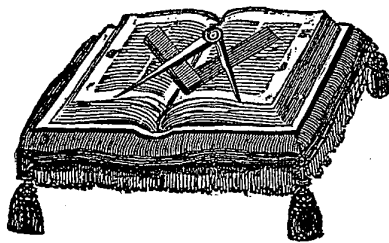


AUDI, VIDE, TACE.

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THE
F R E E M A S O N S ' M A G A Z I N E
AND
M A S O N I C M I R R O R.

ADDRESS TO OUR READERS.

IN accordance with "time-honoured custom," the completion of the 18th Vol. of the New Series of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE AND MASONIC MIRROR is now availed of to address our readers.

With a view to carry out the proposal some time ago started for enabling the publishing price of the MAGAZINE to be reduced, and its circulation greatly increased, the preliminary steps have been taken; and it now only remains for our friends and the well wishers of the MAGAZINE to come forward and aid us in completing the project, in the successful carrying out of which, all the members of the Masonic fraternity, whether holding under the English, Scottish, or Irish constitutions, are interested to a much greater extent than those who have hitherto been connected with the MAGAZINE as a property.

Now that the course of transferring the future publication of the MAGAZINE to a Joint Stock Company with "Limited Liability" has been determined upon, we earnestly invite the co-operation of its friends and supporters; and, as it is not thought desirable to parade our Order and its only recognised Organ before the public, and as it is not believed to be necessary to appeal to the public to take shares in the Company, it is not proposed to issue any advertisements or public announcements; it is therefore hoped that any application further a field for the remainder of the capital required, will be unnecessary.

The capital is £3,000, divided into 300 shares of £10 each. It is proposed to select the Directors and the Committee of Management and publication (in whose hands the editing will then be) from the Shareholders, at the first meeting, which it is intended shall take place at an early date; in the meantime any further information may be obtained upon application by letter (prepaid), addressed to the Secretary of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE Company, Limited, 19, Salisbury-street Strand, London, W.C., and we also refer our readers to our advertising columns.

Having devoted thus much space to matters more immediately affecting our MAGAZINE, and its weekly production hereafter, at a reduced price, we must not neglect the opportunity now afforded of tendering our best thanks to our Subscribers, and also to that numerous and important body of talented and zealous Masons in all parts of the world, and under various Constitutions, who, by their valuable aid and assistance, have so largely contributed to the increased interest now unanimously acknowledged to attach to the weekly publication of the MAGAZINE. Again we thank them all most cordially.

During the past half year our order has again made rapid progress. Into Craft Masonry, under the United Grand Lodge of England alone, about 8,000 initiates are annually admitted. The last warrant issued by the Grand Lodge of England, is to the Upton Lodge to meet at Upton, in Essex, the number whereof is 1227. These facts speak volumes.

In Scotland and Ireland, Freemasonry likewise flourishes. In the latter country it might flourish still more if it were better understood; it will, however, never be rightly understood and fully appreciated as a great moral institution in Ireland, and until certain restrictive and repressive regulations—quite antiquated, exhibiting, as they do, illiberality and the fear of meeting public

opinion—are removed, it is quite clear that the progress of Freemasonry must labour under great disadvantages in that country.

To the Most Worshipful, the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, we are greatly indebted for his patronage and personal kindness, and likewise to the members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland who have never failed to afford us valuable aid and assistance in carrying on the *MAGAZINE*, and extending the sphere of its usefulness.

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Freemasons in England, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, was for the twenty-fifth time installed in that high and distinguished office on the 29th April last; it has been proposed to mark the completion of the twenty-fifth year of his prosperous reign by some great commemorative ceremony or festival. If that event is to be successfully carried out on such a grand scale as the occasion warrants, it can only be done by greatly extending the proposed Committee for that purpose, and by no means limiting it to officers of Grand Lodge, the wearers of "purple and fine linen." As the project is viewed with great interest, and universally with favour amongst the members of the Craft in England, the mode of carrying it out will be watched with jealous anxiety by a very large number of Provincial and Metropolitan Masons; anything like the usual exclusiveness, or hole-and-corner action on the part of those who take upon themselves the initiatory steps for giving effect to the proposition, will, we feel assured be promptly and energetically resented.

The Masonic Charities during the past half-year have received a fair share of support from the members of the Craft. The Boys School, in debt to the extent of £10,000 prior to the last Festival Meeting, received on that occasion nearly £4,900 in aid.

The Masonic Life Boat Fund has recently made some progress, and so soon as a sufficient amount (of contributions) has been received, or promised, to justify the projectors troubling the members of Grand Lodge and others to act upon a committee, it is stated that steps will be taken to confer with the Committee of the National Life Boat Institution for the purpose of carrying out the object.

A very important association, in exclusive connection with Freemasonry, recently projected, has met with very extensive support, and the Council are now making arrangements for an early meeting for the election of members. We learn that the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, the G.M.M. of Scotland, and P.D.G.M. of England, is one of the patrons.

The "May Testimonial" might have been a much greater success than it was, had there not been defective management and blunderings. Personal animosities and petty jealousies ought never to be allowed to interfere with the success of a good cause.

The necessity for filling up the several vacant Grand Masterships of provinces, and of putting all Provincial Grand Lodges into perfect working order, demand serious attention. Some of the Provinces might be divided with considerable advantage, and the earnest attention of the "powers that be" will shortly be called to the subject, unless some voluntary action be promptly taken in the matter. The same observations apply to P.G. Superintendents and their R.A. Provinces.

The creation of a Province in Middlesex beyond the Metropolitan radius, would now be a wise and well timed act.

A Grand Lodge of Emergency has been called for Wednesday, the 1st of July, when amongst other important matters to be disposed of is a proposition by Bro. H. G. Warren which deserves the unanimous support of the Craft.

We are glad to know that mainly through the ability and high Masonic feeling of the chairman of the Building Committee, Bro. J. Havers, with the assistance of Bro. H. Grissell, on behalf of Grand Lodge, and of Bro. F. W. Truscott, the chairman of the Freemasons' Tavern Company, the differences which existed between the two bodies have been arranged to the satisfaction of all parties.

The laying of the foundation stone of the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots, at Lancaster, on the 17th inst., with Grand Masonic honours, went off with great *eclat*.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1868.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAY

(Continued from page 50.)

CHAPTER XI.—*continued*

Saladin having completed the restoration of the holy places at Jerusalem, according to the Mahometan creed, assembled an army and proceeded to besiege Tyre and those castles which still remained in the possession of the Templars. Tyre was defended by Conrad, son of William III., Marquis of Montferrat, a man of singular ability. The success which attended every adventure which he undertook, made him one of the most celebrated leaders of the age. He had been of great assistance in quelling a rebellion at Constantinople, for which he received the hand of the Emperor's sister. He had been nearly made captive by the Saracens on his incautiously approaching Acre, then in their possession, but escaping from thence, he landed at Tyre and undertook the task of defending it. Conrad cut a canal through the neck of land which joined Tyre to the mainland, repaired the battlements of the city, and armed boats with catapults and balistæ, as a defence to the only approach to the town. Saladin commanded the siege in person, and was assisted by his sons, his brother, and nephews, and all the best generals of his army. All the Templars who could be spared from garrison duty, repaired to Tyre to support the young Conrad. The citizens swore to hold out the town to the last, and that it should not be taken while one man remained alive.

Saladin, finding the defence of Tyre so skilfully performed, sent to Conrad to treat for its surrender. That nothing might be left untried to move him to comply with his wishes, Saladin had the old marquis, the father of Conrad, who had been taken prisoner in a previous battle, brought in chains to his son, hoping thereby to move him by filial affection; but Conrad would not listen to any terms for the surrender of the town. Saladin ordered the marquis to be displayed in chains before the wall, which seeing, Conrad seized a balista and pretended to fire an arrow at his father; whereupon Saladin sent to him, bidding him beware of shooting his father; but Conrad replied that of all things he wished it, seeing the old man had lived so wicked a life, by falling a

martyr in the cause of the Cross, he would have a chance of salvation.

In a letter to Henry, King of England, John Terricus details the various events which had happened down to the raising of the siege of Tyre by Saladin. The letter is as follows:—

"To his most dearly beloved lord, Henry, by the Grace of God, the illustrious King of the English, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Earl of Anjou, the brother Terricus, formerly Grand Master of the House of the Temple at Jerusalem, health in Him who giveth health unto kings. Be it known to you that Jerusalem, with the tower of David, has been surrendered to Saladin. The Syrians, also, have possession of the Sepulchre until the fourth day after the feast of Saint Michael; and Saladin himself has given permission to ten of the brethren of the Hospital to remain in the Hospital for one year to attend the sick. The brethren of the Hospital of Bellivier are still making stout resistance to the Saracens, and have already taken two caravans of the Saracens, by the capture of one of which they have manfully recovered all the arms, utensils, and provisions, that were in the castle of La Feue, which had been destroyed by the Saracens. The following places also still show resistance to Saladin—Carach, in the vicinity of Montoyal; Mont Royal itself; the Temple House at Saphet; the Hospital of Carach, Margat; and Castel Blanc; the territory of Tripoli, and the territory of Antioch. On the capture of Jerusalem, Saladin ordered the Cross to be taken down from the Temple of our Lord, and had it carried about the streets for two days in public view, and beaten with sticks. After this he ordered the Temple of our Lord to be washed inside and out with rose water, from top to bottom, and his laws to be promulgated with regard to it in four different places amid wondrous acclamations. From the feast of Saint Martin until the circumcision of our Lord, he besieged Tyre, while thirteen stone engines, day and night, were incessantly hurling stones against it. At the vigil of Saint Silvester, our lord the Marquis Conrad arranged his knights and foot soldiers along the city walls, and having armed seventeen galleys and ten smaller vessels, with the assistance of the house of the Hospital and the brethren of the Temple, fought against the galleys of Saladin, and routing them, took eleven, and captured the high admiral of Alexandria, together with eight other admirals, slaying



vast numbers of the Saracens. The rest of the galleys of Saladin, escaping from the hands of the Christians, fled to the army of the Saracens; on which, by his command, being drawn on shore, Saladin, with his own hand, had them reduced to shes and embers; and moved with excessive grief, after cutting off the ears and tail of his horse, rode upon it in the sight of all through the whole army. Farewell."

Tyre was defended valiantly till the winter rains set in, when Saladin, despairing of success, raised the siege and burning his military engines, repaired to Damascus. He now set at liberty the king and the Grand Master of the Templars. Guy was released on swearing to abdicate the throne and depart from the kingdom; but having done this by coercion, the bishops absolved him from his oath. Thereupon he repaired to Tyre, but Conrad refused him admittance, declaring that, as the people had made him their leader, and he had preserved the town from the attacks of Saladin, it belonged of right to him. Guy then repaired to Antioch, whither the Christians resorted to concert plans for renewing the war with Saladin.

At liberty, and surrounded by the gallant spirits of the Temple, Gerard resolved to strike once more valiantly in the cause of the Cross. He sent off expresses to Europe, commanding the preceptors there to forward him money and Knights, and likewise to those castles which the Order still held in the Holy Land, urging the defenders to hold out to the last, and promising to send them assistance. His example fired with fresh enthusiasm the hearts of the Templars, and raised up obstacles to the complete capture of the Holy Land by Saladin. Taking with him a chosen band of Templars, the Grand Master departed to watch the doings of the Sultan.

CHAPTER XII.

GRAND MASTER—GERARD DE RIDEFORT.

Effect upon the Europeans by the tidings of the successes of the Mussulmen.—The Pope orders a new Crusade.—Arming for the Crusade.—Saladin renews his attacks.—Heroism of the Templars.—Attack of Safet.—Saladin repulsed at Tortosa by Gerard de Ridefort.—Takes several important towns.—Surrender of Safet.—The Christians attack Arre.—Pitched battle on the plain.—Rout of the Mussulmen.—Saladin rallies the fleers and resumes the fight.—Death of Gerard de Ridefort.—A.D. 1187-89.

The news brought by the Christians from Palestine of the capture of the Holy Cross and the city

of Jerusalem by the Mussulmen, spread consternation and awe among all the nations of Europe. Urban III., the reigning pontiff, died of grief at the terrible tidings. Kings forgot the evils which hung over their own territories, to bewail the desolation of Canaan. Even private grief for the dead was lost in the public lamentation. There arose from the wicked clergy, nobility, and people, doleful cries to Heaven for mercy. Princes smote their breasts, exclaiming, that their sins had brought destruction upon the land of God. The heads of the church looked upon these evils as the offspring of their own vile conduct and character. Luxury was thrown aside, injuries pardoned, and alms bestowed. The rich slept amid ashes, the dainty clothed themselves in sackcloth, and the sinning expiated their disorderly lives by fasting and humiliation. The clergy set the example of reformation. The morals of the cloister were purified, and cardinals condemning themselves to a life-long poverty, promised to repair to the Holy Land, trusting to the charity of the pious for assistance on the way. That the supernatural might not be wanting to excite the Christians to penitence, several crucifixes and images of the saints shed tears of blood in presence of the faithful; and priests carried from city to city images representing Jerusalem trampled under foot by the Saracens. A seven years' truce was entered into by the sovereigns of Europe, under the pain of excommunication. Money was ordered to be collected to defray the expenses of a new Crusade. The money was collected in each parish, in the presence of the priest, the rural dean, one Templar, and two or three other parties specially appointed for that purpose.

Gregory the VIII., the successor of Urban, issued instructions for the preaching of the new Crusade, and in a bull he described the disastrous condition of the Holy Land, the valiant deeds of the Templars, and their butchery by Saladin. The man who was the principal preacher of the new Crusade was William, Archbishop of Tyre. His success in raising the angry spirit of the faithful, and of despatching armies to the east to die in a ruined cause, was no less brilliant than were those of the Hermit in the first, and St. Bernard in the second, Crusade. William, who had served the last offices of the church to the valiant Knights who fell at Kedron, and who had seen his bishopric overrun and destroyed by the Mussulmen, filled

with a holy wrath, left Palestine and repaired to Rome, where he had an interview with the Pope. Armed with authority from the pontiff, he travelled through Europe preaching and inciting the people to take part in the sacred war. His zeal was only equalled by his success, for wherever he preached hundreds rushed to assume the cross.

Pope Gregory died within two months after receiving the tiara. He was succeeded by Clement the III., who vigorously pushed the preparations for the Crusade. The terror which the victories of Saladin had struck to the hearts of the people made the council of bishops and princes resolve to levy the famous tax, which, as Gibbons aptly says, "the noblest monument of a conqueror's fame, and of the terror which he inspired, is the Saladin tenth." All who did not take part in the war were required to pay the tax, and the only exceptions made were the Orders of Chartreux, Citeaux, and Fontevrault, and the Hospital for Lepers. Gilbert de Ogleston, a Templar, who had been appointed by the King of England to collect the Saladin tenths, with his associates in office, was guilty of malappropriation. On account of his belonging to so holy an Order, the king could not punish him, but he was seized by the command of the Grand Prior of England, and taken to the Temple in London. He was there loaded with chains, put into the penitential cell, and subjected to the most rigorous punishment of which the laws of the Order permitted. The Templars suffered no crime to pass unpunished.

Now was there sharpening of swords and buckling on of armour, selling of lands to raise money for the Crusades, changing of jewels to equip armies. Frederick Barbarossa stirred up the warlike Germans; Philip Augustus of France gathered together a vast host; while the Lion Heart of England, alike the glory and the shame of the Crusade, resorted to the most despicable and thievish tricks to raise funds to equip his army. The vices of Richard are lost in the blaze of his military achievements, for his actions are like those of the heroes of the Jongleurs, while his villainy would disgrace the most abandoned of mortals. A bad son, a worse king; bull-dog in ferocity, a lion in the field; disheartening his friends and quarrelling with his allies; his pride only equalled by his valour, make up the catalogue of his imperfections which caused the ruin of the Third Crusade. He sold the castles of Berwick and Roxburgh to the Scots for ten thousand marks

sterling, the earldom of Durham to Hugh de Puteaco, and the Priory of Coventry, with all its lands, to Hugh, Bishop of Chester. He likewise extorted large sums from the Jews, and pretending to have lost his signet, by proclamation ordered that all those who expected to enjoy his former grants should come and compound with him for a confirmation under his new seal, which added considerably to his treasury. The Emperor Frederick marched from Ratisbon in 1189, and cut his way through Greece, upon the sovereign of that country treacherously attempting to detain him. Frederick was accompanied by a large body of Templars, who aided him considerably in his march. These Templars were especial favourites of the emperor, and he reposed the utmost confidence in them. His march through Asia Minor was one succession of victories; but having imprudently bathed in the Orontes when heated, he died, in the seventieth year of his age. The Duke of Suabia, Frederick's son, however, ably conducted the march, although he lost great numbers by the attacks of the Saracens and the difficulties encountered on the road. The Templars, upon the death of his father, became his body-guard. Finally, however, he formed a junction with the Syrian Christians and proved of great assistance to them. The Germans were the first of the Crusaders who arrived in the Holy Land.

When the winter rains had subsided, Saladin summoned his victorious army once more to the field. The tide of conquest did not now run so full in the course of the Musselmén. The extraordinary valour of the Templars and the enthusiasm of the Christians, counterbalanced the vast hordes of the enemy. Saladin resolved to reduce the fortresses of the Templars, and at all hazards to drive them from the land; for he was assured that so long as the Order possessed a castle in Palestine his conquest of the Holy Land would be insecure. The hatred which he bore them verged on madness, for they gave him no rest, but kept assailing his armies and cutting off his supplies. The presence of Gerard de Ridefort among them once more inspirited the brethren. Those on garrison duty knew that the Master's eye was upon them, and they resolved either to conquer or to die. Death was certain if they fell alive into the hands of Saladin, so they fought with a recklessness of life and a certainty of Heaven, which made the Knights of that day the first soldiers of any age. It is to this religious

feeling we must go to account for the heroism of these men. On earth they had no ties but those of the Order. Heaven was their home, and the more gallantly they fought while in life, the more honour awaited them beyond the grave. The defence of their castles became thus most obstinate.

The strongest fortress in the possession of the Templars was that of Safet, a place held in particular veneration by the Jews, it being one of the four holy cities of the Talmud. The castle of the Templars crowned the summit of a lofty hill. Along the precipitous sides were ranged the houses and churches. From the ramparts, according to Addison, the eye ranged over a rich prospect of luxurious vineyards and smiling villages, and embraced a grand panoramic view of lofty mountains. Through the valley below rolled the waters of the Jordan. To the southward extended the vast blue expanse of the lake of Tiberias; and in the north-east might be descried the towering snowy summits of Anti-Lebanon piercing the skies. This strong and important castle commanded the greater part of Galilee. It had always been a check upon the incursions of the infidel, and was considered one of the bulwarks of the Latin kingdom. Saladin was thus most anxious to possess himself of it, and his exertions for its capture were both strenuous and incessant. He carefully surrounded it with a picked body of troops, under the command of his brother, Saif-eddin, completely cutting off all supplies. The time for the siege was, however, unfavourable. The season was not far enough advanced for military operations. The weather was broken. The tents of the besiegers were blown down the slopes of the hill before the furious whirlwinds, while the heavy rains rendered the ground slippery and prevented the play of the military engines. The Templars, on their part, were not idle nor slow in securing the opportunity of destroying their enemies. They constantly sallied forth upon the besiegers, destroyed their newly erected works, burned their engines, cut the soldiers to pieces, and by incessant and desperate midnight attacks, harassed and alarmed the whole Mussulman army. Saladin at length despaired of reducing the seemingly impregnable fortress at this time. He consequently converted the siege into a blockade, and departed for the purpose of attacking Antioch. He adopted the same tactics in approaching this formidable town, as he had used in advancing upon Jerusalem. He

divided his army into separate bodies, and despatched them under able leaders to ravage the whole country on their march. His orders, so congenial to the tastes of his soldiers, were effectually performed. They drove away the cattle and sheep of the Christians, which they collected together, with the captured booty, on the plain of Orontes, close to the banks of the lake Kades. Saladin then crossed the vast mountainous ranges which extend between the Orontes and sea-coast, and appeared in arms before the walls of Tripoli.

The smoke of blazing villages, and the fugitive inhabitants, had already heralded his approach to the citizens. Although doubtful of success, the Tripolese prepared to make a vigorous defence. The preparations were so formidable that Saladin resolved to abandon his intention of besieging it then, as it appeared as impregnable and difficult to take as Tyre and Safet. After carefully surveying the fortifications he directed his march upon Tortosa. Gerard de Ridefort, who had been anxiously watching the movements of Saladin, and finding the Sultan intended besieging Tortosa, threw himself into the strong castle of the Templars there, determined to offer the most desperate resistance. The fortifications of the town were, however, of a most miserable description, the inhabitants were timorous and offered but a poor resistance; and the Templars, after a short but most desperate struggle, which they maintained single-handed, had to abandon the town and take refuge behind the walls of their own castle. Again Saladin was to suffer defeat at the hands of Gerard de Ridefort. Gaining possession of the town, he called upon the Templars to surrender, but he was only laughed at by the gallant Knights. Enraged at being foiled on every hand by them, he exerted all the means in his power to take the castle. Munificent rewards were promised for the heads of the Templars, and incessant attacks made upon the place. These attacks the Knights easily repelled. In turn they became attackers; and in frequent sallies they routed the Musselmen with immense slaughter. During one of these sallies the town was set on fire and burnt to the ground. The fire was one of the most tremendous spectacles presented by the war. The great cathedral was of huge dimensions, and its roof was composed of immense cedar beams. While it was burning, thousands of infidels surrounded it, shouting and dancing in their enthusiasm, and returning thanks

to Allah for its destruction. Many in their insanity fell victims to the flames, while the vigilant eye of Gerard de Ridefort, perceiving their incaution, seized the opportunity and sending out repeated bodies of Templars, numbers of the infidel were cut down and killed during the confusion. Full of rage, and finding the castle so ably defended, Saladin drew off his forces and left the valiant Templars in possession of the charred and smoking ruins of Tortosa.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

BROTHER KHETTER-MOHUM GANGOOLY.

In answer to the question contained in the letter of an American brother on the subject of the admission of emancipated negroes into Freemasonry, I say that, so late as September, 1863, Bro. Khetter-Mohum Gangooly was the only Hindoo who had been admitted into English Freemasonry. See *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. ix., page 469. In one of my communications to the *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. xv., page 348, it is stated "the number of Hindoos in the Bengal lodges is, I believe, as yet extremely small."—C. P. COOPER.

THE "CHURCH NEWS" (Dec. 11th, 1867,) AND FREEMASONRY.

In No. 40 of this paper a letter appears from Bro. the Rev. W. N. Truss, referring to a previous number (Sept. 11th), in which the "horrible rite performed in several lodges in Paris," &c., is especially mentioned by M. de Segur. Bro. Truss says truly that "it is very easy to slander a very influential and large body of men by propagating such a horrible libel upon the Freemasons. . . . As a Freemason, and a priest of the English Church, I beg to state that I do not for one moment believe that such horrible and blasphemous ceremonies are permitted in any Masonic lodge throughout the world." We quite agree with the writer of this letter, and hope, with him, that some brother will take the matter up, although I do not, after all, think any one would believe so foul a libel on Masonry but the ignorant and credulous. The editor of the *Church News*, however, appends to the well-written letter the following:—"One leading objection to Freemasonry of all kinds is that apart from baptism it sets up a theory of union which is plainly antagonistic to Christianity."

One thing is clear—the editor is not a Mason, or he would not so write; and hence I would recommend to his attention the various works on the Craft by several learned Masonic divines, and advise him in the future to be a little more guarded in so sweepingly denouncing a society which was founded, continued, and now rests upon the principles revealed in the volume of the Sacred Law. Probably the mentioning of the above may lead one (out of the many distinguished clergymen whom we are proud to acknow-

ledge as members of the Masonic Fraternity) to afford us the benefit of his views on Freemasonry, its Christian origin, and character.

FIRST PART OF BROTHER HUGHAN'S "ANALYSIS OF ANCIENT AND MODERN FREEMASONRY."

Allow me to renew my recommendation that you should commence your Masonic lucubrations by the perusal of the first part of Bro. Hughan's "Analysis of Ancient and Modern Freemasonry." You will find it in Nos. 432, 434, 436, 439, 440, and 442 of the *Freemasons Magazine*. . . . In compliance with the desire expressed by you at our last conversation, I subjoin a copy of my memorandum of the contents of Bro. H.'s little tract. . . . I purposely forbear to state the opinion that I have formed on any subject in this memorandum, being desirous that your judgment should not be influenced by the previous knowledge of the conclusions at which a Past Grand Master of an English province has arrived. 1. It is probable that the present system of the Craft has in no sense, beyond the second degree, been in operation before the 18th century. 2. It has been demonstrated over and over again that but two separate degrees, or grades (or, at the most, no more than three), were acknowledged by the ancient Fraternity. 3. Few, if any, of the sublime imposing rituals of Freemasonry, either in whole or in part, were known, or even could have been worked, or understood by the Masons of old. 4. It is the general belief of the Fraternity that Masonry was brought into Scotland by the operatives who built Kilwinning Abbey. 5. Bro. H. confesses his inability to discover to whom England is indebted for the introduction of Masonry. 6. Bro. Findel rightly considers it is now placed beyond doubt that the modern society of Freemasons is the direct descendant and successor, in an unbroken line, of the operative Fraternity of Freemasons of the Middle Ages. 7. Masons materially assisted in the spread of Christianity, the increase of piety, and the promotion of virtue throughout the land. 8. In the Middle Ages, as now, when the ancient Constitutions are followed, a thorough Mason was another name for a good Christian. 9. There is abundance of evidence to prove the great age of the lodge Mother Kilwinning, and also to confirm a belief in its being one of the earliest operative lodges in the world. 10. It is the opinion of Bro. Murray Lyon, and also of Bro. H., that the Mother Kilwinning Lodge was never more nor less than a society of architects and artizans, incorporated for the regulation of the business of the building trade, and the relief of indigent brethren, until the development, early in the 18th century, of the Speculative Masonry. 11. Bro. H. thinks that the character ascribed to the Kilwinning Lodge will describe every other lodge that existed before 1717. 12. Early in the 18th century different fees were charged in the Kilwinning Lodge for operative and for speculative Freemasonry. 13. The gentlemen who joined the Aberdeen lodge (it existed at least as early as the beginning of the 16th century) were termed "geomatic," and the operatives "domatic" Masons. 14. The geomatic members had the distinction of having the Master and Depute Master appointed from their number. 15. Gentlemen were admitted as members of the ancient Scotch lodges just as they

are received as members of the various incorporations of to-day. 16. Those gentlemen, notwithstanding their un-operative character, received the degrees of Apprentice and Fellow Craft, and even accepted the office of Deacon or ruler of a lodge. 17. When the lodges of Scotland became purely speculative is not easily decided. 18. The influence of the Grand Lodge of England, established A.D. 1717, was felt far and wide before the Grand Lodge of Scotland was formed. 19. As a *degree*, the Master Mason was not known before the 18th century. 20. The Masonic student will find that such terms as Grand Master, Grand Lodge, Third Degree, and Royal Arch are all of the 18th century. 21. The lodge which Ashmole visited in London, March 10th, 1682, for certain knew nothing of Freemasonry as *we have it now*. 22. After a series of extended researches, Bro. H. fully endorses the opinion that, before A.D. 1717, no trace of Freemasonry, apart from its operative nature or connections, can be found. 23. Bro. H. concludes the first part of his analysis by a few examples of the Christian character of the Craft. 24. The Grand Lodge of England and all the other Grand Lodges are derived from this Craft. 25. Although holding the opinion that Masonry is of a Christian origin, Bro. H. does not find any evidence to warrant the belief that chivalry was connected with it, or materially assisted in its preservation during the dark ages. 26. The prayers of the Craft abundantly prove that the Christian religion was held in great veneration by the Fraternity all over the globe. 27. After stating certain facts—"these and similar facts," says Bro. H., "tend strongly to confirm us in the belief of the present society of Freemasons having originally been formed out of, or on the basis of, operative Masonry.—C. P. COOPER."

MASONIC SEALS AND MEDALS, ETC.

My friend and Bro. A. O. Haye, Edinburgh, is making a collection of the above, and would feel obliged if brethren would favour him with anything curious or of value of this department. I am sure it need only be made known that so eminent a Mason as Bro. Haye is preparing subject matter for our future benefit in reference to lodge seals and their history, to ensure a ready response to his request.—W. J. HUGHAN.

THE PARSEES.

A brother will find the report of the President and Vice-President of the Colonial Board, respecting which he inquires, *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. xi., page 408.—C. P. COOPER.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

Bro. —, "A Masonic Student," in your number of the *Magazine* of the 28th ult., has favoured me with some of his views as to the antiquity of the Royal Arch degree, and thinks his investigation would tend to exalt the Royal Arch, and lead him to exactly the opposite conclusion to the writer.

Accordingly, I have carefully read his communication, but have been unable to discover anything to invalidate the statements made in the "History of the Royal Arch," by the learned Mason the late Rev. Bro. Dr. Oliver, nor does there seem to be one argument used by the Masonic student that would

prove this degree to have been in existence before A.D. 1740. The name does not occur in Freemasonry before the eighteenth century, the Grand Lodge of England refused to recognise it until the nineteenth century, and the Grand Lodge of Scotland and numerous other Grand Lodges still consider it foreign to ancient Freemasonry, and exclude it from their list of recognised degrees. It is also generally admitted by those who are familiar with the sublime, ineffable degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite that the Royal Arch is in some respects a copy from one or more of those degrees, and that, even at one time, the ceremonies contained in the Royal Arch were, beyond question, considerably indebted to the 13° for its most imposing parts, in proof of which I refer the Masonic student to either of the editions of Dr. Oliver's work. My inquiries have had reference simply to the antiquity of the degree in question; and in no sense do I desire to lessen its value or its teachings, but, as a Royal Arch Mason, would endeavour to see it placed in its proper position—viz., a *modern degree*. I quite agree with "A Masonic Student" that the question turns on the actual extent of the mutilation or development of the third degree; but when we remember that the oldest rituals say nothing of the Royal Arch, that their ceremonies (save as to the word) are almost wholly different to it, and that *those lodges which continue even still to work the old system* abroad practise a rite entirely foreign to the English Royal Arch (excepting in the one instance referred to), we feel bound to state that the mutilation must, indeed, be very complete. I should like very much to be favoured with any numismatic evidence of the antiquity of the second part of the degree, coeval with the operative lodge of York Masons, certainly in the fifteenth century. Bro. J. G. Findel and myself have both been to York on purpose to discover such evidence; and although all the records and other historians of the lodge have been freely placed at our disposal, we have been unable to trace even the *third degree* before the Grand Lodge of England at London was established in 1717 (as a secret or separate degree).

What evidence is there that the symbolism and traditions of the Royal Arch are old, *i.e.*, beyond the last century? None, in the opinion of a number of Masons who have made this matter their careful study and mature reflection.

How much Dermott was connected with the origin of the degree we know not. He states in the preface to the third edition "Ahiman Rezon," p. 29, that he was first introduced into that society in 1748 (*i.e.*, modern Masonry); and it must be admitted that he owed his success as an innovator of the Royal Arch degree, which the real ancient Grand Lodge had not at first, but which some of its members soon after obtained, formed themselves into a Grand Chapter, and became a formidable rival to a similar body formed by the seceders, resulting ultimately in the union of the two Grand Lodges in A.D. 1813, and of the united Grand Chapter subsequently. "A Masonic Student" refers me to the last edition of the "Royal Arch" by Dr. Oliver, wherein, however, the learned writer substantially makes the same statements as in the first edition of A.D. 1847. In the latter, page 20, he says, "The degree is too in-

congruous to be of any great antiquity." The anachronisms with which it abounded, and the loose manner in which its parts were fitted into each other, betrayed its recent origin. In using the word "fabricated," I have simply employed a term which has been familiar to Masonic students of the Royal Arch for years, and, therefore, not offensively in the slightest. Certainly the substance of the degree was in existence long before the eighteenth century, when considered in the light that a Masonic student puts it, and so was the substance of the adoptive Masonry; but who would say that adoptive Masonry was ancient? However ancient that which precedes a modern invention may be, surely that would not make the latter ancient; how, then, can the Royal Arch be ancient? But I must defer the remainder of my opinions and facts on this interesting subject for the time, but promise to give them in full in the second part of my "Analysis of Freemasonry." I am obliged to "A Masonic Student" for his kind criticisms, and hope to be favoured with some more when I complete the "Analysis."—W. J. HUGHAN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

MASONIC PILGRIMAGE TO THE ORIENT.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Some time ago my esteemed friend Bro. W. J. Hughan, of Truro, announced to me the intention of Bro. Rob. Morris to make a Masonic pilgrimage to the Orient and to visit Leipzig. I don't believe that researches in the Orient are of any use and benefit for the Craft, and neither myself nor my German brethren can sympathise with the object of Bro. Morris' mission, for all that is worthy of notice for Freemasons is known by the explorations of non-Masonic scholars. But this conviction will not prevent me from giving my fraternal attention to Bro. Morris, and to receive him with all Masonic cordiality. The same fraternal reception, I am sure, he will meet everywhere in Germany, notwithstanding he is known as the creator of the Eastern Star degree (Adoptive Masonry), as promoter of the so-called high degrees, and the like things opposed to pure, ancient Freemasonry. As far as I can judge, he will not gain any aid in the advancement of his Masonic pilgrimage.

Our American brethren, I am sorry to say, don't know the real and authentic history of the Craft, and it seems that they have no interest at all in studying it; at least they have taken no notice of my work "History of Freemasonry from its Origin," &c., the only one extant in the United States. There are only about thirty copies of it sold in America, where there are nearly 30,000 Freemasons. Owing to this want of historical knowledge, Bro. Morris speaks of the builders of King Solomon as "our ancient brethren," taking a mere *tradition* as a real historical fact. He will also, I suppose, look for the sepulchre of King Hiram, as our dear brethren of Palestine at Beyrouth have done, notwithstanding there is, amidst *scientific* Freemasons, no doubt that the third degree with its tradition is an invention of modern time,

originated after the foundation of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717.

A scientific research by an enlightened brother, by a brother of *critical* mind and knowledge of the true history of the Craft, would have some good results, and be a meritorious task in Scotland and Ireland, especially Ireland, which still wants an authentic and complete history of Freemasonry, like those of Scotland, by Bro. H. Laurie; of England, by Calcott and Preston; of Germany, by W. Keller; of France, by Jouaust and Rebold. A visit of Bro. Morris to Sweden can only be for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the degeneration and abolition of true; pure, ancient Freemasonry by the Swedish system, an offspring of the strict observance of Templarism and Rosicrucianism. But, all that Bro. Morris can learn, without a pilgrimage, from my work.

The best and most meritorious thing Bro. Morris could undertake would be to publish a Masonic periodical, in America, of real value, and to disseminate Masonic knowledge and light in the United States. And, for such an undertaking, a longer visit in Germany would be the right way. If Bro. Morris understands the German language, he will find all he wants on the Orient in Bro. Dr. Schauberg's "Handbuch der Symbolik der Freimaurerei" ("Handbook of Symbolisms of Freemasonry"), 3 vols.

If Bro. Morris comes to Leipzig, I shall be glad to accompany him to Bro. Koller, member of the Palestine at Beyrouth, who lives here. To my house he will be a welcome guest, and he can make use of my knowledge and my large Masonic library. But I can only assure him once more that he will probably find not the least aid for his hopeless mission in Germany. Each penny is uselessly spent for an intended examination of height and size of trees, and for researches in the plains of Phenizia. If anyone wishes to do a service to the Craft, he must look for light where light is to be found. The Masonic literature of Germany (Krause, Schneider, Kloss, Fessler, and some modern authors), is full of light; but I am sorry to say that the heads of our American Grand Master and Grand Officers are full of darkness.

Yours fraternally,

J. G. FINDEL.

Editor of the *Bauhütte*, Leipzig.

MASONIC BANQUETS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Some little hints in your magazine about Masonic banquets induce me to make some remarks about other details of inattention.

Freemasons' Tavern, the London Tavern, and some other houses are professed Masonic houses, with Masonic waiters. Now, it may be noticed that the lights and the arrangements of the tables, so far from being Masonic, always include combinations that are not immediately Masonic, 4, 6, or 8.

The guests, unless the W.M. in the chair should intervene, which is rare, so far from being served first, are pretty generally served last. The waiters, Masons or non-Masons, know nothing about guests, distinguished or undistinguished, but they do know the Past Masters as very good customers to the

house. These they serve first, beginning from the chair, then all the members, and last of all the guests, beginning with the juniors, and ending with the distinguished guest of the evening.

By-and-bye the hospitality of the lodge is duly commemorated and trumpeted.

It is to be noted that in these houses the lodge rooms have nothing Masonic about them, but, on the contrary, not even common care. A distinguished guest from the Continent or the States—we will not say Scotland or Ireland—such a person coming to one of our Craft lodges will be left to find a seat for himself, and will work his way up to a bench or seat. In the event of the M.W.G.M. himself, or R.W. Bro. Havers, Chairman of the Building Committee, or any Grand Officer attending as a visitor one of the lodge rooms in the new Freemasons' Hall, will find himself seated on a bench like the rest of the members, and the S.D., ludicrously enough, seated in an armchair between him and the W.M. Musical instruments in such places there are none, and the M.W.G.M. may clothe himself in the same ante-room in which a candidate is being prepared.

It is to be expected in time Freemasons' Hall will set an example to all the others when finished.

Yours fraternally,

AN HONORARY MEMBER.

LOOSENESS IN MASONRY.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Your correspondent "Z," who, in the *Magazine* of the 2nd of last November, very properly inquired as to the initiation of "Box Brown" in Jersey, "after waiting very patiently," has again in your number of the 21st ult. asked for information, and appealed especially to me for it, on the ground that I voluntarily took up the gauntlet on behalf of some of the lodges in that island, and repudiated their having done so. Thus far he is right; but not so when he charges me with promising to furnish the details of some other lodges, &c.

I confess that I was jealous of the reputation of certain lodges with which I had been connected, and that I believed I could exonerate some others, and confine the charge of an improper admission made by "Z." within the limits of three lodges. In reference to his other statement as to my promise, I ask him again to look at my letter on page 372, where he will find nothing of the kind. My closing remark was—"It is probable that 'Z.'s' letter will not be seen by those whom it most affects; I will, however, write to a brother there about it." The fact that no one in Jersey has furnished the information required justifies my impression, and explains my taking the matter up, with every desire to comply with "Z.'s" wish. In fact, I wrote at once, and so far kept my word, but could not compel a reply. However, I did more. No answer having been received by me, I did not lose sight of the matter, but, after a week or two had passed, in writing to another brother on other subjects, I asked him to remind the former one of my query. He did so; and the reply was that full occupation had prevented attention to my request, but that he would see to it at the first opportunity.

Though the information is not yet forthcoming, I hope "Z." will see that it is from no neglect on my part. I have now written to a third brother about it, but, as before, do not pledge myself to supply what is wanted. If I were still residing in Jersey I should have no difficulty. Should I still fail, "Z." may, perhaps, be able to learn all the particulars of "Box Brown's" initiation by application to the Grand Secretary, and referring to the returns and registrations of lodges 244, 245, and 491, in one of which, I think, he will find it between the years 1858 and 1863.

Yours fraternally,

H. H.

THE FIRE AT HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—By the above calamitous event Bro. Sam May, who was always ready to lend a helping hand in the cause of charity, has lost the "labour of a life," to use his own words. Cannot something be done by the brethren to help to meet this great loss? I have spoken to a few friends, and our esteemed Bro. W. Ough, P.M. 749, Assist. G. Purst., of Wellington Wharf, Belvidere-road, Lambeth, has kindly consented to receive any contributions that may be forwarded to him for that purpose. I may perhaps mention that the first person asked immediately wrote a cheque for ten guineas; this was Bro. H. Johnson, P.M. 134. I shall be happy to contribute my mite.

Yours fraternally,

GEO. PYM, J.D. 749.

[We trust Bro. Pym's appeal will be responded to most heartily. Bro. May is a highly-esteemed and much-respected member of the Craft.—Ed. F. M.]

AYRSHIRE MEN.—Those who have been watching the Manchester election will have noticed the very amusing speeches of one who has done service on the side of Jacob Bright. I refer to Mr. Alderman Mackie, who is one of the most sensible, burly, humorous, and best-liked of the public men of Cottonopolis. Thrice has he been the Mayor of that great city, and a splendid portrait of Mr. Mackie has been placed already in the Town Hall by his grateful and admiring fellow-citizens. Yet he began life as a poor and almost friendless boy at Girvan, in Ayrshire, and served an apprenticeship to the mason trade in Glasgow. When he was Mayor of Manchester he considerably astonished a number of his colleagues with whom he was calling on the Postmaster-General in St Martin's-le-Grand. As the deputations were entering the General Post Office, Mr. Mackie called a halt, and asked his friends what they thought of one of the pillars in the splendid vestibule of that edifice. They admired it very much; upon which the worthy Mayor told them that it was chiefly his handiwork, and that as a working mason he had surveyed the public opening of the building from one of its most elevated points. Mr. Mackie's early life would read like a romance, and he is only one of many Ayrshire men who have risen in England from a lowly position to great wealth and influence. Mr. William Gibb, who, like Mr. Mackie, has been several times Mayor of Manchester, and who has twice contested Stockport, began life as a weaver at Ayr. Mr. W. S. Lindsay, the great shipowner, and formerly M.P. for Sunderland, first sailed from Ayr harbour as a cabin boy. Mr. M'Connell, one of the first of locomotive superintendents in the south, was once a poor boy on the Carrick shore. And the story of Mr. Alderman Lusk, M.P. for Finsbury, and, like Mr. Mackie, a native of Girvan, is one excelling in romantic interest even that of the famous Whittington.—*Perthshire Advertiser*.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEM.

FESTIVAL OF LODGE ST. JOHN, No. 3 bis, GLASGOW.—We regret that, for want of space, the report of this, and also some other Scots Masonic news, cannot appear until our next.

METROPOLITAN.

GEORGE LODGE (No. 23).—The brethren of this lodge assembled on Thursday, the 19th ult., at the Freemason's Hall, the W.M. taking his seat at the hour named in the summons, supported by Bro. Dicketts, acting *pro tem.* as S.W., on account of the unavoidable absence of Bro. F. Walsh. Bro. Brandon, P.M., acted as J.W., under similar circumstances. Lodge being opened, the minutes, as usual, were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for the initiation of Mr. Henry Wolfgang Amdens Beale, that gentleman having been proposed by Bro. W. Watson, P.M. and G.S., and seconded by Bro. Matthew Cooke, P.M. and Sec. The result of the ballot being in the candidate's favour, Mr. Beale was introduced, properly prepared, and duly received the honour of being received as an Apprentice brother in the craft. Bro. Berger, of the Jubilee Lodge, 72, was then balloted for as a joining member, and unanimously declared to be a member of 23. The next business was the election of W.M. for the year ensuing, Treas. and Tyler. The election of W.M. fell upon the S.W. Bro. Walsh; that of Treas. Bro. E. Page, re-elected; and Tyler, Bro. Crawley, also re-elected. The last-named brother has held the appointment of Tyler for many years, and through his urbanity and Masonic knowledge fully merits the continued confidence of the lodge. Three brothers, Master Masons, not holding office in the lodge were appointed auditors on behalf of the lodge. Among the P.M.'s we noticed Bros. Brandon, W. Watson, E. Page, and Harrison. Lodge was then closed until the third Thursday in February, when the installation of the W.M. elect will take place.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND,

WIGTON.—*Two St. John's Lodge* (No. 327).—The above lodge held its annual festival of St. John, on Friday, the 27th ult., at the Lion and Lamb Inn, Wigton, on which occasion it was intended there should be two initiations and one raising, but in consequence of indifferent weather and the distance the candidates had to travel, they were deferred until the next meeting. Nevertheless the lodge was opened at high twelve by Bro. A. Routledge, W.M., P. Prov. G.S.B., ably supported by Bro. J. Gibson, S.W.; H. Dand, J.W.; J. Hewetson, S.D.; R. Brown, J.D.; J. Richardson, P. Prov. G. Pust, Treas.; J. Gato, Sec.; H. Bows, I.G.; and J. Martin, Tyler. Also the following brethren were present, viz.:—Bros. S. Halifax, P. Prov. G.S.B., W.M. elect; J. Lemon, P.M., P. Prov. S.G.W., and present Prov. G. Treas.; J. Hutton, P.M.; Dr. McNorton, P.M., P. Prov. G. Sec.; J. Tickle, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.D.; J. Harris; J. Pearson, sen., P.M., P. Prov. G. Tyler, who is upwards of eighty-six years of age, and the father of the province; J. N. Hodgson, J. Pearson, jun., J. Hall, J. Peat, and G. C. Hope. The visitors were, Bros. Dr. Jones, P.M. 371; W. Johnstone, S.W. 310; and F. W. Hayward, P.M. 310, P. Prov. S.G.W. The minutes of a former meeting were read and confirmed in the usual way amongst Masons. This being the day of installation, Bro. F. W. Hayward, of Carlisle, was requested to take the chair and perform the duties of Installing Master, to which he kindly responded. The lodge was then opened in the F.C. degree, and Bro. S. Halifax, supported by two P.M.'s, advanced to the pedestal, whilst the usual questions were read, to which he bowed assent. After the O.B. was conferred the lodge was raised to the third degree; all below P.M.'s were requested to retire. A Board of Installed Masters

was then formed, and Bro. S. Halifax duly exalted in the east as the representative of K.S. The brethren were then admitted according to their degrees, and saluted the W.M. in the M.M., F.C., and E.A. degrees with all honours. The following officers were appointed to serve the next twelve months, viz.:—Bros. A. Routledge, I.P.M.; H. Dand, S.W.; J. Gato, J.W.; J. Peat, S.D.; H. Bows, J.D.; J. Richardson, Treas. and Dir. of Cers.; J. Harris, Sec.; J. Hall, I.G.; and J. Martin, Tyler. After the roll was called, the W.M. proposed that a vote of thanks to Bro. F. W. Hayward, the Installing Master, who had acquitted himself nobly on this occasion, be recorded on the minutes of the day. Carried with acclamation. The lodge was then finally closed, and all the brethren adjourned to the banquet sumptuously provided by Bro. and Mrs. J. Martin, the host and hostess of the house. After the cloth was withdrawn, and table provided with refreshments, the following toasts were proposed from the chair:—"The Queen,"—anthem, "God save the Queen"; "Prince and Princess of Wales"—anthem accordingly; "The Sovereign of Masonry, Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England"—song, "Hail, Masonry divine," by Bro. Dr. Jones, arranged and sung by him; "Earl de Grey and Ripon, Deputy Grand Master"—song, "Freemasons oak"; "Lord Kenlis, Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmoreland"—song, "Rule Kenlis," also arranged and sung by Bro. Dr. Jones. Bro. Dr. McNorton, proposed, in a praiseworthy speech, "The Health of Bro. Whitewell, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master," also the officers, past and present, of the province, which was responded to by Bros. Lemon, Hayward, Halifax, and Routledge. Bro. Lemon proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and also the Installing Master, coupled with Bro. F. W. Hayward. Bro. Hayward rose amid loud applause, to return thanks, first as Installing Master, in a long and varied speech; and, secondly, as a visitor, and said that he was very sorry that Bro. Woodhouse (so called Tommy) was not present, for he had intended to be here, but in consequence of business he could not come. He (Bro. Hayward), felt sure from what he had heard respecting Bro. Woodhouse, that he had won the favour of all present, and as far as the "Masonic lifeboat," was concerned, he (Bro. Hayward) would have great pleasure, on behalf of Bro. Woodhouse, to thank the brethren of the Wigton Lodge and their friends, for their kind and liberal support toward so laudable a purpose; and on behalf of the visitors and himself, Bro. Hayward returned thanks for favour received, and felt sure that he and they were well pleased with what they had seen and heard. Again he thanked them, and resumed his seat. Bro. Dr. McNorton proposed "The Health of Bro. Dr. Jones," to which Bro. Jones responded in a very amusing speech. At the conclusion, Bro. W. Johnston sang "The heart and the hand." Bro. F. W. Hayward proposed a toast to "The Health of Bro. S. Halifax, the Worshipful Master," in a very neat speech, and said he was convinced, from what he knew of the W.M. (and his acquaintance was not of yesterday) that he would carry on the lodge in an efficient manner, and felt assured that the W.M. would spare no pains to render himself worthy of the honour conferred upon him. The W.M. rose to respond amid loud applause, and said: Bros. Past Masters, Wardens, and officers, Bro. Hayward, and visitors—I thank you from my heart for the very flattering manner in which you have proposed and responded to my health, and I can assure you that I shall do the best I can in my power to promote the efficiency of the lodge. The Tylers' toast brought this red letter day in Wigton to a happy end at eight o'clock. All the brethren were highly satisfied with the day's proceedings.

CORNWALL.

HAYLE.—*Cornubian Lodge* (No. 450).—The members of this flourishing lodge held their annual banquet of St. John at Bro. Cratch's Hotel on Friday, December 27th, and for the purpose of installing the W.M. and officers for the ensuing year. The lodge was close tyled at one o'clock p.m. Bro. George Eustice, who had been unanimously elected at the preceding meeting, was duly installed in the chair, the ceremony of installation being admirably performed by Bro. Dr. Mudge, P.M., Prov. G.S., after which the following officers were appointed:—Bros. John Coombe, I.P.M.; Nicholas J. West, S.W.; James Pool, J.W.; Frank Harvey, Treas.; Captain F. H. Pool, Sec.; William W. Mildren, S.D.; Martin Dunn, J.D.; William H. Thomas, I.G.; George Richards and Thomas Frost, Stewards; Christopher Trathen, Tyler. The ceremony being over, the brethren were called from labour to refreshment. Upwards of fifty brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where they partook of an excellent dinner of the most choice description, which was served in Bro. Cratch's usual *récherché* style. The Cornubian Lodge for the last twelve

months has flourished in a remarkable degree during the mastership of Bro. John Coombe, the retiring W.M. There have been no less than sixteen initiations, fourteen passings, twelve raisings, and five joining members, being more initiations than has been done in one year for some considerable time back. The able manner in which Bro. Coombe has conducted the ceremonies during the past twelve months reflects great credit upon himself. During the last six years there have been nearly sixty initiations. There now stand over five initiations for Bro. Eustice to commence on, and there is every reason to believe that the ensuing year will meet with similar success. It was proposed that the sum of £10 should be given as a donation to the Cornwall Masonic Annuity Fund. The Financial Fund being also in a flourishing condition, the sum of £100 will now be lent out on interest. Again, the members are in a position to build a new Masonic Hall. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were very happily given from the chair and from other members of the Craft, and were pleasantly responded to, and a most comfortable evening was spent, which will be long remembered by the brethren of the Cornubian Lodge.

DEVONSHIRE.

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge Fortitude (No. 105).—On the evening of 20th ult. this old and flourishing lodge met in their splendid temple for the purpose of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. James Cox, into the chair of K.S. There was a very large attendance of its members, together with many distinguished Prov. Grand Officers and visitors. Prior to the installation, five gentlemen were balloted for initiation, and duly accepted, Mr. John Henry Cleverton, R.N., was introduced and received the first degree. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Rodda with his usual correctness, and the charge excellently given by Bro. Colonel Elliot, P.M. The W.M. presiding, on receiving the presentation of the W.M. elect, spoke highly of the qualities of Bro. Cox, pointing him out as an example to be followed by others who aspire to the proud position of presiding over them at a future time, from his strict attendance, urbanity of manner, and correct working of his duties as Senior Warden. On the completion of his installation the W.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Rodda, P.M.; G. Hillson, S.W.; C. C. Cary, J.W.; G. Bignell, S.D.; Martin Williams, J.D.; Geo. Bellamy, Org.; Philip Rousham, I.G.; James Treneman and W. H. Anthony, Stewards. Bro. Samuel Jew was re-elected Treasurer; and James Rowe was re-elected Secretary. The brethren then retired to the refreshment apartments, and spent a most agreeable evening, enlivened by many excellent speeches and responses thereto. The Secretary made his usual statement of the progress of the lodge, thirteen candidates having been initiated, and six members joined during the last year, followed by a general exclamation of "Thus may Fortitude ever prosper."

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge Harmony (No. 156).—On Monday evening the 16th December, a goodly number of the brethren of this lodge assembled at the Hayshe Masonic Temple, Princess-place, Plymouth, to initiate a candidate, and to install Bro. W. Bell, the W.M. elect. The ceremony of initiation was very ably and impressively performed by Bro. S. Kessell, the retiring W.M., after which Bro. Bell was duly installed, according to ancient custom, by Bro. W. K. Michell, P.M., assisted by Bros. Kessell, P.M.; Yeo, P.M.; Harvey, P.M.; Shephard, P.M.; Watts, P.M.; and Nicholls, W.M. of St. John's Lodge, No. 70, Plymouth. Bro. W. Bell, W.M., then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Kessell, P.M.; Triplett, S.W.; Ellis, J.W.; Manning, Treas.; Hearle, Sec.; J. Willoughby, S.D.; Clutterbuck, J.D.; Routleff, I.G.; Laphorn, S.S.; Bangham, J.S.; and Smith, Tyler. The brethren then adjourned to Bro. Triplett's for refreshment, which was served up in his very tasteful style. After the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were drunk. The healths of the following brethren were then given, and suitable responses made:—Bros. W. Bell, W.M.; Kessell, the immediate P.M., for his conduct in the chair during the past year; W. K. Michell, P.M., for the able and efficient manner in which the installation ceremony was performed, and the newly initiated brother. A very comfortable evening was spent, and it is hoped that this is the beginning of a happy and prosperous year to this lodge.

PLYMOUTH.—Lodge Charity (No. 223).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on the 17th ult. for the purpose of transacting the business of the lodge, and the installation of

the W.M. elect. Bro. A. Woolf, P.M., P. Prov. G.S., was duly installed W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was performed in a most efficient manner by Bro. Browning, P.M. The W.M. then appointed the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. J. B. Witheridge, Prov. G. Purst, I.P.M.; J. May, P.M., P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers., S.W.; J. M. Hifley, P.M., J.W.; W. Browning, Sec.; J. Montgomery, S.D.; J. Rogers, J.D.; W. Kennedy, I.G.; W. Fitch, Dir. of Cers.; J. Cornish, Assist. Dir. of Cers.; and G. Crocker, Steward. Bro. W. Radmore was elected Tyler. A very large number of brethren were present, and the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. L. P. Metham, J.G.D. of England, paid a visit to the lodge. Amongst many visitors were Bros. Elliott, P.M., and W.M. of Ascension Lodge (No. 1,029); Carlyon, 1,029; Shanks, Sincerity Lodge; Baxter, St. Alban's Lodge; Rousham and T. Carr, Fortitude Lodge; Ferris, P.M. St. John's Lodge; Thomas, Brunswick Lodge; and Austen, W.M. Hayshe Lodge, Stoke. It was unanimously agreed that five guineas should be handed over to the D. Prov. G.M., Bro. L. P. Metham, J.G.D. of England, who has accepted the much-honoured office of Grand Steward at the annual festival to be held at the Freemasons' Hall, London, to be presented by him on that occasion to the Aged Freemasons and Widows Annuity Fund. In addition to this sum, a subscription was commenced in the lodge, which amounted to nearly £5, and it is anticipated that the members of the lodge who were not then present will make this up to a very handsome donation from Lodge Charity towards this excellent institution.

DURHAM.

DARLINGTON.—Restoration Lodge (No. 111.)

FESTIVAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND INSTALLATION OF THE W.M. ELECT.

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Northgate, on Thursday, the 26th ult. Bro. James Davies W.M., in the chair, supported by Bro. J. W. Marshall, P.M. and P. Prov. G. Org. as S.W., J. Morrell, J.W.; J. B. Towne, Chap.; Bailey, Sec.; Lee, Treas.; Bryson, S.D.; Jackson, J.D.; Robinson, I.G.; Lear, Dir. of Cers. and W.M. elect; Waldy, P.M.; E. Deans, J. Foster, John Morrell, R. F. Leidler, W. B. Johnston, H. H. Arrowsmith, Thomas Robinson, A. Oliver, T. Brunton. Visitors—Bros. Harry Wilson, of the St. Edward's Lodge, No. 986, Leek; J. T. Kay, of the Union Lodge, No. 236, York.

The lodge was opened in the first degree, when the minutes of the last lodge and lodge of emergency were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. J. E. Mackay, P.M. and P. Prov. J.G.D., presented the W.M. elect, Bro. William Lear, for the benefit of installation, who was addressed by the W.M. and Installing Master, Bro. Davis, on the qualifications, which are essentially requisite in every candidate for the office of Master, and having accepted the duties under these qualifications, the Secretary read over the ancient laws and regulations, which were duly assented to by Bro. Lear, who having been obligated on the duties and government of the lodge all below the rank of Installed Masters retired. A board of Installed Masters was then opened by Bro. Davis, assisted by Bros. J. W. Marshall, J. E. Mackay, and E. Waldy, P.M.'s, and the W.M. elect was solemnly installed in the chair of K.S. The brethren were re-admitted, a procession formed, and the W.M. saluted in the third degree.

After the ancient proclamation in the East by Bro. J. W. Marshall, Assistant Installing Master, and time-honoured greeting, the W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. James Davis, P.M.; John Bailey, S.W.; W. Bryson, J.W.; J. B. Towne, Chap.; A. F. Robinson, Treas.; Thomas Brunton, Sec.; C. Jackson, S.D.; A. H. Whipham, J.D.; John Morrell, I.G.; J. W. Marshall, Dir. of Cers.; J. Morrell and Foster, Stewards; Thomas Gargett, Tyler.

The charges to the several officers were delivered in a very impressive manner by Bro. Marshall.

The lodge was closed in the third and second degrees with the usual proclamations and greetings. The Wardens and brethren generally addressed by the Installing Master.

A gentleman of the town was duly proposed and seconded as a fit and proper person to be made a Freemason, and the lodge was closed in due form and with solemn prayer.

The brethren then adjourned to Bro. J. S. Robinson's, the King's Head Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was provided in the host's usual able and liberal style.

The W.M. presided and the two Wardens occupied their constant places.

The cloth being removed, and thanks returned by the Chaplain Bro. J. B. Towne, the W.M. proposed "The Queen," and in doing so said, he was sure it would meet with that loyal reception which at all times characterises a company of Englishmen and more especially of Freemasons, not only because she is a wise and virtuous sovereign, but she has struck a chord which lies deeper in our hearts than loyalty. In her social and domestic life she has gained the love and esteem of all her subjects.

National Anthem—Solo by Bro. Davis.

Bro. J. W. Marshall presided at the piano forte.

The W.M. next proposed "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Lord Zetland, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge," and took that opportunity of alluding to his lordship's kindness in so liberally placing his grounds at Aske at the disposal of the brethren of this lodge last Whit Tuesday.

The W.M. now proposed "Bros. John Fawcett, R.W. Prov. Grand Master, and Sir Hepworth Williamson, Bart., R.W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master," and reminded the brethren that this was the first festival where they had had the honour of drinking the health of their recently installed D. Prov. G.M.

Song—"The fine old English Gentleman," by Bro. Bailey.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master," was proposed by the S.W., who spoke of the services rendered to the Craft by Bro. Lear, and congratulated the brethren of having elected so expert a brother to rule over them.

Bro. J. E. Mackay in proposing "The newly elected officers," expressed his great pleasure in the success which had attended the labours of the officers during the past year, and felt certain that the appointments made that day insured a bright prospect for the future.

Bro. the Rev. L. B. Towne, Chap., ably responded to this toast.

Song—"Pour out the Rhine Wine," Bro. Kay.

Bro. J. W. Marshall then rose, and proposing "The Masonic Charities," made a touching appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Boys' School, and said he had a further claim on the liberality of the brethren this year, as he this evening represented Bro. Levy, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers. and Prov. J.G.W., who has undertaken the office of Steward for this province, at the forthcoming festival in behalf of the Boys' School; and he was certain he need only remind the brethren of the eminent services rendered to this lodge by Bro. Levy to ensure a liberal response to the toast.

Song—"A Mason's true jewels," by Bro. J. W. Marshall.

The W.M. then announced that the collection just made would enable him to remit the sum of ten guineas to Bro. Levy.

Bro. John Morrell, I.G., then asked permission of the W.M. to make a digression from the formal business of the evening, and said he had now one of the most pleasant duties to perform which fell to the lot of man—to reward merit. He had been deputed by the junior members of the lodge to present to Bro. Davis, the retiring Master, a Past Master's jewel, as a slight token of the high estimation in which he was held by them. They (the junior brethren) looked upon Bro. Davis as their Masonic father, and he hoped they would prove worthy sons of so noble a sire, and concluded by attaching the jewel to the breast of Bro. Davis, wishing him long life and health to wear it.

Bro. Davis, in acknowledging the gift, said he did so with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret. He had pleasure in congratulating the brethren on the happy selection they had made in his successor, and the regret he felt on leaving that post which had become endeared to him from the many pleasing reminiscences and associations of the past year. Any services he might have rendered the lodge were amply repaid by the kind and cordial feeling evinced to him by the brethren. For this further token of their esteem he begged to return them his sincere and heartfelt thanks, and he assured them he would ever value it as one of the most precious gifts it had been his lot to receive.

Song—"Bear life's battle manfully," Bro. Davis.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by Bros. Wilson and Kay.

Bro. Marshall then proposed "The Host," which was responded to by Bro. Robinson; and this pleasant and harmonious meeting was brought to a close by Bro. Waldy, P. Prov. J.G.W., proposing the Tyler's toast.

HARTLEPOOL.

Anniversary of the St. Helen's Lodge (No. 531).

On Thursday, the 26th ult., the brethren of this lodge, together with several officers and brethren of neighbouring lodges, assembled in the Masonic Hall, Regent-square, for the purpose of installing the W.M. for the ensuing year. Amongst those present on the occasion were the retiring W.M., Bro. W. J. Sivewright; Bros. Groves, P. Prov. J.G.D., Armstrong, and Nathan, P.M.'s; G. Moore, M.D., P.M. 531 and 764; P. Prov. J.G.W.; Dodds, P.M. Tees Lodge (No. 509), Stockton, P. Prov. S.G.W., P. Prov. G. Reg.; Rev. H. B. Tristram, P.M. Apollo-Phoenix Lodge (No. 460), Bermuda; W. C. Ward-Jackson, W.M. Harbour of Refuge Lodge (No. 764), West Hartlepool, Prov. S.G.W.; and numerous other brethren.

The W.M. elect, Bro. Emra Holmes, Prov. S.G.W., having been installed with all due solemnity into the chair of K.S. by Bro. Moore, then proceeded to invest the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. Forbes, S.W.; J. Armstrong, J.W.; Bell, Sec.; Ropner, Treas.; Corner, S.D.; E. Alexander, J.D.; W. Hall and W. Carter, Stewards; J. Groves, Dir. of Cers.; and J. Mowbray, Tyler. The investiture of Bro. Sivewright, I.P.M., had proceeded in due course.

The lodge having been closed in due Masonic form, the brethren afterwards adjourned to Bro. Riddle's, the King's Head hotel, where the annual festival had been provided in a style reflecting much credit on the *cuisine* of the excellent host and hostess.

After the cloth had been drawn, the W.M. (presiding) gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in succession from the chair. These included, "The Queen;" "The Most Worshipful Grand Master of England, Bro. the Earl of Zetland;" "The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of England, Bro. Earl de Grey and Ripon;" "The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Durham, Bro. John Fawcett;" and "The Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the same province, Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., M.P."

These having been all duly honoured, were followed by "The Grand Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham," proposed by Bro. Dodds, in eloquent and graceful terms, and appropriately acknowledged on their behalf by Bro. Sivewright, P.G.P.; and "The Past Grand Officers of Durham," by Bro. Tristram. This toast was associated with the name of Bro. Dodds, and by him feelingly acknowledged.

The other toasts were "The Worshipful Master," proposed by Bro. Dr. Moore, and responded to by the W.M.; "The Installing Master," proposed by the W.M. and acknowledged by Dr. Moore; "The Past Masters of St. Helen's," responded to by Bro. Armstrong; "The Immediate Past Master," proposed by Bro. Dr. Moore, and responded to by Bro. Sivewright, I.P.M.; "The Past Officers of St. Helen's," proposed by Bro. Bell and responded to by Bro. Carter; "The Present Officers," proposed by Bro. Armstrong, P.M., and responded to by Bro. Forbes, S.W.; "The Visiting Brethren," proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Tristram (who expressed in eloquent terms his high appreciation of the importance and utility of the Order, from a personal experience of its elevating and fraternal influences in each of the four quarters of the globe); "The Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren of No. 764," responded to by a P.M. of that lodge. The meeting then separated.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

WELCHPOOL.—Welchpool Lodge (No. 998).

The last regular meeting of this lodge took place on the 6th ult., under the able presidency of Bro. F. Smith, W.M. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and the minutes of the previous lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. John Samuel, Hon. Sec. informed the W.M. that he was about to leave the neighbourhood and reside in Liverpool, and very much regretted to say that change of residence would necessitate the resignation of his office as Secretary, the duties of which it had given him great pleasure to perform during the last two years.

The W. Master, after expressing the deep regret which the announcement of Bro. Samuel caused him to feel, and which he knew would be felt by every member of the lodge, said he should mark the sense he personally entertained of his services as Secretary by proposing that a vote of thanks of the brethren be given to Bro. John Samuel, and that the same be recorded upon the minutes of the lodge. The proposition was seconded by Bro. Thomas Blakeman Brown, I.P.M., and being put to the lodge by Bro. D. P. Owen, J.W. was agreed to unanimously.

Bro. Goldsbro', P.M., Prov. G.S.W., said he could not allow the opportunity to pass by without expressing the very sincere and deep regret with which he had heard Bro. Samuel announce his being about to leave Welchpool, and felt sure that he was expressing the feeling of every member of the lodge when he said that no brother had earned or enjoyed to a higher degree the kindly feelings and good wishes of the members of the Welchpool Lodge than the worthy brother Secretary, whom all hoped would realise his best interests by his contemplated change of residence, and although the duties of Secretary would be incompatible with change of residence, hoped that it would be no obstacle to his attending the meetings of the lodge.

Bro. Samuel thanked the brethren for their very kind feelings and good wishes, and for the honour they had conferred upon him, and said that he looked forward to the pleasure of meeting them frequently notwithstanding his removal to Liverpool.

Seven clear days' notice having been given in the summonses, the ballot was taken for Mr. Richard Stannen, a candidate for initiation proposed by Bro. Goldsbro', P.M., seconded by Bro. T. Brown, P.M., which was unanimously in his favour. The candidate being in attendance was introduced and duly initiated into Masonry in ancient and solemn form.

Bro. D. P. Owen, J.W., gave notice of motion for altering the present arrangement of the meetings of the lodge. The business of the lodge being ended, the brethren adjourned to refreshment; after which the W.M. proposed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

In proposing "The Health of the Provincial Grand Master of North Wales and Shropshire," the W.M. said: This toast is an especially interesting one to ourselves, it is no less than that of our Grand Master, Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, and I am sure, that in this province there is no Mason who is received with such enthusiasm as Sir Watkin Williams Wynne is, particularly by the brethren of this lodge, who hold him in the highest possible esteem. He is universally beloved by all Masons. It was a great pleasure to myself and to all who witnessed the able manner in which he presided at the consecration of the Royal Denbigh Lodge, and also at the banquet. I can only say, although occupying so high a position as he does, that he is a thorough Mason, and is beloved by all in his province. The Welchpool Lodge has every feeling of respect and gratitude towards him, and I now call upon you to drink, with full honours, "The Health of our Right Worshipful Grand Master."

Chorus—"Prosper the Art."

Song—"When a Lodge of Freemasons," Bro. Collender.

The W.M. then proposed the health of D. Prov. G.M. Bro. the Rev. E. H. Dymook, and remarked that: Whether as a private gentleman or as a Mason he was equally beloved among the Craft in the province, a member of no less than six lodges in the province, and who, although high in position also, is always present with Sir Watkin as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and shows that he can find time to attend to Masonry. I give you the toast of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, past and present, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. Goldsbro', the Grand Senior Warden, a founder and member of this lodge."

Chorus—"Prosper the Art."

Song—"Speculation," Bro. John Samuel.

Bro. Goldsbro' returned thanks for the Provincial Grand Officers, and having requested the W.M. to allow him the use of the gavel, proposed "The Health of Bro. Francis Smith," observing that whether as officer or Worshipful Master he had not been absent from his duty on more than two or three occasions from the time when the lodge was consecrated nearly four years ago, though he had frequently to travel a couple of hundred miles from important business engagements to perform

his duties in the lodge. The zeal he has displayed and the way in which he had discharged his duties merited the highest praise.

The toast having been duly honoured,

Bro. T. B. Brown, I.P.M., sung "The Minute Gun at Sea."

The W.M., Bro. F. Smith, returned thanks and said: I am sincerely obliged for the kind and flattering manner in which Bro. Goldsbro' has proposed and you have received the toast of my health. It is a very great pleasure to me to meet you all again and to see the familiar faces of those whom I met two months ago. Since that time I have been heavily taxed by business and it is quite a relaxation and a pleasure to come and meet my brother Masons. I can truly say that during my year of office, I have endeavoured to do my best to keep up the reputation of this lodge, I am not gifted or endowed like some, but with regard to practical Masonry I hope to be useful to this lodge as long as I live.

The W.M. said: I have a very pleasing and interesting toast to propose this evening, it is the health of the new brother who has come amongst us and who has come from London specially to be initiated in this lodge, a brother of whom I am sure it may be justly said, is of good report, when we think he was proposed by our respected Bro. Goldsbro', and seconded by our Immediate Past Master; I believe him to be both a good and clever young man. Although a stranger to me until this evening, the recommendation of our Past Masters would insure him a most cordial welcome amongst us. We may safely say, even from the little we have seen of him, he will be an ornament to this lodge, will become an excellent working Mason, and will reflect honour upon the lodge. What he has done this evening, he will never repent, and as he becomes better acquainted with the Order, he will be the more pleased with its principles, and I hope we may one day have the pleasure of seeing him occupy the position I have now the honour to hold. I propose to you "The Health of our newly-initiated brother."

Bro. T. B. Brown said: Our Worshipful Master has spoken of our newly-initiated brother as a stranger to him until this evening, you will be somewhat surprised to hear that I have had the pleasure of knowing him some twenty-four years, during which time I have been upon most intimate terms with him. We have made a great gain this evening in adding him to the members of this lodge. As you, Worshipful Master, very well said, he is a clever young man, he is the author of three or four very interesting works, which are well worthy of your reading. I am sure that our Worshipful Master will say, after he has known him longer, that a better Mason there never was in Masonry.

Chorus—"Prosper the Art."

Song—"The Entered Apprentice," Bro. T. B. Brown.

Bro. Stannen: Worshipful Master and Brethren, the flattering manner in which yourself, conjointly with Bro. Past Master Brown, have proposed my health, almost deprives me of the power of thanking you, and I feel that the terms in which Bro. Brown has spoken of me in connection with Masonry and his more flattering mention of the circumstance of my being an author I am hardly entitled to. With regard to what he has said about the authorship I cannot but feel, with all due deference to the polite manner in which he has spoken of it, that it is an hyperbolism. I have made a few sketches of Continental trips, and ventured to print a few originally for private circulation with the intention of distributing them among my friends. With regard to the peculiar object with which I am here and the toast proposed, I may say briefly that I have been deeply impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony through which I have had to pass and which ushered me into the light of Masonry, and by the very earnest and vital gentle manner in which it was conducted by my friend and brother, Dr. Goldsbro', I was very much struck with the wisdom and beauty of the sentiments embodied in the charge, and at the time it was being delivered the wish sprung up in my heart that Masons all over the world might but realise the practical religion there enjoined, and put an end, by the force of example, to the discord and contention now disturbing it. Based as it appears to be on precepts drawn from the Book of Wisdom, the tone of genuine piety pervading it is not surprising, and I feel it behoves every Mason to strive perpetually to ultimate these principles in his life, and so to extend and strengthen those bonds of Christian fellowship which our Supreme Master came on earth to establish. Although for a number of years I have felt tempted to become a Mason,

I have always dreaded that I might be committing myself to something I might afterwards regret. I can honestly say, after what I have seen and heard to-night, I have not the slightest feeling left on my mind in having entered upon this profession, for it is a profession, and one of a very high standard, and I can say sincerely, it will be my utmost endeavour not to disgrace the articles of faith which I have been privileged to subscribe to. I thank you very heartily for the warm reception you have given me, and if on future occasions, though at longer intervals, or if living nearer to you, I hope to meet you again and again to reciprocate the honour as far as I can do, and the kind and hearty sentiments expressed towards myself by my brethren.

Bro. Goldsbro' proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and said: With regard to Bro. Jones, he could scarcely reconcile himself to the belief that he was a visitor and not a member of the lodge, he being one of his children in Masonry, having had the pleasure, some three or four years ago, to initiate, pass, and raise him in the Welchpool Lodge, but he should now have to couple the toast with his name as a visitor.

Song—"I'm going to be married next Monday," by Bro. Collender.

Bro. T. P. Jones: Worshipful Bro. Goldsbro', I beg to thank you very much for the way in which you have proposed my health as a visitor. As you very justly said you can scarcely call me a visitor, as I was one of the first members initiated in this lodge. As all the brethren know very well, with the exception of the brother who joined us to-night, I have not been present for some time. I assure you it has very often caused me a great amount of regret that I could not attend here. I did not expect to be here this evening but Bro. Ward asked me to come to the lodge, I felt pleased in being asked by a brother to do so, and it is a great pleasure to see here such happiness and unanimity. The time when I seceded from the lodge was a peculiar one, and I must say I have regretted the day I left it; this is the only opportunity I have had of expressing it, and I hope that, with your permission and that of the brethren, my name may be again put on the list of its members. At the time I resigned I did think there was not the amount of squareness that there should be in the lodge, but several things have since transpired which have caused me to alter my opinion, and this has been the only time I could express that opinion. I hope you will look over my secession from the lodge, it was no fault of mine, it was an error of judgment, and I have come to the determination to express my opinion, and I shall only be too proud, and it will give me great pleasure, to be once more amongst my brethren.

The W. Master: The next toast is the Past Masters of the Welchpool Lodge. I am sure though we have only two at present those two are a host in themselves. This lodge must be very much gratified when we have amongst us the Grand Senior Warden of this province. We know the high esteem in which he is held by every Mason in this province, and I believe that as a working Mason he is unsurpassed. There is not a lodge that would not be proud to have Bro. Goldsbro' as one of its members. We know that our brother has not sought these honours, but they have been placed on him through his modest, unassuming manner, and for his great ability. Of our Bro. Past Master Brown we know in what an admirable manner he performed the duties of the Master's chair and as an Installing Master, and he will no doubt also be our lecturer. I give you "The Health of the Past Masters, Bro. Goldsbro' and Bro. Brown."

"Prosper the Art."

Song—"Fair Hebe I love," Bro. Stannen.

Bros. Goldsbro' and Brown having respectively returned thanks,

Bro. Edward Pryce, Prov. G. Sec., said: I am allowed the privilege to propose the next toast, and I do so with a great deal of pleasure, although I have before had the same pleasure and gratification; it is the health of our worthy Chaplain, Bro. Edwards. I believe I am expressing the sentiments of every member of this lodge, when I say that a more worthy brother is not to be found. We have, happily, many worthy members, but he is perhaps one of the most worthy. It is only the extreme inclemency of the weather that has kept him away from us on this occasion, and he has only missed once in the last four years in discharging the duties that devolved upon him, and you all know how efficiently he has done them. I hope and trust that his days may be long spared that he may add to the solemnity of our proceedings. I am certain it is quite unnecessary for me to say anything further here to

ensure for that worthy Mason a hearty reception of the toast. Having done that, I can also take this opportunity of expressing the gratification with which I have heard the words of recantation of Bro. Jones, and I hope and trust that it is only the beginning, and that the other members who seceded from us will soon see (I do not use the words offensively) the error of their ways, and that, as they grow older they will grow wiser. We shall only be good Masons to them. I will now go back to the subject of my toast and propose—"Health and long continued life to our worthy Chaplain, Bro. Edwards."

Song—"She's just like a fairy," by the W.M.

The W. Master: In proposing "The Health of the Officers of the Welchpool Lodge," I must say I am deeply indebted to them, for they always muster well at their posts. I regret the absence of our brother, the Senior Warden from whom I received a note this evening, stating that he dreaded the severity of the weather, and when we consider that he is seventy-three or seventy-four years of age, his constant attendance up to the present time has been a pattern that might well be imitated by his younger brethren. Our Bro. Pryce Owen is always with us, and we look upon him as one who will make a very able Master of this lodge. Bro. Edward Pryce, also, we always see his smiling and good-humoured face, and can always depend upon his being present, and we can count upon his being a very great gun in this lodge. Our good Bro. Rutter, we always look for him, and we know that nothing but illness will keep him away. Bro. Roper also, who has very efficiently performed the duties of Junior Deacon this evening. I propose their very good health, and may we see them all going in turn into the chair of W.M. in this lodge, and be added to the staff of the Past Masters; I couple with the toast the name of Bro. Pryce Owen.

Song—"Jack's the Lad," Bro. Brown.

Bro. D. P. Owen, J.W., said: W. Master there is one thing which to me is a paradox and which I cannot get over. Whether I am acting for the senior officer or am in my office as Junior Warden, I am told I must return thanks for the toast of the officers. I have been a member of this lodge for four years, and it so happens that I have been in every office in the lodge, one excepted. As years roll on and if health be granted me, having except upon one occasion, attended every summons of the W.M., and being only too glad to support the working of the lodge, having begun at the very bottom and gone on gradually, and from the very many times you have kindly spoken of me as trying to do my duty in each succeeding office, I only hope and shall only be too glad still to go on if thought requisite. I have felt great pleasure to-night, I won't say the greatest I ever felt, but very nearly since the night I was initiated. I have had the pleasure of visiting a London lodge and some of our neighbouring lodges, and I was very forcibly struck this evening by Bro. Goldbro's words to the effect, that the more you visit other lodges the more you learn of Masonry. The pleasure I have had this evening has been threefold, the first before the working of the lodge commenced, in seeing our old friend back again especially after being long absent, secondly hearing the old familiar voice and the beautiful manner in which the first degree was performed, and thirdly listening to the very nice speech made by Bro. Stannen. I am very sorry that our Bro. Senior Warden is unable to be present, on his behalf and on that of the officers of the lodge I return you sincere thanks, and I am certain that it is a great pleasure to us all to do the best we can for the lodge, because we have the support of all from the Master downwards.

Bro. Goldsbro proposed "The Health of the Treasurer, Bro. Thomas Newell," and expressed the regret he felt, and which he knew was shared in by every member of the lodge that he was unable to be present through important business engagements.

The W.M.: The next toast is one which, though I propose with pleasure, it is not unmingled with feelings of great regret, it is "The Health of our Worthy Secretary," whose announcement that he is about to leave Welchpool has filled me with dismay. The very able manner in which he has always performed his duties, his nice, kind, and modest demeanour have impressed us with feelings of regard and affection towards him. Though he resigns his office as Secretary, he will still continue a member of the lodge, and we shall hope to see his amiable face often amongst us. Bro.

Brown will, I think, add something to what I have said for considering the way in which Bro. Samuel has done the duties of Secretary during the past two years, we cannot say too much for him.

Bro. Brown: I am only too happy to accept the suggestion of the W.M. to say something on the subject of this toast. With regard to the office of Secretary those who have not served it, have no idea of the amount of work involved in it, it is not only the issuing of the summons, from past experience I can tell you that it is a great deal that the Secretary has to do, so far as Bro. Samuel is concerned, he has done it with pleasure, he has always been a Mason at heart and has done his duty to the satisfaction of everyone in this lodge and the lodge is losing in him a very worthy officer. Since the time I have been in Welchpool, with the exception of my Bro. Pryce, I have been more with him than with any other member of this lodge. I shall have a great loss, for the very look of Bro. Samuel is enough to cheer one up. So far as the lodge is concerned, and if the brethren wish it, I will take the office with pleasure until such time as another Secretary is appointed.

Bro. Edward Pryce: I hope I am not impertinent in taking up the time and asking your permission to say a few words to the toast. When I heard you, W. Master, propose the health of our worthy Bro. Samuel, I thought and felt I should like to say a few words and I trust I am not intruding. In losing Bro. Samuel, who has been an associate my own family for three years, I really hardly know how to express my regret for next to my own brother he has been to me a brother indeed. I regret that circumstances should have arisen to induce him to leave this neighbourhood and I can only express the great loss we all shall feel, a greater loss to me than perhaps to any of you.

"The Westminster Chimes"—Bro. Francis Smith.

Bro. Samuel: W. Master—I am sure my thoughts are going far in advance of words in my attempt to express my feelings for the kind way in which you, Bros. Goldsbro', Brown, and Pryce, have thought proper to make use of my name. It always gave me pleasure to prepare the summons and perform the other duties appertaining to the office of Secretary. Whatever we may feel hard to undergo in the world, there is always a little feeling of pleasurable anticipation that every alternate month we shall meet as we have done this evening, and associate with each other as brethren, and although I may not be able to be present so often as heretofore, I can assure you that my heart will be with you; I shall always look back with grateful feelings to my mother lodge. The idea of quitting this place after four years residence and four years happy membership of this lodge, of having to say good bye to the hospitable roof of Bro. Edward Pryce, where and from whom I have always received the most fatherly kindness and advice fills my heart with such painful regrets, that I hope you, brethren, will excuse my attempting to say more than from the depths of my heart, I return you my most sincere thanks for the kind feelings you have expressed towards me.

Song, "Forgive and Forget"—Bro. Brown.

Bro. Brown: The Worshipful Master has kindly permitted me to propose the next toast; it is that of our worthy brother Stewards; not that upon this occasion I am about to speak of them as the directors of our banquet table, but as two of the most worthy men in the town of Welchpool. It may be true that in some respects opinions may differ upon certain points, but when we meet in a Mason's lodge we never allow those differences of opinion even to be mentioned. We speak of men as we find them. We know that these two brethren act conscientiously, and do that which they consider right in the outer world, and set an excellent example by showing that they can enter the lodge together and there forget those private opinions which lie without the pale of Masonry, and which, though unhappily tending but too often to place father in opposition to son, and son against father, cease to exert their baneful influence within our sacred walls; this, freemasonry teaches us to do, and did we not carry out practically the principles inculcated in our lodges, it would be a farce. Freemasonry teaches us to fear God, to love our neighbour, to remember that there is a world beyond this, and not only to tolerate but to respect the feelings and opinions of others, whether in respect to forms of religious worship or civil polity. There are no two better Masons, or men of more honest opinions, or who do more good, to be found in this town than Bro. Edward Pryce and Bro.

Rutter; I therefore propose their health. Both of them were Masons in heart before they were members of this lodge, and the better the man the better the Mason.

Brothers Edward Pryce and Rutter respectively returned thanks.

The final toast was given by the W. M., and the proceedings brought to a conclusion.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

SWANSEA.—*Indefatigable Lodge* (No. 237).—The brethren of this influential lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John on Friday last, the 27th inst., in accordance with their usual custom, when a most agreeable and satisfactory meeting was held. The attendance of members was very numerous, and the brethren of the neighbouring lodges also mustered in good force. The lodge was opened shortly after four o'clock p.m. by the W.M., Bro. Charles, P. Prov. S.G.W., and immediately afterwards the brethren had the pleasure of receiving the Prov. G.M., accompanied by the D. Prov. G.M., and attended by an excellent array of Prov. G. officers. The Prov. G.M., who was most heartily welcomed, having addressed a few words to the brethren expressive of his gratification at being present on the occasion, the business of the evening was at once proceeded with, viz., the installation of Bro. D. Williams, Prov. G. Sec., as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was most impressively performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. Charles Bath; after which the newly installed W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the year follows:—Bros. F. A. Hopwood, S.W.; J. B. Brock, J.W.; C. T. Heartley, Chap.; J. T. Nettell, Sec.; T. L. Jowett, S.D.; George Bradford, J.D.; W. E. Brown, Dir. of Cers.; Edward Fricker, (P. Prov. G. Org.), Org.; W. T. Canton, I.G.; William Andrew and John Brown, Stewards. Bro. Thomas Powell, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer for the ninth time, a position which this worthy brother fills with the utmost credit to himself and the greatest advantage to the lodge. Bro. J. Jones Hewson was unanimously appointed Hon. Tyler. The W.M., Bro. D. Williams, having, in feeling and appropriate terms, thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him, proceeded to invest the retiring W.M., Bro. Charles Bath, with a very handsome P.M.'s jewel, which had been subscribed for by nearly every member of the lodge. In presenting this elegant jewel, the W.M. took the occasion to remark that for the last two years Bro. Bath had presided over the lodge in a manner that had endeared him to every member of it. The admirable way in which every part of the ceremonial working of the lodge had been attended to, the painstaking, zeal, and the gentlemanly courtesy which had been displayed were deserving of the highest eulogium, and he concluded by stating, amid loud acclamation, that Bro. Bath had left the chair, taking with him the esteem and affectionate regard of every brother connected with the lodge. On the proposition of the W.M., seconded by the S.W., Bros. Charles Bath and James Griffith Hall were elected to serve on the Provincial Grand Lodge Committee for the year as the P.M.'s representing this lodge. The Prov. G.M. made a forcible and earnest appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, as the first steward from the province, for this excellent charity. The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Cameron Arms Hotel, where the annual banquet was served, when upwards of seventy sat down to partake of the good things prepared for them. The W.M. presided. The proceedings were of the most agreeable character. The W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts with great spirit, which were most fraternally received throughout, the speeches being most admirable. There was some excellent singing, contributed by Bros. Jones, Hewson, Robinson, Brown, Jowett, and others. Bro. Fricker, P. Prov. G. Org., presided at the pianoforte with his usual ability. Altogether a most cheerful and harmonious evening was spent, and the brethren separated about eleven o'clock.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST.)

HULL.—*Humber Lodge* (No. 57).—The members of this lodge held their usual meeting in the lodge-room in Osborne-street, for the purpose of witnessing the installation of Bro. John Walker as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was very carefully performed by Bro. J. B. Bell, M.D., D. Prov. G.M. North and East York. The newly installed W.M. then appointed or invested the following brethren as officers of the lodge for next year:—Bros. W. D. Keyworth, P.M.; J. J. Runtun, S.W.; R. T. Vivian, J.W.; J. L. Seaton, Treas. of Pension and Bene-

volent Fund; W. D. Keyworth, Almoner; J. Fountain, Treas.; J. J. Backwell, Sec.; J. Hudson, S.D.; W. Tessyman, J.D.; G. Haigh, Dir. of Cer.; B. S. Oates, Chap.; M. Haberland, I.G.; J. W. Stephenson, Org.; T. Hewson, Lecture Master; and W. H. Bee, Steward.—At seven o'clock many of the brethren dined together at Glover's London Hotel, where an excellent banquet was admirably served. The W.M., Bro. Walker, presided, and was supported by the presence of the Deputy Prov. G.M., the W.M. of the Minerva Lodge, and the P.M. of the Kingston Lodge, and several visiting brethren, including one from a Glamorganshire lodge. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, and many excellent songs were sung by several brethren, accompanied on the piano by Bro. J. W. Stephenson. In proposing the health of "The Worshipful Master," allusion was made to the praiseworthy efforts in promotion of the Masonic charities, especially in connection with the Boys' School, to which, mainly through his instrumentality, the son of the late Bro. Captain Atkinson had been recently elected, and which it was hoped the son of the late Bro. W. E. Stead would be elected in April. For the boys school, in addition to contributing by his example and advice to an increase of zeal amongst lodges and brethren, Bro. Walker, during the last year, collected nearly £150, and by his indefatigable labours secured the election of the boy Atkinson. In responding, Bro. Walker spoke hopefully of the prospects of the boy Stead, who he hoped, would be elected in April. In the course of the evening the D. Prov. G.M. mentioned that Bro. R. Morris, the well known American Masonic author, was intending next year to visit England on his way to the East on a travel of Masonic investigation, and it is hoped discovery, and that it was hoped he would visit the Midland Counties and York, and he had written to invite him to Hull. This announcement was received with much applause.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. CAPTAIN SPEIRS, OF ELDERSLIE, M.P.,
AS PROV. G.M. OF GLASGOW, AND SEVENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

A special meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on the 20th ult. in the City Hall Saloon, for the purpose of installing Bro. Captain Speirs, Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow and his office-bearers. The deputation from the Grand Lodge consisted of the following brethren:—Bros. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, Substitute Grand Master, Acting Grand Master Mason of Scotland; W. A. Laurie, G. Sec.; A. J. Stewart, W.S., G. Clerk; A. Hay, G. Jeweller; W. Officer, R.W.M. No. 1, acting S.G.W.; W. Bennet, R.W.M. 392, acting J.G.W.; D. Bryce, jun., G. Architect; C. S. Law, G. Dir. of Cers.; W. M. Bryce, G. Tyler; and the following Grand Stewards; W. Inglis and W. L. Mair, advocates; D. Murray Lyon, Dr. Carmichael, D. Kinnear, Major Blake, F. L. Law, J. Goodsir, Capt. Aylmer, R.N.; W. Grant, A. Addison, H. R. Kay, and J. Wallace. There was a numerous attendance of members of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the following distinguished brethren present:—J. Merry, M.P., Prov. G.M. Middle Ward, Lanarkshire; W. N. Gilmour, S. Prov. G.M.; R. Wylie, Prov. G.M. Ayrshire; J. Cruickshank, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Major Barbour, R.W.M. 102; Capt. McCausland, W. Hector; D. Campbell, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Gordon Smith and James Anderson, P. Prov. G. Secs.; James Stevenson, of the Masonic Magazine, London and Glasgow; A. McTaggart, M.A., R.W.M. 27, &c.

The Grand Master *pro tem.* opened the Grand Lodge in the first degree, explaining that it was only on an occasion such as this on which they met, that the Grand Lodge could be open to Apprentices. Bro. Captain Speirs was then brought into the lodge by a deputation, and his commission from the Grand Lodge, constituting him Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow, and giving him power to preside over all the lodges now and to be hereafter constituted within the province, was read by Bro. W. Smith, Prov. G. Sec. The installation of Bro. Capt. Speirs was then proceeded with. This ceremony consisted in reading over the usual charges and regulations to Bro. Captain Speirs, and on the latter intimating his assent to the same, and taking the oath *de fidele*, and finally being invested with the jewels of his office. At this last part of the ceremony, the brethren

manifested their welcome to the new R.W. Prov. G.M. by prolonged and hearty cheering.

The R.W. Prov. G. Master then said: Most Worshipful Acting Grand Master of Scotland, members of the deputation from the Grand Lodge, and Brethren, you have conferred an honour upon me this evening which I feel I am in no degree worthy. It will remain with you in future, now that your suffrages have placed me in this position, to assist me in what is my earnest wish and ambition, namely, to work Masonry as it ought to be worked—on the square—and raise this province of Glasgow to be the finest jewel in the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

At the request of Bro. Inglis, the Wardens conducted the newly installed Provincial Grand Master to his seat in front of the altar; after which the following Provincial Grand Office-bearers were duly installed and invested with the insignia of their offices, viz.:—Bros. W. Montgomerie Neilson, D. Prov. G.M.; F. J. Barrow, S. Prov. G.M.; T. Baker, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Steel, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. G. Stewart Burns, Prov. G. Chap.; and W. Smith, Prov. G. Sec.

The R.W. Bro. Inglis then addressed the Prov. G. Master in the usual prescribed form, after which the Rev. Bro. G. S. Burns, Prov. G. Chap., pronounced the thanksgiving. At the suggestion of the presiding brother, three cheers were given by way of salute to the Prov. G. Master, and the ceremony of the installation was concluded.

The R.W. Bro. Inglis said: I beg to congratulate you from the bottom of my heart upon the successful termination of this evening's proceedings, and upon your having placed at your head a very admirable Master Mason.

The Grand Lodge was then closed.

THE BANQUET.

The installation banquet took place immediately after in the lesser City Hall, purveyed by Bro. Macgregor, of the Clarence Hotel, George-square. The R.W. Bro. Captain Speirs, M.P., Prov. G.M., presided, and was supported right and left by the Substitute Grand Master, Bro. Henry Inglis, of Torsonce, James Merry, M.P., and the brethren whose names have been already mentioned.

After dinner, the R.W. Bro. Captain Speirs, Prov. G.M., said: The first toast is one which all gentlemen, more particularly Scotch gentlemen, will respond to in a most enthusiastic manner. I will give it without any preface. It is "The Queen and the Craft." The next toast is "The Sister Grand Lodges and their respected Grand Masters." I think it will require very little to draw forth an enthusiastic cheer from Scotch people when I mention the name of the Grand Master of England, the Earl of Zetland. He is a Scotchman of whom we are all proud. As to the Duke of Leinster, he is one of the most popular noblemen in the sister country. The Grand Lodge of Ireland will certainly flourish when they have at their head a brother of such ability. I couple the toast with the names of Bro. Basber, Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Lodge of England, and of Bro. Captain Aylmer, of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

These two brethren having replied, the Prov. G.M. said: I hope you will fill bumpers when you drink the next toast—"The Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Earl of Dalhousie, Grand Master Mason." The noble lord is worthy of all the honour we can do him. Whilst we drink this toast we should not forget the predecessor of the noble lord—a gentleman who, for a larger period of years than many present, has devoted himself heart and soul to the cause of Masonry in Scotland. I will ask you to couple with the toast the name of the Substitute Grand Master and the deputation from the Grand Lodge.

The R.W. Bro. Inglis returned thanks in the name of the Earl of Dalhousie, in his own name, and in that of the deputation. He hoped that the present would by no means be the only occasion on which he would have the pleasure of fraternising with the Glasgow brethren.

The R.W. Bro. Inglis, in proposing "The Provincial Grand Master," said: I have now, with infinite pleasure, to propose to you a toast which I am satisfied it will give you infinite pleasure to receive. It is to the health of the newly-installed and Right Worshipful Brother the Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow. Of all the provincial charges which exist in Scotland, I need hardly say that that of the province of Glasgow is immeasurably the most important, and can only be reckoned second in degree to that which is presided over by the Grand Master Mason of Scotland. And, as it is, so ought it to be. It would be strange, indeed, that this noble city—this Queen

of the West, who covers the ocean with her navies, and clothes the world with her manufactures—it would be strange, indeed, were she to be found wanting in devotion to that Craft which has endeared our common country to the nations of the civilised, aye, and to the nations of the uncivilised world. But it is not so. On the contrary, the citizens of Glasgow have carried into the Craft that *perfidum ingenium Scotorum*, that perseverance and enthusiasm which they have carried into navigation and into commerce, and with such success, and with such results, that I feel I should be doing injustice to the Scottish Craft did I not say, as the representative of our Most Worshipful Grand Master in this hall, that I consider the province of Glasgow one of the brightest jewels which adorn the Masonic throne. Now, brethren, such being the case, and also for another reason, it behoved the Craft to be careful to whom they entrusted its custody. That other reason will immediately occur to yourselves to be the fact of the European fame of the previous custodian, the distinguished and lamented Sir Archibald Alison. Of him, beyond the mention of his name, I need say nothing in this place, even had full justice not been already done to his Masonic memory in that oration pronounced in the funeral lodge of Glasgow by our noble brother the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland. I say that, in these circumstances, it behoved the Craft to be especially careful to whom they entrusted the keeping of this Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow; and you know as well as I whether the Craft have been faithful to their trust or not. In the largest meeting ever held for the despatch of business within the Grand Lodge Hall, in opposition to a candidate of high respectability, local influence, and great talent, the Scottish Craft elected our Right Worshipful Bro. Captain Speirs, of Elderslie, to the office of Provincial Grand Master. I firmly believe that the Scottish Craft will never repent their choice, and that to this province he will devote all the energies of his mind and all the influence of his position. The motto on the colours of his regiment is *nulli secundus*. (Captain Speirs—"No.") Very well; it will be a good motto for his lodge. His coat of arms is a ship in full sail; and I wish him a favourable wind, a gallant crew, and a prosperous voyage.

The Prov. G. Master said: I must thank you, as I do, from the bottom of my heart, for the kind manner in which you have responded to this toast, and I trust most sincerely, that if, in the contest that has now passed for this province, I have unwittingly caused the slightest pain or annoyance to any Mason within its bounds, I hope I shall be forgiven. Bro. Inglis has alluded to what he thought was the motto of my old regiment; the motto really is, *Nemo me impune lacessit*. I feel convinced that, if the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow will work together in harmony and brotherly love, as I hope they will, whoever tries to interfere and touch them will find he has the worst of the bargain. Bro. Inglis has also alluded to the arms which my family have had the honour of bearing, and, without wishing to be egotistical, I may tell you the motto under which we have borne the breeze is *Salve me Deus*. I hope, with God's help, that this province will be what Bro. Inglis has remarked—the finest jewel in the Grand Lodge of Scotland. I can only say for myself, that although I am a young Mason, certainly much younger than those around me, it shall be my proudest ambition to cluster around that throne upon which you have placed me, the ablest and most distinguished Masons of this province. I will venture to hope that nothing will happen to mar the harmony of this Provincial Grand Lodge, and if there should be anything of the kind, I trust the Masons of Glasgow will not be afraid to come and tell me of it, so that the lodge shall be wrought in harmony.

Bro. Officer, R.W.M. No. 1, proposed "The Provincial Grand Lodge of Scotland," and took occasion to allude to the rapid strides that Masonry had made in the three kingdoms, and of the prosperity, in connection with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, it had attained in Australia, New Zealand, and India. That prosperity had been attended with the greatest benefit to the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and through it its financial position had been greatly improved. He coupled the toast with the Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, Bro. Wylie. It was with feeling of regret he learned Bro. Wylie was about to retire from his high office, but he was glad to hear that his place was to be filled by a member of a well-known Scottish family—Bro. Colonel Muir, of Caldwell. He trusted that that brother would imitate the Masonic virtues of his immediate predecessor.

Bro. Wylie said: It is with unfeigned pleasure that I rise to return you my sincere thanks for the kind way in which my

health has been proposed. I am glad to say that Freemasonry never was in a more prosperous state than it is at the present moment in the province of Ayrshire. The thirty-two lodges in that province are all in healthy, active working order. I am glad to say that within the last year some of the lodges in the province have brought to light nearly a hundred sons from the barbarian world.

Bro. Mair, advocate, proposed "The Provincial Grand Office-Bearers of Glasgow," to which Bro. Walter M. Neilson replied.

Bro. A. McTaggart proposed "The Past Provincial Grand Office-Bearers of Glasgow," coupled with the name of Bro. J. Cruickshanks, Past Depute Prov. G.M., who replied to the toast in very feeling and appropriate terms.

The R.W. Bro. Merry, M.P., Prov. G.M. Middle Ward of Lanarkshire, said: Right Worshipful Sir and Brethren,—I have great pleasure in proposing the toast which is last upon the list—"The Lodges of the Provinces." I daresay you will not be annoyed that it is the last toast, as I believe the ladies will soon be making their appearance at the meeting which is to follow. It would not do, you know, for us not to be ready to receive them. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow is a numerous body, so that you can scarcely expect that it will be quite unanimous in everything that may be brought before its members. Although there may have been a little disunion among you with regard to who should be your Provincial Grand Master, now that the election is settled, I sincerely trust that the good feeling and brotherly love which have existed among you for such a length of time will long prevail. I am sure that in the selection you have made you have done well; and, although you were not quite unanimous in the matter, I believe you will very soon be so. From the acquaintance I have made of your Right Worshipful Master, I have no doubt that you have put the right man in the right place. I trust he will do all manner of justice to you, and that you will do your duty to one another, and to him in particular.

Bro. Ramsay, R.W.M. 3 bis, replied.

The R.W. Bro. the Prov. G.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. Laurie, the Grand Secretary of Scotland," to which compliment that brother, in a few happy sentences, replied.

The concluding toast, proposed by the Prov. G.M., was "Our next meeting—may it be a merry one."

The National Anthem having been sung very effectively by Bro. C. S. Law, Grand Dir. of Cers., the company taking part in the chorus, the brethren adjourned to the *soirée*.

THE SOIRÉE.

In the evening the seventh annual festival was held in the City Hall, under the patronage of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the auspices of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The hall was tastefully decorated with Masonic flags for the occasion. The entire management of the festival was under the able superintendence of Bros. Robb, Prov. G. Marshall; Leith, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; and the Provincial Grand Stewards. Bro. Capt. Speirs, Prov. G. Master, again presided, and was accompanied to the platform by the following brethren:—Bros. H. Inglis, S.G. Master Mason of Scotland; James Merry, M.P., Prov. G.M. Middle Ward; R. Wylie, Prov. G.M. Ayrshire; W. A. Laurie, W.S., the venerable G. Sec.; C. S. Law, G. Dir. of Cers.; A. Hay, G. Jeweller; W. M. Bryce, G. Tyler; Major Blake, G.S.; Captain Aylmer, R.N., G.S.; W. L. Mair, Advocate, G.S.; W. Inglis, Advocate, G.S.; John Goodsir, G.S.; W. Bennet, G.S.; D. Murray Lyon, G.S.; James Wallace, G.S.; W. Robertson, G.S.; A. McTaggart, M.A., R.W.M. No. 27, and convener of the Provincial Grand Committee; E. Busher, G. Sword Bearer Grand Lodge of England; Major Barbour, R.W.M. 102; Captain McCausland; T. Baker, Prov. S.G.W.; James Steel, Prov. J.G.W.; R. Robb, Prov. G. Marshal; R. Donaldson, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; James Cruickshank, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Donald Campbell, P.D. Prov. G.M.; J. Anderson, P. Prov. G. Sec.; James Pollock, the venerable Prov. G. Tyler, and a large number of the Masters of lodges of the province. At eight o'clock tea was served by Bro. James Walker, of Glassford-street, purveyor to the festival; after which,

The Chairman said: In taking this chair this evening, the idea that is uppermost in my mind is the loss that this community has sustained by the removal from among them of that distinguished gentleman and Mason, who on so many occasions occupied this chair and presided over meetings of the same character as that which I have the honour to preside over this

evening. For a long period of years he filled the office (that the suffrages of the Glasgow Masons have now conferred on me) in a manner that won for him the esteem and affection of those with whom he came in contact in Masonic matters, and also that of all the citizens of this great city that is so appropriately called the Metropolis of the West. It is a hard task for anyone to live always in the full daylight of popular opinion, and I ask you whether that task is not much more difficult when one has to follow a gentleman such as the one I have alluded to, and whose loss we all deplore. In the contest for the high office rendered vacant by his death, it was my lot to have as an opponent a gentleman who is well known to all of you, and whose character and literary attainments (much higher than I can hope to rival) were such as to make the conflict a keen and exciting one, but one in which I am glad to say all personal feeling was absent, and in regard to which I believe we can all look back without bitterness or anger. It was a cause of regret to myself that his official duties prevented his accepting the highest office it was in the power of the Provincial Grand Lodge to confer, and which I am sure he would have filled in a manner that would have made us indebted to him in no small degree. The object of our meeting here to-night is to assist Freemasonry in one way or another, and it may be interesting to some of you to know something of the origin of the Masonic body and of its subsequent history. Freemasonry is an ancient and respectable institution, embracing men of every nation under the sun, of every religion, and of all conditions of life, one in which all religious and political sentiments are forgotten, as well as all the small differences and quarrels which disturb so much the peace and quiet of our every-day life. In it our object is to make, as far as we can, all our brethren happy; to forget the social distinctions that are in some cases made too much of in the outside world, and to remind ourselves that we are all sprung from a common origin, have the same nature, and are destined for the same end. This society, founded on all the highest principles of religion, had great power in days gone by; and, without going into times beyond the Christian era, where it is clearly distinguishable in the Eleusinian mysteries and the rites of Ceres, I will endeavour shortly to give you some account of it since that time. We find it in great vigour under the pontiffs of Rome, who conferred on this Fraternity the most important privileges in those early times, allowing them to be governed by laws, customs, and ceremonies peculiar to themselves; and to this Fraternity we are indebted for the splendid monasteries and cathedrals of Europe and of our own country. The cathedral of this city, of which we are so justly proud, has many of the stones used in its structure marked with signs and symbols that prove it to have been built by Freemasons. In fact, we find that all artificers who were not members of the Fraternity were debarred from building anything that the Freemasons had a right to, and which, we have reason to believe, was the entire church architecture of that time. But as all secret associations are a terror to either temporal or spiritual tyranny, the principles of Freemasonry came in collision with the principles that actuated the Church of Rome, that great and at that time almost omnipotent power, as soon as they had made use of the Fraternity for their own purposes (and when the demand for religious structures was less urgent) persecuted the men whom they had themselves encouraged, and endeavoured to stamp out both them and the Society to which they belonged. Strange as it may seem, that country which at that time was so completely under the power of the Church of Rome became the centre from which the pure principles of the Order again issued to the entire world. It is impossible to ascertain why this was so, unless the Scotch were cleverer in eluding the suspicion of their enemies, or perhaps did not make use of the Craft for political purposes, as was often done on the Continent, and were in consequence less molested. It is a well known fact that Masonry flourishes in times of peace, and dies away in times of great excitement; and perhaps the wars of the Middle Ages which shook Europe to its very foundations were the cause of the Society of Architects taking up their abode in what was then a small village on the Western Coast of Scotland, called Kilwinning, the lodge of which now holds the proud title of the Mother Lodge of Scotland. From that time until the present the Fraternity has gone through many changes—at one time being under the immediate patronage of the sovereign, and at other times being neglected by them. But from these changes, to which all mortal societies are subject, it has come forth with all its old beauties still around it; and it lies with ourselves either to raise it by our

exertions to still greater repute and honour and affluence, or to let it drop from its high position.

The oration of the Prov. G.M. was received with marked approbation.

A concert programme was then entered upon, the artistes engaged being Madame Garcia, the Misses Blair, Signor Garcia, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Houston, comic vocalist; Mr. Emile Berger, pianist, and Mr. Lambeth, organist. At the close of the first portion of the concert, and while the audience were discussing a service of fruit,

Bro. Inglis, Substitute Grand Master, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—Permit me to ask you one question—

“What signifies the life o’ man,
An’ ‘twerna’ for the lasses, O?”

I need not tell the Masons’ wives and bairns, the Masons’ sweet-hearts and sisters here assembled, that Masons are but men; and good husbands and fathers, and good lovers and brothers I trust they have found them to be. But this I will tell you—that a good Mason is seldom a bad man; and this much of the secrets of Masons I will fearlessly unfold—that universal love and charity is their shibboleth, inculcated at their initiation, repeated in their various assemblies, and so not unapt to take a firmer root in their minds, and to exercise a more powerful guidance over their actions, than can exist in the case of those who do not possess this additional incentive to walk in the paths of morality and of virtue. When I speak of love and charity as being the shibboleths of our Craft, I speak of love and charity in their most extended forms. I give no credit to a Mason for loving his wife and child, his sweetheart or his sister. In this he is merely obeying the instincts of his nature. I give no credit to a Mason for occasional charity in the shape of alms to the poor. In this, too, he is merely complying with the promptings of that good feeling which is happily implanted in the hearts of most human beings. No; there is a love and there is a charity extending far beyond even these laudable exhibitions. There is a charity which covereth the multitude of our sins, that forgives its enemies, that returns good for evil, that swerves not from rectitude and justice; and there is the love whereby a man loves his neighbour as himself, and which mingles even with his reverence for his God. There is no Mason here present who is not aware that the principles of his Craft do perpetually urge him towards those noble duties, or who ever leaves his lodge without a more settled determination towards fulfilling them. Now, ladies and gentlemen, although I have spoken of the higher degrees of love and charity, I do not by any means intend to undervalue the lower degrees. The brotherly affection with which Masons regard each other, and the benevolent charitable institutions which exist among them, go far towards raising their love and charity to the higher degrees, and are in themselves things most admirable and useful and humanising. I see that our brethren of the United States have set us an example which may possibly be worthy of our consideration, and have begun to confer upon the female relatives of the brethren a degree of adoption, which entitles them to relief in cases of destitution, without the necessity of their producing the diplomas of their departed relations. This degree of adoption they call the degree of the “Eastern Star;” but judging from the firmament which adorns this hall this evening, and should this degree of female adoption ever chance to be used in this city, I should say that its denomination here should more properly be termed “the degree of the Western Star.” But, ladies and gentlemen, the mention of this female degree reminds me that I have perhaps detained you too long with graver matters—that I have detained you too long from the enjoyment of music and of song. I congratulate you from my heart on the occasion of this happy and brilliant assemblage, which augurs well for the success and happiness of the Craft in the west, whether as Masons or as men; and as I begun with Robert Burns, so with Robert Burns shall I conclude—

“Health to the sex, ilk guid chiel says,
Wi’ merry dance in winter days,
And we to share in common;
The gush o’ joy—the balm o’ woe,
The soul of life—the heaven below,
Is rapture giving woman.”

The concert was then resumed, and concluded with the National Anthem, the solo verses of which were sung by

Madame and Signor Garcia, the entire audience, upstanding and uncovered, joining in the chorus. Thereafter three cheers were given for the Queen, and the same for the chairman, which terminated the proceedings so far. After the soiree a full-dress assembly took place, with which was fitly closed this successful Masonic festival.

DUMBARTONSHIRE.

DUMBARTON.—*St. John's Lodge.*

The members of this lodge met in the Elephant Hotel on Thursday evening, the 19th ult., for the purpose of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year. Bro. S. Bennett, R.W.M., occupied the chair, and there was a very full attendance of members (nearly seventy), among whom were Bros. John Love, S.W.; W. Riddell, J.W.; and the other office-bearers, Bros. Peter Denny, Joseph Irving, Dr. Graham, Thomas McNeil, William Ballardie, James Robertson, John McKay, Thomas Bisset, J. Babbie, Samuel Colquhoun, Thomas Muir, William Boyd, Robert McAlister, Alexander Colville, James Muir, Alexander Denny, Peter Strang, James Ure, William McGruther, Robert Ballantyne, William Paterson, Robert McMillan, R. W. Lowe, Dr. Bruce, John Crawford, R. Young, John Dickson, William Connell, J. Speirs, R. Blair, James M. Arthur, James Macalester, D. E. Hill, Joseph Jenkins, John M. Arthur, John Bryson, James Crawford, John Carr, T. Coghill, John M. Arthur, D. H. Wilson, &c.

The Senior Warden said he had much pleasure in proposing the re-election of the present R.W.M. Bro. Bennett, who had filled the chair and discharged its duties during the past year with general satisfaction to the lodge. Those who had attended the meetings since his election last year would agree with him in saying that he was well worthy of the honour proposed to be again conferred on him.

The lodge having been opened, the Right Worshipful Master stated, with reference to the meeting held on the 13th ult. for the nomination of office-bearers, that the non-compliance of the brethren with his request to take a show of hands for the candidates then proposed was at variance with the laws of the Grand Lodge, and that, if so disposed, he was authorised to declare the whole proceedings informal, and to hold a new nomination. Instead, however, of raising any difficulty on that ground or taking any advantage of a mere error of judgment on the part of those who objected to the show of hands, he had resolved not to insist on his right to take the course indicated, but to allow the election at once to go on, and thereby save the brethren the trouble of holding another meeting.

Bro. Wiggins, Secretary, in seconding the motion of the S.W., said, it was well known that Bro. Bennett had consented with some reluctance to accept of the office of R.W.M. in December 1866. The chair had just then been vacated by Bro. Ross, who declined to retain it any longer. A deputation of the members waited on Bro. Bennett and urged him to accept of the office, which he ultimately agreed to do as no other brother could be got to undertake the duties. Such, indeed, was the position of the lodge at that time, that if Bro. Bennett had not consented, they would, most likely, have had no Master at all, and not even a lodge, except in name. They were, therefore, under great obligations to Bro. Bennett for the services he had rendered to the brethren of No. 18, and the least thing they could do to him in return was to ask him to accept the chair for a second year.

Bro. Peter Denny (in the absence of Bro. William Leslie) said he had another candidate to propose for the office of R.W.M., viz., Bro. William Ross, who was not only a good Mason, but was well qualified to discharge the duties of the chair. His long experience and intimate knowledge of the principles of the Order gave him a claim to their support for that high position which few, if any, possessed. It was the first time he had heard that the Dumbarton Lodge had been in danger of extinction last year for want of a Master to preside over it, but if they elected Bro. Ross to that office he was sure they need have no fears of their affairs being well conducted. He would not detain them with any further remarks, but simply begged to propose the election of Bro. Ross.

The motion having been seconded by Bro. James Muir,

Bro. James Macalester, at some length, called the attention of the meeting to the circumstances under which Bro. Bennett had been induced to take the office of R.W.M. last year—the fact that when no one else seemed either willing or able to do so, he

had, doubtless at some inconvenience, complied with the urgent request of the brethren, and given his time and his services for the good of the Lodge—and pointed out that unless there were substantial reasons for acting otherwise they ought to re-elect the present Master if they paid any respect to the practice in other lodges, or to the course followed by themselves on former occasions. It was not usual to limit the period of filling the chair to one year, and he understood that in this lodge such a rule had not been carried out. Bro. Ross, he believed, had been Master for three years; his predecessor also held office for a considerable time, and would not unlikely have continued to do so for a more lengthened period but for his lamented decease; Bro. Paterson, he was informed, had even filled the chair for eight years; so that in proposing to elect a new Master this year they were going right in the face of precedent, which was not a safe or a prudent course, but on the contrary was calculated to give rise in future years to much trouble, and lead to party contests, which might seriously interfere with the harmony and good feeling which ought to prevail in the Lodge. The opposition to the re-election of Mr. Bennett was especially objectionable when it was considered that no fault had been found in the way in which he had discharged his duties, and that no ground whatever had been stated why a change in the office should be made. So far as he had heard, Bro. Bennett's conduct had given unqualified satisfaction to those who had been most regular in their attendance at the meetings, and why an attempt should be made to supersede him at this time he was at a loss to understand.

After some remarks by several other brethren,

Bro. Bennett stated that he had allowed himself to be proposed for re-election that night in consequence of having been unanimously nominated again to fill the chair at a recent meeting of the lodge attended by upwards of thirty brethren, and also in compliance with a requisition (since presented to him) signed by thirty-eight members—twenty-one of whom had not been at the nomination meeting—making, in all, fifty-one brethren who had solicited him to continue his services to the lodge for another year. He left the matter entirely in the hands of those now assembled, and had only to say that if re-elected he would still devote his best attention to the interest of the lodge.

Bro. Ross begged to thank the brethren for their kind proposal that he should again be elected to the office of R.W.M. When chosen for that honour a few years ago he had found the lodge in anything but a flourishing condition, and when he retired from office last year he left it with a handsome balance at their credit in the bank. It would give him great pleasure again to assist in doing what he could for the welfare of No. 18, with which, although not his mother lodge, he had been connected since he came to the locality.

The vote was then taken, by the names of those present being called over and recorded for the respective candidates, when the numbers stood as follows:—For Bro. Ross, 42; Bro. Bennett, 22: majority for Bro. Ross, 20.

The election of the other office-bearers was then proceeded with, but as the list will not be completed till after the evening of the installation, 27th ult. (St. John's Day), we must defer giving the appointments made till we can present our readers with the names of the whole of those chosen. Bros. Bryson, Lowe, and Carr, who were severally proposed for offices declined the same, and a new election of Secretary will be necessary in room of Bro. Young, who, it is understood, objects to undertake the duties.

CHRYSTON.—*Cadder Argyll Lodge (No. 147).*—The annual meeting for the installation of the office-bearers of this flourishing lodge took place at the hotel, Chryston, on the 27th ult., when, owing to the esteem in which Bro. W. Mather, the R.W.M. is held, several brethren of distinction from Glasgow and the neighbourhood attended to do honour to Bro. Mather, and congratulate him on his re-election to the chair of K.S. Amongst the visiting brethren we noticed Bros. J. Thomson, P. Prov. J.G.W., and Treasurer of the Benevolent Committee, Glasgow; J. Wallace, G. Sec., John Davidson, P. Prov. S.G.W. Glasgow; G. McLeod, R.W.M. Shettleston St. John's (No. 128); T. C. Christie, of Beddie, and other brethren. Bro. Davidson performed the duties of Installing Master most ably. The following is a list of the office-bearers installed by Bro. Davidson, viz.:—Bros. W. Mather, R.W.M.; A. Mitchell, P.M.; A. Gibson, D.M.; J. Marshall, S.M.; J. Watson, S.W.; J. Ferguson, J.W.; John Jackson, Sec.; Robert Baxter, Treas.; George B.

B. McIsac, Chap.; John Baxter, Standard Bearer; George B. Anderson, S.D.; Robert Mitchell, J.D.; Robert Cowper, S. Steward; A. Burnett, J. Steward; W. Lindsay, Bible Bearer; A. Mitchell, I.G.; and W. Anderson, Tyler. The lodge business being concluded, the brethren adjourned to refreshment and spent a short time "harmonising in the light," in a truly fraternally and happy manner, under the presidency of the R.W.M. A brilliant assembly wound up the proceedings of the evening, and we must not omit to state that the success of this last feature was very materially aided by the efficient manner in which Bro. George McLeod discharged his volunteered duties as master of the ceremonies.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

MID-CALDER.—*Lodge St. John* (No. 272).—The annual general meeting of this flourishing lodge, for the election of office-bearers and the celebration of the Festival of St. John, was held in the Torphichen Arms Hotel, on Friday, the 27th ult., when the following brethren were elected, and duly installed into office, viz., Bros. William Macfarlane Wylie, R.W.M.; Thomas Hutton, P.M.; Francis Lawrie, D.M.; James Robertson, S.M.; Henry Hardie, Proxy Master to the Grand Lodge of Scotland; George McArthur, S.W.; Alexander Mackie, J.W.; William Gray, Treasurer; John Brash, Secretary; James Hislop, sen., Chaplain; John Hamilton, S.D.; Alexander Thomson, J.D.; William Martin, Director of Music; George Hennan, Principal Steward; Robert Lamb, I.G.; John Taggart, Marshal of the W.R.; Thomas Scouler, Marshal of the B.R.; William Paris, Tyler; William Steven Ogilvie and Thomas Chapman, Auditors. The Secretary's annual report having been printed, and placed in the hands of the brethren, was approved of, the funds now amounting to £865 12s. 2½d. Bro. John Stark, in a short but appropriate speech, presented to the lodge a pair of most elegant ebony and silver mounted columns, for the Senior and Junior Wardens, which the R.W.M. duly acknowledged, and entrusted them to their care. The 4th of May next being the fiftieth anniversary of the date of their charter, it was unanimously resolved to celebrate that jubilee in a manner becoming the occasion. A torchlight procession then took place, and, preceded by a very excellent band of music, marched through the villages of Mid and East Calder, when the brethren returned to their lodge room, and passed the evening in a most harmonious manner.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

GUERNSEY.

DOYLE'S LODGE (No. 84).—The members of this lodge assembled for their usual monthly meeting on Wednesday evening, the 11th ult., when the following brethren were present:—Bros. Galliene, D. Prov. G.M.; Guilbert, W.M., in the chair; W. Churchouse, I.P.M.; Sparrow, P.M.; Smithard, P.M.; Hutchinson, P.M. and Treas.; Strickland, P.M.; Collette, P.M. and G. Sec.; Abbott, Millington, J.D.; Cohen, Carleton, Gardner, J.W.; Sneath, I.G.; Parker, Martin, S.W.; Nicolle, Muntz, Glencross, S.D.; Stainer, Sarchet, Sec.; Mauger, Tyler. Visitors:—Thomas Churchouse, 268; Ozanne, 243; and Clarke, St. Anne's, Alderney. The lodge was opened in the first degree and the minutes of the preceeding lodge having been read, a rather lengthy discussion ensued upon them, in which the D. Prov. G.M., the W.M., Bros. Sparrow, Hutchinson, Sneath, and others took part; they were eventually confirmed, with one exception which related to a matter of no moment except to members of the lodge. The minute which interested the members so much was that which related to the manner of balloting for the election of the W.M., referred to in the report of the last meeting of Doyle's Lodge, and which has now become one of its by-laws. Messrs. Le Maistre and Lucas, both of whom had been regularly proposed and approved in open lodge, were duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The ceremony was well worked by the officers, and the W.M. officiated in a very careful and effective manner, which did not fail to tell on the two newly-initiated brethren, who were both much impressed with the solemnity of the ceremony, especially Bro. Lucas, who, it was evident, felt it to a painful degree. Bro. Martin, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year by the almost unanimous votes of the lodge. Bro. Hutchinson, P.M.,

was again re-elected Treasurer, notwithstanding a good-natured protest which he made against the work as well as the honour of that office being again thrown on his shoulders; he was laughingly assured, however, by the brethren that so long as he did the former so well, and bore the latter so gracefully there was little or no chance of ever seeing any other brother at his table. By his able management of the finances of the lodge and the business-like manner in which he handles all its matters with which he may have to deal, he has contributed very materially to the prosperity of Doyle's Lodge since he has been its Treasurer. Bro. Mauger was re-elected Tyler. The members and any other brethren who may wish to join them will dine together on St. John's Day at Bro. Gardner's Hotel. A lodge to be held at three o'clock on that day previous to the dinner, for the installation of the W.M. elect. The lodge was closed in due form and the brethren repaired to the banqueting room, where they refreshed themselves with as much assiduity as they had laboured in lodge, and parted as happily as they had met and hoping to meet again.

ROYAL ARCH.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST.)

MALTON.—*King Edwin Chapter* (No. 660).—It is our pleasing duty this week to record the birth of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this province. On Wednesday, the 11th ult., the M.E. Comp. George Marwood, P. Prov. G. Super. of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, Z.; James F. Spurr, H., and John W. Woodall, J., congregated at three o'clock in the afternoon at the Freemasons' Hall, Malton, and opened the chapter in due form. The warrant from the Grand Chapter having been produced, the following companions took their places:—W. H. Marwood, as Scribe E.; W. A. Dixon, Scribe, N.; Alfred Shepherd, P.Z., as P. S.; H. Adams, P. Z.; and R. H. Peacock, Ass. Sec. Robert Bower Treas., and William Johnson, P.G. Janitor, John Smith, William Peacock, and John A. Chapman. The ceremonial of consecration was then performed by Comp. Marwood, who afterwards proceeded to instal the 3 principals of the new chapter in their respective chairs, viz., Comps. Tom Eurner Z.; John Staviland H., and C. G. Bond J. The following candidates were balloted for and exalted to the rank of Royal Arch Masons:—Bros. Samuel Walker P.M.; John Marshall, W. M. (660); Thomas Preston, Jonathan Taylor, Edward Morton, W. H. Rose, and K. Wandby. The newly installed principals then invested Comp. S. Walker Scribe E., John Marshall Scribe N., R. H. Bower Treas., Jonathan Turner G.S., Jonathan Taylor S.B., K. Maudby, Janitor; several candidates were named for exaltation, after which the chapter was duly closed.

MARK MASONRY.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—On Thursday, the 19th ult., a preliminary meeting was held with the view of reviving the lodge of Mark Masters, which has been in abeyance since the fire which, in December, 1859, destroyed the Masonic rooms and all their contents, including the warrant under which the lodge was held. Some correspondence with the Grand Secretary was laid before the brethren assembled, the result of which was a promise to issue a warrant of confirmation. It appearing that the number 45 of the Dart Lodge had been transferred to another lodge in the colonies, a different number will be given; and it was determined to change the name from Dart to Pleiades, so as to accord with the R.A. chapter and Craft lodge. Bro. Dr. Hopkins, P.M. 74, was appointed as W.M.; the Rev. Bro. R. Bowden, as S.W.; and Bro. John Heath as J.W., and their names were inserted in the formal petition, which was agreed upon and forwarded. All other necessary arrangements were made, so that in a few weeks several brethren who have been waiting to take this degree, will have an opportunity of doing so in their own town.

READ no bad or immoral book—except that of your own life and heart.

KNIGHTS OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

ORIGINAL OR PREMIER CONCLAVE.—An assembly of this body was held on Saturday, the 14th inst., at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen-street. The conclave was opened by Sir Knight G. Powell, G.S.B., M.P.S., assisted by Sir Knights W. H. Hubbard, G. Treas., as V.E.; W. E. Gumbleton, G. Chamberlain; R. W. Little, G. Recorder; Captain J. W. C. Whitbread, Inspector General for Suffolk; T. Wescombe, S.G.; J. Trickett, H.P.; J. G. Marsh, G. Architect; R. Thwaites, Standard Bearer; H. Parker, G. Org.; D. G. Berri, and J. Gilbert, Sentinel. After the confirmation of the minutes, ballots were taken for two candidates, viz., Bros. G. Kenning, 192, and W. Tweedy, P.M. 331, both of whom, being in attendance, were then introduced and installed as Knights of the Order—the entire ceremony being worked to music, under the able direction of Sir Knight Parker, G. Org. A College of Viceroy's was then formed, and Sir Knights Parker and Tweedy were duly consecrated as Viceroy's, after which a Senate was opened for the reception of Sir Knight Tweedy, who was solemnly enthroned as a Prince of the Order, to enable him to preside over the Phoenix Conclave (No. 5), Truro, now in course of formation, under the auspices of Sir Knights Williams, M.P., and Hughton. It is a noteworthy circumstance that another new Conclave—the Rose of England (No. 4), Ipswich—was also represented at this assembly in the person of Sir Knight Whitbread, the highly respected chief of the Order in Suffolk. The Knights then adjourned to the banquet table, where an excellent repast (which in every way reflected great credit upon the management of the tavern) was served, and a most pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by the vocal abilities of several Knights, and the talented performances of Sir Knight Parker on the harmonium.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

SCOTLAND.

DUNDEE.—*St. John's Eve*.—For many years past the Festival of St. John—coming so close to the great gatherings of St. Andrew's—was considered tedious and uninteresting, especially by those in office; the routine toasts and speeches consequent thereon, with the turmoil of sending and receiving deputations, became almost dreaded by the more active members of the Craft in this place, and a better era was looked for, which now may be said not only to have dawned upon us, but to have shone with considerably brilliancy. Last year the lodges agreed to hold this festival in an aggregate form, which was very successfully carried out, in the Corn Exchange Hall, under the able presidency of the now Grand Master, Bro. the Rt. Hon. Earl of Dalhousie; and this year the same arrangements were to a certain extent repeated, only differing in the president. Again the Craft of Dundee have been honoured by one high in office and in rank, viz., the Right Honourable Bro. Sir John Ogilvy, M.P. A lodge was opened under one of the charters in the Hall, and lodges 47, 49, 78, 225, 254, and 317 were present. The business of the festival was thereafter proceeded with in a very orderly and happy manner, many of the brethren contributing by song and sentiment. The general impression seems now to be that the great success of this manner of celebrating the festival may be taken as a guarantee that in future it will be the rule. The lodge was closed about half-past eleven, amid the evident tokens of pleasure and delight from all present.

FEMALE MASONRY IN AMERICA.—A novel ceremony was performed in one of the Masonic Lodges of New York city a short time ago. It was the conferring of what are known as the Degrees of the Eastern Star, or adoptive Masonry, upon about two hundred ladies, who were the wives, daughters, sisters, or widows of Master Masons. Two Past Grand Masters of New York State were present and assisted at the ceremony, and the Master of the Lodge stated that "he would hereafter labour in the Grand Lodge of New York to have it use its greatest influence with the Grand Lodges of the world for the purpose of having some token brought into being, and generally recognised, by which wives, sisters, daughters, widows, and mothers of Masons may make themselves known all over the world. In this he intended no infraction of Masonic law, but he did mean that when such relatives of Masons were in distress they should be known without carrying their relatives' diploma in their pocket."

METROPOLITAN LODGE MEETINGS, ETC., FOR
THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 11TH, 1868.

MONDAY, January 6th.—Robert Burns Lodge, 25, Freemasons' Hall. Royal Jubilee Lodge, 72, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. United Lodge of Prudence, 83, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate. St. John's Lodge, 90, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. St. Luke's Lodge, 144, Pier Hotel, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea. Amity Lodge, 171, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Joppa Lodge, 180, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Old King's Arms Chapter, 28, Freemasons' Hall.

TUESDAY, January 7th.—Audit Com. Female School, at 2.30. Albion Lodge, 9, Freemasons' Hall. Old Concord Lodge, 172, Freemasons' Hall. La Tolerance Lodge, 538, Freemasons' Hall. St. James's Lodge, 765, Leather Market Tavern, New Weston-street, Bermondsey. St. John's Chapter, 167, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Temperance Chapter, 169, White Swan Tavern, Deptford.

WEDNESDAY, January 8th.—Com. R. M. B. Inst., at 3. Enoch Lodge, 11, Freemasons' Hall. Union Waterloo Lodge, 13, Masonic Hall, William-street, Woolwich. Kent Lodge, 15, Three Tuns Tavern, Southwark. Vitruvian Lodge, 87, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth. Justice Lodge, 147, White Swan, High-street, Deptford. Euphrates Lodge, 212, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Belgrave Lodge, 749, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Merchant Navy Lodge, 781, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse. Doric Lodge, 933, Masons' Hall, Basinghall-street. Montefiore Lodge, 1,017, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, January 9th.—Quar. Gen. Court Female School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 12. Royal Athelstan Lodge, 19, Inns-of-Courts Hotel, Holborn. Regularity Lodge, 91, Freemasons' Hall. Lion and Lamb Lodge, 192, George Hotel, Aldermanbury. Friendship Lodge, 206, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street. Bank of England Lodge, 263, Radley's Hotel, Bridge-street, Blackfriars. Polish National Lodge, 534, Freemasons' Hall. Canonbury Lodge, 657, Haxell's Hotel, West Strand. Lily Lodge of Richmond, 820, Greyhound, Richmond, Surrey. Dalhousie Lodge, 860, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Copper Lodge, 1,076, Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, West Ham. Mount Lebanon Chapter, 73, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Hope Chapter, 206, Globe Tavern, Royal Hill, Greenwich. Yarborough Chapter, 554, Green Dragon, Stepney.

FRIDAY, January 10th.—Bedford Lodge, 157, Freemasons' Hall. Domestic Lodge, 177, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Britannic Chapter, 33, Freemasons' Hall.

SATURDAY, January 11th.—London Lodge, 108, Freemasons' Hall.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

C. H. G.—Your communication to hand, with thanks. Shall be duly inserted in our next.

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F. W. (Cardiff).—On account of press of matter, we are compelled to allow the report of your lodge meeting to stand over.