no one would lament more than ourselves the incapacity of a W.M. to appreciate and to display the beauties of our ceremonial routine, yet it must not be imagined that on that account we should consider him unqualified for office. All that we contend for is that he should be able to do his work

accurately, that he should know it, and be able to prove that he knows it to the satisfaction of any competent Masonic tribunal. At the same time if he does not know it, he has unquestionably not the slightest right to occupy so important a position as the "chair."

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following report, taken from the Proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada for last year. We learn that the feeling in favour of a General Grand Chapter for the whole Dominion of Canada is daily gaining ground, and we feel assured that the Supreme Grand Chapters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, when convinced that under the changed condition of these Colonies the movement is a proper one, will follow the example of Grand Lodge, and do all in their power to aid and assist so noble an undertaking as the consolidation of capitular Masonry within the Canadian Confederation:—

NEW BRUNSWICK.

To the Most Excellent Council, Officers, and Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada:—

Your Dispensation for New Brunswick Royal Arch Chapter, formerly working under warrant No. 301, from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland, together with other papers, came to hand during the latter part of June; and I have now much pleasure in reporting that, at the regular Convocation of said Chapter, held in the Masonic Hall, Princes-street, in this city—First Principal Z. John D. Short in the chair—the action relative to change of jurisdiction was unanimously confirmed, and the Dispensation above referred to was read and ordered to be received and placed upon the minutes. The chapter being then opened in due and antient form, under the authority of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada, proceeded with the general business. Three candidates were severally "received and acknowledged as Most Excellent Masters," and then duly "exalted to the Royal Arch Degree." I may also report that our esteemed Right Excellent Companion, Thomas Bird Harris, was elected "Proxy Representative" for New Brunswick Chapter at our Grand Chapter.

There are at present in New Brunswick the following Royal Arch Chapters, holding under authority from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, viz.:—

Carleton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 47; Convocations held in Masonic Hall, St. John.

Fredericton Royal Arch Chapter, No. 77; Convocations held in Masonic Hall, city of Fredericton.

Union Royal Arch Chapter, No. 84; Convocations held in Massnic Hall, Carleton, St. John.

Corinthian Royal Arch Chapter, No. 85; Masonic Hall, Hampton, King's County. This Chapter has been almost dormant for some time past; there are, however, strong indications of early resuscitation.

Mount Lebanon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 101; Convocations held in Masonic Hall, Chatham.

In addition to the above, a number of zealous Royal Arch Masons of St. Stephens, Charlotte County, have applied to Scotland for authority to open a chapter in that town; and some slight progress has been made in one or two other parts of the province, towards the organization of Royal Arch Chapters.

The recent Confederation of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick has, as you may be aware, directed the consideration of a vast majority of Royal Arch Masons throughout these provinces to the present position and future government of Capitular Masonry throughout the Dominion of Canada. While it is freely conceded that the Parent Grand Chapters of England, Ireland, and Scotland have, in years gone by, when their support was actually required, severally done much to aid and assist chapters, respectively, working under their authority, as well as to advance the true interests of our time-honoured institution in this country, yet it is deemed self-evident that the time is rapidly approaching, if it has not already arrived, when our general requirements will demand that "Masonry" throughout the whole Dominion of Canada shall be governed and controlled within our own territory. It is not too much, therefore, to suppose that the true Masonic spirit which underlies our Institution, as well in Great Britain and Ireland as in this Dominion, will speedily develop a policy which may peacefully bring about so desirable a consummation.

In reference to the diversified systems of "Work" practised, as well in the British North American Provinces as throughout the whole Continent of America, it would seem desirable and expedient that delegates be appointed by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, to meet in Convention at *some central point*, with delegates from other Grand Chapters, to the end that a more uniform system of Work and Ritual may be adopted, and that all other matters bearing upon our common interests may be considered, so that our whole system of Royal Arch Masonry may eventually be harmonized agreeable to the most antient standard.

In view of the rapid progress of Capitular Masonry, some chapters are now taking steps to render it imperative that candidates shall be required to exhibit specimens of their skill in the "Art" before being advanced. This appears to be a move in the right direction, and one that will materially aid the Craft. I would therefore respectfully suggest that Grand Chapter consider whether or not it is desirable to require that subordinate chapters under this jurisdiction shall not confer either the degrees of "Mark Master," "Past Master," "Most Excellent Master," or "Royal Arch," until the brother taking the degree shall have passed a satisfactory examination in each of the preceding degrees conferred in either Blue Lodge, or under authority of a Royal Arch Chapter warrant.

Most respectfully submitted.

ROBERT MARSHALL,

G.S. for New Brunswick.

Office of the Grand Supt. of Canadian Royal Arch Masonry for the Province of New Brunswick, St. John, 22nd July, 1868.

GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE AND OPERATIVE FREEMASONRY.

By Bro. W. P. BUCHAN.

(Continued from page 362).

"At a time when writing was almost unknown among the laity, and not one mason in a thousand could either read or write, it is evident that some expedient must be hit upon by which a mason travelling to his work might claim the assistance and hospitality of his brother masons on the road,* and by means of which he might take his rank at once, on reaching the lodge, without going through tedious examinations or giving practical proof of his skill. For this purpose a set of secret signs was invented, which enabled all masons to recognize one another as such, and by which also each man could make known his grade to those of the same rank without further trouble than a manual sign or the utterance of some recognized password.

"Other trades had something of the same sort, but it never was necessary for them to carry it either to the same extent, nor to practice it so often as the Masons, being for the most part resident in the same place and knowing each other personally.† The Masons, thus from circum-

* And all this was just as necessary to a travelling shoemaker, tailor, or carpenter.

† There is another view of the matter to be taken, however, viz.—Other trades had their secret signs, &c., which enabled their travelling members to pass themselves off as fellows of such and such a craft, but the great body of the trade was stationary, being so, they would thereby be better able to keep up any particular ceremonies, and to be more elaborate, also they could keep up their organisation better for their oft-recurring trade displays or processions, &c., whereas the masons being knocked about so much would be more simple in their ceremonies, &c. Again, even when a cathedral was building there were also other crafts, of course, as well as the stone-masons, viz., wrights, glaziers, &c., who would also require their passwords, &c. So that looking at the matter from my stand point, now I should say that amongst some of the other crafts—several centuries ago—there would be equally as much, if not even in some cases more, ceremony than amongst the Masons. I shall be asked, of course, to prove this. Well, I intend to do so as fully as I can, and as soon as possible; meantime I have seen the relics of ancient ceremony in my own trade, but they are dying out fast, just as the custom is done away with of having to join the corporation before being allowed to commence business. A few days ago I met an old man—a smith. His name is Peter Cree, and he told me he was made a *squareman* in 1820, at Coilsfield, near Turbolton, and received a word, grip, and sign, and took an obligation—but not on the Bible. There were other three parties made with him, and gentlemen were also made "squaremen." Other tradesmen who used the square were also made squaremen, and had their apron-washing. "There was a festival to be held about the same time called the "coulter heating," a sort of speed-the-plough or festival, this last I suppose held at the beginning of the ploughing season in spring. Mr. Cree told me that when travelling as a journeyman smith, the word, &c., was useful in enabling himself or others to get assistance from such of their fellow-tradesmen as were brother squaremen. All this is dying out fast now, and

stances organised more completely than other trades,* were men skilled in the arts of hewing and setting stones, acquainted with all recent inventions and improvements connected with their profession, though always under the guidance of some superior personage, whether he was a bishop or abbot, or an accomplished layman.† In the time of which we are speaking, which was the great age of Gothic art, there is no instance of a Mason of any grade being called upon to furnish the design as well as to execute the work.‡

"It may appear strange to us in the nineteenth century, among whom the great majority really do not know what true art means, that six centuries ago eminent men, not specially educated to the profession of architecture, and qualified only by talent and good taste, should have been capable of such vast and excellent designs; but a little reflection will show how easy it is to design when art is in the right path.

"If, for instance, we take a cathedral, any one of a series—let us say Paris—when it was completed, or nearly so, it was easy to see that, though an improvement on those which preceded it, there were many things which might be better. The side aisles were too low, the gallery too large, the clerestory not sufficiently spacious for the display of the painted glass, and so on. Let us next suppose the Bishop of Amiens at that period determined in the erection of his cathedral. It was easy for him or his Master Mason to make these criticisms, and also to see how to avoid these mis-

in none more so than in many cases among operative Masons themselves; for many operative Masons now know nothing whatever of the secrets, passwords, &c., of their forerunners (which secrets are *part* of the forms of our speculative Masonry now), yet suppose they did know them it would not make them any better as workmen. These secrets being merely signs of recognition, and of no more value *per se* than a soldier's password.

By the way, when Mr. Cree was made a "squareman" in 1820 he understood the custom to be old then. There is a Mr. Richmond in Glasgow who has the crown (gilt, and set with large artificial diamonds and rubies) which the personator of St. Crispin used to wear at processions, above a hundred years ago. I had the honour of being crowned with it upon my visit. As shown in the old Burgh Records, published in the *MAGAZINE* lately, these trade processions were oft-recurring, and great affairs in the 15th and 16th centuries.

* Although since 1717 the now "Freemasons" have become so well organised, with all their separate degrees, &c., things were somewhat different before then, as we have been lately finding.

† I have been informed that at this time there were different galleries set apart for each class of workmen, superintended by priests, and priests looking after the designs, patterns, &c.

‡ After this, however, as per page 308 of the *MAGAZINE* for April 17, we find that "John Gray, Mason," and "maistre of work," was not only to work and oversee others working, but also to "devyse" or design. This was in 1484, however, not in the 13th century. But we must examine further into this point.

takes; they could easily see where width could be spared, especially in the nave; how also a little additional height and a little additional length would improve the effect of the whole. During the progress of the Parisian works also some capitals had been designed, or some new form of piers, which were improvements on preceding examples, and generally more confidence and skill would be derived from experience in the construction of arches and vaults. All these, of course, would be adopted in the new cathedral; and without making drawings, guided only by general directions as to the plan and dimensions, the masons might proceed with the work, and introducing all the new improvements as it progressed, they would inevitably produce a better result than any that preceded it, without any especial skill on the part either of the Master Mason or his employer.

"If a third cathedral were to be built after this it would, of course, contain all the improvement made during the progress of the second, and all the corrections which its results suggested; and thus, while the art was really progressive, it required neither great individual skill nor particular aptitude to build such edifices as we find.

"In fine arts we have no illustration of this in modern times; but all our useful arts advance on the same principles, and lead consequently to the same results. In shipbuilding, for instance, if we take a series of ships from those in which Edward III. and his bold warriors crossed the Channel to the great line-of-battle ships now lying at anchor in our harbours, we find a course of steady and uninterrupted improvement from first to last. Some new method is tried; if it is found to succeed it is retained; if it fails it is dropped. Thus the general tendency constantly leads to progress and improvement. And, to continue the comparison a little further; this progress in the art is not attributable to one or more eminent naval architects. Great and important discoveries have no doubt been made by individuals, but in these cases we may generally assume that, the state of science being ripe for such advances, had the discovery in question not been made by one man, it soon would have occurred to some other.

"The fact is, that in a useful art like that of shipbuilding, or in an art combining use and beauty like that of architecture—that is, when the latter is a real, living, national art—the progress made is owing, not to the commanding abilities

of particular men, but to the united influence of the whole public. An intelligent sailor who discusses the good and bad qualities of a ship, does his part towards the advancement of the art of shipbuilding. So in architecture, the merit of any one admirable building, or of a high state of national art, is not due to one, or to a few master minds, but to the aggregation of experience, the mass of intellectual execution, which alone can achieve any practically great result. Whenever we see any work of man truly worthy of admiration, we may be quite sure that the credit of it is not due to an individual, but to thousands working through a long series of years.

"The pointed Gothic architecture of Germany furnishes a negative illustration of the view which we have taken of the conditions necessary for great architectural excellence. There the style was not native, but introduced from France. French masons were employed, who executed their work with the utmost precision, and with a perfection of masonic skill scarcely to be found in France itself. But in all the higher elements of beauty the German pointed Gothic cathedrals are immeasurably inferior to the French. They are no longer the expressions of the devotional feelings of the clergy and people: they are totally devoid of the highest order of architectural beauty.

"The truth of the matter is, that the very pre-eminence of the great Masonic Lodges of Germany in the 14th century* destroyed the art. When Freemasonry† became so powerful as to usurp to itself the designing as well as the execution of churches and other buildings, there was an end of true art, though accompanied by the production of some of the most wonderful specimens of stone cutting and of constructive skill that ever were produced. This, however, is 'building,' not architecture; and though it may excite the admiration of the vulgar, it never will touch the feelings of the true artist or man of taste.

* Seeing these 14th and 15th century operative Masonic lodges were so pre-eminent, how comes it that Germany received its Speculative Masonry from England during last century? if Speculative Masonry had been in existence three or four hundred years ago we should have expected to have heard of its especial preservation amongst these great German lodges.

† That is Operative Masonry, or the association of Operative Masons that is here meant, not Speculative Masonry or what we now generally understand by the word "Freemasonry." After the 13th century Scottish Masonry would be more drawn to adopt Continental customs, than English, and thereafter until the 17th century we find the Scots often referring to their "auld enemies of England."

"This decline of true art had nowhere shown itself during the 13th century, with which we are concerned at present. Then architecture was truly progressive: every man and every class in the country lent his aid, each in his own department, and all worked together to produce those wonderful buildings which still excite our admiration. The masons performed their part, and it was an important one; but neither to them nor their employers, such as the Abbé Suger, Maurice deully, Robert de Lusarches, or Fulbert of Chartres, is the whole merit to be ascribed, but to all classes of the French nation carrying on steadily a combined movement towards a well-defined end.

"In the following pages, therefore, it will not be necessary to recur to the Freemasons nor their Masters—at least not more than incidentally—till we come to Germany. Nor will it be necessary to define who was the architect of any particular building. The names usually fixed upon by antiquaries after so much search are merely those of the Master Masons or foremen of the works, who had nothing to do with the main designs of the buildings."

The above is the whole of "Chapter VIII." I should also like to give the following extracts from "Chapter IX." which treats on French Gothic Cathedrals. The contents referring to the cathedrals of "Paris—Chartres—Rheims—Amiens.—Other cathedrals—Later style—St Ouen's, Rouen."

"The great difficulty in attempting to describe the architecture of France, during the glorious period of the 13th century is really the *embarras de richesse*. There are even now some thirty or forty cathedrals of the first class in France, all owing their magnificence to this great age. Some of these, it is true, were commenced even early in the 12th and many were not completed till after the 14th century; but all their principal features, as well as all the more important beauties, belong to the 13th century, which, as a building epoch, is perhaps the most brilliant in the whole history of architecture. Not even the great Pharaonic era in Egypt, the age of Pericles in Greece, nor the great period of the Roman empire will bear comparison with the 13th century in Europe, whether we look to the extent of the buildings executed, their wonderful variety and constructive elegance, the daring imagination that conceived them, or the power of poetry and of lofty religious feelings that is ex-

pressed in every feature and in every part of them.

"During the previous age almost all the greater ecclesiastical buildings were abbeys, or belonged exclusively to monastic establishments—were in fact the sole property, and built only for the use of the clergy. The laity, it is true, were admitted but only on sufferance. They had no right to be there, and no part in the ceremonies performed. During the 13th century almost all the great buildings were cathedrals, in the erection of which the laity bore the greater part of the expense, and shared, in at least an equal degree, in their property and purposes. In a subsequent age the parochial system went far to supersede even the cathedral, the people's church taking almost entirely the place of the priest's church, a step which was subsequently carried to its utmost length by the Reformation. Our present subject requires us to fix our attention on that stage of this great movement which gave rise to the building of the principal cathedrals throughout Europe from the 12th to the 15th century.

"The transition from the round Gothic to the true pointed Gothic style in the centre of France took place with the revival of the national power under the guidance of the great Abbé Suger, about the year 1144. In England it hardly appeared till the rebuilding of Canterbury cathedral under the guidance of a French architect, A.D. 1175; and in Germany it is not found till at all events, the beginning of the 13th century, and can hardly be said to have taken firm root in that country till a century at least after it had been fairly established in France.

"In France as in England, there is no one great-typical building to which we can refer as a standard of perfection—no Hypostyle Hall or Parthenon which combines in itself all the excellencies of the style, and we are forced therefore to cull from a number of examples, materials for the composition, even in imagination, of a perfect whole.* Germany has in this respect been more fortunate, possessing in Cologne cathedral† an edifice combining all the beauties ever attempted to be produced in pointed Gothic in that country. But even this is only an imitation of French cathedrals, erected by persons who admired and understood the details of the style, but were incapable of appreciating its higher principles."

(To be continued.)

* This arises in England from different portions of the cathedrals being built at different times, and the want of a Grand entire specimen of the best era, Salisbury 1220 to 1258 being rather early, had it been 1258 to 1308 we would have expected it to have been better.

† Extant edifice of Cologne began about 1270.

MASONIC CELESTIAL MYSTERIES.

By Bro. HENRY MELVILLE.

PAPER IV.

LABOR OMNIA VINCIT.

BRITANNIA. } A province of France anciently
 BRETAGNE. } called Armorica, from whence our
 BRITTANY. } island is said to have been first
 } peopled.—“Bailey’s Dic.,” fifth
 } edition.

Armorica, or Omorica, means “unbounded space.” America was discovered by “Christ’s carrier, Christopher” Columbus, “the dove,” after a sixth months’ voyage. He started from a place abounding with calves, in order to reach *el dorado*.

Hengest led the Angles into Britain! Hengest is a Saxon word said to mean “horse,” and he had a horse—Horsa—for brother, and the standard of his tribe was a white horse, and when these brothers died they were translated to heaven, where they may be seen in celestial Philadelphia, sitting on a horse. Stone Henge was erected to perpetuate the treachery of Henge-est, who assassinated Vortigern and 460 nobles, on Salisbury Plain. Stone Henge signifies stone gallows.* Henge means “hang,” and *est* is the abbreviation of *Ester* our Easter†. As celestially asserted, the sun is hang’d, drawn, and quartered at the end of every year, and there he is *pendentisqui Dei*, on or under the stone gallows. He is *Tolo* in the white horse, Sagittarius. Stone Henge is the ruin of a magnificent astrolabe, with a perfect horizon. “Stonehenge stands in the best situation possible for observing the heavenly bodies, as there is a horizon nearly three miles distant on all sides, and on either distant hills that might have been so planted as to have measured any number of degrees of a circle, so as to calculate the right ascension or declension of a star or planet,” p. 63, “Stonehenge,” 1808. In former ages the sun was hanged just prior to the Easter Passover in Aries or Nisan. Whether Hengest or Horsa had any share in the construction of the white horses on the hills near Salisbury and elsewhere, is doubtful, but certain it is that the white horse of Hengest was the Royal Arch animal Hipparchus, and there in celestial atlases may be seen the red cross

and shield on the left arm of the Templar of Hieru-salem. Hipparchus, the learned, about 150 before Christ, arranged the intellectual zodiac which commences on the first of January, in the white horse, Sagittarius, when the last star of the stone gallows is passed by the sun. The Budhists, according to Upham, plate 10, picture Sagittarius



Fig. 1.

thus, and it is well known in what manner the sign is represented on European atlases. “A white horse, and he that sat on him had a bow, and a crown was given unto him, and he went forth conquering and to conquer.”* The crown given to Sagittarius is Corona Australis, the worthless crown of victory, not a gem in it worth inserting in the table of stars of the constellation. The great grandfather of George the Third, being of Brunswick, of course he was entitled to claim the white horse, but George seems to have been satisfied with the lions and unicorn of Britannia, through whom, perhaps, though contrary to *salique* law, he claimed France.

Popular prejudice will not allow Britannia to be of French extraction. The question to be answered, then, is where did she come from? She does not belong to the Pantheon, or Lemprière would give her pedigree. He mentions one Britannicus, son of Claudius Caesar, but does not say he was related to Britannia. It is not known whether Britannia ever had a father or mother, and although there is a large family of the Bulls, they are not stated to be the children of Britannia. Her ladyship is believed to be a virgin, there being no record of her marriage. She may have had a host of “sons of Britons” as children, and yet according to orthodox Cruden, would be a virgin as well after as before her bringing forth. Is Britannia of earth or heaven? If of earth she must be French. As to heaven, no one would think of taking Andromeda for the British idol. The

* “Oxford Encyclopædia.”

† Bosworth’s Anglo-Saxon Dic.

* Rev. vi. 2.

nearly naked lewd Venus *popularia* as she is, and whose brilliant *mirach* has no more discretion than *Menkar*, the jewel in the swine's snout, both offending the celestial laws. Her mother, Cassiopeia, always looks as if she had been crying, and saving that she is sitting down with a mystic branch in her hand, she has no other semblance to Britannia. There is only one more female pictured in the heavens, and that is Virgo, the Egyptian Isis, and the similitude between her and her Britannic majesty is remarkable. Both are grave-looking persons, always respectably though not fashionably dressed; true, some old plates represent Virgo as *enciente*, but that is nothing as regards a celestial virgin, as stated by Cruden. In Virgo's right hand, and in the right hand of Britannia, are similar mystic branches. Britt. carries occasionally a pair of scales, and the scales, the libra, are invariably in the possession of Virgo. Without mystery, *Opica* of Virgo is the *bright, occidental star*, which, according to law, sets with the lamb at the sacrifice, when "the sun in his strength," rises opposite. Closing one sign or 30 degrees, *chemali* of Libra is with, say *Opica*. *Opica* is the denoting brilliant, but it is the little crimson flower "h" under the ecliptic, from whence the astronomical points are reckoned.



Fig. 2.

Here is the Buddhist Virgo, plate 12, and, as Upham describes, with the crimson flower. At times Britannia is made to represent Pallas, and for that purpose is furnished with the helmet, breast plate, and shield of Mars, and the spear of Bootes. Did any one ever see Britannia with a sword? No! because Virgo with the scales and the sword is no longer Britannia, but Themis, whose parents are known as Coelus and Terra. Neptune Aquarius had a trident, and the stars

G H I indicate the teeth.* Mercury, the celestial Tiler, must have stolen the trident and given it to Britannia. Britt. has occasionally a bale of wool, which she came by honestly, for *Opica* being by law at 106° with Capella and David, she obtains the wool from the shepherd. The most glorious symbol of Britannia is a ship ruling the waves, and when with David she is on board *Argo Navis*. The Budhists represent Virgo in a line of battle ship—a three decker—with her ports open.†



Fig. 3.

Montfaucon gives a coin or medal of Britannia reclining, with the superscription *Hispania*.‡ What insolence of the Spaniard; but as the medal is an antique, perhaps it was minted while Britannia was a province of France.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

TRADE SECRETS (p. 348).

For some time back, in the *Magazine*, Bro. Buchan has been asserting that other trades had grips and words several centuries ago; consequently, he has not been "doubting about trade signs and grips in the middle ages." Perhaps it is a misprint for some other name. There is more in *speculative* Masonry, however, than a bit of "apron-washing," with its word and grip. Will "Observer" kindly remember this?—W. P. BUCHAN.

FREE AND FREE-BORN.

"Note," page 286, calls attention to Act XV. of the *Leges Burgorum*, page 270. Now this law is as old as the time of William the Conqueror, consequently, it is a pretty venerable "landmark," and, according to it, our "free-born" idea is wrong; it should be simply "free," and in Scotland what is called the j—t of free-born should be j—t of freedom. I respectfully suggest to my American brethren, both white men and black freed-men, to note this.—W. P. BUCHAN.

* 1 Sam. ii, 13.
 † "History of Budhism," Upham, plate 10.
 ‡ Plate 110, vol. iii.

ST. JOHN, THE PATRON SAINT OF MASONS (p. 348).

I had only a glance at Bro. Rebold's work, but, from what I saw then, I should not be inclined to pin my faith to *all* he says, nor to the rest of Bro. Reitam's quotation after the first five lines especially. If I remember correctly, the Aberdeen Masonic Saint was Saint John the *Evangelist*, whose day is 27th December.* However, I am certainly obliged to Bro. "Reitam" for his remarks.—W. P. BUCHAN.

BRO. HERTZVOELD, BRO. FINDEL, AND D. G. M. MANNINGHAM.

The communication of a Past Provincial Grand Warden in the north of England has been delivered to me. My answers to his three inquiries are:—First, there is nothing in Bro. Hertzvoeld's letter to me from which it can be inferred that he was aware of the dispute going on amongst us respecting the period at which speculative Masonry first made its appearance. His Masonic position is—Member of the Council of Ancients of the lodge *L'Union Royal*. His social position is—Chief Officer at the Ministry of Finance in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Next, Bro. Findel's letter to me has been mislaid. It was written from Leipzig some time in September or October, and merely informed me that it was his intention to insert D. G. M. Manningham's letter of 1757 in the second edition of the "History of Freemasonry," then nearly ready for the press. Lastly, there is, if I recollect right, some slight mention of D. G. M. Manningham in "Preston's Illustrations."—C. P. C.

MASONIC CREDULITY.—THE FIRST GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

Bro. Banning feelingly informs you that, as so much has been written of late tending to undermine the faith of the fraternity in the traditionary antiquity of our Order, he sends a transcript from one of our standard works as tending to quiet the minds of those who are unsettled on the subject.

This proves to be an extract from one of the books of that worthy man and Mason, and most incapable critic, Dr. Oliver, repeating Preston, and which recites the tale about King Athelstane making his brother Patron of the Masons at York, with the additional fragment,—“Here many old writings were produced in Greek, Latin, and other languages, from which the constitutions of the English lodges are derived.”

It certainly is an exceedingly likely story that such MSS. were produced at York, in Greek, or in Chinese either.

A piece of history of this kind is proveable like other history, and Bro. Banning will render good service to his cause if he will produce one single line from a chronicle in Anglo-Saxon or Latin which justifies any such statement of Preston or Oliver.

This kind of assertion, without historical proof, in the case of the tale of Queen Elizabeth and the lodge at York, has brought on Bro. John Yarker a very reasonable demand for historical evidence in the last number of Notes and Queries.—N. B.

MASONIC HISTORY v. MASONIC SECRETS (p. 349).

Whatever punishment might be due to the *revealer* of Masonic secrets, the writing of Masonic "history" is a different matter.—PICTUS.

MASONRY AND PRIESTS.

It is very likely true, as some have suggested, and lately Historicus, that the Masonic rituals were first organized by priests in the middle ages. It then becomes a strange thing that, in the 18th and 19th centuries, Popes are found excommunicating Freemasons and their rituals, and in utter opposition to them in this day. There is no real reason why priests should not become Freemasons, as some do, and remain good Freemasons and good priests.—A. B.

SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

Bro. Buchan has hardly saved himself here. Bro. Hughan says there was not any organization of Grand Lodges or Provincial Grand Lodges before 1717, and he says there was not the system of three distinct and separate degrees. This does not help Bro. Buchan. Administration is a very small matter. There are no Provincial Grand Lodges or Grand Masters in France, and not properly in the United States. The three degrees may have been more or less systematically developed, but the question still remains, "Were gentlemen, for instance, admitted previous to 1717 on a system of ritual identical in constitution with the present rituals?" The admission of gentlemen may have begun in the middle ages as patrons, and as a consequence of the admission of clerical members.—HISTORICUS.

SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY AND BRO. BUCHAN.

I cannot agree at all with Bro. Buchan's statement that,—It was not operative Masonry that gradually developed itself into speculative Freemasonry," and unless he has evidence which has been denied to other Masonic students, he cannot be possessed of any authority for such an assertion. Bro. Buchan has not shown *why* operative Masonry should not be termed the father of speculative Freemasonry. When he has done his best to do so, I may have a word to say on the subject.—W. J. HUGHAN.

HAUGHTFOOT LODGE.

In common with several Masonic students, I am reading the extracts from old records of the above ancient lodge with much interest, and shall look with eagerness for the continuation of such valuable excerpts by Bro. R. S. He has my warmest thanks for so kindly and fully responding to my wishes, and I feel certain that I am not singular in thus expressing gratification at these records being so carefully published.—W. J. HUGHAN.

SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY AND ITS MANUFACTURERS.

Speculative Masonry being manufactured about A. D. 1717, operative Masonry was the spoon which Doctors Desaguliers and Anderson made use of in administering the new idea.*—W. P. B.

THE TEMPLARS AND FREEMASONRY (p. 370).

I fully subscribe to the truthful, historical, and consistent remarks of "Historicus." The ideas which he so ably expresses are those which I have for some time held.—W. P. BUCHAN.

* Yes; as per foot-note, page 206, September 11th.

* Perhaps the above may explain the Prestonian "link" alluded to at foot of page 329?

TOULMIN SMITH ON "ENGLISH GUILDS."

Will Bro. Hyde Clarke kindly inform me who are the publishers of the above work, that I may order it? My bookseller has failed to procure it for me so far, and Bro. Hyde Clarke's welcome notes on the work, in the *Freemasons' Magazine* for October 6th, have made me anxious to see the volume and study it carefully.—W. J. HUGHAN.

QUERY.

Will you kindly answer me the following question in your next number? The out-going Master has a right to instal his successor; but, if he declines to do so, either from inability or other reasons, who should then be asked to perform the ceremony? the next P.M., or the senior P.M. of the lodge?—T.P.

The retiring W.M. may request the I.P.M., or any other P.M. present who is able and willing, to perform the ceremony of installation.—Ed. F.M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by Correspondents

ENGLISH MARK LODGES AND THE MARK DEGREE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have read the remarks of "Crescent," at page 284, upon the above subject, and beg to dissent from many of his statements. As to the G.L. of Mark Masters being "that lawful and constitutional body," I cannot see it. Suppose we get up a Grand Lodge of M.M.'s, another of F.C.'s, and so on?

Then to be told that the "Masonic Knights Templar" are "a purely Christian Order, dating only from the time of the Crusades!" When, *mirabile dictu*, they "only" date from last century at the furthest.

Again, says "Crescent," "all degrees, Craft and others, were once worked thus independently before the Grand Lodges in Great Britain and other countries were formed!" That is to say, before 1717!

To further criticise an "article" which contains such essential mistakes as those alluded to is unnecessary.

The real cure for this matter would be that alluded to, at page 341, by "Reitam," viz., that the G.L. of England should follow the example of the G.L. of Scotland, and make "the Mark" a portion of its ritual, for, as is well known, long before any Grand Lodge was formed, the operative Masons used their marks. A motion to this effect carried in Grand Lodge would soon settle the whole matter, so far as blue Masonry is concerned.

It was really most "unfortunate" that the G.L. of England recognised the Royal Arch. Craft Masonry being entirely complete in itself; that is to say, that any "degree" above that of Master Mason is simply superfluous, "the Mark" being understood as a portion of the Fellow Craft degree. Whenever we ep beyond blue Masonry and take up with "Royal

Arch" productions, we at once open the door to these so-called "high" degrees *ad infinitum*; degrees which, those who have been induced to take them assert, are simply "humbug."

Yours fraternally,

RE-MARK.

P.S.—I find that it is not necessary to go far to find *proof* of my last statement; for, page 356, at a meeting of "Masonic Knights Templar" it was stated that "The Knights of the Temple would recollect that they met, not on the level, but on the cross." If such were the case, they should have gone to the church or chapel, not to a *Masonic* hall, for such an idea is entirely opposed to Freemasonry. And, if "the illustrious Templar believed that he was the pioneer of a grand united chain of Masonry throughout the world," he has rather queer ideas as to what "Masonry" really is. The life and beauty of speculative Masonry is its unsectarianism and universality, cross and crescent being alike to it. So long as such is the idea, the "grand chain" exists; but it would seem to be the *forte* of pseudo-Masonic *Knights Templar* to pull down what it is the glory of *Masonic Master Masons* to build up.—RE-MARK.

1717.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I have met with an incident which it may be interesting to mention; viz.: Upon 25th October I received a letter bearing the Glasgow post-mark, and upon corner of envelope "1717." On opening it there was no signature, being therein directed to me as a "Correspondent of the *Freemasons' Magazine*," and it said:—

"There is a fount about to stream,
There is a light about to beam,
There is a warmth about to flow,
There is a flower about to blow,
There is a midnight darkness changing
Into grey.
Men of thought and men of action,
Clear the way.

"Aid the dawning tongue and pen,
Aid it, hopes of honest men;
Aid it, paper, aid it, type;
Aid it for the hour is ripe.
And our earnest must not slacken
Into play.
Men of thought and men of action,
Clear the way."

"1717."

I have not the slightest idea who it is from, nor is any explanation given in it; only, from "1717" being mentioned, I suppose that the date A.D. 1717 is referred to; the writer being a reader of the *Magazine*, and possibly a supporter of the 1717 theory.

Yours fraternally,

W. P. BUCHAN.

UNIFORMITY OF RITUAL.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Since the appearance of the letter of G.W.W., page 309, the attention of at any rate two Glasgow lodges has been specially drawn to the subject of uniformity, and the suggestions em-

bodied in that letter appear to us to be the most practical that have yet appeared. If uniformity of ritual is not obtainable on your side of the border, it is still more lamentably deficient in Scotland, for here, not only with respect to ritual, but also with clothing, "each one does that which is right in his own eyes." We cannot speak as you do of the *blue degrees*, for here Craft Masonry assumes all the colours of the rainbow, and the materials of the apron may be either silk, satin, or lambskin. These, with other and more serious anomalies (to which I do not wish at present to allude) arise, as G. W. W. observes, from "the want of controlling power." Clothing may be one of the non-essentials, but that, with other proofs of want of uniformity, has tended to make English Masons at times sarcastic on their Scotch brethren, though G. W. W. has the candour to say he has seen good working here.

If Bros. Buchan, Scotus, Pictus, Melville, Smith, Lyon, and other learned Scotch Masons, would join with Bros. Crux, Crescent, Hughan, Yarker, Hyde Clarke, and others, in devoting some of their spare time to improving the present position of the Order, it might be quite as profitable as *speculating* on the precise time that speculative Masonry dates from. The present honour and future prosperity of the Order are surely of more importance than guesses, however ingenious, concerning the history of the past, especially when we know that our ancient brethren were so particular that no kind of written or printed documents should be allowed to exist that could in any way impart a knowledge of our doings to the "profane."

Let us, then, devote ourselves to improving the present position of the Craft; let the three sister Grand Lodges take up the matter in earnest; let the suggested plan, or some other to be evolved, be considered fully, discussed fairly, and, when approved of, acted on. Let us remove the reproach that at the present attaches to us all, viz., that, while boasting of belonging to an Order whose branches are spread over the whole habitable globe, with brethren known to each other in every country of the earth, we yet are so ill organized that, not merely on different sides of the Tweed or Irish Channel do we work differently, but even in the same town, and often even in the same lodge-room, there is a marked distinction in the ceremonies and ritual. Here is a large field that wants cultivation; here is a theme for your ablest correspondents. The cry has been started in England; it is re-echoed from Ireland, and it will meet with a response in the heart of every true Craftsman who hails from Caledonia, as well as—

Yours fraternally,

A SCOTCH MASON.

Glasgow, November 7th.

OUR BROTHER BUCHAN.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—A distinguished Mason writes as follows:—

"Our Bro. Buchan has great zeal, and, what is better, he has judgment and caution. He comes to no conclusion until he has got at the facts, and until he has ascertained the nature of those facts; and,

moreover, he knows well how to pull each fact to pieces, and thus more surely estimate its value."

Now, there is in D. G. M. Manningham's letter, *Freemasons' Magazine*, Vol. 19, page 133, this passage:—"I conversed lately with one old brother of 90. This brother assures me he was made a Mason in his youth, and has constantly frequented lodges till rendered incapable by his advanced age, and never heard or knew of any other ceremonies or words than those used in general amongst us; such forms were delivered to him, and those he has retained."

This passage, although at one time it attracted a good deal of notice, has never been critically examined. Will the able Brother Buchan undertake that task? Does the passage constitute a fact worthy of consideration? D. G. M. Manningham's letter is dated July, 1757. Must it be taken that the "one old brother of 90" was "made a Mason" in the 17th century? and, if so, can the "ceremonies and words used in general amongst us," and the "forms delivered and retained," be understood to mean speculative Masonry?

Above is *verbatim* what a distinguished Mason has written, and I now forward it to the editor of our periodical, to be disposed of in such way as, in his discretion, he shall see fit.

Yours fraternally,

A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

AUXILIARY LODGES.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—In reply to B. B. in the *Freemasons' Magazine* of last week, I can inform him that in Calcutta, where the lodges are worked as well as they are in England, that we frequently gave (press of business requiring) the three degrees on the same evening in separate rooms, the W.M. of the lodge presiding in one room and a P.M., with competent staff, officiating in the other; all the brethren being present when the lodge was opened, and all also being present when the lodge was closed, the Secretary recording on the minutes the records of the officers officiating in each room. Of course the hall was adapted for the purpose, having separate entrances, &c., to each room. I cannot understand how the propriety of such an arrangement can be questioned.

Yours fraternally,

P.D.D.G.M.

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.—An influential meeting was held in the large room of the Town Hall, Newark, on Monday last, for the formation of a local association in aid of the exploration of Palestine. The Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons occupied the chair, in which he was supported by the Bishop of Lincoln, Earl Manners, Mr. Hodgkinson, M.P., Canon Mackenzie, and the Rev. M. Miller. Besides these gentlemen the meeting was addressed by Mr. Grove, the Hon. Sec. to the Fund, and Captain C. W. Wilson, R.E. The room was crowded, and the statements of the speakers were received with great demonstrations of interest. A powerful local committee was formed, and the amount subscribed exceeded £60, a large amount being annual subscriptions.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

** All communications to be addressed to the EDITOR, at No. 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MASONIC MEMS.

THE annual banquet of the Royal Union Lodge of Instruction will take place at Bro. Claisen's, Hotel de Cologne, Haymarket, on Tuesday, Nov. 23rd, 1869, at 7 p.m. The chair will be taken by Bro. Fehrenbach, W.M. 382, and the vice-chair by Bro. T. A. Adams.

THE Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday, the 30th inst., at 5 o'clock.

A LODGE of Instruction for Mark Masters is held, under the sanction of the Kent Lodge at the Lyceum Tavern, Strand, every Monday at half-past seven p.m. Bro. Charles Swan is the preceptor.

WE are pleased to observe that the liberal offer of Bro. Lewis and his partner, Mr. Mason, has been taken up in a spirited manner. Our lodge reports show several instances in which the lodges have resolved to purchase copies of those beautiful pictures, which no doubt will benefit the schools in a twofold manner; first, by contributing to the funds; and, secondly, being hung on the walls of the lodge-room, will form a constant reminder of the existence of those noble institutions.

WE understand that the Right Hon. the Lord Rosehill, eldest son of the Right Hon. the Earl of Northesk, is to be affiliated a member of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1, on the 29th inst., and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, is to present, and perform the rites and ceremonies.

TYLERS of Lodges, Janitors of Chapters, Equeries of Encampments, &c., in England, Scotland, and Ireland, are requested to forward their names and addresses to the Publisher of THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, so as to enable the Proprietors to compile a complete Register and Directory.

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

METROPOLITAN.

ST. THOMAS'S LODGE (No. 143).—This old lodge met for the commencement of its season on Saturday, the 4th inst., at Radley's Hotel. Bro. F. T. Dubois, W.M., assisted by his officers and members, opened the lodge. There were present Bros. Bolton, S.W.; Gilbert, P.M., as J.W. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Valentine, J.W.); W. Battye, P.M., Treas.; Powell, P.M., as Sec. (in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Cockcraft, P.M., Sec.); Clegg, S.D.; Trocan, J.D.; Scarth, T.G.; Captain Innes, R.N., P.M.; Thistleton, P.M.; Haguerin, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Wells, 15; F. Walters, P.M. 73; Mills, 299, and others. The work done was initiating Mr. Roman, and raising Bro. Thompson. Both the ceremonies were well and ably rendered. The W.M. was perfect in his working, and very impressive in his delivery of it. He was well supported by his officers, who rendered all their parts well. Bro. F. Walters, P.M. 73, made an appeal on behalf of Bro. Saqui, P.M. 405, who is a candidate for the male annuity fund of the Royal Benevolent Institution at the next election in May to solicit the votes of this lodge, and they were promised to him. The lodge was closed. The usual first-class banquet followed. The usual toasts were given and received; Bro. F. Walters, P.M. 73, responded for the visitors.

LODGE OF STABILITY (No. 217).—This lodge met at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at six o'clock, Bro. Edward Hughes, W.M., in the chair. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bros. Coley and Wilson were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. A ballot then took place for Mr. T. Freelove, which was declared to be unanimous in that gentleman's favour. The W.M. begged the assistance of the brethren in establishing a charity fund in connection with No. 217, and explained the basis on which it was to be worked, viz., a subscription of one shilling a week by each who enrolled himself, and a ballot to take place for each £5 or £5 5s., the successful members to have the choice of the Charity connected with the Craft, to which his name and subscription should be sent as a life subscriber; so that in a period of two years every one who joined *must* have his name on one of the Charities. The suggestion was warmly taken up by the lodge, more especially by Bro. Taylor, P.M. and Sec., who represents the lodge at the forthcoming festival of the Benevolent Institution, and who asked the brethren to support him by subscriptions. In accordance with notice of motion previously given, Bro. Sillifant, P.M., proposed that two pounds be given to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and their Widows. This was seconded, and placed on Bro. Taylor's list by Bro. Brody, P.M. and Treas., and carried unanimously. Nothing further being offered, the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer. At the subsequent banquet Bro. Read, W.M., Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781, warmly thanked the brethren for their hospitality, and congratulated the lodge on its excellent working, and the harmony now existing. The visitors were Bros. Read, W.M. 781; Richardson and Clements, 745; C. Sdney, 829; and Kidd, St John's.

ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE (No. 180).—This lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 9th inst., when there were present—Bros. A. Cameron, W.M.; J. R. Stacey, S.W.; Herf, J.W.; H. A. Stacey, P.M., Sec.; Bult, S.D.; Smethett, J.D.; A. Galliss, I.G.; C. Jackson, A. Stouer, T. Simpson, P.M.'s; and about twenty other members. The visitors present were Bros. J. Hidden, J. Wheeler, and W. Whittington, P.M. 364, P. Prov. G. Sec. of Eastern Division of South Wales. Messrs. Parsons, Rositer, and Lakin were initiated; after which Bros. Archer and Hawkins were passed, and Bro. Mierli raised, the ceremonies being most ably performed by the W.M. A petition was signed to the Board of Benevolence on behalf of the daughter of a deceased brother, who was initiated in 1823.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. The lodge was opened in due form by Bros. E. King, W.M.; E. Roberts, S.W.; Harris, J.W.; Trott, S.D.; Child, J.D.; Newman, I.G.; Goodyear, Treas.; Marsh, Sec. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Arkell and Younger were raised to the sublime degree of M.M., and a brother passed to F.C. The lodge was then resumed in the first degree, and two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, by Bro. J. Harvey, P.M. C.C., and seconded by Bro. W. Baker. A letter was then read from Bro. W. Farnfield, P. Assist. G. Sec., and the much respected Secretary to the Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, soliciting a steward for the above named institution, when Bro. C. Hosgood, P.M. accepted the office with the view of this lodge becoming vice-president of the same, and trusting the support that he should receive from the members would lead to a successful result. If so it will be the means of placing this lodge in the proud position of vice-presidents to all our charities. A letter was then read from a brother, who was initiated in this lodge in the year 1863, whereupon Bro. C. Hosgood, P.M. proposed, and Bro. Dickenson seconded, that the W.M. visit the brother and report to the lodge thereon at the next meeting. There being no other business before the lodge, it was closed with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to dinner in the spacious dining room attached to the hotel, and every thing connected therewith gave the greatest satisfaction. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts followed. The harmony of the evening was greatly enhanced by the vocal abilities of Bros. J. Harvey, P.M., Marsh, P.M., E. L. Roberts, and Turner. Among the members present were: Bros. Goodyear, Treas. P.M.; Hosgood, P.M.; Marsh, P.M.; Harvey, P.M.; Kenning, McKiernan, Child, Legge, Mayo, Baker, Dickenson, Raff, E. Roberts, Davies, Harris, Abbot, Trott, E. L. Roberts, Miles, G. Cates, Marks, Sian, Newman, Marsland,

Hyde, Glinnan, Haynes Cohu, Bright, Taylor, and several others. Among the visitors were: Bros. Brett, W.M. 49; Foxall, W.M. 742; Dickie, P.G. Parst.; Dr. Broad, 551; Harper, 766; Tucker, 933, and Turner, 933. The brethren separated at an early hour, with the determination to practise the virtues of loyalty, morality, brotherly love, and benevolence which have ever been the great objects of Freemasonry to inculcate, and of its laws to enforce. *Esto perpetua.*

UNITED PILGRIMS' LODGE (No. 507).—This lodge met at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, on Wednesday, the 28th ult. Bro. Grellett, W.M., presided, assisted by Bros. A. Perrot, B.A., S.W.; Rev. W. B. Church, M.A., J.W.; H. C. Overall, S.D.; Cary, J.D.; Etches, I.G.; Haigh, S.; H. C. Levander, M.A., P.M. and P. Prov. S.G.D. of Wilts., Dir. of Cers.; J. Thomas, P.M. and Sec.; F. Lee, P.M.; E. Worthington, P.M.; and a numerous attendance of the brethren. Bro. Bielby, of No. 19, was present as a visitor. The only business to be transacted was the initiation of one candidate. This meeting was marked by a very pleasing incident—the presentation of a very handsome gold jewel to Bro. J. Thomas, P.M. and Sec., P.Z., and P.G.D.C. Grand Chapter. In presentation, the W.M. spoke in the highest terms of the many valuable services rendered by Bro. Thomas, not only as Sec. and P.M. of this lodge, but of the valuable services rendered by him to the cause of Freemasonry in general, he being one of the greatest authorities on the ritual of Freemasonry that we have in London, and one of the ablest and most zealous supporters of our Charities.

PROVINCIAL. DEVONSHIRE.

IVYBRIDGE.—*Erme Lodge* (No. 1,901).—The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the King's Arms Hotel. The lodge was opened in the first degree at 6 p.m. by Bro. Harris, W.M., assisted by Bros. Barrett, S.W.; Ley, J.W.; Hamlyn, I.G.; and by the following visitors:—Bros. Dr. Hopkins (who attended by special invitation), acting as I.P.M.; Cuming as S.D., and Niner as J.D., from the Pleades Lodge, Totnes. Bros. Lieut. Young, F. Hains, M.D., and Barlett were also present as visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. By request of the W.M., the ceremonies of the evening were conducted by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, who in an able manner passed Bro. Foot to the degree of F.C., and raised Bros. Bunker, Baker, and Mann to the sublime degree of Master Mason. The W.M. opened the lodge in the third degree, and afterwards resumed it in the second. Bro. Foot was admitted, properly prepared, and in due form passed to the rank of F.C. The lodge was again resumed in the third degree. The three candidates for it were readmitted, and after they had been regularly raised to the rank of M.M., and been made acquainted with the traditionary history by Bro. Dr. Hopkins, Bro. Niner by request explained to them the application of the working tools in a very creditable manner. The W.M. having resumed in the first degree, it was determined to purchase the published drawings of the Masonic Schools, which had been sent for approval, and a candidate for initiation was proposed by the J.W., seconded by the W.M. The lodge was finally closed at a quarter to eight, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment. It may be added that owing to the limited space on the platform, and indeed in the room, there was much difficulty in making such arrangements as to enable the brother who conducted the ceremonies to carry them out efficiently, and that the diction of the Prov. G.M., that no brother, though a P.M., but not of the particular lodge, can occupy the chair even temporarily and by request of the W.M., P.M.'s; and officers, obliged the officiator to stand for nearly two hours.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

WARRINGTON.—*Gilbert Greenall Lodge* (No. 1,250).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Sankey-street, on Monday, the 8th inst. In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., W. Bro. Greenall, P.S.G.W. of England, the chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. John Bowes, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G. Reg. Cumberland and Westmoreland, who was supported by Bros. W. Mossop, S.W.; W. Woods, J.W.; W. Richardson, S.D.; W. S. Hawkins, J.D.; D. W. Finney, W.M. 148, Hon. Sec.; W. Pollitt, Edwin Roberts, James Parry, W. Crompton, Peter Leigh, Henry Hoult, Arthur Potter, Alfred W. Brundritt, Ephraim Auckland. Visitors: Bros. Edward Busher,

P.G. Sword Bearer of England, &c.; Robert Stevenson, P.M. 148; E. C. Cooper, 484; Horatio Syred, 148; William Savage, 148; John Harding, 148, and James Hannah, Tyler. The lodge was opened in due form, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Arthur Potter being a candidate for preferment, and having proved his claim, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Potter was passed. Bros. Peter Leigh and Henry Hoult being candidates for advancement, and having sustained their claim were entrusted, and retired, on re-admission they were duly raised. The acting W.M. received efficient assistance from Bros. Stevenson and Finney. This being all the business, the lodge was closed.

CHORLEY.—*Ellsmere Lodge* (No. 730).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Oak Hotel on Monday, the 3rd inst. Bro. Wm. Robinson, W.M., was in the chair, supported by his officers, Bros. John Heald, S.W.; J. K. Nightingale, J.W.; J. Yates, P.M.; and Daniel Stansfield, P.M. The only business of the evening was the raising of Bro. Edwards to the sublime degree of Master Mason, after which the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, a very pleasant evening being spent. The lodge finally closed at 10.30 p.m.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

LEICESTER.—*St. John's Lodge* (No. 279).—A monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday week, which was very numerously attended by members and visitors from the sister lodge (No. 523). The W.M., Bro. Kelly, D. Prov. G.M., presided, the other officers present being Bros. Weare, P.M., and P. Prov. S.G.D., Treas.; Stauley, Prov. G.J.D., S.W.; Stretton, P. Prov. G. Reg., J.W.; Crow, Prov. G. Org., Sec. and Org.; Hart, Prov. G.S., I.G. Among the visitors were Bros. Drewitt, of No. 20 Chatham; Toller, Prov. G. Reg., W.M.; Buzzard, Prov. G. Parst., S.W.; Sculthorpe, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Hayercroft, Prov. G. Steward, and many other members of No. 523. In the unavoidable absence of the deacons the duties of J.D. were most efficiently discharged by Bro. Partridge, J.D. of 523. Bro. Levi Lincoln Atwood, after examination in the second degree was duly raised to the sublime degree of M.M. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Joseph Hooley Mads and George Edmund Donisthorpe, who, having been duly elected, were severally initiated into Freemasonry, as was also Mr. Richard Augustus Barber, who was elected at a former meeting. Several propositions of joining members and candidates having been made, and a proposition of a private nature, brought forward by the S.W., having been discussed at some length, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NORTH SHIELDS.

Provincial Grand Lodge.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland held their annual meeting at the Lodge Room of St. Georges, (No. 431), on Friday, the 5th inst., when a large and influential gathering of the brethren of the province took place.

Owing to the severe and lamentable illness of the Rev. Prov. G. Master Bro. E. Chaloner Ogle, the chair was occupied by Bro. M. L. Jopling, D. Prov. G.M. as Prov. G.M. Bro. Davies, P. Prov. G.S.W. as D. Prov. G.M. Bros. G. Thompson, Prov. G.S.W.; T. Anderson, Prov. G.J.W.; Dr. Mensor, Prov. G. Chap.; B. Thompson, Prov. G. Sec.; Snaile, Prov. G. Reg.; J. Stokoe, Prov. G.S.D.; G. Allen, Prov. G.J.D.; Foulsham, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Heatley, Prov. G.S.B.; Trotter, Prov. G. Tyler. Amongst the other brethren present may be named Bros. Punshon, Twizell, Jackson, Strachan, Braithwaite, &c., &c. Bro. Binekes, Secretary to the Boys' School was also present.

After the confirmation of the minutes of previous Prov. G. Lodge the Prov. G. Sec. Bro. B. J. Thompson read the account of the finances, which were shown to be in a most prosperous condition, £1,000 being lent upon mortgage, and a balance in the Prov. G. Treasurers' hands of about £250.

The report of the Fund of Benevolence Committee recommended a donation of fifty guineas to the Royal Masonic Boys' School, ten guineas to the Girls' School, and ten pounds each to the Aged Freemasons' Fund and to the Widows' Fund. They also recommended various grants to local applicants. The report was carried unanimously.

The committee appointed at the previous Grand Lodge meet-

ing in Newcastle, to take into consideration the whole question of the Prov. G. Lodge funds with a view to their future application, reported that they had held several meetings, and had agreed to recommend to Prov. G. Lodge that the various funds be amalgamated, and that the payments of quarterages from the various lodges, and fees of honour from Prov. G. Lodge Officers be the same as adopted at the last Prov. G. Lodge.

That the disposition of this fund be as follows:—

1st For the necessary expenses of the Prov. G. Lodge.

2nd For the relief of poor and distressed Freemasons and their families, and the children of deceased Freemasons belonging to the province.

3rd For the education or maintenance of the children of decayed or deceased Freemasons at or near their own homes.

4th For subscriptions to Benevolent Institutions whether Masonic or otherwise, by vote of Prov. G. Lodge upon the recommendation of Benevolent Fund Committee.

That these objects be under the control of a committee with the D. Prov. G.M. as chairman, consisting of the W.M. of each lodge in the province, and twelve Prov. G. Lodge Officers or P. Prov. G. Lodge Officers to be appointed by Prov. G. Lodge. This committee to meet quarterly to transact all business.

The above report was adopted, and the necessary alterations of the rules of the Fund of Benevolence to conform to the report were also provisionally made, and ordered to be printed and distributed. Bros. E. D. Davis, Clapham, Strachan, Braithwaite, Guthrie, Jackson, Allan, Stokoe, Foulsham, G. Thompson, Winlaw, &c., were appointed the committee.

The reports of the various lodges of the province were then received, and afforded much gratification to the acting Prov. G.M. from their generally satisfactory character.

The acting Prov. G.M. after paying a warm tribute of respect to the Prov. G.M., and of regret for the cause of his absence, (sentiments which were feelingly coincided in by all the brethren present), proceeded to invest the following brethren with the respective collars, as Prov. G. Lodge Officers for the next twelve months: Bros. Clapham, Prov. G.S.W.; Strachan, Prov. G.J.W.; Anderson, Prov. G. Treas.; Smaile, Prov. G. Reg.; Thompson, Prov. G. Sec.; Robson, Prov. G.S.D.; Ridsdale, Prov. G.J.D.; Jackson, Prov. G.S.W.; Coekburn, Prov. G. Purst.; Trotter, Prov. G. Tyler.

Bro. Binckes thanked the Prov. G. Lodge for the handsome donation to the Boys' School, when the Prov. G. Lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren then adjourned to the Albion Hotel, when about fifty sat down to an excellent dinner. Bro. E. D. Davis, acting D. Prov. G.M. occupying the chair faced by the W.M. of St. George's, No. 431, Bro. Jackson, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and feelingly responded to.

In replying to the toast of the "Masonic Charities," Bro. Binckes made an earnest appeal for support to the institution with which he is officially connected, and announced that Bro. Earl Percy, W.M. of the Alnwick Lodge, and Prov. S.G.W. of England had consented to act as Steward at the next festival, and trusted they would support him with the old Northumbrian spirit.

The brethren separated at a seasonable hour to their several destinations.

WARWICKSHIRE.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.—*Warden Lodge* (No. 794).—This lodge held at the Royal Hotel, met on Tuesday, the 1st inst., there were present:—Bros. J. P. Oates, W.M.; W. K. R. Bedford, P.M. Prov. G.C. Chap.; T. Halbeard, P.M.; M. W. Wilson, P.M. P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., Warwick; D. C. Beaton, S.W.; G. Myers, J.W.; J. S. Newton, P.M. P. Prov. G.J.W. Warwick, Treas.; Jno. Sheldon, Sec.; J. H. George, S.D.; John Gray, Steward; and many other brethren. Bro. H. J. Cotterell was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. Bro. Beaton, S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing year; and Bro. Newton, P.M., P. Prov. G.S.W. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Charles Beech, Tyler. The brethren were pleased to see that Bro. the Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, Prov. G. Chap., who was the first Master of this lodge, and who has been absent from Sutton on account of ill health, is now returned to reside at the rectory, at once fell into harness and most graciously accepted the office of Chaplain. It will be a great advantage to the lodge and to the brethren, to have the aid of his Masonic experience in their counsels.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST.)

MALTON.

Provincial Grand Lodge.

A Prov. G. Lodge was held in the Camalodunum Lodge, No. 660, at Malton, on Wednesday, the 20th ult.

The W. Bro. John Pearson Bell, M.D., D. Prov. G.M., occupied the chair, supported by the W. Bros. W. C. Coppertwhaite, P.S.P.G.W. 660, as D. Prov. G.M.; William Cowling, P.S.P.G.W. 236, as Prov. G.S.W.; Sir Harcourt Johnstone, Bart. M.P., 200, Prov. G.J.W.; the Rev. Vyvyan H. Moyle, M.A., 602, Prov. G. Chap.; Richard Welch Hollon, 236, Prov. G. Treas.; George Chris. Roberts, 1010, Prov. G. Reg.; Walter Reynolds, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., as Prov. G. Sec.; George Hardy, 250, Prov. G.S.D.; William E. Dixon, 294, Prov. G.J.D.; John Walker, 57, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Andrew James Taylor, 660, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; G. A. Reinicke, 123, Prov. G.S.B.; W. T. Farthing, 643, Prov. G. Org.; Bros. John Ward, 236, Prov. G. Purst.; William Johnson, 57, Prov. G. Tyler; the following Prov. G. Stewards:—Bros. John Brooke, 250, Joseph Beaumont, 294, Isaiah Wilkinson, 312, Henry Fawcett, 543, John Shepherd, P.M. 571, and Thomas Wright, W.M. 566; and many P. Prov. G. Officers, and the W.M.'s, P.M.'s, and Wardens of the various lodges in the province.

The Prov. G. Lodge having been opened in due form, the D. Prov. G.M. read a portion of a letter from the Prov. G.M., the Earl of Zetland, regretting his lordship's inability to be present. The acting Prov. G. Sec. read a letter from the Prov. G. Sec., stating that owing to sudden and severe illness he could not attend, and requesting Bro. Reynolds to supply his place.

The minutes of the Prov. G. Lodge held at Hull on the 15th October, 1868, were then read and confirmed.

The Prov. G. Treasurer then read his annual financial report, which, having been audited by the W.M.'s of the Lennox and Old Globe Lodges, and found correct, was unanimously adopted. The report showed receipts on account of Fund of Benevolence £67 2s., and expenditure £60, leaving a balance in hand of £102 18s. 9d. The receipts on account of Prov. G. Lodge Funds amounted to £93 18s. 11d.

The Acting Prov. G. Secretary then read the report of the Board of Benevolence, showing that the board had that day voted £10 to the widow of a deceased brother, formerly a member of the Humber Lodge, and recommending the Prov. G. Lodge to frame a by-law requiring the board to select candidates for the Masonic charities, and that the various lodges and brethren in the province be strongly recommended to support the candidates so selected by the board. It was also recommended that the support of the province be given, and the votes of the brethren be solicited, in behalf of Fred. Taylor Amery, of Hull, a candidate for the Masonic Boys' School, and who polled 554 votes at the last election, he now being the only candidate from the province.

The recommendation of the board was supported by the D. Prov. G.M., who advised combined action with respect to the charities. He believed this province could not secure the election of more than one candidate at a time; if two were brought forward neither would succeed. This had been proved at the recent election. An agreement should be made which to support. He felt justified in stating that the M.W.G.M. approved of this course.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was then adopted and confirmed.

The Prov. G. Reg. gave notice that at the next Provincial Grand Lodge he should move "That the Provincial Grand Lodge frame a by-law requiring the Provincial Grand Board of Benevolence to select candidates for the Masonic Charities, and that the various lodges and brethren in the province be strongly recommended to support the candidates so selected by the Board."

Bro. Theo. Smith, P.M. 250, remarked that in the West Riding the brethren and lodges sent their voting papers to the Provincial Grand Secretary, who used them for the candidate decided to be supported by the Board. A brother remarked that he could not approve of that plan, as it appeared to give the power of voting entirely into the hands of an individual instead of a body. It having been suggested that as the Provincial Grand Lodge meets only once a year, and the elections for the Charities were held half-yearly, a difficulty might arise. The D. Prov. G.M. stated that he thought it deserved consideration whether the meetings of the Board of Benevolence and Provincial Grand Lodge might not advantageously be held twice a year, once in the North and once in the East Riding.

Bro. Sir James Meek, P. Prov. G.W., recommended that a formal circular be regularly sent to all the subscribers to the Charities within the province, stating the names of the candidates selected.

The various lodges in the province, all of which were represented, then communicated. The returns showed a total of 1,242 subscribing members.

The D. Prov. G.M. then appointed the following brethren as Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year (with the exception of the Prov. G. Treas., who was unanimously re-elected by the Prov. G. Lodge):—Bros. Sir Harcourt Johnstone, *Bart.*, P.M., 200, Prov. S.G.W.; Llewellyn Wood Longstaff, 1,010, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. John Sedger Warman, *M.A.*, 123, Prov. G. Chap.; Richard Welch Hollon, 236, Prov. G. Treas.; John Oliver Surtees, 1,243, Prov. G. Reg.; Michael Charles Peck, 1,040, Prov. G. Sec.; John Wilson, 57, Prov. S.G.D.; Charles George Bond, 660, Prov. J.G.D.; Christopher Foster, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; Christopher Other, jun., 123, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; Richard Watson, 543, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Edwin G. Monk, *Mus. Doc.*, Prov. G. Org.; John Ward, 236, Prov. G. Purst.; William Johnson, Prov. G. Tyler.

Six Prov. G. Stewards to be nominated by the following lodges, viz.,—the North York, St. Cuthbert's Royal, Camalodunum, Londeborough, and Kingston.

The D. Prov. G.M. then addressed the Prov. G. Lodge. After expressing his regret at the absence of the M.W.G.M., which was shared by all assembled, he congratulated the brethren on their large attendance, and on the unanimity and prosperity which obtained amongst the various lodges in the province. He alluded to the spread of the Order—the founding of two new lodges—and, to maintain the character of the Craft, he strongly insisted on the necessity of lodges, with the increase of members, being very careful in the admission of proper candidates. He spoke also of the Zetland Commemoration and of the Palestine Exploration Funds, and read communications from their respective Secretaries. The D. Prov. G.M. then stated that invitations for holding the next Prov. G. Lodge had been received from Middlesborough and from Richmond, and that the M.W.G.M. had decided to hold the next Prov. G. Lodge at Richmond, where the new Masonic Hall would be consecrated and inaugurated, and on which interesting occasion he hoped there would be a large attendance of the Craft. The D. Prov. G.M. concluded his address by reading a Charge on the present aspects of Masonry and the duties of Masons.

Bro. Wm. Cowling, P. Prov. S.G.W., then gave notice that at the next Prov. G. Lodge he should move, "That the sum of Ten Guineas, now annually paid to each of the Masonic Charities, be devoted to making the W.M.'s of each lodge in the province Governors of the same in the order of the seniority of their lodges."

The Prov. G. Lodge was then closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

The annual banquet, at which the D. Prov. G.M. presided, was held the same evening, at the Talbot Hotel, when a large number of brethren dined; due honours to the Craft were observed, and true Masonic feeling prevailed.

HULL.—*Kingston Lodge* (No. 1,010).—This lodge was held at the Protestant Hall, (under dispensation for change of day), on Thursday, the 4th inst. Bro. Ll. W. Longstaff, P.M. W.M., occupied the chair, supported by Bro. J. Dalton Holmes, S.W., Bro. C. J. Todd as J.W., and P.M.'s Bros. S. Mosely, C. Copland, R. A. Marillier, T. Sissons, J. L. Seaton, R. E. Harrison, and several other brethren. The visitors present were: Bros. J. Wilson, W.M. Humber Lodge, 57; W. D. Keyworth, P.M., Humber Lodge 57. Bros. T. S. Morrell and A. E. Baylis were raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M., assisted by P.M.'s Bros. R. E. Harrison and J. L. Seaton. The W. Master stated that he had attended the Prov. G. Lodge held at the Camalodunum Lodge, Malton, and that he had been supported by P.M. Bro. C. Copland, Bro. G. C. Roberts, Prov. G. Reg., J.W. of this lodge, and Bro. Paul Strömer, and that the M.W. the Grand Master and Prov. G. Master for North and East Yorkshire, the Earl of Zetland, had been pleased to confer on him the office of Prov. G.J.W. He also stated that, as the duty of nominating a Prov. G. Steward devolved upon this lodge, he had great pleasure in appointing to that office Bro. Paul Strömer, to whom he handed a Prov. Grand Stewards' jewel worn by himself when holding that office. Bro. C. J. Todd was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. T. A. Norman was elected Treas., and Bro. John Norton, Tyler.

ISLE OF MAN.

DOUGLAS.—*Tynwald Lodge* (No. 1,242).—The meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Rooms, St. James's Hall, Douglas, on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. Elwood Tibbits, W.M.; J. A. Brown, S.W.; J. J. Harwood, J.W.; H. A. Burrowes, Chap.; R. J. Weaver, Treas.; James Adams, Sec.; George Robinson, S.D.; George Heron, J.D.; R. Jackson, I.G.; J. Wainwright, Org.; T. Cowley, M.C.; J. Johnson, Lay, Whiteside, Farrah, Thompson, Cauldwell, J. Johnson, Clarke, Quinney, A. Lewis, and several visiting brethren. The lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last regular lodge were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bros. Whiteside Farrah, and Thompson, being candidates for the third, had the usual questions put to them, which they answered with great credit to themselves and their instructors, and retired. The lodge was then opened in the third degree, when they were readmitted, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the solemnity of the degree being considerably heightened by the admirable rendering of portions of the ceremony by the Chaplain of the lodge, Bro. the Rev. H. A. Burrowes. The lodge was then closed down to the first degree, when the ballot was taken for the election of the W.M. for the ensuing year, and on the result being made known, it was found Bro. Harwood, J.W., was elected by a considerable majority. Bro. Harwood, having in a hearty manner thanked the brethren for the honour done him, the ballot was taken for the election of a treasurer. On the ballot being again taken, Bro. Elwood Tibbits, W.M., was declared elected. The W.M. then read a very courteous letter he had received from the editor of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, "informing him of the intended publication in that journal of a paper read at the Tynwald Lodge of Instruction by the Secretary, Bro. Adams," and it was unanimously resolved "that on the paper being published each member of the Tynwald Lodge be provided with a copy." Nothing further being offered for the good of Freemasonry, &c., the lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and adjourned. [The address of Bro. Adams will appear in our next publication. Ed. F. M.]

SCOTTISH CONSTITUTION.

THE GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, upon the evening of Monday, the 8th inst., at six o'clock p.m. The M.W. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, occupied the throne, supported by the R.W. Sub. G.M., Bro. Henry Inglis of Torsonce, and other office-bearers of the Grand Lodge, Bro. William Mann, acting S.G.W., and Bro. William Officer, acting J.G.W., and a considerable number of brethren present. The late decorations made upon the hall are a great improvement, and add considerably to its appearance. The lodge, being opened with usual ceremonies, was presided over by the Grand Master in his usual genial and hearty manner. The reading of proxy commissions and notice of presents from sister Grand Lodges was then proceeded with; then minutes of G.L. and G. Committee read and approved of. The election of G. Office-bearers and G. Stewards for ensuing year was then proceeded with. The re-election of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie was most warmly received. In returning thanks, the noble earl observed that one of the principal reasons which induced him to allow himself to be re-nominated was the numerous signed and highly respectable requisition presented to him asking him to do so, which requisition, said the noble earl, shall be valued by me as one of the highest honours I have ever received, and it shall be preserved in the archives of my family, and handed down to my posterity as a valued token of your love and esteem. The other office-bearers were afterwards elected, according to the list appended, without opposition, except in the case of the J.G.D., where Bro. Colt, of Gurtsherrie, was put up in opposition to Bro. Wm. Officer, R.W.M. of No. 1, but upon the vote being taken, Bro. Officer was elected by a large majority. The M.W.G. Master was empowered to signify the cordial recognition of the New Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Several other matters were also taken up after which the Sub. G.M. proposed, and Bro. F. A. Barrow, G.S., seconded, the nomination of Bro. Walter Montgomery Neilson, of Queenshill, as Prov. G.M. of Glasgow, which was

unanimously agreed to. Motions brought up by Bros. Officer, Douglas, and Nisbet were afterwards agreed to.

The following is the list of Grand Lodge office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, *K.T.*, &c. *G.M.*; Bro. J. Whyte-Melville, *Prov.G.M.*; Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, *Dep. G.M.*; Bro. Henry Inglis, *Sub G.M.*; Bros. William Mann, *S.G.W.*; Colonel A. A. Campbell, *J.G.W.*; Samuel Hay, *G. Treas.*; William A. Laurie, *G. Sec.*; A. J. Stewart, *G. Clerk*; Rev. David Arnott, *D.D.*, and Rev. V. Grantham Faithfull, *M.A.*, *G. Chaps.*; the Lord Erskine, *S.G.D.*; William Officer, *J.G.D.*; David Bryce, *G. Architect*; Alexander Hay, *G. Jeweller*; Daniel Robertson, *G. Bible Bearer*; Captain William H. Ramsay and Charles S. Law, *G. Dir.s of Cers.*; James Ballantine, *G. Bard*; Major St. George, *G. Sword Bearer*; C. W. M. Muller, *G. Dir. of Music*; Robert Davidson, *Murdoch Mackenzie, Chief G. Marshal*; John Laurie, *G. Marshal*; William Miller Bryce, *G. Tyler*; and James Baikie, *Outer Guard*.

Grand Stewards:—John Cunningham, *President*; Owen Gough, *Vice-President*; Bros. John Haigh, *F. S. Melville*, *J. Turner, jun.*, *A. N. Clarke*, *Wm. Mann (No. 137)*, *D. Bryce, jun.*, *C. Mackenzie*, *R. Ritchie*, *A. Mitchell*, *Dr. Middleton*, *W. Grant*, *W. Cowrie*, *T. Pearson*, *D. Monteith*, *H. R. Kay*, *Dr. J. T. Loth*, *C. E. Hope-Vere*, *C. Thompson*, *A. Ballantine*, *W. Hay*, *Dr. Cairns*, *J. W. McCulloch*, *A. Cockburn*, *R. White*, *F. A. Barrow*, *J. Wallace*, *F. L. Law*, *H. Y. D. Copland*, *J. Rhind, jun.*, *Wm. Smith (No. 444)*, *Dr. Carmichael*, *John Crooks*, *Col. Guthrie*, *T. A. Hill*, *R. Seton*, *David Kinnear*, *Wm. Barton*, *George McLean*, *George Lyon*, *Wm. Paton Buchan*, *Dr. Coghill*, *James Paterson*, *W. J. C. Abbot*, *R. Wilson*, *David Small*, *Dr. Dickson*, *A. Nicholson*, *Dr. George Shaw*, and *William Inglis*.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

LODGE LA CESAREE (No. 590).—The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 28th ult., at the Masonic Temple. Soon after 6 o'clock p.m., the lodge was opened by Bro. A. Viel, *W.M.*, supported by Bros. G. J. Renouf, *P.M.*, *S.W.*; Capt. J. Luce, acting *J.W.*; J. Outley, *I.P.M.*; A. Schmitt, *P.M.*, *Sec.*; J. T. du Jardin, *P.M.*; Ed. D. Le Coutair, *P.M.*, *W.M.* 877; Ph. Binet, *P.M.*; H. L. Manuel, *P.M.*; J. Amy, *F. Ecnouf*, *Ph. Starek*, *Rev. J. L. Hanau*, &c. Among the visitors were—Bros. W. Adams, *P.M.* 244; P. W. Benham, *P.M.* 1,003; J. O. Le Sueur, *W.M.* 491; R. Binet, *P.M.* 1,003; S. R. Dawe, *W.M.* 245; J. F. Draper, *P.M.* 243; G. Roger, *P.M.* 1,003; W. H. Long, *P.M.* 958; J. G. Scott, *P.M.* 491; J. Moss, *P.M.* 245; J. F. Glénier, *P.M.* 828, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Deputy *P.G.M.*, Bro. J. Le Cromier, *M.D.*, was announced and received with every demonstration of joy and respect. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when the usual questions were put to Bro. F. Picot, who, having been entrusted, retired for preparation. The lodge was opened in the third degree, the candidate was duly received and raised to the degree of a *M.M.* The lodge was then resumed in the first degree. Ballots were severally taken for Messrs. Ph. Binet, *jun.*, and Capt. J. Le Maistre, candidates for initiation, which were in each case unanimously favourable, more than ample evidence having been afforded by the Secretary and other brethren as to their character and conduct. Bro. Ph. Le Sueur, *P.S.W.* 590, was also balloted for and unanimously admitted as a joining member. Messrs. Ph. Binet, Th. Howard (previously admitted), and J. Le Maistre, being in attendance, were duly admitted to the first degree with the customary ceremonies by the *W.M.* The Neophytes expressed their intention to become subscribing members of the lodge. At the request of the *W.M.*, Bro. A. Schmitt delivered an admirable and eloquent address, full of instruction and generous ideas, which could not fail to penetrate the hearts of all his hearers. His words, expressive of sublime truth, descriptive of the excellencies of our Institution and of its real tendency, enjoining on the brethren the duty of carrying out those principles before the world and in every station of life, were received with merited applause. Several communications from Lodge La Parfaite Union, Or de Rennes, thanking the brethren of La Césarée and the brethren of the province of Jersey for the welcome reception their representatives met with on the occasion of the installation of Bro. Ed. C. Malet de

Carteret, a *Prov. G. Master of Jersey*, and for the honour which the Lodge La Césarée had conferred on them by making them honorary members of that lodge, which was ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. P.M. du Jardin brought before the lodge the sad case of the widow of the late Bro. T. Gallichan, the architect of the Masonic Temple. It was resolved:—"That the sum of £3 be voted towards her relief." Another case of distress was presented by Bro. J. O. Le Sueur, *W.M.* 491, who pleaded the cause of a widow, surrounded by ten children, whom the late Bro. Popkin left unprovided for and penniless. The lodge also voted the sum of £2 to relieve this unexampled destitution. A candidate was proposed for initiation. The *W.M.* appointed Bro. J. W. Bursnel *Assist Sec.*, and the heavy business of the day being ended, the lodge was closed at 10 o'clock in perfect harmony.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

GRATTON, CLARENCE RIVER.—Palmerston Lodge (No. 1,148).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on the 27th July at the lodge room, Prince-street, in that city. The board of *P.M.'s* was composed of Bros. W. H. H. Becke, *P. R. Donaldson*, and George Foott. The lodge having been opened in the first degree, Bro. Becke, *I.P.M.*, who occupied the chair of *K.S.*, informed the brethren that the time had arrived for installing the successor of their late lamented *W.M.*, Bro. the Rev. J. Fillingham, and congratulated the brethren on their choice of Bro. Thomas Bawden, *P.S.W.*, who no doubt would prove a worthy and efficient successor. The lodge was then passed to the second degree, when Bro. Bawden, *P.S.W.* and *W.M.* elect, was presented by Bro. Donaldson, *P.M.* The summary of the ancient charges and regulations having been read by Bro. Potts, *Sec.*, and the *W.M.* elect having promised to support them as Masters have done in all ages, the lodge was raised to the third degree. All the brethren who had not taken the degree of an Installed Master were requested to leave the lodge. The board of *P.M.'s* was then opened, and Bro. Bawden duly installed as *W.M.* for the ensuing year. The brethren were then admitted according to rank—first the Master Masons—and made the usual salutations. The *W.M.* then invested and installed his officers, and the remainder of the ceremony was then gone through by the Installing Master. Before the lodge was closed down, the *W.M.* said he desired to take the opportunity of proposing a vote of thanks to Bro. Becke, *I.P.M.*, for his past services. For three years the worshipful brother had ruled the lodge; in fact, had, with the exception of a few instances, governed the lodge since its establishment in 1866. The first *W.M.*, Bro. Donaldson, in consequence of his official duties was frequently absent from the city, and the Government of the lodge necessarily fell on Bro. Becke, who was the *S.W.* He was then *W.M.* for the ensuing twelve months, and was succeeded by our late lamented *W.M.*, Bro. the Rev. Joseph Fillingham. The frequent calls on the rev. brother, which necessitated his absence from Gratton; his ill health, which culminated in his death, after a short interregnum of about six months, again brought Bro. Becke into office as ruling the lodge. At all times he (the *W.M.*) bore willing testimony to the zeal and assiduity with which Bro. Becke performed his duties whilst occupying the chair. Bro. Matthews, as *P.S.W.*, had much pleasure in seconding the motion, and Bro. Samson, *P.J.W.*, supported it. The motion was then put and carried unanimously, and Bro. Becke made a suitable reply, thanking the brethren for the kind manner in which they had received the mention of his name. The *W.M.* then proposed a vote of thanks to the *P.M.'s*, Bros. Donaldson and Foott, for their services that evening, both of whom were present at a cost of great inconvenience to themselves. This was duly carried and acknowledged by Bro. Donaldson. The lodge was then closed down by the *W.M.* in love and harmony at 9.30 p.m.

The occasion of the visit of the Count and Countess Belmore to the Clarence River District, has thrown the residents into a great state of excitement. The visit of a Governor to this remote, and until very recently, much neglected portion of the colony of New South Wales, was in itself a surprising circumstance, but the visit of a Governor, who was an Earl, and who

brought with him a Countess to gaze upon the beauties of the river and the forest, was an event so utterly unprecedented, that the recipients might be excused for becoming somewhat demonstrative and boisterous in the expression of their joy.

Amongst many other deputations and addresses was one from the Masonic body, which was very tastily engrossed, and was read by the Worshipful Master—Mr. T. Bawden, J.P. :—

“To His Excellency the Right Honourable Somerset Richard Earl of Belmore, a member of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council in Ireland, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c.

“May it please Your Excellency,—We, the members of the Palmerston Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Grafton, No. 1,148, E.C., are desirous of taking the opportunity of your Excellency’s arrival amongst us, respectfully to record our devoted loyalty and attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. We desire to state that our Order consists of quiet and peaceable subjects, true to our Sovereign; that we do not countenance disloyalty or rebellion, but patiently submit to legal authority, and conform with cheerfulness to the Government under which we live, yielding obedience to the laws, which afford us protection. We cordially welcome the arrival of your Excellency and the Countess of Belmore to the city and district, and humbly pray that the Great Architect of the Universe, may spare you both many years of health, happiness, and prosperity

“T. Bawden, W.M.”

The above address his Excellency made the following reply :—

“To the Palmerston Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of Grafton, No. 1,148, E.C.

“Gentlemen, —The sentiments of loyalty and devotion towards Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, which you have expressed, are very gratifying to me, on the occasion of my visit to you as her representative. I beg to thank you cordially for the hearty welcome which you have afforded to Lady Belmore and myself.

“Belmore.

Grafton, July 29th, 1869.”

A Masonic ball was given in the evening, which was the grandest of all the festivities. The annual Masonic ball has always been looked upon as one of the great things in the year for Grafton, but upon this occasion, its grandeur and importance was greatly advanced, in consequence of the presence of his Excellency and the Countess of Belmore, and suite. The ball, on Friday evening, was held in the hall of the Grafton School of Arts, and a large pavilion erected on the left hand side for a supper room—the size of which was 22ft. by 50ft., with tables erected, capable of seating seventy-five couple. The internal arrangement were a raised dais on the platform for his Excellency and Countess, hung on either side with very elegant green curtains, whilst at the back was a small transparency, beautifully executed at Mr. J. W. Lindt’s studio, bearing the British coat of Arms. The hall was tastefully arranged with wreaths of flowers, festoons, flags, and the emblems of the ancient Craft. The library was set apart for the Countess of Belmore, and was carpeted and supplied with a suite of furniture, &c. A corridor was erected from the gate entrance to the Countess’ room, and from thence to the platform entrance, gaily hung with splendid Chinese lanterns, and laid with floor matting. The supper-room was gaily and neatly decorated, and was lighted by chandeliers and Chinese lanterns. All the members of the Palmerston Lodge appeared in the insignia of their Order, and the various badges of their offices, which presented a very pleasing effect. The ball was attended by about fifty couples, the Earl and Countess of Belmore, Miss Gladstone and Captain Beresford. The ball was opened by his Excellency the Earl of Belmore leading off with the Mayoress; and his Worship the Mayor (Mr. T. Bawden, J.P.) with the Countess of Belmore. The supper was served up in Holmsten’s best style.

MARK MASONRY.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

CARLISLE.—*Cumberland Lodge* (No. 60).—The quarterly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Freemasons’ Hall, Casule-street, on Monday, the 1st inst. The meeting was called

for 7.33 p.m., but in consequence of the municipal elections being on the same day only a few members made their appearance. The lodge was opened under the presidency of Bro. G. G. Hayward, P.M., supported by Bro. A. Woodhouse, S.W. and Sec., J. Porter, J.W., and several other members. After the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bros. John Wood, painter, &c., and Edwin Hinks, manager of the hotel, Keowich, the former also belonging to that town. It being found unanimous, they were prepared and admitted in due form, and advanced to the degree of Mark Masters in Bro. Hayward’s usual style. Two gentlemen were proposed for advancement—in the persons of Bros. R. Calvert, mariner, and Colour-Sergeant T. E. Haddon, of the 40th Regt., now stationed in Carlisle. The lodge was duly closed, and the brethren retired to the refreshment room, where after spending an hour in true Masonic style, they parted at an early hour, well pleased both with their labour and refreshment.

RELIGIOUS AND MILITARY ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.

SCOTLAND.

PRIORY OF THE LOTHIANS.—*Installation of H.I.H. Prince Rhodocanakis.*—A special meeting of this Priory was held on the 20th ult., when Comp. the Prince Rhodocanakis was received into the Order in due and ancient form. There were present—Sir Kuis. Capt. W. H. Ramsay, Venerable Prior, Grand Secretary to the Chapter General; H. Y. D. Copland, Marechal; W. Mann, Capt. Aylmer, L. Mackersey, Dr. Cairns, Dr. Dickson, Dr. McCowen, Wm. Hay, and many others. Comp. Charles Fitzgerald Matier, was also installed a Knight of the venerable Order.

THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL NOTES.

The London theatres mostly seem to pursue the even tenour of their way, no change of any importance being announced for the past week—indeed, none may be expected this side of Christmas. The only alteration is the bills is the production of *Forbidden Fruit* at the Lyceum, a piece which, although said to have been a “great success in the provinces,” has ended, according to the almost unanimous decision of the critics, in a miserable failure, both as to the piece itself and the acting of the principal character by Mr. Allerton, who had the great mortification of eliciting roars of laughter in those passages where precisely the contrary effect was intended.

The Prince and Princess of Wales honoured Bro. Buckstone with a visit to the Haymarket on Saturday last to witness *New Men and Old Acres*.

Mr. G. Sydaey has produced at the Royal Alfred Mr. C. Reade’s drama, *It is Never Too Late to Mend*, and states that in consequence of the heavy expense attending its production, he has been compelled to raise the prices.

Mr. Cave has contradicted the report that he intends to dispose of his interest in the Victoria Theatre.

REVIEWS.

Bro. Markham Tweddle’s “Bard and Authors of Cleveland and South Durham” is approaching completion, nine out of the twelve parts having been published. The author must have possessed some rare collections to have raked up so much lore anent the local bards and authors of his locality, of whom he, doubtless, is no mean example. The work is admirably got up—paper, printing, wood and steel-plate engravings all being excellent. Although to a great extent the interest in the work may be said to be local, still the general reader cannot fail to be gratified by the interesting sketches given, each of

which are profusely illustrated with portraits, views, and choice extracts made from the works of the authors noticed. We have no doubt the work will be equally appreciated. Bro. Tweddle seems indefatigable in his literary labours, for he has announced "A New History of Cleveland, from the Earliest to the Present Time," which he states will be completed in 32 sixpenny parts, including local views, portraits, armorial bearings, antiquities, and a map of the district.

Obituary.

DEATH OF BRO. DE BURGH ADAMS.

Not only will the members of the Craft, but many of the citizens of Auckland outside that body, regret to learn the sudden decease in London of Bro. De Burgh Adams, Principal Purveyor to her Majesty's Forces, and that, too, the more especially as Bro. Adams was about to retire from the service to come out with his family and settle in this province. His decease took place suddenly, on the 20th of March last, through the breaking of a blood vessel.

Bro. Adams held high rank as a Mason. He was Provincial Grand Master of Freemasons in New Zealand, and did very much during his residence here to cause the institution of Masonry to be esteemed and respected. Nor was his Christian charity confined, as many have cause to know, to the poorer members of that body and their families. A genial, kindly man, he stood high in the esteem and affection of all those with whom he was brought in friendly contact.

Extract from *New Zealand Herald*, dated Auckland, 26th May, 1869:—

[COPY.]

"De Burgh Adams Lodge, New Plymouth,
7th July, 1867.

"Mrs. Adams, Cork.

"Dear Madam,—I have been deputed by the officers and brethren of the lodge over which I have the honour to preside to communicate to you the heartfelt sorrow which the early decease of their late Provincial Grand Master, their honoured friend and kind benefactor, has occasioned them, and to express their deep sympathy with you in your heavy bereavement.

"Believe me, dear madam, that the memory of the departed will long be cherished by the lodge which bears his honoured name, and which was watched over by him with such tender and affectionate solicitude.

"With the earnest hope and trust that the Great Architect of the Universe may comfort and sustain you in your sad affliction, I remain, dear madam, yours very respectfully and truly,

(Signed) R. C. HAMMERTON, P.M., W.M.

"De Burgh Adams Lodge."

CONSTANTINIAN ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. GEORGE.

By Bro. JOHN YARKER, JUN.

Knowing from a work printed in Paris during the year 1600, in 8vo, and entitled "Histoire des Anciens Ducs et autres Souverains de l'Archipel, avec une Description de l'Isle de Chio, ou Scio, par Son Altesse Royale Monseigneur le Prince François Rhodocanaki-Justiniani, fils du Seigneur Démétrius, l'un des Seigneurs de la dite Isle, et d'Hélène Paléologue, descendante des Empereurs de Constantinople, &c., &c.," that the wife of H.R.H. Prince Francis Rhodocanakis, Duke, &c., &c., was a Giustiniani, I applied to the representative of the family, at present in England, with the object of getting the wished-for information. Our brother, with his usual courtesy, has furnished me with the following particulars, and, beyond some other memoranda previously obtained, it is all the information I can give.

He states that that there were, and still are, two Houses of the name of Giustiniani—one of Venice, whose arms are *Gules* an eagle with two heads displayed, crowned, armed, and membered *Or*, charged on the breast with an oval shield, *Azure*, a fesse of the *Second*, and another of Genoa, whose arms are *Gules* a tower *Proper* on a chief *Or*, an eagle displayed *Sable*. Both families sprang from one and the same ancestor, but were entirely separated by the lapse of time, and were related between themselves only through marriages. Princess Dorothea Giustiniani, the wife of my ancestor Francis (b. 1560, m. 1569, d. 1640), belonged to the family of Genoa. I do not know to which family Sebastianus belonged: judging from his Christian name, most likely to that of Venice, like the Abbé Bernardus Giustiniani, the author of the book entitled "Historie Chronologiche della vera origine di tutti gl'ordini equestri, e religioni Cavallerosche, &c., &c.," (Venetia, 1672 in 4to, and 1692 in folio), and from whom, although related, we do not descend, but from the Princes Giustiniani of Genoa, and from whom also descends the Princess Maria-Cecilia Giustiniani, Countess of Newburgh, Viscountess Kinnaird, and Baroness Livingstone of Flacraig, in the peerage of Scotland. Prince Andreas Giustiniani, of the House of Genoa, married in 1740 my great-grandfather's youngest sister, the Princess Esmeralda Rhodocanaki, and died at our island of Chio, leaving a numerous issue.

[For likely information as to Sebastian, the Prince refers to the late Count Pompeo Litta's magnificent, though by no means correct, work, entitled "Famiglie Celebri, Italiane," published at Milano during the years 1819 to 1865, in 9 vols. folio, of which there is a copy in the British Museum and the Library of the Athenæum Club, London.]

The family of Rhodocanakis are the direct lineal male representatives of the family of Ducas, the most ancient and illustrious of the Byzantine, or Roman Empire. I may commence the pedigree with Flavius Eutropius, who married Claudia (only daughter of Crispus, the younger brother of the Roman Emperors, Marcus Aurelius Claudius II. (R. A.D. 268, to 270), and of Marcus Aurelius Claudius Quintilius (R. 270, to 270), his brother, who descended from Dardanus and the ancient Kings of Troy), by whom he had two sons, Flavius Valerius Constantius, surnamed Chlorus, the father of Constantine the Great (first Christian Emperor of the Roman Empire), and Flavius Claudius Constantinus, which latter by his wife Julia Theodora was father of Constantinus surnamed Ducas, from the rank of Duke of Constantinople which he received, A.D. 335, from his first cousin in male descent, Constantine the Great, as the following paragraph testifies:—"Si quis enim replicare annales, et sursum niti versus origines rerum curet, sic reperiet. Ducarum Gentem e Constantini Magni Domo propagatam; author siquidem huius nominis, qui socium se Constantino Magno adiunxit e Roma vetera in novam migrantem proxima illi consanguinitate adnotus fuisse dicitur, utpote patruelis eius, cuius praetor caeteram virtutem commendatione necessitudinis, dignitas Ducis Constantinopolis illi collata est, ex qua in totam familiam Ducarum appellatio hunc usque in diem est propagata," &c. (Vide Nicéphori Caesaris Bryennii, Comemarii de Rebus Byzantinis. Parisiis, 1661, in folio; page 8-9). This Constantinus Ducas of the 4th century was the direct ancestor of Andronicus Ducas, the Protovestriarius, and father by his wife, Anna Dalassena, of Constantinus Ducas and his brother Nicéphorus Ducas (b. A.D. 869, m. 890, d. 929) who became the founder of the Royal and Imperial House of Rhodocanaki, and was Duke or Governor of the Island of Rhodes during the reign of the Emperor Leo VI., surnamed the Philosopher, and of his brother Alexander (A.D. 836 to 915). After the death of the last-named Emperor in 913, the elder brother, Constantinus Ducas, who was Magnus Domestienus, and defended for many years the Asiatic frontiers of the Empire, was invited by the principal inhabitants of Constantinople, headed by the Patriarch Nicholas, to come to Constantinople and seize the Crown, which Constantinus VII., Porphyrogenitus, then a child of seven years, was unable to hold. Constantinus came in haste, accompanied by his son Gregoras, his nephew Michael, and his most distinguished officers, entered the city at night by a postern gate, assembled his followers in the house of his father-in-law, Nicholas Iberitzes, and before day-break at the head of them, and of an immense populace, bearing lighted torches and proclaiming him Emperor, presented himself at the gates of the Circus; repulsed on this side he entered the gate Chale, and penetrated the interior Court of the palace, John Elladas, one of the seven tutors or guardians of Constantine VII., (whose only surviving descendant, Anna, married in 1668, H.H.H. Prince

Panteleon Rhodocanakis), was here commanding a company of household troops. A fight takes place, the horse of Constantinus slips on the pavement, and a soldier cuts off the head of Constantinus and carries it to the Emperor. Nicephorus Ducas having learned the death of his elder brother, and of his own eldest son Michael, with a host of his relatives; and at the same time that his interests at Constantinople were assailed by the Tutors, who plundered his estate and procured his deprivation of the title of Magister, he revolted, gained over the troops under his command, and assuming the title and habiliments of Emperor, crossed over into Bulgaria to assert his claims. He refused the offers of the Emperor's tutors, and assisted by his friend, Simeon, King of Bulgaria, besieged Constantinople. That capital again owed its salvation to its high walls, the numerous machines of war which defended them, and the bravery of the garrison. Nicephorus, despairing to take it either by assault or by famine, accepted the proposal of the Tutors to come to terms. He received the high and invidious title of *Vasileus*, or King (*Βασιλεύς*) of the Island of Rhodes, for himself and his descendants, with permission to cut coin with his effigy, &c., &c. A few days after this, Simeon, King of Bulgaria, (R. 888-927), departed, and Nicephorus left for his new kingdom, both laden with presents and honours. On his return to Rhodes, Nicephorus Ducas, in order to distinguish himself from the other branches of his family, added after his family name that of *Rhodocanakis*; being a composition of the words *Rhodie* and *Anaks*, King of Rhodes. (*Rhodoc-anaks*, *Rhodocanaks*, *Rhodocanakis*), and to his escutcheon, which was *Azure* charged with a cross *Argent*, dividing the field into four quarters, added the insignia granted in A.D. 538 to the Isle of Rhodes by the Emperor Justinianus the Great, *Azure*, an inverted imperial diadem *Proper*, containing roses *Argent*, and surmounted by an oval circle of six mullets *Or*. It may be mentioned that the elder branch of the House of Ducas is now extinct, but from it descended the Emperors Constantinus XI., Ducas (r. 1059 to 1067), Michael VII., Andronicus I., and Constantinus XII., Ducas (r. 1071 to 1078), and lastly Alexius V., Ducas (r. 1204, and dethroned by the Crusaders). From the second branch of the Ducas family descend the Kings and Emperors, who, as above, assumed the name of Rhodocanakis, and who are too numerous to mention; and from the third and last (now extinct) the Emperor, who assumed the name of Vatatzes and later also that of Lascaris; and who were Johannes III., Ducas Vatatzes (r. 1222 to 1245), Theodorus II., Ducas Vatatzes Lascaris (r. 1255 to 1259), and Joannes IV., Ducas Vatatzes Lascaris (r. 1259 to 1260). The title of *Royal Highness* was always prefixed before the titles and names of the various members, male or female, of the Rhodocanikian House, up to the year of Grace 1636, when by the death of His Imperial Highness Prince Theodorus Palaeologus (b. 1573, m. 1593), sixth Titular Emperor (Theodorus IV.) of the Byzantine Empire, being the great-great-grandson of Thomas Palaeologus, Porphyrogenitus, Despot of Achaia, and brother and heir to Constantinus XIII., Palaeologus, last Emperor (reigned A.D. 1448-1453) of Constantinople, his title, rights, and claims were inherited as a matter of course by his only child and heiress, Theodora Palaeologina (b. 1594, m. 1614, d. 1665), the wife of His Royal Highness Prince Demetrius Rhodocanakis (b. 1592, m. 1614, d. 1664), from whom the present Prince Demetrius is sixth in lineal descent, which branch by way of distinguishing themselves from the younger branches of their house, dropped the title of *Royal Highness* and assumed instead that of *Imperial Highness*, and for this reason this illustrious family is described in some historical works as "Royal," in others "Imperial," and sometimes with both appellations, its head being the Titular Emperor of the Byzantine Empire, in the same way as the exiled Royal House of Bourbon are Titular Kings of France, Spain, Two Sicilies, &c., and many other examples might be adduced.

The Prince Francois Rhodocanaki Justiniani assumed the family name of his wife after his own, two years after his marriage; and he dropped it a few years afterwards, having ascertained that her only brother, and consequently the inheritor of the titles and name of Justiniani, had not been killed in battle, as reported. (See Notes and Queries III. VII. April 1st, 1865, page 267).

The Prince informs me that Innocent XII. set up Comnenus "to revenge himself, as was always the practice of the Popes, from the time of the separation of the two churches—Eastern and Western—about the middle of the ninth century, upon our House (with which I may say, *en passant*, his own

became allied by marriage in 1419, and in 1539), to promote his interests and oblige his favourite, Francis Farnese, Duke of Parma, &c., &c., by concocting and confirming the illegal and imaginary sale of the most Ancient Order in Christendom. For he, as well as his predecessors to the Papal throne, knew that the dignity belonged to our House, which would have been under their special favour and protection, had they abjured the religion of their forefathers and become Catholics. This was always the policy of the Popes, although with some Paulus III. (Alexandrus Farnesius r. A.D. 1534—1549), Clemens VIII. (Hippolytus Aldobrandinus, r. A.D. 1592—1605), Paulus V. (Camillus Borghesius, r. 1605—1621), Clemens IX. (Julius Rospigliosus, r. 1667—1669), Benedictus XIII. (Petrus Franciscus Ursinus, r. 1724—1730), Clemens XII (Laurentius Corsinus, r. 1730—1740, &c.), we were very intimately connected, ancestors of mine having married relatives of their own.

The Justiniani theory can end in nothing. The so-called "Johannes Andreas Angelus Flavius Comnenus" was a mere ducal puppet set up by the Holy Father, Innocent XII. (Antonio Pignatelli), with the intention of giving a colourable sale to his favourite, Duke Francis Farnese of Parma.

[It is on the foregoing that we made our correction of the titles of the Prince Rhodocanaki at page 380 *ante*.—Ed.]

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK.

Monday, 16th Nov.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 23, Great George-street, Westminster.

Wednesday, 17th November.—Society of Arts. First meeting of the session; opening address by Lord Henry G. Lennox M.P., chairman of the Council.

LIST OF LODGE, MEETINGS, &c., FOR WEEK ENDING 20th NOVEMBER, 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, Nov. 15th.

LODGES.—British, F.M.H.; Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.; Felicity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.; Tranquility, Radley's Ho., Bridge-st.; Blackfriars; Panmure, Balham Ho., Balham; Whittington, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; City of London, Guildhall Coffee-house, Gresham-st.; Eclectic, F.M.H.—CHAPTER.—Prudence, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-st.

Tuesday, Nov. 16th.

Board of Gen. Purposes.—LODGES.—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Ho., Southwark; Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle Tav., Leadenhall-st.; Cadogan, F.M.H.; Honour and Generosity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.; St. Paul's, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.; Salisbury, 71, Dean-st., Soho; Camden, Lamb Ho., Metropolitan Cattle Market; St. Mark's, Horns Tav., Kennington; Cosmopolitan, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.—CHAPTERS.—Mount Sinai, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Industry, F.M.H.

Wednesday, Nov. 17th.

Gen. Com. Grand Lodge and Lodge of Benevolence, at 7 precisely. Grand Stewards' Lodge.—LODGES.—United Mariners, George Ho., Aldermanbury; St. George's, Trafalgar Ho., Greenwich; Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tav., Crutched Friars; Oak, Radley's Ho., Bridge-st., Blackfriars; Nelson, Ma. Ha., William st., Woolwich; Buckingham and Chandos, F.M.H.

Thursday, Nov. 18th.

House Com. Female School, at 4.—LODGES.—Globe, F.M.H.; Gibon, Guildhall Coffee-house, Gresham-st.; Constitutional, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.; St. Mary's, F.M.H.; Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford; Manchester, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; South Norwood, Goat House Ho., South Norwood.

Friday, Nov. 19th.

House Com. Boys' School.—LODGES.—Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.; Jordan, F.M.H.; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes; University, F.M.H.—CHAPTER.—Moirs, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.

Saturday, Nov. 20th.

LODGE.—Panmure, George Ho., Aldermanbury.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Monday, Nov. 15th.

Prosperity, White Hart, Bishopsgate-st.; Temple, Old George St. Mary Axe, E.C.; Justice, Royal Albert, New Cross-rd., Deptford; Old Concord, Turk's Head, Montcombe-st., Belgrave-sq.; Sincerity, Guildhall Hotel, Gresham-street; St. James's Union, Swan Tavern, Mount-street, 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; Tower Hamlets Engineers, Duke of Clarence, Commercial-rd. East; Eastern Star, Royal Ho., Burdett-rd., Mile-end-rd.

Tuesday, Nov. 16th.

Strong Man, White Horse, Little Britain; Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metropolitan District Railway, Victoria Station; Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's-wood; British Oak, Silver Lion Tavern, Pennyfield, Poplar; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Rose of Denmark, George Ho., Aldermanbury; Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane.

Wednesday, Nov. 17th.

Confidence, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st.; Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., 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 Tavern, Peckham Rye; Pythagorean, Prince of Orange Hotel, Greenwich; Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st., Poplar.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.

Thursday, Nov. 18th.

Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.; Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd.; Globe, No. 10, Old Bond-st.; United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth; St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich; St. John's, Hollybush Tav., Hampstead; Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-square; Tranquillity, Sugar Loaf Tav., Great St. Helen's; Whittington, Crown Ho., 41, Holborn; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tav., Deptford.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Joppa, Prospect of Whitby Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, Nov. 19th.

Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.; St. Luke's, Pier Ho., Cheyne-walk, Chelsea; Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford; Stability, Guildhall Tav., 33, Gresham-st.; Union (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.), Freemasons' Hall; United Pilgrims, Horns' Tavern, Kennington; Wellington, Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway, Deptford; Florence Nightingale, Freemasons' Tav., Woolwich; Ranelagh, Windsor Castle Hotel, King-st., Hammersmith; 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; Victoria, George Ho., Aldermanbury.

Saturday, Nov. 20th.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Mount Sinai, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st.

PROVINCIAL.

DORSET.

Mon., WIMBORNE MINSTER.—Lodge: St. Cuthberga, Crown Inn.—*Wed.*, DORCHESTER.—Chapter: Faith and Unity Ma. Ha.—*Thurs.*, WAREHAM.—Lodge: Unity, Town Ha.—SHAPTESBURY.—Lodge: Friendship and Sincerity, Grosvenor Arms Ho.—WEYMOUTH.—Encampment: All Souls, Ma. Ha.—*Sat.*, SWANAGE.—Lodge: De Moulham, Mowlem Institute.

LANCASHIRE (EAST).

Mon., HEATON NORRIS.—Lodge: Egerton, Chapel House Inn.—MANCHESTER.—Lodge: St. George's, F.M.H.—OLDHAM.—Lodge: Tudor, Red Lion Ho., Mumps.—BOLTON.—Chapter: Concord, F.M.H., Church Institute.—BURY.—Chapter: Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-st.—OLDHAM.—Chapter: Tudor, Angel Ho.—*Tues.*: BURNLEY.—Lodge: Silent Temple, Cross Keys Inn.—STONECLOUGH.—Chapter: Meribah, Grapes Inn.—*Wed.*: ARDWICK.—Lodge: De Grey and Ripon, Corporation Inn, Tipping-st.—BOLTON.—Lodge: St. John, Commercial Ho., Market-pl.—BURY.—Lodge: Prince Edwin, Bridge Inn, Bolton-st.—CLITHEROE.—Lodge: Limestone Rock, Swan Ho.—COLNE.—Lodge: Royal Lancashire, Swan Ho.—MANCHESTER.—Lodge: Yarborough, F.M.H.—MOSSLEY.—Lodge: Prince Alfred, Commercial Ho.—OLDHAM.—Lodge: Friendship, Angel Ho.—OPENSHAW.—Lodge: Faith, New Inn.—ROCHDALE.—Lodge: Hope, Spread Eagle Inn; St. Chad, Roebuck Ho., Cheetam-st.—SALFORD.—Lodge: St. John, F.M.H., Islington-sq.—TODMORDEN.—Lodge: Harmony, Ma. Ha.—*Thurs.*: ACCRINGTON.—Lodge: Bank Terrace, Hargreaves Arms Ho.—ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Lodge: Minerva, Pitt and Nelson Ho.—BACUP.—Lodge: Samaritan, Green Man Ho.—BLACKBURN.—Lodge: Perseverance, Old Bull Ho.—BURY.—Lodge: Relief, Hare and Hounds Inn.—CLAYTON-LE-DALE.—Lodge: United Brethren, Royal Oak Inn.—HASLINGDEN.—Lodge: Amity, Bull's Head Inn.—RADCLIFFE.—Lodge: Faith, Bull's Head Inn.—SALFORD.—Lodge: Richmond, Spread Eagle Ho., Chapel-st.—STONECLOUGH.—Lodge: Charity, Grapes Inn.—WARDLE.—Lodge: Royds, Spring Gardens Inn.—MANCHESTER.—Chapter: Caledonian, F.M.H.—*Fri.*: LEVENSHULME.—Lodge: Alexandra, Midway Ho.—MANCHESTER.—Lodge: Virtue, F.M.H.—TODMORDEN.—Lodge: Prudence, Ma. Ha.—MANCHESTER.—Chapter: Social, Queen's Ho.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

Mon.: SOUTHPORT.—Unity, Ma. Ha., Wright-st.—LIVERPOOL.—Chapter: Jerusalem, Ma. Te.—*Tues.*: BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Lodge: Hindpool, Queen's Ho., Hindpool.—CROXTON.—Lodge: Hesketh, Grapes Inn.—ST. HELEN'S.—Lodge: St. Helen's Lodge of Loyalty, Fleece Ho.—*Wed.*: ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.—Lodge: Faith, Gerard's Arms Inn.—LIVERPOOL.—Lodges: Walton, Queen's Arms Ho., Walton-rd.; Everton, Ma. Te.—LETHAM.—Lodge: Triumph, Market Ho.—ORMSKIRK.—Lodge: Harmony, Wheatheaf Inn.—PRESCOT.—Lodge: Loyalty, Royal Ho.—*Thurs.*: FLEETWOOD.—Lodge: Hesketh, Fleetwood Arms Ho.—LIVERPOOL.—Lodge: Ancient Union, Ma. Te., 22, Hope-st.—PRESTON.—Lodge: Concord, King's Arms Ho.—WHITTLE SPRINGS.—Lodge: Townley Parker, Howard Arms Ho.

CHESHIRE.

Wed.: BIRKENHEAD.—Lodge: Zetland, Masonic Chambers, 1, Hamilton-sq.—SEACOMBE.—Lodge: Combermerc, Seacombe Ho.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Fri., OXFORD.—Lodge: University, F.M.H.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Mon.: COVENTRY.—Lodge: Trinity, Castle Ho.—BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge: Bedford, Ma. Ro., Newhall-st.—*Tues.*: BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge: Hen and Chicken Ho.—WARWICK.—Lodge: Unity, Warwick Arms Ho.—*Wed.*, BIRMINGHAM.—Lodge: Grosvenor, Ma. Ro., Newhall-st.—ALCESTER.—Lodge: Apollo, Swan Ho.—WARWICK.—Chapter: Shakespeare, Ma. Ro.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ERRATA.—In our account of Prince Rhodocanakis, the following errors occurred:—On p. 354, col. 2, read Botaniates for Botomates, Argyros for Argyzos, Bryennios for Birjennios, Palaologos for Palalogos, Marquisses for Marquis, 15th to 19th Century for 15th and 16th Century, Sommariva for Gommeriva, Koressi for Vioressi, Storza for Sforza, Pignatelli for Pignatetti, Giustiniani for Giustinomi, Pico della Mirandula for Picodella Mirandula, Gonzagua for Gonzagna, Strozza for Strazza, Maximo for Mascino.

H. T. F. (Peckham).—Communication thankfully received. Will be glad to receive reports on future occasions.

BELL.—2s. 6d. received for Masonic Lifeboat Fund. Paid to Bankers.