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SKETCHES OF NOTABLE MASONIC WORKS.

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tory of "Freemasonry in Cornwall," &c., &c.

No. 5.

"THE FREEMASONS' MONITOR OR ILLUSTRATIONS OF
 MASONRY."

By THOMAS SMITH WEBB.

We have selected the "oldest and only hand-book in general use in the American lodges," for our next sketch, in the belief that a few facts relative to that famous work will not only prove an interesting communication to British Freemasons, but be at the same time a not unacceptable contribution to Masonic Bibliography, from the fact of early editions being both rare and valuable. The first edition was printed at Albany, for Spencer and Webb, and was entitled "The Freemasons' Monitor or Illustrations of Masonry, in two parts, by a Royal Arch Mason, K.T., K. of M. etc., etc., A.D. 1797," (12 mo. XII—284). The following is a copy of the certificate granted to the publishers by Edward Dunscomb, clerk of the district of New York. "Be it remembered, that on the 12th day of September, in the twenty-second year of the Independence of the United States of America, Spencer and Webb, of said District, have deposited in this office the title of a book the right of which they claim as proprietors, in the words, viz. :—'The Freemasons' Monitor, or Illustrations of Masonry in two parts,' in conformity to an Act of Congress of the United States of America, entitled "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the time therein mentioned." In January 1798, Thomas Spencer gave notice that he had sold and relinquished his proprietorship in the Freemasons' Monitor. Dr. Kloss in "Bibliographie der Freimaurei" evidently was unacquainted with any editions of the "Monitor" before A.D. 1816, as that is the earliest he notices (No. 1994). The Grand Chapter of the State of Rhode Island recommended the work "to the attention and study of all the members of the fraternity" because the committee appointed to examine the publication reported that they were of opinion, "that it was replete with useful Masonic Information, and so

fully entitled to the sanction of the Grand Chapter." This resolution was dated July 7th, A.D. 1802, since which date, the American Preston (Bro. T. S. Webb) has been universally received throughout the States, as the recognized instructor of Pure and Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry. Having the second edition in our library (New York 1802 8vo. XII—300) we propose taking it as a fair sample of the rest. The preface bearing date September 26th 1797, commences by stating that the work, "although chiefly intended for the use of the ancient and honourable society of free and accepted Masons, is also calculated to explain the nature and design of the Masonic Institution, to those who may be desirous of becoming acquainted with its principles, whether for the purpose of initiation into the society, or merely for the gratification of their curiosity." A monitor of this character is a useful compilation, inasmuch as it contains most of the charges, prayers and scripture passages, made use of at the meetings, which are not otherwise to be found, without recourse to several volumes, thus often occasioning much delay, besides producing many irregularities in their distribution, and sometimes even causing omissions of much importance. The aim of the author (as with his predecessor, and companion Bro. Preston) was that by a due attention to the several divisions of the lectures of Masonry, the mode of working may become everywhere the same, thereby adding much to the happiness and satisfaction of all good Masons, as also to the honour of the fraternity.

The observations upon the first three degrees, though in the main taken from Preston's Illustrations required alteration, owing to the distribution of the first lecture into six, the second into four, and the third into twelve sections, not being in accordance with the working in the United States. They were arranged into three sections for the first degree, two for the second, and three for the third. In the first lecture "Virtue is painted in the most beautiful colours, and the duties of morality are enforced. In it we are taught such useful lessons as prepare the mind for a regular advancement in the principles of knowledge and philosophy. These are imprinted on the mind by lively and sensible images, to influence our conduct in the proper discharge of the duties of social life." (page 36). The four Cardinal Virtues are well explained under this division. In the second degree practice and theory join, in

qualifying the industrious Mason to share the pleasures which an advancement in the art must necessarily afford. Listening with attention to the wise opinions of experienced Craftsmen on important subjects, he gradually familiarizes his mind to useful instruction, and is soon enabled to investigate truths of the utmost concern in the general transactions of life. From this system proceeds a rational amusement; while the mental powers are fully employed, the judgment is properly exercised, a spirit of emulation prevails, and all are induced to vie, who shall most excel in promoting the valuable rules of the Institution. Such is the result of every illustration in Masonry. Reverence for the Deity, and gratitude for the blessings of Heaven, are inculcated in every degree. This is the termination of our enquiries, and beyond these limits our capacities cannot reach.

Unlike many Masons of the present day, who seem to disregard much of the teaching of the Fellow Craft's degree, and endeavour to "cut it as short as possible," Bro. Webb amplifies it considerably, and shows that not only does Masonry include within its circle almost every branch of polite learning, but also "under the veil of its mysteries, is comprehended a regular system of science."

An English Mason would find considerable novelty in reading the remarks on the third lecture. Many of the symbols are unknown in the English Rite, although certainly the illustrations are well applied to moral culture, and many useful lessons are inculcated for the promotion of virtue, and the extension of knowledge. The "Pot of Incense," "Bee Hive," "Anchor and Ark," "Hour Glass," "Scythe" and others, such are foreign to British Freemasonry, and hence contrary to the original *modern* system, which was originated in England. The mark degree receives particular notice, although not we think more prominence than it deserves. The tools are thus explained. The *Chisel* morally demonstrates, the advantages of discipline and education. The mind like the diamond, in its original state, is rude and unpolished; but as the effects of the wheel on the external coat, soon presents to view the latent beauties of the diamond, so education discovers the latent virtues of the mind, and draws them forth to range the large field of matter and space, to display the summit of human knowledge, our duty to God, and to man.

"The Mallet morally teaches us to correct irre-

gularities, and to reduce man to a proper level so that by quiet deportment, he may, in the school of discipline, learn to be content. What the mallet is to the workman, enlightened reason is to the passions, it curbs ambition, it depresses envy, it moderates anger, and it encourages good dispositions; whence arises among Masons that comely order,

' Which nothing earthly gives, or can destroy,
The soul's calm sunshine, and the heartfelt joy.'

The Monitor on Mark Masonry of 1802, reads as if it were dealing with the degree of the day. The uniformity in even minor details is remarkable, and proves how careful must have been the scrutiny and zeal of the guardians from that time to the present century. Before concluding the lodge meeting, the XX Chap. of Matthew (1—16) was recommended to be read, and the song was sung during the ceremony of closing.

The observations on the "Degree of Present or Past Master" are exceedingly good, and quite exhaustive in their nature. The whole of the ceremonies connected with Installations, Constitutions, Consecrations, Laying Foundation Stones, Dedication of Halls, and Service at Funerals, are all well explained. According to the system of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, the "Most Excellent Masters'" degrees is given as the sixth, and immediately proceeding the Royal Arch, which accordingly ranks as the seventh of the American and Scotch Rites. But little, however, is said historically of these degrees, and of the "Royal and select Masters," now worked in the United States, no mention whatever is made.

His "observation on the orders of Knighthood," and of the "Knights Templars" in particular, though no doubt of value when written, would prove of little interest to the readers of the MAGAZINE of to-day, after the exhaustive history of the latter order, so carefully written by Anthony Oneal Haye.

Among other degrees the author notices may be mentioned, Knights of the "Red Cross, Holy Sepulchre," and the "Order of High Priest," the latter appertaining to the office of High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter. Chapter VI., contains the "Constitution of the General Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America, ratified by duly qualified representatives at Rhode Island, 9th January, A.D. 1799. Bro. T. S. Webb was appointed Grand Scribe, and few if any were

better suited for so responsible a position. It appears that no Grand Chapter was organized in America before 1797, previous to which date, the Royal Arch, and three other degrees were given under the sanction of a Master's warrant sometimes, and at other times, the sanction of a neighbouring chapter was obtained. The evils resulting from this "uncontrolled mode of proceeding" were such that governing bodies were almost imperatively demanded, and accordingly constituted. The "circular" issued to the companions speaks of "time immemorial Chapters of Royal Arch Masonry." How any chapter can reasonably be called "time immemorial," when the degree itself, or even the title of "Royal Arch," has not been proved to be of more antiquity than some hundred and thirty years ago, I leave to my readers to discover. To me it appears simply preposterous to thus bolster up Royal Arch Masonry, and impose on the Masonic public such incorrect chronology, when the ceremonies of the order require neither trickery nor antiquity to secure their general appreciation. From 1797 warrants were granted to hold Mark Lodges separately, but the Past and Excellent Masters, were prohibited from working apart from the chapter. No Mason was allowed "to be a member of two separate and distinct bodies, of the same denomination, at one and the same time," (Section 5, Article 3.) Section 8, provides that the "High Priest," and other officers, of every chapter, and the officers of every lodge of Mark Master Masons, shall be chosen annually by ballot." The High Priest on his installation declared that he would "never suffer the chapter to be opened unless there were present nine regular Royal Arch Masons," and that he would never permit "more or less than three brethren to be exalted in his chapter at one and the same time." All applications for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, in any chapter or lodge, under jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter shall lie over, at least one meeting, for the consideration of the members. On the whole the laws are well arranged, and provide for the ceremonies being conducted with the precision and care, their importance and nature deserve. Book 2nd being exclusively on the "hautes grades," and the History of Freemasonry in America, we will reserve the consideration for another opportunity.

(To be continued.)

MASONIC DISCIPLINE.—XII.

By CRUX.

Our articles upon this important subject have now arrived at a point, which enables us to examine a little in detail, into the practical execution of the plan we have briefly suggested as yet, only in outline. It is not to be understood that we arrogantly claim to lay down the law irrevocably and defiantly, because we offer to the consideration of the members of the Craft at large, a plan which, in our opinion, is calculated to permanently efface what every earnest and reflecting brother, feels to be a foul blot upon our otherwise untainted escutcheon. On the contrary, similarly to the principles that have actuated us throughout the whole of our task, and which should ever actuate Masons, we are governed by no other motives than those springing from fervency and zeal, from a sincere wish for the future welfare and advancement of this our Masonic art, and from a fervent desire to raise the status and prestige of the Institution collectively, by improving those of the members individually. There is, however, one point upon which, so long as we remain faithful to the views we entertain, and have persistently advocated in our articles, we cannot yield a single inch of ground. It is the first and most essential condition, the *sine quâ non* of the whole proposed scheme. It is that Grand Lodge is bound, in the interests of Freemasonry, to assume a more active part in the education, in the supervision, and in the discipline of the several lodges which "range beneath its banners," and are committed to its sovereign care and guidance. At present it may almost be said that our lodges are orphans, and have no parent to train them in the paths of rectitude, and exercise over them that paternal care, which can never be ensured by the most anxious solicitude of strangers. There is no need of any inquisitorial surveillance, so offensive to the feelings and character of Englishmen; no need of any officious or prying interference with those affairs, that may be fairly and justly denominated the private property of a lodge, and no need of claiming a monopoly of those privileges and those rights which a lodge can exercise, *suo jure*, by virtue of its bye laws. But there is need, not of an officious, but of an official interference. Can it be right for any government—any presiding body—any community or society of men, that by universal consent are invested with supreme authority, and

placed, as it were, in *loco parentis*, to be in a great measure oblivious to the obligations entailed upon them? Can it be right for them to be so derelict, so lax in the discharge of the trust reposed in them, as literally to allow those confided to their vigilance and protection, to follow their own devices, and to drift like stray waifs upon the troubled waters of discord, discrepancy, and uncertainty?

When one comes to reflect upon the origin of the numerous discrepancies that exist in the working of different lodges, it is easy to trace them all to one cause, namely, the absence of any absolutely recognised standard or acknowledged model. There is, moreover, unfortunately, a blind fanaticism prevalent among many of the instructors, or those who are regarded as authorities upon the ritual, the ceremonies, and the whole working in general of lodges, that does more to perpetuate the evil, than if the actual differences of opinion were multiplied a hundred fold. It will be found that in the majority of instances, where two different opinions are expressed, it is very rare that any shadow of a reason can be advanced for the validity of either. Upon interrogation, the usual answer is, that "it is so—how, or why it is so, we do not know; but so it is, and that's all about it." Now, no one more readily admits than ourselves, that this is the true and proper answer to a great many questions of a purely Masonic character. What other answer could be given if it were demanded why the obligations of the E.A., F.C., or M.M. are what they are? The rites and ceremonies belonging to a fraternity coeval with the creation of the firmament, are beyond all interrogatory jurisdiction. They stand above the reach of human inquisition. Like the will of the Omnipotent Creator—immutable and eternal—they come not within the narrow sphere of mundane criticism. The nature of their origin, and the mystery of their creation, are lost in the oblivion of ages; their secrets are not to be fathomed by the rules of logic nor by the wiles of sophistry. But while we recognise the correctness of the *ipse dixit* reply to the great truths and mysteries of the Craft, we confess that in many instances it proves a lamentable failure, and only serves to indicate one of two things, or perhaps both. It tends to demonstrate either that the opinion or statement is incorrect, or that the person advancing it, is unable to support it, and, as frequently happens, really knows nothing about it. It will scarcely be believed that we have known the grossest grammatical blunders—the

most ridiculous perversions of the vernacular defended, upon no other grounds than those of "it is so." It is equivalent to the notorious pontifical *non possumus*. The effect of such "instruction" upon a man of education, even on a comparatively limited scale, requires no comment. What must it be on others who have the good fortune to be thoroughly educated, as gentlemen and professional men? In spite of whatever may be asserted to the contrary, we maintain that any portion of the ritual which is couched in terms, involving an absolute violation of the rules of grammar and common sense is wrong, and should be altered by *authority*, so as to obviate all chance of its provoking an involuntary smile, either of incredulity or contempt, upon the faces of the audience. The education of the members of the Craft, requires to be taken in hand at once by those who are conscientiously responsible for the welfare and progress of Freemasonry. Instances of this kind could, we regret to assert, be multiplied almost *ad infinitum*, and when we treat hereafter more especially of the ritual, its beauties and defects, they will be pointed out, so far as can be consistently done, to the uninitiated world at large who are not Masons.

Assuming, therefore, as the basis of our plan, that the supreme authority is bound conscientiously and morally to "take up" the question of the educational improvement of the Craft in general, let us now fill in the details of the proposed project. In the first place, it is essential that a lodge of instruction should be held, under the sanction of Grand Lodge, in which candidates for the certificates of proficiency, alluded to in a former article, would be the officers. There would be no difficulty, in a city like our mighty metropolis, where there is abundance of Masonic energy and ability in appointing, *honoris causâ*, five or six, or more, principal instructors, or rather Professors of Freemasonry. As the presence of one of these is all that would be required at a time, it would be an easy matter to hold the lodge of instruction once a week, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two of the ordinary summer vacation months. These are details that present no obstacle to a ready adjustment hereafter, provided the essential points be once agreed to. This Lodge of Instruction, which might be appropriately designated by the addition of the title of "Grand," would have a candidate W.M., candidate principal, and candidate assistant officers. In addition, the greater portion

of the brethren present would be intended candidates. Let us now examine into the result of this plan. It may be accepted, as a rule, that no officer would become a candidate or, in college language, "go in for" his certificate until he was prepared to "pass his examination." So soon, then, as the "Grand Lodge of Instruction" become in good working order, every week would witness the preparation of a complete set of efficient and thoroughly competent officers. This would be undoubtedly a great boon, a great step in the right direction, but it is nothing in comparison with another fact. This fact is, that every one of these officers would learn precisely the same ritual, the same manner of conducting the ceremonial routine, and thus a considerable approach, becoming closer each succeeding year, would be made towards establishing that uniformity of working in our lodges, which is the one thing needful in Freemasonry. Although there is not the slightest doubt of the efficiency of this proposed method of curing the evil, so much and justly complained of, yet it must not be imagined that it could be effected without a great deal of trouble and mental effort upon the parts of the professors. The first step would consist in a complete oral revision of the ritual, and in a word, the professors would have to learn something themselves, before they commenced to teach others. After the examples we have quoted, we think no one will deny that our ritual needs a revision, and the sooner it is done the better. But it must be done by the authority and direct agency of the Grand Lodge. It would manifestly never do for every lodge to set to work, and revise the ritual as it seemed best to it. The worst of it is, that as a rule, Masters of lodges seldom make any attempt at improving the ritualistic phraseology, but repeat, with unflinching fidelity, the most preposterous solocisms in language and sense that can be well imagined. Much of this is no doubt due to the difficulty of retaining in the memory the sense as well as the mere words, but the real truth is that the officers of lodges in the majority of instances do not connect what they are doing with what they are saying. They do not understand the intimate connection that exists between the duties and the manner in which they are expressed. They also perceive no sequence in the case. An I.G. that has performed his duties with satisfaction, by simple rote, shows that he never knew

really anything about them, by being quite unable to answer the usual question put by the W.M. to the J.W., on opening the lodge in the first degree, which defines what those duties are. If officers were to *think* upon their duties, to *reflect* more upon Freemasonry, they would speedily impart more fervency and zeal to the manner in which they performed them.

THE SEPULCHRE OF SOLOMON, KING OF ISRAEL.

By DNALXO.



View of Neby Dâūd from the S.E.

The first object that meets the eye of a traveller approaching Jerusalem from the Southward, is a lofty minaret rising from the midst of the group of irregular buildings on the southern brow of Mount Zion, known as Neby Dâūd.

The principal building of this group, is the Cœnaculum, which stands immediately over the vault, said to be the sepulchre of Solomon King of Israel, and of David his father.

The Cœnaculum and the adjoining buildings were formerly a Franciscan Convent, and the Order had its chief seat there from 1313 to 1561, at which date they were finally expelled under the following circumstances, which furnish a remarkable instance of religious intolerance, and of its well merited punishment.

A Constantinople Jew of great wealth and influence, whilst visiting Jerusalem, begged permission of the Latin superior, to pray at the Tomb of David, but his request was insolently refused. The Jew said he would be revenged, and on returning to Constantinople, rebuked the Grand Vizier, for allowing the tomb of one of the great Prophets of Islam to remain in the hands of infidels.

This reproof assisted by large bribes gave the Jew his revenge, for the Franciscans were expelled from their convent, and the place has ever since been held by the Moslems. Their

mosque in the lower story of the Cænaculum is the most jealously guarded of any of the sacred places in or around Jerusalem and very few Europeans have been able to gain access to it. Sir Moses Montefiore and his party were admitted to the mosque in 1839, and saw the cenotaph through a trellised doorway; but were not permitted to enter the room in which it stands. A few years ago a Miss Barclay, having disguised herself as a Turkish lady, was enabled by the kind assistance of a Mahometan lady-friend to penetrate to the sacred chamber. She says, "the room is insignificant in its dimensions, but is furnished very gorgeously. The tomb is apparently an immense sarcophagus of rough stone, and is covered by green satin tapestry richly embroidered with gold. To this a piece of black velvet is attached with a few inscriptions from the Koran, embroidered also in gold. A satin canopy of red, blue, green, and yellow stripes hangs over the tomb; and another piece of black velvet tapestry, embroidered in silver, covers a door in one end of the room, which, they said, leads to a cave underneath. Two tall silver candlesticks stand before this door and a little lamp hangs in a window near it, which is kept constantly burning."—(Extract from Dr. Barclay's City of the Great King.)

The satin covered monument described by Miss Barclay is merely a cenotaph, the real tombs are in the cave below, the Royal Sepulchres being doubtlessly hewn in the rock, like all the tombs of great men in that age.

It is related that when the Cænaculum was being repaired during the 12th century, some workmen were employed to quarry stones from the foundations of the original wall of Zion. Two of these men found a cave whose mouth had been covered by a stone. They entered this cave in search of treasure, and proceeded till they discovered a large hall, supported by marble columns, encrusted with gold and silver. In this hall on their left was a sort of table, with a sceptre and crown of gold lying thereon. This was the tomb of Solomon, and on the right in a similar state was the Tomb of David, and in a like manner the tombs of the Kings of Judah. Seeing some large coffers, the two labourers were about to enter the hall, when a blast of wind like a hurricane threw them to the ground, and there they remained insensible till the evening, when

they heard a voice commanding them to quit the place.

They immediately rushed forth, and told their strange tale to the priest who had hired them. A learned Rabbi who was sent for, asserted that this was indeed the tomb of the great King of Israel, whereupon the cave was walled up, so as to hide it effectually.

Like many other equally extravagant legends, this, is probably founded on a narrow basis of truth, though subsequently improved on by the lively imaginations of those, by whom it has been handed down to posterity.

It has of course been disputed that this is really the sepulchre of the Kings of Judah, yet it is a fact, that now for nearly five centuries, Jew, Christian and Moslem are alike agreed in regarding the cave under the Cænaculum, as the spot where lie the ashes of Solomon, King of Israel, of David his father, and of the Kings of Judah their successors.

The time may come, when the mosque and cave will be thrown open, and all doubts set at rest; while the brethren who may then fortunately be in the Holy Land will be able to make a pleasant pilgrimage to the last resting place of our great Grand Master King Solomon.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

By ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

(Continued from page 67.)

BOOK IV.—CHAPTER XII.—Contd.

De Placian had been chosen by Philip to be present at the first interview between the Grand Master and the Commissioners, that he might, by his seemingly friendly counsel, embarrass De Molai. This object he effected, for the Grand Master refused to defend the Order before any one but the Pope, and Philip knew how to prevent an interview taking place between De Molai and Clement. But for the second interview, he chose a different instrument; and during it William de Nogaret, the Chancellor, appeared in the hall. When the Grand Master had finished speaking, he addressed him in a rude and offensive manner, and declared that the whole Order was corrupt. In the chronicles of the Abbey of St. Denis, he said, "it is recorded that the Grand Master and Officers did homage to Saladin, Sultan of Egypt; that the Sultan knew perfectly well of the corruption of the Order, for hearing of a terrible calamity which had befallen the Templars, he declared it to be a judgment sent by God upon them for their sins, all the Knights having violated their vows,

renounced their faith, and practised the most infamous crimes."

The charge regarding Saladin is too absurd for comment, nor is much credit to be attached to a chronicle of an abbey, not of the highest class, a chronicle never produced in the process, although it was important. We are inclined to believe the statement to be a complete fabrication by De Nogaret, who was one of the most accomplished liars of Philip's court. De Molai seems to have kept his temper during his interview with the Commissioners, but the presence and audacious insults offered by the Order's determined enemy, would appear to have fired his blood, and he replied, "Never until this day have I heard of such calumnies, and never did I hear that such a statement appeared in the Chronicle of St. Denis, or I should have had it proved false and expunged. It is perfectly true that, during the Mastership of William de Beaujeu, a noble, pious, and high-minded man, an alliance did exist between the Sultan and the Templars. But this arose out of a truce made by the King of England, on the part of the Christians, and the Saracens. I was in Palestine at the time, and with several of the younger members of the Order, were scandalized at it, and desired De Beaujeu to recommence hostilities; but the Grand Master would not break the truce, and before long we were convinced that he had acted not only honourably but prudently, considering that the Order possessed many towns and castles in the heart of the Sultan's territories, which they would have lost had they gone to war, being ill fortified and manned. This treaty had scandalized many Christians, but when they came to know the truth of the matter, they applauded, rather than blamed, the conduct of the Grand Master." De Molai further said, that such treaties were not uncommon between the Christians and the Infidel, and if such were to be held criminal, he was not aware of a single Order, who had possessed lands in the Holy Land, but who would be equally culpable with the Templars. This ended the interview. Before the Grand Master retired, he craved permission to be allowed to hear Mass in the chapel, and to partake of the Blessed Sacrament. The Commissioners praised his piety, and promised to interest themselves to obtain this privilege for him.

The presence of De Nogaret sufficiently indicates the injustice done to the Order. By this care to browbeat and intimidate the Templars in public, even under the eye of Justice, we may judge what was done to them in the secrecy of their prisons and torture rooms. De Nogaret had nothing to say regarding the denial by the Grand Master of the confession imputed to him, and which had been made public in the Papal Bulls. He did not challenge him relative to his faith, his confessions, or his retractions. He came before a tribunal, and usurped its authority, for he was not

a member of it, and had no right to be present, and then his sole statement was a pretended extract from an unknown chronicle of a second-rate abbey. Conduct such as this—not the denials of the accused—prove the falseness of such charges.

Except the Grand Master and Ponsard de Gisi, no other Templar had appeared before the Commissioners, who began to suspect that their summons had never been proclaimed, or that the Templars had been prevented availing themselves of it to defend the Order. They ordered anew the proclamation of the summons, and obtained the adhesion of the King, who authorised the governors of the prisons to intimate it to the Templars, committing to them the duty of transmitting to Paris such as should wish to defend the Order. In the King's instructions, he renewed his command, that the Templars should be placed under the charge of a numerous and faithful escort to prevent their escape, and that they should be kept separate, so that they might not concert measures for their defence; nor by collusion, machination, or subterfuge, defeat the ends of justice. We may imagine that the King reluctantly gave these orders.

The Parisians were now to see a strange spectacle and one that filled them with awe and pity, as shewing the instability of human affairs. In former times the Templars entered Paris, with advanced banners, in full armour, with the white cloaks of the Order, forming a brilliant outset to the gleaming steel. Their war horses, in magnificent harness, proudly curvetted beneath them, while the noblest of the land rode by their side, paying them all honour and respect. The balconies were filled with the fairest dames of France, who showered down upon their heads wreaths of flowers, and the air was rent by the shouts of the populace in praise of the Holy Soldiery of the Blessed Mary and the Temple. Now, all was changed. Despoiled of their habits, dressed in mean garments, and attended by jailors, the Templars entered Paris. No shouts of joy welcomed them, no flowers were showered down upon them, for them no longer the beauties of France smiled. Yet the populace, who flocked around them, beheld with admiration and with pity, the twofold scars these gallant warriors bore upon their bodies, the one of wounds won in the sacred cause of the Cross, at the hands of the Infidel; the other won in the sacred cause of honour, at the hands of Christians. The one the marks of the sword: the other of the rack. And yet both equally honourable, for they told of their valour in the cause of the Cross in the battle-field, and their constancy in the cause of truth in the torture-room. Yes, it was a strange spectacle; one which the ancient philosophers would have deemed worthy of the eyes of Heaven—virtue captive to vice—honour to dishonour—angels to

devils. Nor would such a sight fail to dispose the onlookers in favour of the cause of the Templars—for they could not but believe in the innocence of those men, who, mildly, but courageously, faced them, with the valour of innocence lighting up their brows, who had never appeared so worthy of reverence, when they held high places at Court and in armies, as now, dishonoured, disgraced, and condemned men.

As they arrived in Paris, they were conducted before the Commissioners, and all, with a few exceptions, declared their willingness to defend the Order, crying out against the vileness of the accusations, and protesting their innocence. They demanded that they should have restored to them the habits of the Order, of which they had been despoiled, and, above all, to be admitted to the Sacraments of the Church. Several of them put into their responses that frankness and energy which is its true characteristic, and becomes so well innocence. The Commissioners, upon asking them if they would defend the Order, received the following replies:—John de Chames, Raynaud de Paris, Matthew de Table, Nicholas de Compiègne Arnold de Perche, Denis Neven.—To the death. Raoul de Taverni.—Until the end. Richard de Marseille.—Yes, because I wish to save my soul. Robert de Sorney.—It has ever been my wish. Bertrand de Saint Paul.—I have never confessed the crimes imputed to the Order. I will never confess them. They are calumnies. I believe that God would, by a miracle, prove our innocence, if you caused to be administered the Holy Sacrament at the same time to those who confessed, and to those who denied the charges. Twelve Knights.—With body and soul. Nine Knights.—Before all and against all, aye, unto the death. Peter de Marville and John de Portini.—Against all living men, except the Pope and the King. Seven Knights who had been interrogated in the presence of the Pope—although we in the presence of the Pope made several avowals against the Order and against ourselves, we declare that we lied before him; we revoke these avowals; and demand to be enrolled as defenders of the Order. John de Valgellé.—And I also. I have been presented to the Pope, but I made no avowal. I demand to defend the Order. Bernard de Vado.—I have been dreadfully tortured, I was held so long before a scorching fire, that the flesh of my feet was burnt away. These two bones which I present to you were detached from my heels. Look, they are wanting from my body; still I shall defend the Order.”

A very remarkable incident occurred during these presentations. A Templar, Laurence de Beaune, presented a letter to the Commissioners, which the clerk, John Chapini, had handed to him at Sens, when the Bishop of Orleans came to examine them. The letter bore the seals of Philip de Voet and John de Jainville, Wardens of the Templars, the one being appointed by the

Pope, the other by the King, and was addressed to Laurence de Beaune, and the other accused, confined at Sens. The letter contained proposals from the Pope and King, and invited the captives to make the required confessions, threatening those who failed to do so with death by fire. The Commissioners ordered Philip de Voet to be brought before them, and shewed him the letter. He said,—“I do not remember having sent this letter. I do not know whether it is stamped with my seal. Sometimes it has been left in the hands of my secretary. I have neither ordered nor consented that it should be affixed. I have always told the accused to speak the truth.” Since De Voet did not recognise the letter, why did the Commissioners not examine his secretary, who had at times the custody of his seal? They ought, likewise, to have examined John de Jainville, whose seal was also affixed, and John Chapini, who had delivered the letter to De Beaune. From this incident, we learn that the King’s agents had recourse to all sorts of means whereby to intimidate the accused; and, certainly, the horrible menace of consigning those who retracted to the flames, sufficiently establishes this.

(To be continued.)

FUNERAL ORATION.

Brother Richard Watson, a native of Falkirk, died at Grangemouth, and was buried at the expense of the Lodge Zetland. A large attendance of the brethren were present, including a deputation from Lodge St. John Falkirk. Our deceased brother had been a Mason for upwards of half a century, and was held in high respect by the brethren and by the general public. The oration which we append, was read over the grave by Bro. W. M. Bryce, the highly respected Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The funeral took place in the Old Church Yard of Falkirk:—

Brethren,—The solemn notes that betoken the dissolution of our earthly tabernacle, have been sounding an alarm at our outer door, and a spirit has been summoned out from amongst us unto that land where our fathers have all gone before us; and you, my brethren, have been summoned here among the habitations of the dead to look into this narrow house appointed for all living. Here around us in a peace that the world knoweth not, and in a peace that the world cannot give, sleep the unnumbered dead. For years the gentle breeze has been fanning the verdant covering, they heed it not; the sun shines, and the storms have alike been passing over them, but they have ne’er been disturbed; lettered stones and sculptured monuments alike stand around us, testifying as to the affections of some surviving friend. They speak not, neither does any sound proceed from them, save giving a silent but thrilling admonition, “Be ye also ready;” admonishing us all to seek early that narrow path and that straight gate that leads eastwards, onwards, and upwards to the realms of everlasting bliss. Ye have also been summoned here, my brethren, on three points of our Order; to consider

on the uncertainty of human life, the sure certainty of death, and on the vanity of all human pursuits.

Decrepitude and decay have been stamped on the face of all nature; it has been written on the face of every living thing; it is also well recorded in the volume of our Sacred Law that "Thou shalt surely die;" but to you that have made that law your particular study, you will also have found it recorded, that after death cometh a great and a glorious victory. The cradle and the grave stand in juxtaposition to each other, and it is a melancholy truth that, so soon as we begin to live also we begin to die; and yet is it not passing strange that, notwithstanding the daily mementoes of mortality that cross our path, notwithstanding the funeral bells constantly tolling in our ears, and the mournful processions that go about our streets, that we will not more seriously consider our latter end? We go on from design to design, and hope to hope, and lay our plans for the employment of many years to come, when we are suddenly alarmed at a summons from the messenger of death, at a moment when we least expect him, nay, perhaps at the very moment when we only think ourselves in the meridian of existence. Of what use then are all the externals of human dignity, the power of wealth, the dreams of ambition, pride of intellect, or the charms of beauty, when nature has paid her just debt. Fix your eyes on this last sad scene, and view life stripped of all its ornaments; view it shorn of all its beauty; view it in all its natural meanness, and then we think you will be persuaded as to the utter emptiness of life's delusions. In the grave all fallacies are detected, all ranks are levelled, and all distinctions buried in the dust.

While we drop the sympathetic tear over the grave of our deceased brother, let us cast around his foibles, whatever they may have been, our broad mantle of Masonic charity, nor withhold from his memory the commendation which his virtues claim at our hands. Perfection on earth has never yet been obtained, the wisest as well as the best of men have gone astray. Suffer, then, the apologies of human nature to plead for one who now can no longer plead for himself here below.

Our present meeting and proceedings will have been vain and useless if they fail to excite our serious reflections, and strengthen our resolutions for future amendment. Let us each, then, embrace the present moment, while time and opportunity offer, to prepare for that great change when the pleasure of the world shall be as poison to our lips, and the happy reflections of a well-spent life be our consolation. Thus shall we not be hurried unprepared into the presence of that allwise and powerful Judge to whom the secrets of every heart are known. Let us resolve to maintain with greater assiduity the dignified character of our profession. May our Faith be shown by a correct moral walk through life; our Hope be as bright as the glorious mysteries that will be hereafter revealed; and our Charity, boundless as the wants of our fellowmen; and, after having faithfully discharged the duties which we owe to God, our neighbour and ourselves; when at last it shall please the Great Architect of the Universe to summon us into His eternal presence, may the trestle board of our lives pass such inspection that it may be given unto each of us to eat of the "hidden manna," and to

receive the White Stone with a new name written thereon, and which will ensure everlasting happiness at his right hand.

This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother; by it we are reminded of the universal dominion of death; the mattock, the coffin, and the melancholy grave admonish us of our mortality, and that sooner or later these frail bodies of ours must moulder in the parent dust. This evergreen is an emblem of our Faith in the immortality of the soul; by it we are reminded that we have an immortal part within us that shall survive the grave; for "in my better part I shall rise immortal far above the lofty stars."

The Great Architect having been pleased out of His infinite mercy to remove our brother from the cares and troubles of this transitory existence to a state of endless duration, thus breaking a link of that great and fraternal chain that binds us all together; may we now who survive him, during the short space allotted to us here, employ our time for the mutual welfare and happiness of each other. Unto the grave we have consigned the body of our deceased brother, there to remain till the trumpet shall sound on the resurrection morn.

To those of his more immediate relatives and friends, who are most deeply stricken at his loss, we can offer but little of this world's consolation, but in the beautiful spirit of the Christian Theologist, "He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" looks down with infinite compassion on the widow and the fatherless in the hour of their desolation.

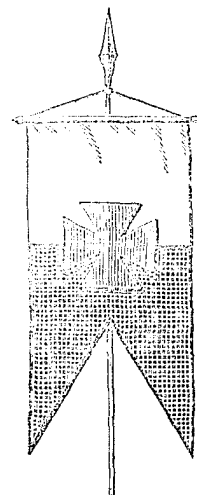
Then let us improve this solemn warning, that at last, when the sheeted dead are stirring, when the Great White Throne is set, we shall receive from the Great Judge the thrilling invitation — "Come ye, blessed of my father, and inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

And thine, O righteous Father, shall be the glory for ever.—*By all*,—So mote it be.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

HERALDIC BADGES.

I take the liberty of offering some remarks anent the question put by "A Canadian Templar," at page 9 of the present volume of the *Magazine*.



THE BEAUSEANT.

The Beauseant, the great banner of the Order, was first used by the Templars on the arrival of Everard des Barres, with King Louis of France, in the Holy Land, and was first flown at the siege of Damascus. It consisted of black and white cloth, with the blood red cross, granted them by Pope Eugenius, in token of the daily martyrdom to which they stood exposed. Upon this banner was emblazoned the pious legend of the Order, *Non nobis, Domine, non nobis, sed nomini tuae da Gloriam.* The standard will be seen on the walls of the Temple Church, London, and on either side the words Beauseant.



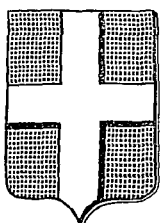
GREAT SEAL OF THE ORDER.

The Great Seal of the Order represents two knights riding on one horse—an emblem of the close and binding nature of the ties which knit the members in one whole. Some imagine that this typified the original poverty of the Order, and writers state that Hugo de Payens and de Aldemar had only one horse between them. This question was discussed in the first book of "The Knights Templars," and need not be further referred to here.



THE SEAL AND BADGE OF THE ENGLISH TEMPLARS.

The *Agnus Dei* was the great badge of the English Templars, and will found everywhere in the Middle Temple as the Winged Horse, Pegasus, is found in the Inner Temple.



SHIELD OF THE HOSPITALLERS.

The Shield of the Hospitallers is a cross argent on a field sable. The original cross was a patriarchal, but on the dissolution of the Order of the Temple, and the transfer of all its properties, rights, and privileges to the Knights of St. John, the Hospitallers assumed the Red Cross banner of the Temple, and eventually made it their favourite flag. As in the Crusades, the Templars led the van, and the Hospitallers brought up the rear, so when the latter acquired Rhodes, and afterwards Malta, their galleys had the Templar banner flying at the peak, the St. John standard at the helm.



CROSS OF A GRAND PRIOR.

Some considerable misunderstanding exists as to the prefixing crosses to the names of the modern Templars. The Grand Master, like the Pope, alone uses the three barred cross; the Grand Priors, who rank with the Cardinals, use this cross; Priors or Commanders, who rank with Bishops, use the ordinary cross. A simple knight, who is only of the rank of an ordinary clergyman, cannot, in strict heraldry, use any cross, and it is an error which has crept into the present Orders of the Temple and Hospital through the non-appointment of a Beauseant king-at-arms.

We come now to consider the blazonry of a Templar's shield, and it raises a difficult question. The Grand Masters of the Hospitallers, as we find from their tombs in Malta, carried the shield of the Order (field sable, cross argent), in the first and fourth quarters, their family arms in the second and third. I think in these circumstances the Grand Master should have his arms so quartered, and his officers and knights bear the Hospital Cross in chief. The Scots Templars do not acknowledge the connection of the Hospital, as swamping the Order, and consequently they use a red cross on a field argent in chief. The field, however, should be *parti* argent and sable. Perhaps the correct blazon would be, in chief the Temple and Hospital shields, and between them the English language's shield. I throw the above out as a simple opinion, and shall be glad to hear the remarks of other brethren upon the question.—ANTHONY ONEAL HAYE.

3^d GLASGOW.

We have received letters sufficient to fill half-a-dozen *Magazines* upon this question. As they travel over the same ground that former writers have done, we think we shall exercise the Editorial power, to the satisfaction of our readers, by stopping further communications.—[ED. F.M.]

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND BRO. SLACK.—French, German and American publications are taking up this unfortunate question, and severely condemn Bro. Slack.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE ORDERS OF THE RED CROSS OF ROME AND THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I observe with satisfaction, not, however, unmingled with some surprise, that Lupus, in his anxiety to become the champion of King Victor Emmanuel, and to elevate the subject under discussion into the dignity of an international question, is apparently willing to concede all that we claim for the Anglican Order of Constantine as a *chivalric institution in connexion with Freemasonry*. This, I apprehend, is an important admission, although it proves nothing beyond the fact that authorities differ upon these knotty points. Some time since, one of the oldest and most eminent members of the English branch, who was received in 1837, employed all his eloquence, which is great, and his erudition, which is profound, to induce the Council of England to seek an alliance with the Italian Order, under the Grand Mastership of the Ex-King of Naples, as a *veritable* offshoot of the original "*Ordo Equestris*," and to eliminate *all* Masonic allusions from the ceremonies. This advice was not followed simply because the members believed the alliance with such a dethroned potentate undesirable for more reasons than one. Now, on the other hand, Lupus desires us to discard the Comnenian succession, and adopt his theory that the Order originated in the Holy Land amongst the 27,000 Masons who went out to the aid of the Crusaders. I shall have a few words to say upon this point in due time, but must first inquire upon what authority Lupus affirms that the Order was the *private property* of the Comneni—that the Grand Master "could dictate whatever laws he thought proper;" that he alone appointed the Grand Crosses; and that he could "curtail or enlarge the privileges of the Knights at his own pleasure." In this instance, I fear that Lupus, for the sake of throwing a few additional shot into the enemy's entrenchments, has overloaded his guns, and is endangering his own position.

The Constitution of the Order was diametrically opposed to the exercise of any arbitrary power by the Grand Master; it was essentially aristocratic in its nature, and the Grand Crosses who composed the Council had the regulation of all the other members. The Council formed the first class, in which the *Grand Master himself* was comprised, and in the event of the decline or decay of the Order any surviving Knight of the Grand Cross had a right to receive members and to perpetuate the institution. The G.M. had no power to dictate laws, or to exceed his prerogative without the consent of the Council. The Constitution and Laws of the Anglican Order were based upon those promulgated by the Emperor Isaac Angelus Comnenus in 1190; and, under date "6th June, 1811," I find in their minutes the following entry:—"It was unanimously resolved that Sir Richard Jebb * be allowed to confer the dignity of the Grand Cross of the Order on two Noviciate Knights in India." The fact is that Andrew Comnenus, the last here-

ditary Grand Master, was involved in pecuniary difficulties when he "sold" the Order, and therefore gladly accepted the "consideration" offered by the Duke of Parma. It is also noteworthy that, as the Comneni were merely titular princes for nearly 300 years, the Order was not a "public" one, in the sense of being attached to a Kingdom or State until 1699. It would be a work of supererogation to prove that the Italian Order has undergone many changes since that period. In 1735 it was annexed to the Crown of Naples, and in 1816 the Ex-Empress Maria Louisa declared herself Grand Mistress of the Order as Duchess of Parma. Two distinct branches, therefore, existed in Italy up to a recent period. Probably, the Emperor of the French may be considered the true head of the Italian Order, both as her representative and as the heir to Napoleon I.—a crowned King of Italy. Others maintain that the Ex-King Francis of Naples has an indefeasible claim, and Lupus is ready to do battle for the "*Re galantuomo*." He is quite welcome to his opinion, as the English Order has never boasted any connexion with the Parmese-Neapolitan institution.

Lupus considers my comparison of the "Red Cross Order" with the Order of St. John "peculiarly unfortunate." He will pardon me for saying, I believe it to be singularly apposite. It is well known that a *Masonic* Maltese Order existed *before* 1798, when the Order of Malta was as much a "public" Order as that of Constantine; and it is also known that the Masonic Order has been *revived* within the past four or five years under the auspices of the Masonic Knights Templar. Where was "Lupus" then? and why were the vials of his wrath unemptied upon the heads of the offending Grand Conclave? as it is indisputable that several branches of the original Order still exist—two being actually under the protection of "friendly foreign powers!" to say nothing of the Anglican body under His Grace the Duke of Manchester.

I pass over Lupus's delight at finding that the "appropriation of the Cross now worn in the Priestly Order" was made by the Committee of 1813, as by referring to my remarks in No. 499 of the *Magazine*, it will be found that he labours under a misconception, and doubtless the Cross was worn by members of the English branch *for years before that date*.

My admission of the English branch, having regard to its connexion with Freemasonry being "in much the same category as the Order of the Temple, &c.," is by no means depreciatory of those chivalric institutions, but simply to suggest the inference that the history of all those Orders as *Masonic* organizations in England during the first half of the 18th century is involved in very considerable obscurity. Lupus has, however, performed a service to the Red Cross Order in admitting that it is not "new"—the most odious term that can be applied to anything purporting to be Masonic—and he will confer an additional favour if he will state explicitly what other Red Cross Order has for "many years" been known in certain provinces, if it be *not* the Red Cross of Constantine. The emblems of the Manchester Certificates would appear to be conclusive evidence on this point. Does Lupus seriously believe that a brother like Waller Rodwell Wright, who was at once a gentleman, a scholar, and a Christian, would introduce a Prince of

* Afterwards Provincial Grand Master for Coromandel.

the blood-royal like the Duke of Sussex into an Order which had no real title or position as a Knightly fraternity? or that the Duke himself would, after his admission, consent to become the Grand Master of such an illegitimate body? If this be Lupus' belief, all I can say is, that his new-born zeal for Victor Emmanuel (who, by the way, has *never claimed the Order*, and does not need his advocacy) must be greater than his faith in the chivalrous honour of illustrious Masons.

Lupus rather unfairly deduces from my silence in a former communication, and which, as I then explained, was due solely to a pressure on my time, that there is "nothing whatever to be said in favour of assuming the Order of the Holy Sepulchre." He is greatly mistaken, as it is intimately allied to the Order of Constantine in its traditional origin and subsequent history. The unavoidable length of my present observations will, however, now as before, preclude me from entering into details upon the subject.

Lupus is also pleased to allude to the confidence I expressed in the ultimate verdict of English Masons upon the claims of these Orders, and he expresses an opinion "that in the *educated circles* of those who own the mystic tie, no great prophetic power is necessary to predict what the verdict will be." He might well have spared the sneer, as it is precisely to men of culture and intellect that we desire to appeal—having ample evidence in the past that "educated" men have been the most strenuous supporters of the Order, and that even in the present day we number in our ranks many accomplished Masons—men of original thought, as well as scientific attainments—men of enlightened ideas and comprehensive views, who would reflect honour upon any society. In conclusion, I beg to reiterate that in our ceremonies there is nothing theatrical; in our teachings there is nothing intolerant or absurd. We commemorate a great event—the triumph and establishment of that divine faith which, let sceptics cavil as they may, must ever be acknowledged by the dispassionate student as the herald of true civilization, and all the social blessings which we now enjoy.

Yours fraternally, R. W. L.

[Ample space having been afforded for the discussion of this subject, we must close it in our next.—Ed. F.M.]

BRO. FINDEL AND BRO. MORRIS.

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

Dear Sir and Brother, Bro. Findel states the so-called right of jurisdiction taken from political affairs, as an American prejudice, unmasonic, &c.

The Grand Lodge of England acknowledged the doctrine of jurisdiction before the United States possessed political independence, and did not touch on the Grand Lodge of Scotland, nor the latter on the Grand Lodge of England. From the earliest time the Grand Lodge of England acknowledged Grand Lodges elsewhere, recognised their jurisdiction, and did not invade them.

When the political condition of North America changed, then did the Grand Lodges here acknowledge the Masonic independence of the United States.

There would be such serious evils from the non-observance of political jurisdiction that Bro. Findel's innovation cannot but be regarded with mistrust.

Yours fraternally, P.M.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

THE UNIVERSAL MASONIC CALENDAR, DIARY, AND POCKET BOOK FOR 1869.—This useful and comprehensive publication is now issued. It can be obtained at the office of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, London, or in Glasgow, in addition to the regular agents.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—The Seventy-first Anniversary Festival will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, March the 10th. The Right Hon. Earl de Grey and Ripon, R.W.D.G.M. will preside.

MASONIC LIFE BOAT FUND.—We are requested to mention that a committee is about to be formed for carrying out the purposes of the fund, and the Secretary (Bro. Anthony Oneal Hays) will be glad to receive the names of brethren willing to serve upon it. When the committee is formed, a list of subscriptions received will be published.

THE Premier Conclave will meet at Freemasons' Tavern, on the 1st prox., under the presidency of Lord Kenlis. Several distinguished brethren are on the agenda for reception into the Order.—The Roman Eagle Conclave, No. 6, will be held at Auderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 27th, when Bro. H. C. Levander, M.A., P.M. 76 and 928, Dir. of Cers. 507; H. 720; W.M. 24 M.M.M., will be installed as M.P.S. No less than nine brethren are candidates for admission.—The Plantagenet Preceptory of Instruction will be re-opened at the famous Savage Club room, Lyceum Tavern, Strand, on Thursday evening, the 25th inst., when representatives from the five conclaves in Middlesex and Surrey are expected to muster in force.

GIRLS' SCHOOL.—We desire to bring before the notice of our numerous readers as worthy of their support, the case of Alice Ritson Molineaux, aged eight years, a candidate for admission at the ensuing Election for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. Her father was for twenty-one years Assistant Locomotive Engineer to the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company. He died very suddenly in November 1867, leaving a Widow and seven children. The Widow has since been confined of a posthumous child, making eight in all, and as six of these are wholly, and the two eldest nearly dependent upon her, we need hardly say it is a case particularly deserving the interest of all Freemasons, and more especially, perhaps that portion of them belonging to or in any way connected with railways. Bro. Molineaux was a very rising man in his profession, but unfortunately was unable to leave his widow and large family provided for. He belonged to the Royal York Lodge at Brighton, No. 315, of which he had been a member four years. Bro. George Hawkins of the London Brighton and South Coast Railway, Brighton, will be happy to receive proxies.

The daughter of Mrs. S. Palmer is a candidate for admission. We understand this to be a truly deserving case for fraternal sympathy.

MASONIC ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—From our advertising columns it will be seen that the next meeting of the Institute takes place on Friday, the 26th inst., when Bro. George Lambert will read a paper upon "the Ritual of the Three Degrees used by Frederick the Great." Brethren who desire to be present,

or who have Masonic curiosities which they would like exhibited at the meeting, are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretaries, not later than Tuesday next.

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

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF FIDELITY (No. 3).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., for the transaction of business, and the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge being opened, and minutes read, the installation was proceeded with, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. Robinson. The W.M., Bro. G. Cordwell, being saluted in the usual manner, then elected his officers as follows:—Bros. Terry, S.W.; Kayler, J.W.; Dearsley, P.M., Treas.; McDougal, S.D.; Pottinger, J.D.; and Green, I.G. Bro. J. Squire, P.M., was re-elected Treas. A vote of thanks, proposed by Bro. Robinson, P.M., and seconded by Bro. Shackelfton, was unanimously accorded to Bro. Dearsley, P.M., for the very handsome present of eight collars and silver jewels, for the use of the lodge, to replace those that had been unfortunately lost. They were supplied by Bro. George Kenning, of Little Britain. The W.M. intimated his intention of acting as Steward at the inauguration of the new buildings at Great Queen-street. Three proposals for initiation having been received, the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to one of Bro. Gosden's first-rate banquets. A pleasant evening was spent, which was considerably enhanced by the singing of Bros. Lawler, D. King, and other professional brethren.

ENOCH LODGE (No. 11).—The above lodge met at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, on Thursday the 10th inst., Bro. J. B. Ciabatta, W.M. in the chair. The W.M. in a very able and impressive manner, initiated Mr. F. G. Powell. Bro. Adkins being a candidate for the second degree, having answered the necessary questions, was duly passed to the degree of a F.C. The brethren then adjourned to a simple banquet, provided by Bro. Gosden the usual and Masonic toasts were given. The visitors were Bros. Berry, 211; Norton, St. James's Union; Kershaw, W.M., 193; H. M. Levy, P.M., 188; Wright, W.M., 504; Kershaw, W.M., returned thanks in a very able manner. There was very good singing by the W.M. Bro. E. Lewis, S.W. and Bro. Watson. Bro. Peter Matthews, the indefatigable Secretary, looked after the interests of the brethren in every possible way, and a very pleasant evening was the result.

BRITANNIC LODGE (No. 33).—This ably conducted lodge met on the 12th inst. There were present, Bro. Glegg, W.M.; Shields, S.W.; Church, J.W.; Crombie, Treas.; Chubb, Sec.; Glaisher, S.D.; Ohren, J.D.; G. England, sen.; Dir. of Cers.; G. England, jun.; Steward; C. T. Speight, Tyler; Strapp, Bridges, Peirce, Hawkins, Wm. Smith, C.Z., and Grissell, P.M.'s; J. Church, Pendered (took second degree), Rumble, Cope, T. D. Parker, Robertson, Rochussen, Palmer, Young, Ricks, Eastwood, Muriel, Finley, Voile, Paddon, Turner, R. Clarke, Browning, Jaratt, Burke, Dixon, Horsley, Sharp, Norman, Webb, Gale, Furness, Langley, Truscott, Pawley, James, and Strawbridge. Messrs. J. W. Wright and Gammon were initiated in due and ancient manner. The following visitors were also present:—Bros. T. H. Bridges, 1,216; Williams, 49; Strouts, P.M. 1, N.Z.; Hartley, 25, P.M.; Clewer, 34; Fuller, St. Albans; Patten, P.G.S.B.; Palmer, Elli, Bath, 772; W. Sharp, 37; Harding, 231; Kenning, 192; Cargill, 49; Hyde Pullen, D.P.G.M., J.W., P.G.S.B.; Stephenson, 49; F. Walters, P.M. 73; Payne, 311; Cave, 414. The brethren, upon the conclusion of the lodge business, adjourned to an elegant banquet, and the night passed in the full glow of brotherly love and harmony.

VITRUVIAN LODGE (No. 87).—A meeting of this lodge took place on the 10th inst., Bro. Meredith, the W.M., taking his place punctually. The business to be done was very heavy, and also important, inasmuch as there was a second election to take place for the W.M. It appears that at the December meeting the J.W. was elected, but at the following meeting in January, the election was not confirmed by a large majority. Hence the

reason of the second election, which has resulted in the S.W. obtaining the choice of the brethren to fill the chair. Two gentlemen were initiated, three passed, and three raised. Bro. George, of Lodge 898, was elected as a joining member. The ceremonies were very efficiently worked by Bro. Meredith. Business being over, the brethren retired for refreshment, prepared in Bro. Frampton's best style. The usual toasts were given and acknowledged. Some capital songs were given by several brethren, who finally broke up at an early hour, highly pleased with having spent a happy evening.

POLISH NATIONAL LODGE.—(No. 534.)—This highly influential and respected lodge, met on the 11th inst. at the Freemasons' Hall. The W.M. Bro. F. H. Gilbert occupying the chair. Bro. Hockey having shewn his proficiency, was duly raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. Bros. Cherrill and Vincent, were then passed to the second degree—no other business being before the lodge, Bro. Major Charles Szulezewski then informed the brethren, that with deep regret he had to inform the brethren of the death of Bro. J. Michalski, an old and valued member of the lodge and one of its founders, and proposed the brethren should appear in mourning on the next regular meeting, as a mark of the high estimation by every brother of the lodge, which was carried unanimously. The brethren then adjourned to a sumptuous banquet proposed by Bro. Gosden. The usual toasts were given and responded to, after which, the memory of the late Bro. Michalski was drunk in solemn silence. The visitors Bros. Hollingsworth, P.G.S.D., P.M. 487; H. Whery, P.M., 188; J. R. Pratt, 460; G. Spurr, 733; Davis, 733; and Baker, P.M. Bro. Hollingsworth returned thanks for the visitors, and remarked although he belonged to a good working Provincial Lodge, yet he had never seen it so well performed as on that occasion. The W.M. in responding to his health having been proposed and so warmly responded to by the brethren. Stated the lodge was originally instituted by brethren of the Polish Nation, but since then a great many of the brethren had joined and been instituted from this Nation, and he was proud to see many of the old stock remaining and the good feeling that exists among them. There was some very excellent singing by Bros. Davis, Spurr, Baxter, and Howtey; Bro. Cherrill was loudly applauded for his excellent comic song, that elicited roars of laughter. The brethren then separated after having spent a very delightful evening.

CANONBURY LODGE (No. 657).—This lodge met on the 11th inst., at Haxell's Hotel, Strand. Bro. C. Roberts, S.W., was installed in the chair of K.S., in a very masterly manner by Bro. Cox, P.M.. The officers having been appointed, the lodge was closed and the banquet followed, which reflected great credit on the host. Toast, song and sentiment followed and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

BELGRAVE LODGE (No. 749).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge took place on the 10th inst. Present: Bros. Bourne, W.M.; H. Watkinson, S.W.; G. Pym, J.D.; J. G. Froud, P.M., Treas.; H. Garrod, P.M., Sec.; P. Parsons, S.D.; S. Homewood, J.D.; E. Scott, I.G.; Wm. Ough, P.M., Assist. G. Purst.; Grogan, P.M., Ranting, P.M., T. Stripp, E. Harper, W. Mackrill, W. A. Catmor, A. Lefebvre, W. Pierce, &c., and several visitors, among whom we noticed Bros. Dicketts, W.M., Robert Burns (No. 25). Punctually at five o'clock, all the officers being present, after the confirmation of the minutes, the ballot was taken for Messrs. F. J. Eadie and J. Holloway, which proving unanimous in their favour, were separately introduced and initiated in the W.M.'s noted style. Several resolutions, of which notice had been given, to alter the bye-laws, were then discussed, but the opinion of the lodge being unmistakably against the first two, the others were withdrawn. This concluding the business, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren repaired to the banquet table, where a most delightful evening was spent, Bro. Eadie responding for the initiated. Bro. Dicketts replied for the visitors, and the Senior Warden for the officers. Several of the brethren enlivened the evening with some most excellent harmony.

MERCHANT NAVY LODGE (No. 781).—This prosperous lodge held its usual monthly meeting on Wednesday last, the 10th inst., at the Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, Limehouse. Present, Bros. Bracebridge, W.M.; E. T. Read, S.W.; Helps, J.W.; Bradbury, S.D.; Armstrong, J.D.; and Reeves, I.G. The minutes of the last lodge being read and confirmed, the ceremonies which consisted of one raising, four passings, and four initiations, were admirably rendered by Bro. J. Wright, P.M. and Treas., assisted by Bro. Killick, P.M. Bro. Bracebridge, the

W.M., then resumed the chair. The brethren proceeded to the election of W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Read, S.W., was unanimously elected, which elicited expressions of great satisfaction from all the brethren present. Bro. Read replied in the most suitable and feeling terms. The ballot was then taken for Treas., when Bro. Wright, P.M., was declared to be unanimously re-elected to that office. The business of the evening being over and lodge closed, the brethren adjourned to refreshment, which was amply provided by Bro. Holt, the worthy host. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to, when Bro. Read, the W.M. elect, asked permission to give the toast of the Masonic Charities, a toast that had always emanated from the lips of Bro. J. Wright, P.M. and Treas., who had unfortunately been compelled to retire early. Bro. Read especially directed the attention of the newly initiated brethren to the claims of the different Masonic Charities, and expressed a hope that the Merchant Navy Lodge might ere long be in the proud position of sending a Steward to each, and strongly advocated the principle of a fund being raised, so that a certain number of brethren might, in due time, be life governors of one or more of the Charities. The toast of the W.M. elect, and the remaining toasts, were given and duly responded to, which brought this happy evening to a close at an early hour.

DALHOUSIE LODGE (No. 860).—A meeting of the lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, on the 11th inst., Bro. C. Ireland, acting W.M. in the chair. The minutes being read and confirmed the business which was light, was transacted, and the lodge having been closed the brethren retired to the banquet. The evening was spent pleasantly, and the brethren retired at an early hour.

WHITTINGTON LODGE (No. 862).—A monthly meeting of the above flourishing lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday, the 15th inst., under the presidency of Bro. David J. Davis, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. Weaver, S.W.; S. S. Davis, J.W.; J. G. Thompson, P.M., Treas.; R. Wentworth Little, P.M., Sec.; J. Brett, P.M.; W. F. N. Quilty, P.M.; W. J. H. Jones, I.G.; and many other brethren. The visitors were—Bros. G. Cattel, P. Prov. G.D., Northampton and Hunts, and P.M. 442, and R. Tanner, W.M. 177. Messrs. Voight and Schnegelsberg were duly initiated, and Bro. Kern was passed to the second degree. Bro. James Brett, P.M., was unanimously chosen as the Steward to represent the lodge at the Inauguration Festival in connexion with the new buildings at Freemasons' Hall on the 14th April next. The subscription for country members was raised to £1 7s. per annum, so as to bear a fair proportion to the annual sum payable by other members—viz., £3 8s. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren afterwards spent a very agreeable evening together, under the gavel of Bro. Quilty, P.M., the W.M. and J.W. having to leave in consequence of a domestic affliction.

ROYAL ALBERT LODGE (No. 907).—The February meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, at the Freemason's Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. Charles Chard, W.M. The other officers of the lodge, Bros. H. J. Lewis, S.W., J. M. Vaughan, J.W., T. Morson, S.D., A. E. T. Worley, J.D., and C. Vidler, I.G., were in their places, and the undermentioned P.M.'s were also present, T. Lewis, G. Purst, W. H. Farnfield, and J. A. Farnfield. The following gentlemen having been duly balloted for, received the benefits of initiation at the hands of the W.M., Messrs. T. Hastings Miller, E. G. Webber, W. Lutwyche, and G. P. Bryan. Bro. Mitchell having shown that he had made sufficient progress as an E.A., was advanced to the grade of a F.C. The next business was the election of a W.M. for the year ensuing, and the choice was unanimous in favour of Bro. H. J. Lewis, who has so ably filled the S.W.'s chair during the past year, and given an earnest of what may be expected when he rules the brethren. Bro. Joseph Smith, one of the founders of the lodge, was again unanimously chosen as Treasurer, and Bro. Daly was re-appointed Tyler. Bro. Joseph Smith, after referring to the very satisfactory manner in which Bro. Chard had passed through his year of office, proposed that the usual P.M.'s jewel should be presented to him at the next lodge meeting. This was seconded by Bro. T. Lewis, and received the unanimous approval of the brethren. The lodge having been closed in due form, the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, where Bros. Williams and Rawlins, of No. 34, graced that part of the table usually assigned to visitors. The usual masonic toasts met with their customary hearty reception, the health of W.M. elect receiving particular applause.

DORIC LODGE (No. 933).—This lodge met on Tuesday the 9th inst. The business of the evening was commenced by Bro. Barnes, W.M., initiating Mr. Digley of Deptford, subsequently Bro. Berrian was raised to the third degree. This being the evening of installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Bowron the W.M. elect, was presented in due form, and installed into the chair of K.S. according to ancient custom. Bro. Barnes the I.P.M., was the installing master. The new W.M. then initiated Mr. Chambers, and the way in which he performed the ceremony is a sufficient guarantee, that at any rate during his year of office the brethren of the Doric Lodge will not suffer from want of proper instruction. The lodge being closed the brethren adjourned to banquet. The visitors were Bros. Hamilton, P.M., 554 and 745; Roberts, W.M., 554; Middleton, P.M., 554 and P.Z., 554; Gottheil, P.M., 141; M'Donald, P.M., 30; Patte, P.M., 147; Mortlock, W.M., 186; Curtis, 276; Candick, 742; Chadwick, Fordham, Ellis, Murray, Morrison, Verry, all of 554; Farquhar, 1135; Jro. 902; Higgs, 122; Atter, 1056; Moore, 134; Frother, 1044; Sarson, and Myerescough. The loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly proposed and enthusiastically received, the W.M. proposed the health of the initiates to which Bro. Digby responded. To the health of the visitors—Bros. Middleton, Gottheil, and Moore, responded. Bro. Scurr, P.M., acknowledged the toast of the P.M.'s in his usual happy manner. The health of the W.M. was then proposed by Bro. Barnes, I.P.M. In reply the W.M. heartily thanked them all for the manner in which his health had been proposed and responded to. He had been a Mason for 16 years, initiated in the Provinces, and from the first it had been his ambition to reach the elevated position of W.M.; by dint of patience and assiduity, he had at length attained it, and it would at all times be a pleasing task to him to promote the prosperity of the Doric Lodge. We must not omit to mention that the prosperity of the Doric Lodge is mainly due to the activity and energy of Bro. John Stevens, P.M., 554, who is the Hon. Sec.

MONTEFIORE LODGE (No. 1,017).—This new but influential lodge met on Thursday, the 10th inst., Bro. the Rev. M. B. Levy in the chair. The minutes of the former lodge having been read and confirmed, the W.M. then passed Bro. C. W. Reguart to the second degree. A ballot was then taken for the following gentlemen, namely:—Bros. P. Hyman, Wenkheim, and H. Reguart, which being unanimously in their favour they were initiated by the W.M. in his usual excellent manner. Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.M., then proposed a sum of two guineas be given from the funds of the lodge to the Grand Master's Commemoration Fund, which was carried unanimously. Great credit is due to every officer of the lodge, all being very young Masons, for their able working in every degree. The brethren then sat down to a very excellent dinner, served by Bro. Gosden. The visitors were Bros. Berri, P.M., No. 27; H. M. Levy, P.M., 188; Beadel, 780; Saqui, P.M., 205; and Vanderbosch, 205. Bro. Saqui returned thanks for the visitors. In connection with the toast of the M.W.G.M., the W.M. stated he had great pleasure to become a steward and receive subscriptions for that fund. The W.M. then, in a feeling and solemn address, proposed the health of the newly initiated brethren, reminding them of the solemn duties they had pledged themselves to, perform. Bro. Wenkheim, in a few words, but to the purpose, returned thanks. Bro. S. V. Abrahams, the I.P.M., then proposed the health of the W.M., and stated, that from the high estimation he was held in by the brethren, not only for his able working in the lodge, but also at the banquet table the brethren have elected him for two successive years, a post of honour he has so ably merited. The W.M., in a very eloquent manner, returned thanks. There was some very excellent singing by Bros. Henri de Solla, and H. M. Levy. The brethren separated at an early hour, after spending a very agreeable evening.

PROVINCIAL.

BERKS AND DUCKS.

MAIDENHEAD.—*St. John's Lodge (No. 795).*—A lodge of emergency was held at the Orkney Arms, Bro. L. H. Isaacs, I.P.M., occupying the chair, in the absence of Bro. C. Gammon, W.M. A ballot was taken for Messrs. J. Turner, Henry T. Carr, and William Plumbe, which was unanimous in their favour. Bro. H. H. Hodges, P.M., then proposed Bro. W. J. Lovegrove,

491, Jersey, as a joining member, which was carried *nem con.* The ceremony of passing was very ably performed by Bro. H. H. Hodges, P.M. In September last a jewel was proposed to the retiring W.M., Bro. L. H. Isaacs, who was absent owing to the death of his late lamented father. Bro. H. H. Hodges then stated he regretted the absence of the W.M., Bro. Gammon, on account of indisposition, but he had the pleasing duty in the name of the lodge in presenting Bro. Isaacs with a gold P.M.'s jewel, to show the high estimation he is held in by all the brethren of the lodge, not only for his able working but for excellent manner he has presided over them. Bro. Isaacs, in replying, regretted his absence on former occasions from circumstances over which he had no control, and thanked the brethren for so elegant and valuable a testimonial, and assured them that in future the duties of his lodge should have his especial care. Bro. W. Worrell, J.W., then gave a notice of motion that a sum of two guineas should be given to the G.M.'s Committee Fund. The brethren then adjourned to a very sumptuous banquet, served in Bro. Skindle's best style. After the usual toasts, that of the visitors (who were Bros. M. Van Diepenheim, P.M. 188, and Lawson, Old Concord, 172) was responded to by Bro. Lovegrove. The brethren then returned to town at an early hour.

NEWBURY.—Lodge of Hope (No. 574).—The members of this lodge assembled at the Town Hall, on Friday, the 12th inst., to re-install the W.M., Bro. Bland, Prov. J.G.W. of the province by dispensation from the R.W. Prov. G.M., Sir Daniel Gooch, *Bart., M.P.* The ceremony was performed by Bro. W. Biggs, P.M., after which the following brethren were appointed to office:—Bros. G. Boyer, I.P.M.; W. W. King, S.W.; A. Burns, J.W.; F. G. Hall, Treas.; G. J. Cosburn, Sec.; J. Johnson, S.D.; C. Wheeler, J.D.; J. Wheeler, I.G.; Stillman, Tyler. This being a lodge of emergency, no other business could be transacted, but it was intimated that four gentlemen would be proposed at the next lodge for initiation. The brethren then adjourned to a banquet at the large room at Mr. Staples', Northbrook-street, the catering being entrusted to Bro. Johnstone, and the several courses were served up in a very *récherché* style, the W.M. presiding. After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been given and responded to, Bro. Biggs rose to propose "The Health of their R.W.P.G.M., Sir Daniel Gooch, *Bart., M.P.*" he said it must be a source of very great satisfaction to every brother in the province to find they had now, as their Masonic chief, one of the most talented and efficient members of the Order—one who was not merely a Mason by name, but in every sense of the word, highly qualified for the high and important position he was now called on to fill; he might say that he had had the honour of knowing Sir Daniel for many years, and he could say fearlessly that there was no brother in the Order that could perform any ceremony connected with the Craft, in a more accurate manner than he could, or one who took a more lively interest in everything appertaining to the Order. The object of our charitable institutions had ever his warmest sympathy and support, and he felt sure that under his rule the province of Berks and Bucks would soon be raised from its present dormant state to one of great efficiency and usefulness, in fact, he might but allude to his recent connection with the province of Wilts, which for many years previous to its resuscitation in 1853, had been without any Provincial Grand Lodge, when Sir Daniel, as Deputy, formed it without organisation or funds, and the sincere regret by all members of that province at the announcement of his leaving them; still he could not say that Berks and Bucks was in the deplorable condition that it was, but it has stood in great want of a head for nearly ten years, and now he was appointed he most heartily congratulated the brethren on the selection that had been made. Bro. King, S.W., then proposed "The Health of Bro. the Rev. Sir J. W. Hayes, P.G.C., and D. Prov. G.M., and Grand Officers of the province," coupling it with the name of Bro. Botley, P. Prov. G.W. of the province. He said the rev. brother had always held a high position in the councils of the Craft, and was highly esteemed in the province in which he resided. It always afforded their lodge the greatest pleasure to see visitors amongst them, but that pleasure was much enhanced by seeing amongst them three officers holding high position in their Provincial Grand Lodge, and he felt sure the brethren would honour the toast of the Grand Officers as it deserved. Bro. Botley thanked them for the compliment paid, and could assure them it always gave them great pleasure to visit a lodge on the occasion of such interesting ceremonies they had witnessed that day the very fact of their obtaining a dispensation to re-

elect their Master for another year, was in itself a sufficient proof of the estimation in which he was held, and he hoped his year of office would be one of great prosperity to his lodge. The health of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Prov. G.M. of Somerset, was then given by the W.M., who spoke of him as a kind neighbour, good landlord, and as every one knew an excellent Mason. The health of the Installing Master Bro. Biggs, was next on the list, which the Master gave in very flattering terms, thanking him for the kind services he had rendered that day, to which that Brother responded, dwelling on the great social benefits of Masonry, and regarding it as a society preeminently exalted above all others, making men feel they had other duties to perform than their own selfish ideas, and states his willingness to assist at any time in furthering the interests of their lodge, and concluded by proposing health, happiness, and prosperity to the W.M., which was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm, to which the Bro. Bland, briefly responded expressing his determination to carry out his duties with all the ability in his power. The health of the Masters and visitors of the Reading Lodges was next given, to which Bros. Seller, P. Prov. S.G.D.; Bro. Weighman, P. Prov. G.S.B., and Bro. G. Poulin replied. "The Recently Invested Officers;" "The Ladies"—and other toasts were duly honoured, and the brethren separated after enjoying a very happy evening.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

KENDAL.—Union Lodge (No. 129).—*Installation of the W.M., and the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.*—The annual meeting of this ancient and flourishing lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Kent-street, on Thursday, the 28th ult., at three o'clock in the afternoon. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. Cartmel, P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers., who was supported by Bros. John Bowes, P. Prov. G. Reg., as S.W.; E. Friend, W.M. 1,013, as J.W.; Major Whitwell, *M.P.*, D. Prov. G.M.; Edward Busher, P.G.S.B. of England; W. Wilson, P.M.; C. Gardner Thomson, S.W.; John Holme, J.W.; W. Doubleday, Treas.; Rev. W. Dent, Chap.; G. B. Greenall, S.D.; Titus Wilson, W. Dodd, Joseph Bintley, T. S. Horne, W. Bradshaw, James Summers; J. D. Moore, *M.D.*, P.M., Prov. G. Supt. of Works West Lancashire; R. Lightoller, Henry Rauthmel, R. Butterwith, J. H. Hogg, W. Tattersall, John Talbot, M. M. Harrison, Dr. Noble, Captain Braithwaite, Dr. Leeming, S. Kearsley Thompson, W. F. Robinson; S. Gawith, W.M. elect; T. Gawith, D. Cleary, Tyler. Visitors:—Bros. John Bell, 281; Wilson Barker, 1,051; Capt. Mott, Prov. S.G.D. West Lancashire, 148, 241, 1,013, 1,086, &c.; T. R. Clapham, 281; John Wood, J.W. 1,073; Dr. Gibson, 812; John Whitehead, P.M. 812; John Pearson, Skiddaw Lodge; E. Storey, W.M. 281; J. Theobald, 1,073; Rev. James Simpson, W.M. 812, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Winstanley, 673; Garnett Braithwaite, S.W. 859; and W. Prosser, 1,051. On the lodge being opened in the second degree, the D. Prov. G.M. was solicited to take the chair as Installing Master, when Bro. E. Busher, P.M., presented Bro. S. Gawith, the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation. The first part of the ceremony being completed, a Board of Installed Masters was opened and was numerously attended, and the W.M. elect was placed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom. The brethren were then admitted, and the usual proclamations and salutations made. The W.M. now appointed and invested the following brethren as officers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Bros. John Holme, S.W.; G. B. Greenall, J.W.; Rev. W. Dent, Chap.; W. Doubleday, Treas.; S. K. Thompson, Hon. Sec.; H. Rauthmel, S.D.; R. Summers, J.D.; T. S. Horne, I.G.; D. Cleary, Tyler. The charges were delivered by Bros. Mott and Dr. Moore, and the lodge was closed with the usual solemnities, and the brethren adjourned to the King's Arms Hotel for the banquet. This was of an exceptional character, and the more interesting on that account, as the companions of the Kendal Castle Chapter (129), fraternised with their brethren of the Craft lodge. The chair was occupied by the M.E.Z., Bro. Major Whitwell, D. Prov. G.M., who was supported on the right by the W.M., Bro. S. Gawith and Bros. John Bowes, P.Z., &c.; Capt. Mott, E. Busher, Dr. Moore; Iredale, F.D. Prov. G.M., &c.; and on the left by Bros. W. Wilson, P.M., H., &c.; Rev. James Simpson, J., &c.; Captain Coupland, Mayor of Lancaster, &c., and about fifty other brethren and companions. The dinner and wines were all that could be desired. Grace before and after meat was said by Bros. the Rev. J. Simpson and W. Dent. The following toasts were proposed and responded to as indicated. "The Queen" by the

M.E.Z.; "The Prince and Princes of Wales," by the W.M.; "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," proposed by Bro. Simpson, and responded to by Bros. Capt. Braithwaite, Mott, Coupland, and Dr. Moore. The M.E.Z. proposed "The M.W. G.M., the R.W.D.G.M., and the Grand Lodge of England," which was acknowledged by Bro. E. Husher, P.G.S.B. of England. Dr. Moore proposed "The R. Prov. G. Master, Lord Kenlis, Major Whitwell, M.P., D. Prov. G.M., and the Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmoreland," which was responded to by the D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Capt. Mott proposed "The Principals of the Kendal Castle Chapter," which was acknowledged by the M.E.Z. Bro. Hall proposed "The W.M. of the Union Lodge, No. 128, Bro. S. Gawith," to which the W. Bro. responded. The M.E.Z. proposed in most eloquent terms, "Unity, Brotherhood, and Order throughout the world-wide Craft." Bro. S. K. Thompson proposed "The I.P.M. and P.Z. and Officers of Lodge and Chapter, No. 129, past and present," which was responded to by Bros. John Bowes, P.Z., and W. Cartmel, P.M. The I.P.M. proposed "The neighbouring Provincial Grand Lodges and Officers, past and present," which Dr. Moore, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, responded to. Bro. Holme, S.W., proposed "The Visiting Brethren," to which the visitors responded. Bro. Iredale, P.D. Prov. G.L., proposed "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. Husher responded. "The Tyler's Toast" completed the list, and the brethren separated in perfect harmony at nine o'clock.

NORFOLK.

NORWICH.—*Social Lodge, (No. 93.)*—This old established lodge celebrated the installation of the W.M., and Saint John's Day on Tuesday February 9th, 1869, at the Freemasons' Hall, St. Stephen's Norwich. A numerous assembly of the brethren took place at 6 o'clock, Bro. James Dunsford, P.M., of Lodge Perseverance, (No. 213, who was installed W.M. at the previous monthly meeting of the lodge, opened the lodge in due form, Bro. Britton the P.G.O. presiding at the harmonium. The hymns at the opening and closing of the lodge, in the first degree, where impressively and beautifully sung by the numerous brethren present. After the lodge was closed the brethren upwards of 40 in number retired to the banquet, which was supplied by Bro. Woods in his usual excellent style. The catering of Bro. Joseph Marshall, P.P.G.D.C., gave great satisfaction, the viands were of the finest quality. The chair was taken by the newly installed W.M. Bro. Dunsford, who was supported on his right by the D. Prov. G.M., the Hon. F. Walpole, M.P., Bros. A. M. F. Morgan, P.G. Secretary, D. Penrice, G. E. Simpson, P.P.G.S.W.; on the left by Bro. John Barwell, P.G.T., and a numerous staff of Prov. G. Officers. The cloth being removed the W.M. gave the "Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family in succession. The next toast was the W.M.G.M. and officers of the Grand Lodge, which was received with great applause. The W.M. then proceeded to call the attention of the brethren to the flourishing condition of the various lodges in the Provinces; they had amongst them this evening their D.P.G.M. Master, who on all occasions attended the numerous meetings of the various lodges of the Province; they must congratulate themselves on that appointment, more especially as the brethren could not expect on account of his great age the presence of the P.G.M. of the province, Bro. Benjamin Bond Cabbell. The toast was received with great applause and the usual Masonic honours, the health of the W.M. was given by the D.P.G.M., which was responded to by the W.M. in a neat and appropriate speech. The singing of Bros. Oxford, Mann, &c., called forth great applause by the brethren; Bro. Henry John Mason, P.G.D.C., gave the usual Masonic honours to the various toasts from the chair. The brethren separated, after having spent a joyous evening in perfect harmony.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

NEWCASTLE.—*Borough Lodge, (No. 424.)*—On Monday afternoon the 15th, Bro. Robert Stephenson of Borough Lodge, 424, was installed W.M., by Bro. John Stokor, P.M. and P.G.S.D. Northumberland, at Mr. Neilsons, Grey Horse Inn, High Street, Gateshead. The W.M. then installed his officers for the ensuing year, viz, Bros. Noach, S. Lotinga, I.P.M. Treasurer, Bro. Jonathan Cooke, S.W., Bro. Robert Richardson, J.W., Bro. Samuel N. Lotinga, Secretary, Bro. James Davidson, S.D., Bro. Ero. E. A. Gibson, J.D., Bro. Meyer J. Cohen, 10, Bro. M.

Metcalf, 33, Bro. J. Jackson, 13, Bro. Curry Tyler, Bro. P. M. Roddian, South Shields, in an appropriate speech on behalf of the W.M. and brethren, presented Bro. P.M. Lotinga with a P.M. jewel, Bro. Lotinga returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him. Amongst brethren present, were, T. Smith, P.M., Gateshead, J. Robertson, P.M. South Shields, D. Robson, P.M., North Shields, T. Jackson, W.M., 431, North Shields, G. Thompson, P.M., Newcastle, John Hair, P.M., Newcastle, Rev. T. Featherstone, P.G. Chap. and P.M., North Shields, W. Reid, P.M., Fawcett Lodge, Geaham Harbour, J. Risdale, W.M., Northern Counties, 406, Newcastle, etc., etc. About 35 brethren partook of a sumptuous dinner provided by Mrs. Nielson. The Worshipful Master presided, Bro. Jonathan Cooke, S.W. in the vice chair. The Loyal, Masonic, and various other toasts having been heartily drunk and duly responded to, and the remainder of the evening having been spent in love and harmony; the brethren parted at an early hour.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, *Bart., M.P.*, P.G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire, held his Grand Lodge at Ironbridge, on Friday the 5th inst. A Craft lodge was opened in the three degrees by Bro. James Procter, W.M. of the St. Milburga Lodge, at two o'clock, shortly after which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the following officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, entered the lodge-room in procession, amid the warm greeting of the brethren assembled:—R.W. Bro. E. H. Dymock, D.P.G.M. V.W. Bros. W. Bulkeley Hughes, *M.P.*, Prov. G.S.W.; T. W. J. Goldsbro', *M.D.*, P.P.G.S.W.; W. Brightwell, P.P.G.S.W.; Rev. Riou G. Benson, P.G. Chap.; J. P. White, Prov. G. Treas.; and Charles Wigan, Prov. G. Sec. W. Bros. D. P. Brown, P.G.S. of W.; R. Millington, P.G.S.B.; R. Forrest, P.G. Org.; W. Blakeway, P.G.S.; A. Britton, P.G.S.; E. Mallard, and John Maguire, P.G.T.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. at once proceeded to open the Prov. G. Lodge, after which the usual business was proceeded with. A highly satisfactory report was read by the V.W. Prov. G. Treas., Bro. J. P. White. The subject of the commemoration in honour of the Earl of Zetland, the M.W.G.M., was then brought before the Prov. G. Lodge, and it was moved by V.W. Bro. White, seconded by V.W. Bro. W. Bulkeley Hughes, P.G.S.W., and carried unanimously, that the sum of ten guineas be contributed to the fund for that purpose. The R.W. Prov. G.M. stated his intention to hold a Provincial Grand Lodge at Caernarvon in the course of the summer. The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, provided at the Tontine Hotel, at which the R.W. Prov. G.M. presided. The following brethren were present:—

R.W. Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn, *Bart. M.P.* Prov. G.M.; R.W. Bro. E. H. Dymock, D.P.G.M.; V.W. Bro. William Bulkeley Hughes, *M.P.* P.G.S.W.; V.W. Bro. T. W. J. Goldsbro' *M.D.*, P.P.G.S.W.; V.W. Bro. William Brightwell, P.P.G.S.W.; V.W. Revd. Riou G. Benson, P.G. Chaplain; V.W. Bro. J. P. White, P.G. Treasurer; V.W. Bro. Charles Wigan, P.G. Secretary; W. Bro. Barber P.G.D. of the P.G.L. Staffordshire; W. Bros. Rowland Millington, P.G.S.B.; Richd. Forrest, P.G. Orgt.; William Blakeway, P.G.S.; A. Britton, P.G.S.; James Procter, W.M. 1,120; L. Hamer, W.M. 1,124;—Bagley, W.M. 601; Jasper More, P.M. 262; W. Woolner, P.M. 1,120; Brice Smith, P.M. 1,120; F. Smith, P.M. 998; Askew Roberts, Secy., 1,123; Grant, S.W. 1,120; Frank Yates, J.W. 1,120; Higgins, 1,113; Phillips, 1,113; Thursfield, Secy., 1,120; Bates, S.D. 1,120; Barber, 601; Anslow, 601; Machin, 601; Everall, 611; Evett, 601; Hayes, 601; Joseph Millington, 601; W. H. Smith; Marcy; Potter; Johnson; Crowder; E. Mallard; J. Maguire; The toasts of the "Royal Family," and the "M.W.G.M.," were given and warmly responded to.

R.W. Bro. W. H. Dymock, D.P.G.M., proposed the health of the "Prov. Grand Master."

Bro. Sir Watkin W. Wynn replied in appropriate terms.

Bro. William Bulkeley Hughes, *M.P.* Prov. G.S.W., proposed the health of the "R.W.D. Prov. G.M. of North Wales and Shropshire" (Bro. Dymock), to which Bro. Dymock responded.

Other toasts followed, interspersed with harmony, and the "Tylers" toast brought to a satisfactory conclusion the proceedings of an evening spent by the brethren in a perfectly fraternal spirit.

OXFORDSHIRE.

OXFORD.—*Apollo University Lodge* (No. 357.)—The 50th anniversary festival and banquet of this lodge was held at the University Masonic Hall, on Thursday the 18th ult., when Bro. Captain George Nead Lamert, P.M., of the Castle Lodge of Harmony, No. 26. B.A. and Fellow Commoner of Worcester College, was installed W.M. for the ensuing year.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The 20th ult. was a great day with the Masons of Sheffield, when they were visited by the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, and a grand banquet and Masonic ball took place.

It is impossible to fix the precise date at which Freemasonry was first introduced into this town, but certain it is that more than 100 years ago there was one or more lodges here. Tradition says that it is a very old institution in Yorkshire, dating its introduction as far back as the time of the Saxon King Athelstane—nearly 1000 years ago. There is no direct historical evidence of the truth of this assertion, but the tradition itself is at least 500 years old, and in an ancient MS. engrossed upon vellum now existing in the British Museum, and purporting to be the traditions of Freemasonry, and admitted to have been written in the sixteenth century, the articles of Freemasonry are prefaced by a short history of the Craft, in the course of which occur the lines—

"Thys craft com ynto Englonde as y zow say
Yn tyme of good kyng Adolestun's day."

Masonic tradition says that Athelstane granted a charter to the Freemasons, and that his brother, Prince Edwin, established a lodge in York, under himself as Grand Master, A.D. 926, and this is corroborated by another manuscript similar to the first mentioned in the British Museum, and dating some time in the fifteenth century, which contains the following:—"There was a worthy kyng in England yt was callyd Athelstone, and his yongest sone lovyd well ye sciens of gemetry, and he wyst well yt hand craft had ye practyke of ye sciens of gemetry so well, as Masons wherefore he drewe hym to counsell, and lernyd practyke of yt sciens to his speculatyf. For of speculatyf he was a master, and he lovyd well masonry and masons, and he bcome a mason hymself. And he yaf them charges and names as hit is now usyd id Englonde, and in othere countries. And he ordeyned yt yey schulde haue resonabill pay. And purchased a fre patent of ye kyng that they schulde make assembly whan thei sawe reasonably tyme a cum to gedir to their counsellors of ye whicho charges manors and semble as is write and taught i ye boke of our charges."

Freemasonry has always been patronised by the nobility, and the Grand Master of England has been, if not of Royal blood, at least one of the peers of the realm. Connected with our own neighbourhood there were notable instances of this fact. In the year 1587 Charles Howard, Earl of Effingham, whose name will be especially familiar to the people of the Rotherham district—was Grand Master. The family of the Lord of the Manor of Sheffield, too, has at one time been associated with the honours of Freemasonry. In the year 1633 Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, the progenitor of the Norfolk family, occupied the proud position of Grand Master, and in 1827, at a Grand Lodge held at the Devil Tavern, the Duke of Norfolk was elected Grand Master, which office he held for the two succeeding years. As a proof of his Grace's attachment to the Craft, he transmitted from Venice to England the following handsome presents for the use of the Grand Lodge:—"First, £20 to the charity; second, a large folio book of the finest writing paper for the records of the Grand Lodge, richly bound in Turkey and gilt, with a curious frontispiece in vellum, containing the arms of Norfolk amply displayed, and an inscription of the family titles, with the arms of Masonry elegantly emblazoned. Third, a sword of state for the Grand Master, being the old trusty sword of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, which was next worn by his brave successor in war, Bernard, Duke of Saxe-Weimar, with both their names on the blade, and further enriched with the arms of Norfolk in silver on the scabbard."

As to the early existence of the Masonic Craft in Sheffield, we learn that in 1765 the Rose and Crown Lodge was consecrated in Sheffield under a warrant from the Grand Lodge at York. The name was changed on the 8th April, 1795, to that of the Britannia Lodge, under which title it is still known, but two years previous to the transition, or in the year 1793, another

lodge—the Royal Brunswick—was also established, and this lodge, too, still holds on in its honourable career. It may be mentioned, however, that, although no reliable information appears to be within our reach respecting any other lodges which existed in the town, there is good reason to believe that such was the case, as is evidenced by the fact that "twenty members of other lodges were admitted subscribing members of the Britannia Lodge on the 8th April, 1796."

Freemasons have been sometimes accused of, to some extent, neglecting the fair sex, but this charge is not substantiated either by the records of the past or the events of the present time. For instance, we find that on the 14th May, 1800, a motion was made that an entertainment should be held on the evening after the feast of St. John, and it was agreed "that each brother should have the liberty of introducing two ladies to partake of the evening's entertainment." The extent to which the Masons went in the introduction of luxuries on the occasion of these "entertainments," may be gathered from the fact that "on the 25th of October, 1809, being the jubilee day of his Majesty entering the 50th year of his reign, the brethren of both lodges [the Britannia and the Royal Brunswick] met at nine o'clock in the morning, with suitable music and dresses, in white aprons, white gloves, and white stockings, and such jewels as each thought proper, and returned from the church to dine together at three o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each, to cover dinner and malt liquor. After that each brother drank what he chose, and paid for it. The lodge jointly paid the music 21s. with a quart of ale to each musician; and also paid the waiters, and for tobacco, and for advertising once in the *Iris* and *Mercury*." Quaintly enough these records read at the present time, and probably some of the aristocratic members of the lodges, as they now exist, might be ready to smile at the doings of their predecessors, were the minutes of their proceedings of the more remote period once more brought to light; but it must be remembered that things have greatly changed in every respect during the last sixty years. Always loyal, too, the Masons of England have a claim to be classed amongst the highest patriots, and the brethren connected with the Sheffield lodges have kept up the credit of the Craft in this respect. For example, we find that on the 14th March, 1798, Samuel Robinson, the then Master of the Britannia Lodge, proposed a subscription "in support of the Government against a foreign country," and the amount subscribed was £21. With regard to Masonic balls, which after all are not the least interesting of the events crowded in the annals of Freemasonry, the first record of the kind we have is that in 1801. "It was agreed to hold the Masonic ball at the most convenient evening after the signing of a definite treaty of peace." So much for the past; and now for the present.

The Provincial grand lodge was held at the Cutlers' Hall, under the banner of the Royal Brunswick Lodge, of which Bro. W. H. Brittain, is the W.M. The Prov. G. L. of West Yorkshire itself was presided over by Bro. Bentley Shaw, the D. Prov. G. M. the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, D.G.M. of England and Prov. G.M. of West Yorkshire, being unavoidably prevented from attending on account of important engagements in London. There was a large attendance of brethren, amongst those present being the Rev. Dr. Senior, Grand Chaplain of England; Col. Child, of Leeds; Fredk. Binckes, Secretary of the Freemasons' Boys' School; Major Woodall, Prov. S.G.W. of the North and East Riding, and Mayor of Scarborough; T. W. Tew, Justice of the Peace, Wakefield, and Prov. S.G.W. of West Yorkshire; Major Nelson, Prov. Grand Sec.; J. Peace, Esq., Pro. S.G.W., Huddersfield; J. Freeman, Prov. S.G.W. Huddersfield; G. H. Westerman, J.P., Castle Grove, Wakefield, P.P.S.G.W.; W. White, Esq., Sheffield, P.D.C.; E. Drury, P.G.S.; W. Short, P.P.S.; Henry Smith, Wakefield; W. Longden, P.P.S.G.D., Sheffield; W. Rhodes, P.G.W.; J. Lamb, Esq., S.B., &c., &c. Brother the Rev. Peter Browne, M.A., officiated as chaplain, and Bro. Graham Stuart officiated as D. Prov. G. organist. A letter was read from the Right Hon. the Earl de Grey and Ripon, expressing deep regret at being unable to be present owing to his official engagements, and assuring the brethren that had it not been for his duty to the State, he should have esteemed it his pleasure to have been amongst them.....Bro. Binckes, the secretary of the Masonic Boys' School, made an eloquent appeal on behalf of that charity. With regard to the present special effort, he expressed an earnest hope that the dignity and honour of the province would be upheld by the manner in which

that appeal would be responded to, and that the brethren in Yorkshire would emulate the example set them in Lancashire.

Other business having been transacted, the brethren adjourned to the Black Swan Hotel, where there was a grand banquet. The repast was of a very *recherche* character, and was exceedingly well served, *a la Russe*, the whole of the arrangements being alike creditable to Bro. Morris and to the committee. Bro. Bentley Shaw, chairman, presided, and was supported by the officers of the Grand Lodge and the masters and past-masters of the various lodges, most of the principal towns in West Yorkshire being represented.....The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed, the brethren adjourned to take part in the ball, which was held at the Cutlers' Hall, the whole of the magnificent suite of rooms being brought into use. The new Banqueting Hall was of course the dancing room, the old Banqueting Hall the promenade, the front Hall the card room, and supper was served in the large room under the new Banqueting Hall. The preparations were of an extensive character. The beautiful carpets of the Cutlers' Company, only used on state occasions, were spread, the pathway from the suite of ball rooms to the supper room was covered with an awning, and prettily decorated with evergreens and various devices, lighted with Chinese lanterns; and the Entrance Hall was occupied by a guard of honour, selected from the Hallamshire Rifle Volunteers, under the command of Ensign Wharton. The band under the able direction of Mr. Charles Harvey, and consisting partly of members of Mr. Charles Halle's band, was placed in the ladies' gallery instead of in the orchestra, which proved an immense improvement on the old arrangement, the orchestra being exceedingly inconvenient and unsuitable for the purpose to which it has been devoted at previous balls. Dancing commenced shortly after half-past nine o'clock, and in a short time there was assembled a very numerous and fashionable company. The distinguishing badges of the Masonic Order, the uniform of officers, and the variegated attire of the ladies, formed a picture at once pleasing and effective, however fantastic it might seem as the "mazy dance" went on, and the gaiety and animation increased. Altogether the ball was a great success, and proved fully entitled to the place of honour amongst the grand balls of the season.

WAKEFIELD.—*Wakefield Lodge* (No. 495).—This lodge held its monthly meeting in the Freemason's Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield, on the 8th inst., at half-past six. There were present,—Bros. J. T. White, W.M., Emerson, S.W., Binstead, J.W., Rev. Dr. Senior, LL.D., P.G. Chap., and others. Visiting Bros. Henry Smith, P. Prov. G.D., No. 302, and Armitage, 1102. There were two initiations, the first conducted by Bro. John Gill, P.M., and the second by W. W. Glover, P.M. The claims of the boys' school were advocated, and Bros. White and Binstead each contributed ten guineas towards the fifty guineas proposed to be raised. The remainder was at once contributed in smaller sums, and there is little doubt if every lodge would but try this plan few would be unrepresented at the festival on the 10th of March. The lodge was closed in harmony at nine o'clock, when an elegant repast was served in the banquet room.

ROYAL ARCH.

CORNWALL.

St. Day.—*Rose of Sharon Chapter* (No. 1,006).—The annual convocation of this Chapter was held at St. Day on Thursday, the 11th inst., at 2 p.m., Comp. F. M. Williams, M.P., M.E.Z., in the chair. The chapter having been duly opened, and the regular business dispatched, Comp. F. W. Dabb, the M.E.Z. elect, was duly installed as 1st Principal of the Chapter by the Eminent Companion Thomas Chirgwin, P.Z. 331, Truro, as was also the other Principals. There were present to form the Board of Past Principals:—Comps. E. T. Carlyon, P.Z. 331; F. M. Williams, P.Z. 1006; W. J. Johns, P.Z. 331, and others. The great feature, however, in the day's proceedings, and the subject uppermost in the minds of the companions, was the handsome present of the M.E. Comp. F. M. Williams, M.P., to the chapter, viz., a complete suite of Royal Arch furniture, in the newest and most approved style. This elegant gift was the admired of all, and, as usual, the donor has bestowed it in so quiet and graceful a manner that the members are as much at a loss to express their gratitude as they are unable to sufficiently admire the admirable Masonic qualities of the brother who has thus so mun-

ificently decorated the Chapter. Besides which, this is not the only instance of Comp. Williams's liberality, as his Masonic gifts are both numerous and valuable. Hence the province of Cornwall looks upon him as one of their principal lights, and esteems him most highly. A grand banquet concluded a most successful day's proceedings.

MARK MASONRY.

CORNWALL.

HAYLE.—*Cornubian Lodge of Mark Masters* (No. 87).—The fourth annual meeting of this lodge was held on the 9th inst. The lodge was opened in due form by Bro. Dr. Mudge, W.M. P.G.S.D., at three o'clock p.m., when the minutes of the former lodge were read and confirmed. There was a good attendance of members and visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Chirgwin, P.M., P.G.S., P.G.S.W., &c., and Johns, P.M., &c., of Fortitude Lodge, No. 78, Truro. The business of the lodge was to advance Bro. Guy, who had been proposed and balloted for in a former lodge, and to re-install Bro. Dr. Mudge, W.M. for the ensuing year, he having been unanimously re-elected by the brethren. Bro. Guy being in attendance, was regularly advanced to the degree of Mark Master by Bro. Mudge, W.M., assisted by Bro. Chirgwin, who explained the S.G.W., &c. Bro. Chirgwin, P.M., &c., then took the chair, when Bro. Dr. Mudge was presented by Bro. Frank Harvey, P.M., P.G.M.O., for the benefit of installation. After the usual ceremonies, Bro. Mudge was duly re-installed, and was saluted by the brethren accordingly. The W.M. then invested the following brethren as the officers of the lodge:—Bros. Frank Harvey, P.G.M.O., I.P.M.; G. Eustace, S.W.; F. H. Pool, J.W.; W. Mildren, M.O.; James Pool, S.O.; N. J. West, J.O.; W. J. Crotch, P.G.P. Chap.; F. H. Pool, Treas.; John Coombe, G.S., P.G.S. of W., Sec.; T. W. Robinson, Reg. of Marks; Martin Dunn, S.D.; W. Hollow, J.D.; R. Cobbedick, Dir. of Cers.; W. Baker and G. Richards, Stewards; N. G. Easterbrook, I.G.; and C. Trathen, Tyler. The lodge was closed at five p.m., and the brethren retired to the banquet, which was provided by Bro. Crotch in a style that reflected great credit upon him. The cloth having been removed, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts given and responded to by various officers and visitors, the brethren separated, expressing themselves much pleased with the proceedings of the day.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.—*Provincial Grand Conclave.*—An event, new in this locality, and of great interest to the higher grades of Masonry, occurred at the Masonic Rooms, Newhall Street, on Friday the 14th, on the meeting of a Prov. Grand Conclave for the Province of the United Counties of Staffordshire and Warwickshire. Bro. Colonel Vernon was the first appointed Prov. G.C., and was succeeded by Bro. Harvey, of Longton, Staffordshire. But the Province has been for the last two or three years in charge of the Grand Chancellor of the Order. No steps were taken for the formation of a Prov. Grand Conclave until the present time, when the Grand Chancellor (Sir Patrick Colquhoun, determined to hold a conclave and appoint officers with a view of organising the province and promoting the general interests of the Order. The Grand Chancellor presided as Acting Prov. G.C. It was attended by many Sir Knights from the different encampments held in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Warwick, and other places, and the various officers were appointed for the ensuing year. Among them were Sir Knight Major J.B. Hebbert, as D. Prov. G.C.; Sir Knight Major Machen, 1st Captain; and Sir Knight Lyons Wright, 2nd Captain; Revd. W. B. Smith, Prelate; E. Jones, Treas.; R. H. Foster, Registrar; H. Weiss, Ex.; C. B. Lewis, Capt. Lines; Thomas Partridge, S. Bearer; J. Astley, Herald; G. S. Phillips, Organist, &c., &c.; W. Heeley, Equerry. After the closing of the Prov. Grand Conclave, a meeting of the Howe Encampment was held, at which Sir Knight Weiss was installed as E.C. for the next year, the ceremony of installation being performed by P.E.C. Sir Knight Hebbert. At the Howe banquet, subsequently held, the Grand Chancellor and other members of the Prov. Grand Conclave, were entertained as visitors.

MASONIC FESTIVITIES.

METROPOLITAN.

THE WESTBOURNE LODGE BALL.

The success which the Westbourne Lodge Ball met with on the 20th ult. must be a source of great satisfaction to the indefatigable committee of Stewards, and a reward for their labours during the last two or three months. The arrangements were complete, and met with unqualified approbation. The large room at Freemasons' Hall, where the ball took place, was handsomely decorated, and every suggestion which could add to the comfort of the 220 visitors present was carefully adopted. Bro. Reed, W.M., President, presided at the supper-table, and, after a few formal toasts, the dancing to Bro. Marriot's excellent band was kept up with unflagging energy till an advanced hour in the morning. The programme contained some very choice selections, but the one which attracted the greatest notice was the "Immensikoff Quadrille," composed and arranged solely by Bro. Marriot, who conducted in person. The whole body of Stewards, consisting of Bros. Reed, Helsdon, Woodstock (Sec), Cottebrune, Stacey, Treadwell (Domestic), &c., were most assiduous in their attentions, and indeed the whole proceedings left nothing to be desired.

LANCASHIRE (WEST)

GRAND MASONIC BALL AT PRESCOT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE MASONIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

For many years there have been known and acknowledged difficulties in the way of getting up a first-class ball in Prescot, with any strong probabilities of success. In December, 1863, the Prescot Lodge of Freemasons, No. 86, gave a ball in the Town Hall, which, so far as the numbers and respectability of those attending was concerned, was not to be classed as amongst the failures; still the inconvenience of holding a ball in the Town Hall, with ante-rooms borrowed for the time being from the houses adjoining, was so great that there need be little surprise that until very recently, when the opportunity occurred of securing the new building used for the Petty Sessional business, the brethren of the Prescot Lodge had not seriously contemplated a second ball. The completion of the New Court House, and its admirable adaptation for balls, concerts, and public meetings, appear to have incited the members of the craft to make another attempt. The following distinguished brethren very readily accorded their patronage:—Sir T. G. Hesketh, Bart., M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. West Lancashire; the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, R.W. Prov. D.G.M., West Lancashire; the Right Hon. the Marquis of Hartington, R.W. Prov. G.M., Derbyshire; Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, P.G.W., High Sheriff of Lancashire; the Hon. Frederick Arthur Stanley, M.P., P.G.S.W., West Lancashire; the Right Hon. Lord De Tabley, R.W. Prov. G.M., Cheshire; and the Right Hon. Viscount Combermere, R.W.P. Prov. D.G.M., Cheshire. The committee appointed for making the arrangements in connection with the ball was composed of the Worshipful Master of the lodge, Bro. Frederick Green, Bros. J. Twist, P.M., J. T. Hall, P.M. and Z., T. Prescott, S.W., J. T. Birchall, J.W. S. Morris, Sec., J. I. Briggs, S.D., J. W. R. Fowler, Jun., J.C., J. S. Gisborne, I.G., J. S. Robertson, Steward, F. Pendlebury, Dir. Cers., C. Webster and Bro. J. W. J. Fowler, P.M.P.Z., Prov. G.S.B. for West Lancashire, Hon. treasurer; and Bro. C. Caldwell, hon. secretary.

The ball was fixed for Friday evening, January 8th, the dancing to commence at nine o'clock. The following gentlemen had consented to act as stewards:—Bros. Joseph Welsby, J. Bowes, P.M. and Z., P.P.G.D.C. for C. and W.; T. Beasley J. T. Knight, T. Carter, and W. Hall. About nine o'clock the company began to arrive,

but it was not until half-past nine that the dancing commenced. The hall presented a splendid appearance as the gentlemen and their fair partners arranged themselves for the opening quadrille. The decorations of the hall itself had been arranged with most admirable good taste. Festoons of artificial flowers and evergreens; gay silken banners; the arms, badges, and devices of Knights Templars, companions, masons and fellow craftsmen, mysterious and aweinspiring to the uninitiated observer; splendid mirrors reflecting the graceful forms of many "ladies faire," whose smiling countenances and flashing eyes told how eagerly they had looked forward to the pleasures of the dance; the handsome costume of the Knights Templars, the flowing mantle on which was worked the Red Cross; and the brilliant decorations of the Royal Arch and other high degrees, conspired to render the scene one which was more likely to excite the admiration and lead to the bewilderment of the onlooker, than to endow him with the ability to portray on paper a scene so exciting and entrancing. That the brilliancy of the assembly was heightened in a very great degree by the brethren of the craft appearing in full Masonic costume was unquestionable. Jewels sparkling with gems of various hues, silken sashes of many colours and adornings; and the well-known Masonic apron itself—appearing in as many shades of colour as a stand of 24 varieties of roses on the flower show day—must be allowed their due weight in the general effect produced.

The ball throughout was a most decided success. Nothing occurred in the least to mar the pleasure and enjoyment of those assembled. Long before the time came for breaking up, both ladies and gentlemen began to give expression to the wish that the Freemasons would make the ball an annual one.

Obituary.

THE LATE BRO. WILLIAM CAMPBELL PATON.

We learn with regret the sudden and early death of Bro. William Campbell Paton, of Lodge Caledonian, No. 392, Scotland, and a partner of Paton Bros., Engineers, Leeds. He died at the early age of 24, and, although he did not have the opportunity of taking office in lodge, he served two years in Grand Lodge, and took a deep interest in the progress of the Craft. He was a son of the late Hugh Paton, Esq., H.M. carver and gilder for Scotland, and was very much respected by all who had the pleasure of knowing him, and his loss will be felt outside of a large and affectionate family circle.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL ORIGINAL CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.

This celebrated troupe of negro delineators, Bros. Wilsom and Montague, proprietors, appear nightly at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. This well-known and talented company have not appeared in London for several years, and had the honour, by special command, to appear before Her Majesty and the members of the Royal Family, at Balmoral. The entertainment consists of the usual popular melodies, but are of a superior class. The song of "Just before the Battle, Mother," by Mr. Bernard, and the quartette, "Come where my love lies dreaming," without any accompaniment, was loudly and deservedly applauded. It was followed by an operatic extravaganza, entitled "The Very Grand Dutch-s!" with beautiful scenery and dresses. Mr. Vestris sang the various songs and acted the part of the Grand Dutch-s, creating roars of laughter; indeed, every character was capitally sustained. Bro. A. Nimmo is the acting manager.

MEETINGS OF THE LEARNED SOCIETIES.

MONDAY, 22nd February.—Royal Geographical Society, at 8.30. Papers.—On Antarctic Discovery, and its connexion with the transit of Venus in 1832. By Com. J. E. Davis.

TUESDAY, 23rd February.—Institution of Civil Engineers at 8.

WEDNESDAY, 24th February.—Royal Microscopical Society at 8.

FRIDAY, 26th February.—Royal United Service Institution. Reforms in Military Administration, by E. B. de Fonblanque, D.C.G.

LIST OF LODGE, &c., MEETINGS FOR WEEK ENDING 27TH FEBRUARY, 1869.

ENGLAND.

(Abbreviations.—F.M.H., Freemasons' Hall; M.H., Masonic Hall; Tav., Tavern; Ho., Hotel; R., Rooms; L., Lodge; St., Street; Sq., Square.)

METROPOLITAN.

Monday, February 22nd.

LODGES.—R. Somerset House and Inverness, F.M.H. Castle Lo. of Harmony, Willis' Rooms, King-st., St. James's. Old King's Arms, F.M.H. Pythagorean, Lecture Ha., Greenwich. Unity, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st. British Oak, Gurney's, Stratford. Tower Hamlet's Engineers, George Ho., Aldermanbury. De Grey and Ripon, Angel Ho., Great Ilford. CHAPTER.—Joppa, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Union Waterloo, (for M.M.), King's Arms, Woolwich. Prosperity, White Hart, Bishopsgate-st. Temple, Old George, St. Mary Axe. Justice, Royal Albert, New Cross-road, Deptford. Old Concord, Turk's Head, Motcombe-st. Belgrave-sq. Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars. St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st. Grosvenor-sq. Industry, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-st. Salisbury, 71, Dean-st., Soho. Camden, Adelaide Tav., Haverstock Hill. Westbourne, Running Horse, Duke-st., Grosvenor-sq. Crystal Palace, City Arms Tav., West-sq., Southwark. High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham. Tower Hamlet Engineers, Duke of Clarence, Commercial-road, East.

Tuesday, February 23rd.

LODGES.—Tuscan, F.M.H. Moira, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Faith, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st. Prudent Brethren, F.M.H. Industry, F.M.H. Israel, Radley's Ho., Bridge-st. Blackfriars. Prince of Wales, Willis's R., St. James's. Southern Star, Montpelier Tav., Walworth. Urban, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Strong Man, White Horse, Little Britain. Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich. Faith, Albert Arms, Victoria-st, Westminster. Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell. Jordan, Alwyne Castle Canonbury. Euphrates, White Hart Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney. British Oak, Silver Lion Tav., Pennyfield, Poplar. Dalhousie, Royal Edward Triangle, Hackney. City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell Alley, Moorgate-st. Royal Albert, White Hart Tav., Abchurch-lane. New Wandsworth, F.M. Ho., New Wandsworth. CHAPTERS.—Royal York, F.M.H. St. Alban's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate. St. James's Union, F.M.H.—CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.—Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane. Mount Zion, White Hart Tav., Bishopsgate-st. Rose of Denmark, George Ho., Aldermanbury.

Wednesday, February 24th.

LODGES.—Antiquity, F.M.H. Mount Moriah, F.M.H. United Pilgrim's, Horn's Tav., Kennington-road. High Cross, Railway Ho., Tottenham. Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tav., Deptford. Temperance in East, 6, Newby-pl., Poplar.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Eastern Star, Royal Ho., Burdett-st., Mile End-rd. Confidence, Sugar Loaf, Gt. St. Helens. United Strength, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town. Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's Wood. New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton. St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lambeth. Peckham, Edinboro Castle Tav., Peckham Rye. Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st., Poplar.—CHAPTERS.—Union Waterloo, M.H. William-st., Woolwich. Lily of Richmond, White Cross Ho., Richmond.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.—ENCAMPMENT.—Temple Crossing, Horn's Tav., Kennington.

Thursday, February 25th.

Gen. Com. Female School, at F.M.H., at 4.—LODGES.—Neptune, Radley's Ho., Bridge-st., Blackfriars. Prosperity, Guildhall Co. Ho., City. Grenadier's, F.M.H. Shakespeare, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st. South Middlesex, Beaufort Ho., Fulham.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq. Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark. Globe, No. 10, Old Bond-st., W. United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile-end-rd. Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth. St. George's (for M.M.), Globe Tav., Royal-hill, Greenwich. St. John's, Hollybush Tav., Hampstead. Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-sq. Tranquillity, Sugar Loaf Tav., Gt. St. Helen's, St. Mary Axe. Merchant Navy, Jamaica Tav., West India Dock-rd., Poplar. Whittington, Thatched House Tav., 9, Red Lion-st. Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tav., Deptford. City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-st.—CHAPTER.—Canonbury, George Ho., Aldermanbury.—CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.—Domatic, City Arms, West-sq.; Joppa, Prospect of Whitby Tav., Wapping-wall.—ENCAMPMENT.—Observance, 14 Bedford-row.

Friday, February 26th.

LODGES.—Universal, F.M.H. Jerusalem, F.M.H. Fitzroy, Head Qrs. Hon. Artillery Co., Finsbury. Jolly Anglers, Bath-st., City-road.—LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.—Robert Burns, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st. St. Luke's, Pier Ho., Cheyne Walk, Chelsea. Temperance, Victoria Tav., Victoria-rd., Deptford. Stability, Guildhall Tav., 33, Gresham-st. Union's (Emulation Lo. of Improvement for M.M.), F.M.H. United Pilgrims, Horn's Tav., Kennington. Wellington, Lord Duncan Tav., Broadway, Deptford. Belgrave, Han and Racquet, Whitcomb-st., Leicester-sq. St. James's, Grogan Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey. Lily, Greyhound Ho Richmond. Ranelagh, Windsor Castle, King-st., Hammer-smith. Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd. Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes, Surrey. Victoria (Metropolitan Lo. of Instruction), George Ho., Aldermanbury.—CHAPTER.—Belgrave, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.

Saturday, February 27th.

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

PROVINCIAL.

BIRMINGHAM.—Lodges: *Mon.*, St. Paul's, Union Ho. *Tues.*, Elkington. *Wed.*, Leigh, both at Ma. Ro., Newhall-st. Chapter: *Tues.*, Athol, M.H., Severn-st.—LIVERPOOL.—Lodges: *Wed.*, St. George, Adelphi Ho., Ranelagh-pl. *Thur.*, Downshire, 90, Duke-st. Chapters: *Mon.*, Friendship, Ma. Temple. *Thur.*, Sacred Delta, Ma. Temple. *Fri.*, Sefton, Ma. Temple.—MANCHESTER.—Lodges: *Mon.*, Social, Queen's Ho. Robert Burns, F.M.H.—BOLTON.—Lodge: *Thur.*, St. John, Three Tuns Inn.—BRADFORD.—Lodge: *Wed.*, Townley Parker, Grey Mare Inn.—SALFORD.—Lodge: *Thur.*, Harmony, F.M.H.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.—Lodges: *Mon.*, St. Clare, F.M.H. *Tues.*, Defensive Hand, 14, Waterloo Pl. Chapter: *Wed.*, Edinburgh, F.M.H. Lodge: *Thurs.*, Caledonian, F.M.H.—GLASGOW.—Lodges: *Mon.*, St. Clair, 19, Croy Pl. *Tues.*, Athole, 213, Buchanan-st. Glasgow, Antigua Pl. Chapter: Caled and Union, 170, Buchanan-st. Lodge: *Fri.*, St. Mary, M.H. Partick. Chapter: Rosslynn, 19, Croy Pl.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN.—Lodges: *Mon.*, No. 153. *Tues.*, 4, 6. *Wed.*, 125. *Thurs.*, 50, 500. (All at F.M.H., Warne-st.—BELFAST.—Chapter: *Tues.*, Truth, M.R. Donegal Pl.—LONDONDERRY.—Lodge: *Wed.*, P.G.M.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of Vol. IV., of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Iowa from 1864 to 1868; also Vol. I of the Transactions of the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa, 1854 to 1867.

TURKS ISLAND LODGE (No. 647).—P.O.O. received. Thanks. Shall be always glad to receive any Masonic news.