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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1870.

THE TEMPLARS AND FREEMASONRY.

By LUPUS.

After the recent statement of "A Masonic Student," I can have no doubt that the late Mr. Winthrop did publish the letter alluded to; but I should think the assertion that no one excepting Freemasons could understand the records at Malta, must be in some measure qualified. I am aware that Mr. Winthrop was a Mason and a Masonic Templar; and that he was well acquainted with the Maltese records is proved by the complimentary mention of his name in the preface to Colonel Porter's history of the Order; still it is somewhat past the limits of belief that the records of any fraternity could be only understood by the members of another and antagonistic brotherhood. I think Mr. Winthrop joined the Templars subsequently to the period referred to by "Student." I may add that I believe Colonel Porter is not a Mason.

I agree that the evidence of a secret reception by the Templars is reasonably satisfactory; but with reference to the Order of St. John, I go farther than "Student" appears at present inclined to do. It seems to me clear, from the evidence in our hands, that there was, and is (here I speak positively), a ceremonial of installation in the latter Order, but no secret reception. The ancient establishment of the Order at Malta was not broken up until 1798, in which year, on the 14th of June, its capitulation by the Knights was signed. It became then distributed in various fragments; individual members took service with foreign powers, or settled in places of residence as their inclination, and perhaps their opportunities dic-

tated. A few of the conventual chaplains remained in Malta, as also did two or three Knights, the last of whom died there about 1854. The main number of the Order settled in several kingdoms and states, preserved their original constitution, and can all be readily accounted for at this moment. Many Englishmen received the decoration of the Order shortly before and after the capitulation of Malta, amongst whom may be enumerated Lord Nelson, Sir James Lawrence, Sir Home Riggs Popham, Admiral Sir William Sydney Smith, Vice Admiral Sir William Johnstone Hope, Sir Joshua Colles Meredith, Bart., and Sir Warwick H. Tonkin. Several of these Knights were well known to persons now living who are friends of mine, but much older than myself, and from whom I have derived information which thus becomes almost direct evidence. I have had the opportunity, too, to peruse the original autograph letters of an officer employed on staff service two or three years before the loss of Malta, giving descriptions of the ceremonials of the Order at a time when he was enjoying the personal civilities of the 69th Grand Master. George IV., William IV., and Prince Albert each held the decorations of the Order of St. John.

The Masonic Order of St. John appears to have been always combined with that of the Templars until 1853, and in this form only does it seem possible it could have any connection with Freemasons, and then only through Scotland, where the Orders did no doubt amalgamate, whilst all the other branches of the original Order of St. John are yet alive to claim their own.

But even as regards Scotland, we must not forget the interests of truth, and remembering this, there remains much to be reconciled if the claims of the present Masonic Orders are to find footing.

In consequence of the general persecution of the Order (1307), it is recorded that the Templars of Scotland amalgamated with the Order of St. John, and by a Charter of James IV. (who died in 1513), they appear to be then treated as amalgamated Orders. It may be fairly assumed that they so continued to the time of the last Preceptor (Torphichen) of the Order of St. John in Scotland, Sir James Sandilands, who, in 1553, abandoned the Roman Catholic faith by the persuasion of his intimate friend, John Knox, the Reformer. He still for some time retained his office; but ultimately, owing to his dissatisfaction

with circumstances which arose out of his religious renunciation, he, subsequently to 1560, resigned all the property of the Fraternity to Queen Mary, and on the 24th of January, 1563-4, he received a re-grant of certain baronies from that Queen, which were erected into a temporal lordship, and he was created Lord Torphichen, in the peerage of Scotland. We then read, "Upon the loss of their possessions the knights are said to have drawn off in a body with the Grand Prior, David Seton, at their head."

Colonel Porter says that David Seton "is said to have been the last Prior of Scotland, and to have retired to Germany with the greater part of his Scottish brethren, about 1752-3."

This appears to be the last positive information of the combined Orders.

It has been said that Lord Dundee (Graham of Claverhouse) was Grand Prior at the time of the Battle of Killiecrankie (1689); but as the three Grand Priors who occupied the office during that century were the Baillis Zambeccari and Lomolino and Henry Fitz-James, Duke of Albemarle (the latter visiting Malta in 1687, and going to Rome in 1703 as Ambassador Extraordinary), the statement requires strong confirmation. Dundee may for some reasons have received the Grand Cross of the Order, and he may have worn it at Killiecrankie; but this is a very different thing to his being Grand Prior.

In 1782 the Grand Master de Rohan revived the English langue of the Order of St. John, combined it with that of Bavaria, and the succession of Grand Priors is well known. This combination would appear to have included Scotland, as the Pretender, James, wrote a letter to the Grand Master at Malta on the 14th of September, 1725, stating that he had then recently requested the Pope not to dispose of the Grand Priories of his (James's) kingdom, "nor to grant coadjutors to the present Grand Prior," without previously hearing what he (James) had to represent on that head; and he goes on to request that he "he may be treated with the same consideration as is shewn towards other princes on similar occasions." Here we have historic evidence in the complaint of a Scottish Prince that the Grand Prior in 1725 had been appointed by Papal brief.

Three years after the letter of the Pretender, and 155 years after the exodus of David Seton, we hear of the Templars, in a new phase.

M. Thory says, that Sir John Mitchell Ramsay, the well-known author of *Cyrus*, appeared in London, about 1728, with a system of Scottish Masonry, up to that date perfectly unknown in the metropolis, tracing its origin from the Crusades, and consisting of three degrees, the *Ecossais*, the *Novice*, and the *Knight Templar*. This system the Grand Lodge of England rejected. It has been asserted, and stress has been laid upon the assertion, that Prince Charles Edward was installed a Templar during his short stay at Holyrood; but whether this be the fact, or not, there seems nothing to connect the system of Ramsay with the Orders whose records cease 156 years before Ramsay's advent.

Nor does there at present appear to be any proof of connection between the Scottish Masonic Templars and the Ramsay period.

Morison, whose correspondence (1845-6), with the Secretary of the Scottish Templar Order has been published, asserts, of his own knowledge, that the Order was introduced in St. Stephen's Lodge, Edinburgh, in 1793, by certain non-commissioned officers and men of the Nottingham Militia, then quartered in the Castle, and that his own diploma from that lodge as a Knight of the Temple was dated the 19th August, 1800.

It is said that the earliest Grand Encampment of England, as it appears to have been then called, was held in 1780 at Carisbrook, Isle of Wight. The oldest Encampment record I have met with is preserved at the Baldwin, Bristol; it is dated 20th December, 1780, and refers to a previously existing document called a "Charter of Compact."

I trust that some more competent brother, full, not only of zeal, but of leisure also, will earn the gratitude of the whole Fraternity by devoting his energies to unravelling these difficulties.

I do not know when the *MAGAZINE* was first published, but perhaps a search of its earlier numbers may afford information. I do know that in October, 1793, it styles Sir Thomas Dunckerly "Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of Knights of Rosa Crucis, Templars, Kadosh, &c., of England, under his Royal Highness Prince Edward, Patron of the Order."

Have the Grand Lodge Records been thoroughly examined? And have the earliest records of the oldest encampments been searched out?

[NOTE.—I should like Bro. Yarker to understand that this article was written a fortnight since, and was therefore not intended to provoke discussion.—L.]

A PUBLIC ORDER OF MERIT.

By LUPUS.

I beg a few lines to say a word in favour of the establishment of a public Order of Merit in this country. The only decoration within reach of persons of even good social position is the Bath, and this is restricted to the army and the civil service. The subject has been agitated more than once, and has been as often under consideration of the government only to be abandoned.

There is a hypocritical fashion in this country of professing to deride, in civilians, those outward marks of personal worth which in all States, and at all times, have proved incentives to noble deeds, skilful enterprises, and useful inventions; and which, whether they be exemplified in the humble Cross of Merit or the Legion of Honour of France, form alike the reward of some good, virtuous, or beneficial action. But notwithstanding this professed contempt for what they are pleased to call "playthings" (the first Napoleon said, "playthings, if you like, but suppose the people like them?") I venture to assert that there is no greater desire in any country under the sun, to possess these marks of honourable distinction, than in our own fair land. Nearly every State, great and small, in Europe, has its cross, or decoration, of merit, open to literary genius, inventive skill, or other talent of all classes. Why then should England stand alone; not only refusing to give, but declining permission to receive.

The learned and accomplished antiquary, Nicholas Carlisle, wrote in 1839, "I may safely predict that the institution of a civil Order, would obtain the unanimous approbation of the British people, and that every national expression of gratitude would be offered at the foot of the Throne, for such an act of wise and liberal policy, an act the more auspicious, as gracefully marking the commencement of the reign of a young and lovely Queen."

Is it not much to be regretted that Carlisle's prediction should have had no opportunity of fulfilment?

Blanchard Jerrold, in his excellent little "Story of the Legion of Honour," says, "We want an Order of Merit in England, because we want to see a state recognition of hundreds of men who have never received the least token of public gratitude. A few men of genius—who happened

to be men of fortune—have received titles; a scientific authority has even been rewarded by an inferior place at court; but the state has in no way properly recognised the valour by which it has maintained its reputation, nor the genius which has shed a marvellous light upon the living generations."

I feel that I am occupying too much space, let me therefore conclude in the words of an eloquent friend of my own, when he says that such honours should be assigned "not only to the learned historian, the erudite philologist, the accomplished linguist, the profound natural philosopher, the refined poet, but to the professors or representatives of the kindred arts, to the skilful painter, the expert engraver, the talented sculptor, the able musician, the ingenious mechanist, the deserving discoverer or inventor, or, in brief, to the whole united body of eminent civilians who have most conspicuously devoted their gifts and energies to the welfare and enjoyment of their fellow-men."

THE LODGE OF GLASGOW ST. JOHN.

By Bro. W. P. BUCHAN, P.S.W. No. 3 bis, and Grand Steward, Grand Lodge of Scotland.

(No 6, Continued from Page 44)

On 27th Dec. 1852. Election of Office-Bearers, Bro. Robert Craig, R.W.M.

On 27th January, 1853. A meeting was held where 13 brethren passed the chair as "Chair Masters." Bro. Rev. Doctor John Graham was made an honorary member.

On 3rd March, 1853, "The lodge agree, and authorise the secretary to order a copy of the FREEMASON'S QUARTERLY REVIEW AND MAGAZINE for the use of the lodge."

"On 17th March, 1853. Agreed to give Bro. Pollock, Tyler, 3s., for each candidate initiated.

On 8th December, 1853. "Agree that the Architectural Institute shall be allowed the use of the lodge room for four nights in the year, on the understanding that a weeks' previous notice shall be given.

An entry occurs here of £12 10s. that was collected for Dr. Rattray's funeral expenses, &c.

On 27th December, 1853. Election and festival. Bro. David Manwell, R.W.M.

On 22nd March, 1854. David Manwell, his J.W. and two others were made Chair Masons, after which Bro. Dunnett gave a lecture.

In November, 1854. Committee appointed to see about aiding the Patriotic Fund in aid of the Wives &c., of Soldiers &c., now serving in the East.

On 27th December, 1854, Election, when Robert Cruickshank, is R.W.M.

On 20th March, 1855. Gavin Park, measurer, is initiated. Also Bro. Munro, as announced in last minute, presented a bust of the late R.W.M., David Hamilton,* and Bro. David Winton presented a handsome bracket for supporting the bust, &c.

On 3rd April, 1855. Robert Neilson affiliated from St. Mark's.

"On 11th September, 1855. James B. Walker, Painter, aged 29, admitted.

On 27th November, 1855, James Noble Sutherland, elected an honorary member.

On 4th December, 1855, Robert McCord and James Watson admitted.

On 27th December, 1855. Installation and festival; James Cruickshank, R.W.M.

On 22nd January, 1856. Rev. Dr. Graham gave a lecture on Egyptian Architecture.

On 5th February, 1856. Brother Taylor lectured on Architecture.

On 29th April, 1856. "The R.W.M. mentioned some matters that came before the last meeting of the P.G.L., regarding a Benevolent Fund about to be established by the several lodges. In reference to the above, Bro. McCulloch proposed, seconded by Bro. Jas. Watson, that the Lodge St. John vote £2 2s. for this years' contribution, and 2s. 6d. for each candidate admitted."

On 13th May, 1856. Thomas Ramsay, Painter, initiated.

On 27th May, 1856. Moved by the R.W.M. "to present from the St. John's Lodge a suitable testimonial to Brother Donald Campbell, for the zealous, laborious, and unwearied exertions on his part on behalf of the promotion of Freemasonry, and in particular to the St. John's Lodge." He often worked the ceremonies for them.

On 7th October, 1856. Bro. D. Campbell gave a lecture on tracing-board.

"The R.W.M. intimated that he would be most happy to furnish this lodge with lectures by

brother Masons, from time to time, for the instruction of the lodge.*

"It was suggested by the R.W.M., that this lodge and St. Mark's should agree to hire or purchase a piano or harmonium for the *amusement* of their respective lodges.

In December, 1856. The R.W.M. intimated that he and others attended the late G.L. festival, and were cordially received; thereafter visited the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1., and were there welcomed in a similar manner. "It was agreed to hold a Lodge of Instruction on Tuesday first and every alternate Tuesday this month." Had this been followed by due application, much good might have resulted.

On December 9th, 1856. "A number of the brethren were instructed in the initiating of new members. The R.W.M. intimated that he had, along with Brother D. Campbell, of the St. Mark's Lodge, been successful in getting a piano for the use of the two lodges, further that he had got Bro. David Greenshields to promise to be present at our meetings, and assist in giving us all the assistance in his power, for this purpose the R.W.M. proposed Bro. Greenshields for affiliation as an honorary member at next meeting."

On December, 16th. "The treasurer was authorised to pay one guinea to the Provincial Festival Committee, should it be found necessary, in order to defray expenses, in consequence of the low price of the tickets." Bro. Robert Ramage proposed as Proxy Master.

On December, 30th, 1856. The "799th anniversary" celebrated, when Bro. James York presented an old chisel taken from the foundation of Stockwell St. Bridge, which chisel he supposed to have been imbedded there several hundred years, and "he had no doubt that it belonged to a former member of our mother lodge."

Bro. James Cruickshank is still R.W.M.

On February, 3rd, 1857. Bye-laws of the lodge ordered to be strictly enforced in regard to the admission of new candidates. W. G. Lennox "was solemnly initiated to the entered apprentice degree in a most efficient manner by Bro. D. Winton, S.W.;" then follows a "memorial sent to Sir A. Alison, Bart., P.G.M., praying him not to appoint Bros. Rowand and Rothead, of St. Mark's No. 102, as his P.G.L. Wardens seeing

* I am not as yet aware of what foundation there is for calling him "the late R.W.M.," but I intend to see about it.

* That was good, only he should have done something himself, except being better than precept.

that several of the higher offices were already held by brethren of that lodge, and further, undue favour to that lodge would bear against "that Masonic equality which is a prominent landmark for the guidance of brethren, and one of the inherent principles of the Craft which has been of the greatest value in the preservation and diffusion of Freemasonry." This document was signed by the Masters and Wardens of 10 lodges, leading off with James Cruickshank, R.W.M., No. 3. *bis*, then John Binnie, R.W.M., No. 4; D. Sutherland, do. of No. 27; R. Black, 219; N. B. Dalveen, 333; J. Davidson, 360; Hugh Mair, 362. W. Whitesmith, 73; John Miller, 87; R. Walker, 117.

In February 17th-57. Bro. Ramage, the Proxy Master, desired information for the purpose of assisting with Bro. Laurie's proposed new History of Freemasonry, and received the following answer from Bro. James Cruickshank, R.W.M. "In answer to the first query I may state that the Lodge St. Johns and the Incorporation of Masons were one and the same originally* This you will see from the old charter a copy of the translation of which I enclose. The Incorporation must have been a split off the lodge I think, as the lodge retains the original charter† and the Incorporation took a separate charter from the town council or corporation of Glasgow in the year 1551, and another in 1667, and we find that up to the period at which we joined the Grand Lodge, that the Deacon of the Incorporation was also Master of the lodge, and so filled both offices at the same time‡ And no members were admitted to the lodge who were not members of the Incorporation. Such is not, of course, the case now since the exclusive privileges of Incorporations were done away by Act of Parliament we admit others. "2nd I cannot tell when the separation took place§ as the records of the lodge have been lost except those of the present century; and although we have the records of the Incorporation as far back as 1681|| we find no notice as to this. We

have some very old sashes and a very handsome carved box belonging to the lodge dated 1634. 3rd We have no historical records or any others as already stated belonging to the lodge. There is some notice taken of it I think in McUres history and Cleland's Annals of Glasgow, also in Pagan's small work on our Cathedral, and James Miller on Masonry* Bro. Laurie should see these works. Mr. Miller could give him the last two mentioned. We formerly gave the Mark and Chair degrees in the lodge but have no documents connected with Mark Masonry. Mr. Laurie can take a copy of the charter and return it to me, and if I can give him any other information I shall be very glad."

("Signed) JAS. CRUICKSHANK.

On June, 23rd 57. "Brother James Hamilton after being duly prepared was passed by Bro. Winton to that degree." So this proves that Bro. Winton worked the Fellow-Craft degree as well as the Apprentice.

On 29th Decr., 1857. The 8th centenary or "800th anniversary" of the lodge was held, Bro. James Craig of Middleton the new R.W.M. in the chair. Invitations had been sent to Bros. Lord James Murray, Lord Loughborough, Sir Archibald Alison and others, to grace with their presence this 8th centenary, but they all sent letters of apology! That was rather curious seeing an "8th centenary" does not happen every day. However the members present enjoyed themselves, and "in the course of the evening Bro. James Cruickshank, P.M., read a paper on the antiquity of this lodge, which it is intended to print along with the Bye-laws as a preface." This "paper" appeared in *Glasgow Herald* of the time. The upshot of the "memorial" sent to Sir A. Alison last February, partly appears from minute of 19th January 1858, when "Bro. Cruickshank reported that he had been elected Senior Warden of the P.G. Lodge of Glasgow, as per commission from B. Sir Archibald Alison, P.G. Master."

(To be continued.)

* That is a mistake, and a Masons' lodge probably existed in Glasgow very long before the Masons became an "Incorporation."

† The lodge does not retain this pretended "original charter" now, for so far back as I can remember the "Incorporation" has kept it, and keeps it still, perhaps Bro. Cruickshank could explain this?

‡ See pages 23 and 503. When the lodge did not meet for years, so a man might be Deacon of the Incorporation and yet never sit as Master of the lodge.

§ See page 462.

|| As far back as 1600. See page 461.

THE new scientific journal, "Nature," quoting a letter from Father Secchi, says the meteors of the 14th November were splendidly seen at Rome during half an hour when the sky was quite clear. Although this half-hour was not the time for the maximum display, no less than 183 meteors were observed. On the evening of the 13th, the meteors had already commenced to be visible in greater numbers than ordinary.

* All of which misled the reader as regards the lodge, &c.

HOW I SPENT MY FIVE WEEKS' LEAVE.

Being a Journal kept during an Excursion to Syria and Palestine in the month of May, 1868.

(Concluded from page 66).

DAMASCUS—BEYROUT—RHODES—MALTA.

We next pass into the Carpenters' Bazaar, where men are making wooden clogs, inlaid with mother-o'-pearl. They squat up working, using their toes as a vice to hold the piece of wood they are cutting.

Next day we all to go visit the great Mosque, which was doubtless originally a Christian church. It is a large building with a transept, thus forming a cross. Some part of the ceiling is fine, and the columns are old. At one end of the transept there is some fresco or inlaid work, representing a temple, palm trees, etc. This is very old and curious; the greater part, however, is gone. The marble floor is covered with carpets. Children play about, and men sleep comfortably where they wish. We all have to take off and carry our boots. Crossing the large, open court, we ascend one of the minarets, from which we have a fine view of the city and environs. After lunch, a brother Freemason, Mr. Meshakah, calls to take us to see his father, who is a retired doctor, and has a very handsome house, gorgeously, though not very tastefully ornamented. He is a Christian, and under British protection. He is a capital old fellow; regales us with coffee, narghilies; presents me with his carte de visite, done by our amateur friend, for which I promise to exchange mine. Dr. Meshakah had a narrow escape at the massacre of the Christians in 1860, when six thousand Christians were massacred in cold blood by the Mahomedans. He only escaped by carrying with him a quantity of gold and silver coins, and scattering them as he ran, to delay his pursuers! Severely wounded, at last he was rescued by Abd-el-Kadir, who also saved a large number of Christians, women and children included. I went to see the hero, who received me kindly, and gave me coffee. He asked through the interpreter numbers of questions about France, Prussia, Russia, and England; seems well up in European politics, and has the papers read to him. He is a Freemason, and gave me a most fraternal embrace. However, he is obliged to keep that dark, as the Mahomedans think Masonry is a separate religion, and would persecute any known Mason. At the house of Dr. Meshakah, we saw

in the court yard an immense myrtle tree, supported by a sort of framework built round it. This is the largest myrtle in Damascus, and perhaps in the world, being some thirty feet high!

We return to camp, smoke narghilies, and sip coffee, when we are driven wild by a Turkish band, (which plays one bar of a monotonous tune, without variation, for hours,) to distraction. We commence next day our three days' ride, back to Beyrout, following nearly all the way the beautiful French road. We have a charming ride for some hours along the banks of the Abana, which are prettily wooded, and from either side of the valley sparkling rills come leaping down to join it, often forming graceful cascades, amid grottoes of fern. We stop for lunch at an Arab village, when to our surprise we find a very clean whitewashed interior to a mud hut. Rugs are spread on the floor, and large cushions provided by the good woman; so we sleep away the hottest hours of the day.

Towards evening we pass through the fine rocky pass of Wady-el-Kurn, formerly noted for its robberies and murders. There are numerous caves along its rocky sides, on emerging from which we encamp, and being at so great an elevation—near the snowy heights—we have a bitterly cold night, which, after the hot day's ride, is very trying. I unpack my carpet bag and put all my clothes over me, in the vain endeavour to get warm.

We resume our journey in the morning over the heights of Anti-Lebanon, and descending to the plain of Bukaa (up which we rode to Baalbek), we come on the site of the ancient Chalcis, of which nothing is now left but slight traces of the foundations of part of the ancient walls. Yet this was once a royal city, and no one would then have believed it could ever thus utterly disappear. Wavy corn covers the whole site. So it is with Tyre and Sidon, Jericho, and other cities, which have vanished like snow in spring time, and left antiquaries to quarrel over their very sites. One cannot help wondering whether in course of time a similar fate is in store for the cities of England. Is the day to come when London shall cease to be, and learned treatises shall be composed to prove that the ruin sketched by the New Zealander and supposed to be St. Paul's, was not such, but a comparatively modern temple, erected on the site of Westminster Abbey, by the King of

Abyssinia when he conquered the island and subdued the natives A.D. 4868? We push on, and encamp on the heights of Lebanon, within three hours' ride of Beyrout, and next day (27th), ride down, thoroughly enjoying the magnificent view. We dine at the hotel, and bidding adieu to our Dragoman, and giving bakshish to our attendants, with all of whom we part on excellent terms, I sally forth to refresh myself after my labours with a Turkish bath. This is very nice, but I must say the baths, here and at Damascus, are not nearly so good as the Turkish bath in Jermyn-street, which is the best I ever was in. Bidding a hasty farewell to the Consul, Mr. Rodgers, whom I found extremely kind and polite, we all go on board the Cupid, and are off at 8 p.m. to join the fleet at Rhodes.

We coast along Cyprus, but do not stop, and arrive at Rhodes on Friday, the 29th of May. The fleet has not arrived yet, so we anchor, and I go ashore to see the place. "Stare super vias antiquas," to stare at old Rhodes! This place is very interesting to one well acquainted with Malta, on account of having so long been the stronghold of the Knights, whose two memorable sieges there will never be forgotten. It is said that they only gave in at last when their stock of gunpowder was exhausted.

The Consul told me the following curious story:—"While the Knights held Rhodes an election of their Grand Master took place, and a Knight who was the unsuccessful candidate organised a conspiracy to make himself Grand Master by force of arms. Being joined by some discontented and turbulent Knights, they began to lay in great stores of arms and ammunition, and a large quantity of gunpowder was secretly stored in the vaults under St. John's Church. The conspiracy was discovered, and the would-be Grand Master hung; the other conspirators were banished, and no one knew that the vaults were full of powder. The siege was past, and the place had surrendered for want of powder, whilst had the Knights but known of the twenty tons beneath their feet, they might perhaps have held out successfully. As it was the Turks took possession, and for 350 years the powder lay unsuspected. Then came the earthquake and split the tower from top to bottom, the rent extending to the foundations and the vaults. Some months afterwards came a thunderstorm; the lightning struck the tower, ran down the huge rock, fired the magazine, and sent the whole thing into the

air! This reads like romance, but it is simple fact. Many people were killed or injured, and one young lady was buried beneath fragments, which, however, formed a sort of arch over her, and though thus shut up for three days, yet she recovered."

Rhodes looks very pretty from the sea; the queer old fortifications and towers, the cluster of wind-mills on the extreme right, the hill at the back of the town rising to a considerable elevation above it, covered with fruit trees, etc.; the bright blue sky, and the beautiful clear sea,—all combine to form a most attractive picture. It is a pity that the most elegant and conspicuous of the towers, the Arab tower, has within the last few years fallen down. The "Street of the Knights" is most interesting, where numerous shields, coats of arms, etc., carved in marble, are built into the walls, and over the doors, very much as they are at Malta. The site of the explosion is curious; it looks like the crater of a volcano, and all round are fragments of the church; here an entire wall of the building, laid upon its side, pillars and all; there an arch still standing, though its centre part, keystone, etc., are blown out. Good masonry to hold together like this! We visit the site of the breach in the old walls, which was so nobly defended, and through which Solyman at last entered. I do not think in the annals of military achievement there is a more splendid defence on record than that of the Knights of Rhodes. Two places are shown as the spot where the Colossus stood; the Consul supporting one theory and the Vice-Consul the other. A beautiful little figure of Somnus, represented as a sleeping boy, was shown us by the Consul. It was dug up somewhere on the opposite coast, and has been purchased for the British Museum.

On Monday evening, June 1, we leave for Malta, coasting along Crete. We make a splendid run to Malta, where we arrive early on Thursday morning, June 4. So bidding farewell to our kind and hospitable captain, I hurry ashore to report myself to the "big wigs" and my adventures to my friends, who all agree that I have made good use of my time, and seen a good deal during

MY FIVE WEEKS' TOUR.

MASONIC MUSIC.—The choir of Lodges Concord and Emulation at Bombay have been united, and will hereafter assist in the vocal part of the ritual at the meetings of both lodges. Meetings for singing practice are held weekly at the Masonic Hall, Mazagon.

MASONIC JOTTINGS.—No. 5.

By A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

THE TWO QUESTIONS.

The two questions—who were the authors of Speculative Masonry, and who were the authors of our English organisation, are as different as are the two questions—who were the inventors of an ancient doctrine, and who were the builders of the church in which it is now preached.

RISE OF MASONRY.

For the rise of Operative Masonry you may go to the Troglodites, new from their caves, but for the rise of Speculative Masonry you must go to the Hindoos, to the Chaldeans, to the Egyptians, to the Jews, to the Greeks and to the Romans. Old MS.

SPECULATIVE MASONRY NOT ALWAYS TRUE FREEMASONRY.

In our times, Speculative Masonry is not always true Freemasonry. In ancient times it could very rarely indeed be true Freemasonry.

LODGES OF GERMANY AND SCOTLAND.

A Polish brother asks, if there is not satisfactory evidence, that at a remote period in the lodges of Germany and Scotland there were associated with Masonic Science the principles of religion, of fraternity and of charity, principles infused by the Great Architect of the Universe in the breast of man when he was created.

ENTIRELY NEW ORGANISATION.

An organisation has some times been called "entirely new" when, upon examination it has turned out, that a change in the names of some of the parts composing it, was its principal novelty.

LODGE—UNIVERSITY.

The more extensive cultivation of Speculative Masonry, begun in the year 1717, in strictness, rendered necessary no greater changes in the organisation of the lodge, than are the changes which the addition of new sciences and languages to those already taught, renders necessary in the organisation of a University.

There were probably reasons with which we are unacquainted, that made it expedient not to limit the changes to those which were, in strictness, necessary.

A DEFINITION.

A definition—a constant reader of the FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE, defines *non-Masonic* language as "the language commonly used by Masons in Masonic Controversy."

THE RISE AND PURPOSES OF SPECULATIVE MASONRY.

By BRO. HENRY MURRAY, *District G.M., China.*

An Address delivered to the Brethren of Zetland Lodge (No. 525), Hong Kong.

(Continued from page 63).

Thus, to quote at some length from Bro. Findel, "the most important step had now been taken for the due conservation of the institution. Then it was that Freemasonry, as it is understood at the present day, dawned into existence. Retaining the spirit of the antient brotherhood, its fundamental laws, as well as its traditional customs, all yet united in resigning architecture and operative masonry to the station to which they belonged. The customary technical expressions, which were excellently well-suited to the symbolic architecture of a temple, were retained, but in a figurative sense, and withal bearing a higher signification. The Fraternity of Freemasons was now separated from architecture; and, formed into an association having purely social aims, and therefore capable of spreading itself to all quarters of the globe, it became the common property of all mankind. The moral edifice to be erected should, like to the material edifices of Masons, have the general good of all mankind in view; the improvement of the members of the Fraternity should manifest itself by their growth in self-knowledge, voluntary activity, self-government, as well as in the practice of all the virtues; the society should make men of all conditions better citizens, better husbands, fathers, and friends. And here it must be remarked that Freemasonry looks upon free will as an absolute faculty of mankind; for freedom from great vices, passions, and prejudices, is assuredly requisite to render a man capable of cultivation, or of the gradual attainment of perfection." "A Mason," say the Antient Charges, is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understand the art he will never be a stupid atheist nor an irreligious libertine. He, of all men, should best understand that God seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh at the outward appearance, but God looketh to the heart. A Mason is, therefore, particularly bound never to act against the dictates of his conscience. Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order, provided he believe in the glorious Architect of heaven and earth, and practise the sacred duties of morality. Masons unite with the virtuous of

every persuasion in the firm and pleasing bond of fraternal love; they are taught to view the errors of mankind with compassion, and to strive, by the purity of their own conduct, to demonstrate the superior excellence of the faith they may profess. Thus Masonry is the centre of union between good men and true, and the happy means of conciliating friendship amongst those who must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance." Thus the idea of Freemasonry is as sublime and magnificent, as it is rooted and grounded in the very being of man. Such an universal association was most essentially necessary. Amongst all men of generous minds, capable of practising self-denial, and wishing to promote the general good of mankind, there is a secret affinity; they resist all exclusiveness, and desire to enter into a bond of love with any one having the like inclination. All associations which depend upon similarity of calling or of rank, upon political opinions, patriotic sentiments, or religious creeds, suffer more or less from exclusiveness. Against all such partition walls is a society required, which shall possess a code of laws embracing as wide a range as possible, and having regard alone to the inward worth of the individual; a society which shall stand above all others, removing or ameliorating all that is prejudicial, and guarding itself from becoming an object of hatred, contempt, and persecution. This union of unions which unites all good men into one family, in which the principles of equality and brotherly love (*i.e.* love of the human race) are the predominant ones, and the end and aim of all its efforts, this is Freemasonry. Its unity does not depend upon the mere binding by oath; no! an alliance voluntarily entered into is one of pure love and friendship. A warm loving heart, and a steadfast purpose to strive after what is good and right, are the only solid possessions of her sons, whereon Masonry founds happiness; these alone constitute the firm neutral basis on which every variety and difference of opinion are made to accommodate themselves, in the struggle after the knowledge of the truth, the cultivation of the beautiful, and the practice of virtue. In this association, which unites all parties and denominations, and reconciles all opposing interests, can man fulfil those duties imposed by all religions. The zealous activity of the Grand Lodge caused Masonry to develop itself rapidly in England, and it immediately met with a favourable reception in Europe, and in all other parts of the world."

(To be continued.)

THE ORIGIN OF THE LODGE ST. AYLES, EAST ANSTRUTHER.

The following particulars of the history of Freemasonry in Anstruther will be read with interest at this time.

The first effort to form a lodge here was in 1762—or 108 years ago—when a body of thirteen Masons met, and in consideration of the inconvenience of being so far from their respective mother lodges, resolved to form St. Ayles, which they proceeded to do, by electing the following interim office-bearers, viz.:—Bros. Gabriel Halliday, schoolmaster and professor of mathematics, as he designated in West Anstruther, R.W.M.; James Wilkie, S.W.; George Peebles, J.W.; Patrick Brown, D.M.; Andrew Ramsay, Sec.; and Samuel Innes, Steward. The lodge was opened, as in the present case, under the powers of a working letter, and it continued until St. John's night of that year, when a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and office-bearers were then elected in regular form, Bro. Alexander Young, stationer, at the same time being elected R.W.M. In 1764, Bro. Philip Anstruther was appointed to that office, and in the following year no less a personage than Sir John Anstruther, the Superior of the burgh, aspired to the honour, which he filled for three consecutive years.

The year 1765 appears to have been the most brilliant period in the history of the lodge, as in that year she numbered amongst her "sons" Brothers Islay Campbell and George Wright, advocates in Edinburgh, John Lumsdane, of Blumern, Benjamin Plenderleath, Admiral Substitute, and most of the leading merchants in Anstruther, Pittmenneem, and St. Monance. On the St. John's day of that year the brethren had an out-door demonstration by walking to the ruins of the ancient chapel of St. Ayles, which they encircled by taking hold of one another's hands, after which they proceeded in a body to West Anstruther Port, when they then returned to their lodge-room, where, as the records tell us, "they passed the evening in jovial mirth, and with that social and free happiness which distinguishes this honourable and free society, when the meeting was closed at eight o'clock in the evening."—*The Weekly News*.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

MASONIC REFORM.

As the Master's degree is worked in Scotland, we have a password and the M.M.'s word, which, with the ceremonies connected, I consider to be the *ne plus ultra* of Craft Masonry. As for any pretended discovery of the lost word, I look upon as a fallacy, and as the first opening of the door for the admission of the legion of so-called "high degrees." We might as well pretend to call up a spirit from the tomb to tell us the secrets of the grave! No; the Scottish Craft Masons were wise in their generation when they refused to have any connection with the Royal Arch or any other Royal pretensions; and it would be well for England to copy Scotland in this respect, just as it would be well for Scotland to copy England in many others.—*PICUS*.

SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY AND ITS ORIGIN
(pp. 67, 69).

Our Freemasonry, or Speculative Masonry, was a new institution, manufactured or brought into being in A.D. 1717. It was made up of quotations from operative documents—Rosicrucian ideas, principles and doctrines stirred up by the Reformation, ideas taken from the study of ancient history, &c., all mixed together with such suitable seasoning as the brains of Drs. Desaguliers and Anderson judged best for the purpose. There being a few old Masonic lodges in London, the Doctors gave each a dose of the new compound, which so tickled their fancy, pleased, and intoxicated them, that, *mirabile dictu*, they immediately lost all remembrance of past events! Yea, verily, such was the curious action of this new compound, that if a Mason only took one sip, he was ever after ready to swear that he had been drinking it continually and habitually all his life. A dose being also sent to the Scottish lodges, they tasted, were quite satisfied, and immediately adopted the recipe, and, as quickly as the new compound could be manufactured in that cold climate, dispensed it. It was soon found, however, that the old lodges, or "old bottles," were neither sufficient in capacity nor numbers to contain anything like the necessary amount of material, nor were they able to dispense the intended good in a manner commensurate with the good intended; consequently the Doctors had to set about manufacturing more "bottles," which they of course did in a dignified manner, and in accordance with the demand. So much for the manufacture of Speculative Masonry about A.D. 1717. The Masons before 1717 depicted the compasses and square and others of their tools upon their flags, &c.; but so also did the Wrights, who also used the compasses and square, &c.; and other trades had also their tools depicted. But although that was done, it does not follow that they served any other purpose with them than merely as trade marks; and much less does it follow that *our* degrees and rituals, &c., existed before 1717; as yet, I have seen no evidence to prove so, but a good deal against it.—W. P. BUCHAN.

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

I think we may fairly presume that this rite originated about the year 1730. We know that Ramsay and others were busy with a "new system" some years earlier, and it is probable that the Royal Arch established 1740, was arranged from the degrees of this rite relating to Zerubbabel's Temple. All the Cross degrees, viz., the Rose Croix of France, Rosy Cross of Scotland, Rouge Croix of Sweden, and the Templar of England appear to have arisen about the year 1750. Of course the Ancient and Accepted Rite was not established in its present entirety till many years later."—LL. W. L.

THE ROSICRUCIANS.

A new work, "The Rosicrucians," by Mr. Hargrave Jennings, author of "Indian Religions; or, Results of the Mysterious Bhuddism," will be immediately published by Mr. Hotten, of Piccadilly. This book will contain upwards of 300 engravings of Hermetic subjects, expressly collected for this publication. The book will give a serious view of the occult system of the renowned brothers of the Rosy Cross, otherwise the Alchemists and "Illuminati," drawn, for the first

time, from the Latin writings of Robertus de Fluctibus (Robert Flood, or Fludd).

THE GUILDS.

The following appeared in "Notes and Queries," of Jan. 22nd:—"Important as has been the influence of guilds upon the social and municipal institutions of England, their history, it would seem, is destined to be written by foreign scholars. Wilda published in 1831 a book upon the subject, 'Ueber das Gildewesen des Mittelalters,' and now we learn that the late lamented Mr. Toulmin Smith's 'English Guilds' is to be accompanied by a review of the whole history and development of guilds, from the pen of a learned German scholar, Dr. L. Brentane."—PICTUS.

MASONRY IN JERUSALEM.

At the conversazione of the London Institution on Wednesday, the 19th inst. Bro. the Rev. H. B. Tristram, one of the Palestine explorers, in giving an address on Jerusalem, made distinct reference to its Masonic interest, speaking as a Freemason. He particularly referred to the masons' marks on the walls of the Harem, defined by Bro. Deutsch as Phœnician, and which Bro. Tristram therefore decides to be those of the workmen of Hiram. It must, however, be observed that as yet the identification is incomplete, because it does not follow, as assumed by Bro. Tristram, that in the next construction of the Temple Phœnician masons may not have been employed as before.—A MASONIC AUDITOR.

ONE OF BRO. HUGHAN'S LETTERS.

Bro. Hughan's letter, respecting which a West of England correspondent enquires, is one with which most readers of the *Freemasons' Magazine* must be familiar. It is inserted in No. 536, 9th Oct., 1869. I recommend to my correspondent's attention the following passage:—"Our present system of Speculative Freemasonry arose out of the mediæval and early operative guilds or fraternities, when the latter were languishing, after a long existence of many centuries, and these in their turn were but a copy of still earlier secret organisations."—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE LODGE OF GLASGOW ST. JOHN AND THE MARK
(page 68).

Allow me to inform your esteemed correspondent, Bro. W. J. Hughan, that in my next article, and at date April, 1858, there occurs notice of contest with the Glasgow Prov. Grand Lodge upon this matter, which will be alluded to.—W. P. BUCHAN.

RECOGNITION OF THE HIGH DEGREES BY GRAND
LODGE.

I think "Verba Non Res" has misunderstood my remarks in the *Magazine*, page 49. I stated that the Act of Union "declares what we know to be but a form of high grade Masonry (i.e., the R.A.), to be part of the *Antient* system." I did not mention the Ancient and Accepted Rite, but its degrees were in operation (abroad) A.D. 1813. He admits that its two principal degrees had already been incorporated with English high grade Masonry. I am not an advocate of the Ancient and Accepted or any other form of high grade Freemasonry, but I think I state facts.—HOLZ.

BRO. H. MURRAY'S ADDRESS (page 61) AND ABROAD AND AT HOME (page 47).

It seems to me that page 61 shows that "abroad" there is a great deal yet to be learnt as well as "at home." To assert that Scotland "maintained the Craft for many centuries upon a wider and more fittingly organised basis than it ever attained in England prior to 1717" is, I consider, purely imaginary. And as to the nobility and gentry joining so largely Scottish lodges in the 15th and 16th centuries, I was not aware of it before. Then as to many other statements of Bro. Murray's, they form a curious sort of hotch-potch, which I have not the time to go into; they, however, serve to show that a speaker may say a good deal, and yet fall very far short of the truth. It is not the amount said that is the true criterion, but the amount of truth contained in what is said that makes it valuable. We shall admit the *Magazine* to be behind other papers regarding the history of the Craft, whenever proof is given.—W. P. B.

BRO. BUCHAN'S NATIVE CITY.

"Bos Albus," at page 48, writes as if Glasgow were his (Bro. Buchan's) native city; but that is a mistake—Glasgow has not that honour. He hails from the auld town o' "Aberdeen awa," or at least from the shire of that name, the particular locality being Fraserburgh, in the north-east corner thereof, and the era when he first saw the light of the "neutral world" December 7th, A.D. 1836. However, Bro. B. has now been in Glasgow above twenty years, where he served his apprenticeship, worked journeyman for a short time, and has been established for the last ten years in business for himself; consequently, although Glasgow may not be "his native city," yet the binding tie may be otherwise pretty strong.—MORE LIGHT.

DEP. G.M. MANNINGHAM'S LETTER (page 67).

In view of evidence which contradicts it, I consider that this letter does *not* "afford sufficient evidence, historically and legally, that *what* our Freemasonry was in 1757 that it was in the seventeenth century."—W. P. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

THE "DEGREE" OF INSTALLED MASTER.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I find in your last number a second letter from a brother signing himself "P.M." Were I as well acquainted with his name as he appears to be with mine I should send him a private note, instead of making use of your columns to communicate with him. After some compliments, he endeavours to make me appear ridiculous, by alluding to my want of "bravery," and to my exercise of "discretion the better part of valour," in transferring to some one else a discussion on the point he has raised. I much question whether, in his Masonic career, he has been so often called upon to display moral courage as I have and with as much success in the issue, at the same time, on several occasions exposing myself temporarily to much obloquy, which nothing but a consciousness

of right enabled me to bear, from those whom it was my personal interest to conciliate. I trust that "P.M." will give me credit for truthfulness in saying that my letter to you was written before I saw his, after perusing which I added a few lines of comment, without any intention of answering the first of his questions, which will be best dealt with by the committee about to be appointed for revision of the rituals, to which body it will, doubtless, be well for him to express his opinion; and with that object, if my advice be not intrusive and impertinent, I would recommend him to send his name to Bro. James Stevens, the promoter of the Revision Committee, and thus have an opportunity of becoming a member of it, and of bringing forward the view taken by himself and "Fiat Lux."

Because I wrote, independently of "P.M." on what I considered a manifest omission, felt by others as well as myself, in the rituals of the Board of Installed Masters and of the Royal Arch Chapter, which are supplied in some districts, but not in others, it does not follow that I was bound to express an opinion on the *propriety of the existence* of such a board, questioned by your correspondent. The point he raised is new to me, and requires much consideration, more especially as the conduct of installation ceremonies by a Board of Installed Masters is universally recognised in this country at least.

On page 49 of your journal, another brother "Fiat Lux," has endorsed the views of "P.M." on the subject under consideration. It might be well for these brethren to attempt to instal a W.M. in the presence of the whole lodge, then we should see whether or not they would be censured by their Prov. Grand Master. I fully believe that were I to pursue such a course, the next post would bring me a letter of reprehension from the head of this district.

Yours fraternally,

Jan. 24th, 1870.

H. H.

MASONIC REFORM.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—I can fully appreciate the feelings of "Res Non Verba," in his manifest unwillingness to throw aside the poetic Masonic fictions to which we have all been so long accustomed, for the prosaic reality of fact. There are times when even truth is distasteful, especially when it interferes with the enchanting romance of preconceived opinions and associations. Notions, however vague and unhistoric, acquire a kind of sanctity by repetition, and in time the very absurdity of a doctrine confirms the votary in his belief.

Out of a long catalogue of inconsistencies, my respected brother only champions the connection of the Royal Arch and Craft Masonry; and if I do not greatly err, the part he has undertaken to defend is more than sufficient. He advances with the dictum that "unless the word of the third degree, as also the ceremonies belonging thereto, which *were worked* and acknowledged before, say, 1740, were again placed in the Master Mason's degree (and thus *now* taken from the Royal Arch), I cannot see the wisdom of separating the Royal Arch from Craft Masonry, as it is evidently, under the present arrangement, the com-

pletion of the third." Now this theorem demands, as postulate, that the present word and ceremonies of the Royal Arch were, in 1740, part of the third degree; also that the Royal Arch is this identical completion; and, as corollaries, that the Royal Arch was in existence in 1740; and that the present third either formed part of the other two degrees below it, or that it has since been manufactured. These I am not prepared to concede, although, in the absence of evidence, they are said to be evident. I need not remind my friend that it will be necessary for him to prove the truth of these statements before he can demonstrate that my suggestion to abolish the connection between Craft and Royal Arch Masonry is "wrong." He ought to have established the truth of his premises before he allowed his favourite bias to hurry him to a conclusion, and to have shown, by at least one well-authenticated example, the place where and the time when the "Holy" Royal Arch was ever a part of Ancient Masonry prior to the manifesto of 1813. A very superficial acquaintance with the legends and ceremonials of the Royal Arch demonstrate the absurdity of its pretensions. Like the intruder who had not on the wedding garment, it is found self-convicted and speechless within the sanctuary of Craft Masonry. As to the date of 1740, "*Res Non Verbum*" cannot prove that the Royal Arch was then in existence, nor till long after. He is silent as to the separate constitution, the different clothing, the *chapter* instead of the *lodge*, the different titles, and the extra fee required—all of which are, in his opinion at least, necessarily separate, in order to secure unity and "completion." No proofs are given, and in this respect, at least, he is consistent, for his own few remarks contain the bitterest reflections upon the union he advocates, to which his facts, his illustrations, and his suppositions are alike unfavourable. After showing us that he has been obliged to leave the precincts of the oldest constitution in order to defend its principles, he finds that a different usage "in some parts of Germany" is a striking proof of the wisdom and propriety of our own—that a coincidence in one respect exhibits the details of a "system"—and because there are imperfections in other constitutions, that reform in this is thereby rendered unnecessary.

As one of the workers in English Masonry, I trust that we shall prove our own work good and square, and just such work as the builders require, before we attract the criticism of all others; and without indulging in any self-conceited ideas of perfection, labour on zealously to make it so complete, as not only to invite comparison, but to defy amendment. At present, however, there is sufficient cause for humility in the presence of all other constitutions. Can even imprudence itself forget that we have lately placed on record a precedent—the abolition of a Provincial Grand Lodge—alarming enough to excite the dullest apprehension, and one at which *we* ought to turn pale? Is there anyone so lost to every sense of honour as to look upon this sacrifice of our mutual liberty and of the dignity of so many excellent brethren with indifference? Dare we presume to talk boastfully of such fruits? Oh, shame and indignity! Such an event is calculated to arouse the callous indifference of the most ignorant and careless—in fact, all but the enemies of our Order—and to make them unite to preserve the forms, at least, of Masonic government. Relief is,

however, sure to come. The continued subserviency of those who are willing to make a tame surrender of our remaining liberties will ultimately work out its own remedy, as well as its own destruction, and, like the blind fury of Samson, pull down the pillars which support the edifice.

Yours fraternally,
FIAT LUX.

OUR BRO. BUCHAN.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—Letters of numerous correspondents reach me full of remarks of all kinds respecting our Bro. Buchan. These letters differ from that of a distinguished Mason, which, being forwarded by a Past Provincial Grand Master, was in the exercise of your discretion, inserted in our periodical, vol. xxi., page 391. One only of the letters referred to seems to need notice at present. It comes from a Cambridge Fellow Craft, and complains—first, that Bro. Buchan marvellously disregards the rule, although there was, not long ago, occasion to quote it (*ibid.*, page 272, letter signed "J. A. H.") that our traditions to be rejected must not merely be denied, but must be proved to be false. Next, that Bro. Buchan deliberately turns his eyes (*ibid.*, page 410) from evidence which every Court of Law and Equity sitting in Westminster Hall would consider conclusive on the question of the existence of Speculative Masonry at the close of the 17th century.

Yours fraternally,
CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS AND THE S.G.R.A. CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

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

Dear Sir and Brother,—As you have inserted the correspondence, with accompanying extracts from minutes, &c., between Comp. Mackersey and myself, at the request of the former, will you do me the favour to insert my reply to Comp. Mackersey's last letter to me.

I make this request lest it should be thought by brethren who take an interest in the subjects under discussion, that I am content to allow judgment to go by default, or that Comp. Mackersey's position is unassailable, and his arguments unanswerable. The main question, however, has been treated so often at length, that I see no advantage in further dilating upon it, and I hope to be spared any such necessity.

Yours fraternally,
FREDERICK BINCKES.

London,
21st January, 1870.

To L. R. MACKERSEY, Esq.

Dear Sir and Brother,—The delay in my reply to yours of the 5th inst. has not arisen from any want of courtesy, but from a combination of causes (which need not be particularly defined) entirely preventing the devotion of time necessary for a proper considera-

tion of the subjects embraced in your communication. At the outset, however, I must observe, without wishing or intending to indulge in language tending to an interruption of that friendly feeling which has always distinguished our personal, as separate from our official, intercourse—that I claim just grounds for complaint of the tone and style of your letter, more especially as it is but too evident that it was penned with a view to publicity. You justify this publicity on the ground that “your (*my*) proceedings have been published.” Now, let me observe that no “proceedings” of *mine* have been published, but merely an account of the proceedings at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, which, as the report of what took place at a meeting of a *public* body, may fairly be taken and treated as public property; whereas your letter to me is described by yourself as written “not officially, nor by authority, but merely as a member of the Order.” On receipt of yours, with announcement of your determination to publish, I did not object to or in any way deprecate your purpose, because I would not take any step which might lead you or others to fear I shrank from a public discussion of the question at issue, but I nevertheless reserve to myself the right of entertaining my own opinion as to the propriety of the course you have thought proper to pursue. The strong point evidently sought to be maintained in your letter is the “illegality” of the body on whose behalf I have written to you, and hardly less prominently, to evidence your condescension in consenting to hold communication with that body, which, indeed, you say you consent to do, only from the “great respect you entertain for me personally.” Now the existence of your views on both these matters I have been previously acquainted with, and I do not hesitate to say that your manifestation of hostility to this Mark Grand Lodge somewhat diminishes the pleasure I feel at the possession of your personal regard, while the fact of the latter considerably enhances the regret I have for the former. But on what do you base your ever-recurring statements as to the “spurious,” “illegal,” “unrecognised” body “styling itself the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters?” Simply on your own ideas, and because you will persist in ignoring precedent, disregarding analogy, and despising the teachings of history. One would really believe that the Masonic degree worked under this Grand Lodge was itself a “spurious,” an “illegal” degree, and it *may* be so regarded by the Masonic authorities in this country with whose hostility to this Grand Lodge I find fault on very different grounds to those of my complaints against the Scottish authorities. In this country the degree itself is unacknowledged, just as in Scotland the Grand Lodge does not acknowledge the Royal Arch degree—a degree, by the way, of modern origin as compared with the Mark, and really having no connection with genuine *Craft* Masonry. But in Scotland, the Mark degree is universally recognised; and by what logical or legal process you arrive at the conclusion that it is the duty of the head of the Mark degree in Scotland to maintain a position of antagonism to the head of the Mark degree in England is to me a Masonic mystery infinitely more perplexing than those considered “celestial” by Bro. Melville. Because, you say, “you are unrecognised.” This I admit I *do* know as well as you. Well, are not the Knights Templar

and the Ancient and Accepted Rite “unrecognised?” No; you say here is the difference. There are in other countries Grand Conclaves and Grand Councils, but in no other country, save England, will you find a Grand Lodge of Mark Masters. True again; and more fortunate for those Orders, the more unfortunate for this degree.

This, however, being the case, and all attempts to induce the Grand Lodge of England to combine the Mark Degree with its system, having failed, what more proper or Masonic course than to provide an organisation for the protection and preservation of a degree valued everywhere else, and what more natural expectation than that the authorities of other jurisdictions by whom the Degree is held to be of importance would have encouraged, assisted, and sustained a legitimately constituted government in its praiseworthy attempt. Again, I *do* know as well as you that the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters is “self-constituted,” in this we are no better and no worse than other supreme bodies which can boast of an “origin,” and amongst them, I apprehend, is included the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. That this Grand Lodge is a “spurious” body, I *do not* know as well as you, but am prepared to prove its constitutional and legal status against any assailant.

You further complain of “my rushing into print” “instead of writing to you privately, asking for explanation which in that way I would have received.” On this I simply observe that your memorandum to Sydney was brought under my notice officially, submitted by me to our General Board officially, and by them made known to Grand Lodge officially—that I wrote you officially, and that you have acknowledged my communication officially, and that I do not understand writing to anyone privately for information which he could only afford from *official* knowledge.

On the serious and important subject of the issue of Mark warrants for Scotland and Ireland by this Grand Lodge, I would prefer to say as little as possible. No “threat” of the kind has been made, but discretionary powers have been conferred. Bitterly shall I regret the arrival of the day when a lamentable want of proper understanding shall culminate in unconcealed animosity, and should such a time arrive, I do not think this Grand Lodge will prove to be the aggressor. But advocate as I am for peace—determined to do all in my humble power to maintain it, even at personal sacrifice—I cannot but feel that a body so numerous and influentially composed as this, has to maintain its dignity, to uphold its reputation, and to support its members in the exercise of their constitutional functions. No more bitter attacks could have been directed against us had we asserted our right to initiate the outside world, than those we have been subjected to in our honest efforts in the cause of legitimate Masonry. If persisted in, the consequences will not be chargeable upon us.

Remember, in all I have here written, I am only expressing myself as an individual, not as one holding official position or charged with official instructions.

In justice to myself, after the course you have adopted, I send copy of this letter for publication.

Yours fraternally,

FREDERICK BINCKES.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

MASONIC MEMS.

BRO. W. W. B. BEACH, *M.P.*, Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, will, it is announced, preside at the Festival of the Girls' School, to be held on the 11th May.

A GRAND Masonic Ball will be given on Friday of the Assize week, under the patronage of Lord Dunboyne, Prov. G. Master of Limerick, and other distinguished brethren, at the New Freemasons' Hall, Limerick, in aid of the Masonic Charities of the province.

TYERS of Lodges, Janitors of Chapters, Equeries of Encampments, &c., in England, Scotland, and Ireland, are requested to forward their names and addresses to the Publisher of THE FREEMASONS'S MAGAZINE, so that a complete Register and Directory may be compiled.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

The annual festival of the above institution was held on Wednesday, the 26th inst., the R.W. Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, *Bart.*, *M.P.*, Prov. G.M. for Berks and Bucks, in the chair, supported by the following Vice-Presidents and Stewards, most of whom were present.—

Bro. Thomas Feun, V.P., Prov. Assist. G. Dir of Cir., W.M. 259 (President). Bros. Rev. Charles John Martyn, G. Chap. 839, 900, P.M. 82; Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, P.G. Chap., Dep. Prov. G.M. Berks and Bucks, P.M. 414; William A. F. Powell, S.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M. Bristol; Captain R. Cope, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.W. Cheshire, P.M. 321; George P. Parfitt, P. Prov. G.W. Somerset, Prov. G. Dir of Cir. Wilts., W.M. 626; Edward Benham, P. Prov. G. W. Wilts., P.M. 631, P.M. 143; Rev. Joseph Hordern Jukes, P. Prov. G. Chap. Herefordshire, W.M. 120; Rev. W. Bramwell Smith, Prov. G. Chap. Warwickshire, P.M. 438; William Birch, P. Prov. G.D. E. Lan., P.M. 152; Wakefield Simpson, P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works Wilts, S.W. 626; J. Daniel Moore, *M.D.*, *F.L.S.*, Prov. G. Supt. of Works W. Lan., P.M. 1051; Ferdinand Jackson, jun., Prov. G. Dir. of Cir. Cheshire, P.M. 205; William Thompson, Prov. G.S.B. Wilts, J.W. 626; Richard Eve, P. Prov. G. Purst. S. Wales, E. Div., 395, 651, P.M. 723; Edward T. Inksipp, Prov. G. Purst. Wilts., Dir of Cir. 626, J.D. 1222, Somerset, Prov. G. Steward Somersetshire; Charles E. Amos, P. Prov. G. Purst. Surrey, P.M. 410; John S. Banning, P.G. Steward, G.S. Lodge; John Jordan, G. Steward 4; George John Theobald, G. Steward, S.D. 5; Frederick Hockley, P.G. Steward, P.M. 8; Frederick J. Cornwall, P.G. Steward, S.W. 14; William Watson, P.G. Steward, P.M. 25; Horace Jones, P.G. Steward, W.M. 197; Samuel May, *V.P.*, P.M. 780; and a large number of Stewards and other brethren.

The Secretary, Bro. William Farnfield, read over the list of subscriptions from the various provinces, which amounted to the munificent sum of £3,266 14s., with six lists to come in.

We regret that want of space prevents our giving the proceedings at the banquet which followed, and the musical arrangements.

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

METROPOLITAN.

MOUNT LEBANON LODGE (No. 73).—The regular meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday last at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. The W.M. Bro. David Rose opened the lodge punctually at 5 p.m., and in consequence of this being the night of installation, the lodge was well and numerously attended, both by members and visitors. The members present were—Bros. David Rose, W.M.; F. H. Elsworth, S.W. and W.M. elect; M. A. Loewenstark, J.W.; George Free, S.D.; G. J. Grace, I.G.; J. Stevens, D.C.; E. Harris, P.M., Treas.; J. Donkin, P.M., Sec.; A. L. Dussek, S.W.; D. J. Dixon, P.M., Fredk. Walters, P.M., T. J. Saône, P.M. The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, several candidates were balloted for, and Mr. Whittaker was initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. in his usual impressive manner. As is usual in this lodge, no other business but initiation is done on installation night. Bro. F. H. Elsworth, S.W. and W.M. elect, having been duly presented, Bro. David Rose, W.M., ably and impressively installed him as W.M. for the ensuing year. The Board of Installed Masters must have numbered nearly twenty. The brethren having been admitted, the W.M. was proclaimed and saluted, and then appointed his officers as follows:—Bro. M. A. Loewenstark, S.W.; G. Free, J.W.; D. Rose, I.P.M.; J. Donkin, P.M. Sec.; E. Harris, P.M., Treas.; G. J. Grace, S.D.; A. L. Dussek, J.D.; G. Lee, I.G.; S. Harman, D.C.; H. Williams, W.S. The Installing Master was received with a perfect ovation, after he had delivered the usual addresses, so perfectly and beautifully were they rendered. The lodge being called off, the brethren adjourned to the banquetting room, when over seventy brethren enjoyed the good things of this world, provided by Bro. R. Spencer, the indefatigable manager. After the usual toasts had been disposed of, the W.M. in asking the brethren to drink to the health of the retiring P.M., Bro. David Rose, presented him in the name of the lodge with one of the most chaste and beautifully designed P.M. jewels it has been our good fortune to have a view of. It was manufactured entirely of 18 carat gold, and hall-marked, and valued at £6 6s., and coming from the atelier of Bros. Loewenstark and Sons, no doubt they will be much gratified at hearing how their work was admired by the brethren. Bro. Rose returned his sincere thanks for the handsome present, not for its intrinsic value, but as a token that what he had done had met with the approval of his brethren. The lodge was then resumed, and nothing further being offered for the good of Freemasonry, the brethren separated, after having spent a thoroughly comfortable and instructive evening. Amongst a large number of visitors we noticed Bros. J. W. Avery, W.M., 1,078; H. Massey, P.M., 619; G. Roebuck, P.M.; G. Farnfield, P.M., Sec. R.M.B.I. for Aged Freemasons, the W.M. of No. 45; Bartlett, Barnard, 700; J. J. West, P.M. 548; and others, whose names we did not gather.

ST. PAUL'S LODGE (No. 194).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Tuesday, the 11th inst. There were present, Bros. F. Renshaw, W.M.; E. S. Eves, S.W.; E. H. Sparks, J.W.; R. M. Veal, W.M. and Treas.; R. Fowler, P.M. and Sec.; C. Saxon Hooper, S.D.; W. Aldridge, J.D.; G. H. Ginne, I.G. The following P.M.'s were also present, Bros. J. Harper, E. Randall, T. B. Hill, H. Renshaw, and C. Wilson. The visitors were, Bros. G. C. Porter, 5; W. Blake, 23; J. Weaver, W.M. 862; R. Risdon, W.M. 46; E. Coates, 622; W. D. Rawlings, R. A. Glover, 231; H. H. Williams, 60; R. H. Bradley, 114; W. C. Harvey, P.M.; Rev. W. Rogers, of Bishopsgate; H. Parker, T. A. Wallworth, and J. Kerr Gedge. Bro. E. S. Eves was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, and he appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. E. H. Sparks, S.W.; W. Aldridge, J.W.; S. Fowler, S.D.; S. Weston, J.D.; F. Gordon Brown, I.G. Bro. James Rawlings was initiated. Bro. T. S. Barrington, P.M., was proposed as an honorary member. The presentation of a P.M.'s jewel to Bro. Francis Renshaw, the retiring W.M., also took place.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 201) was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 21st inst. Bro. Francis Smith, J.W., was installed as W.M., and appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. P. Robinson, S.W.; M. Wolfsky, J.W.; Davage, S.D.; Whitby, J.D.; Hume, I.G.; E. Spooner, P.M.,

Sec.; Patten, P.M.; Sheen, P.M.; Dyer, P.M.; Watts, P.M., Treas.; Jeffery, P.M.; Arliss, P.M.; Carvill, P.M.; W. Hammond, P.M. The visitors present were Bros. Walters, W.M., 871; Whiffin, 147; Pearce, 657; Cox, 742; Stevens, P.M., 9; Ovey Prov. G.S.W. Herts, P.M. 195; Mann, Backendorf, and F. Binckes, Sec. of Boys' School. Bro. W. J. Wetenhall was raised to the sublime degree of W.M., the installation of Bro. Francis Smith, S.W., as W.M. being ably worked by Bro. J. R. Sheen, P.M. Bro. J. Sheppard, I.P.M., took the chair in the absence of Bro. Martin, the W.M., and he ably worked the ceremony of the third degree in raising Bro. Wetenhall. At the banquet, sumptuously provided at the Freemasons' Tavern, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given appropriately by the newly installed W.M., Bro. Smith. Bro. Wolfsky, the S.W., announced himself as a steward for the forthcoming festival of the Boys' School in March, to represent this lodge. This called forth an eloquent speech from Bro. Binckes, after the toast of the Masonic Charities, with which his name was associated.

PROVINCIAL. CORNWALL.

TRURO.—*Lodge Fortitude* (No. 131).—The brethren of this lodge met on the 11th inst., at their rooms, to celebrate the festival of St. John. The lodge was close tyled at two o'clock p.m. Bro. W. Lake, W.M., presented Bro. R. John, Prov. Assist. G. Dir. of Cers., the W.M. elect, to Bro. Chirgwin, the Installing Master, to receive at his hands the ceremony of installation. The W.M. thereupon invested the following brethren with their collars as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bros. W. Lake, I.P.M.; T. L. Dorrington, S.W.; A. W. May, J.W.; Rev. H. B. Bullocke, Chap.; T. Chirgwin, P.M., Treas.; W. Middleton, S.D.; N. P. Bullen, J.D.; A. C. R. Crewes, Sec.; A. H. Chipman, Assist. Sec.; N. P. Bullen, Org.; E. Treleaven, Dir. of Cers.; A. T. Blamey and R. Mitchell, Stewards; J. T. Tillman, I.G.; J. Langdon, Tyler. Sums of money were voted to the different Masonic charities, and the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourning to the Royal Hotel.

DEVONSHIRE.

TEIGNMOUTH.—*Benevolent Lodge*, (No. 303).—The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall the 3rd inst. At 2.30 p.m. the lodge was opened by Bro. H. M. Bartlett, W.M., assisted by Bros. Capt. Walrond, I.P.M. and P. Prov. G.J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, acting as S.W. till the arrival of Bro. Burden; Hallett, J.W.; Coles, S.D.; Taylor, J.D.; Toms, I.G. Among those present during the meeting were Bros. Ward, P.M.; Bentley, Saunders, Burton, and others; and as visitors, Bros. Way, W.M., 39; H. Bartlett, 716, P. Prov. G. Asst. Dir. of Cers.; J. Heath, P.M., 710; Westley 768, Hong-Kong; Johns, 131; and P. Prov. G. Reg. for Cornwall. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. J. S. Short and H. Terry were then introduced, properly prepared, and separately initiated into the Order by the W.M. The lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Dr. H. took the chair. The retiring W.M. presented Bro. Burden as W.M. elect, and after the preliminary proceedings, the lodge was opened in the third degree. The brethren below the chair having been dismissed, the W.M. elect was entrusted, and left the room while a board of Installed Masters was duly formed. On his return Bro. Burden was constitutionally placed in the chair of K.S., and the board was closed. The M.M.'s F.C.'s and E.A.'s were then severally admitted, and took part in the usual salutations, greetings and proclamations. The W.M. appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—H. M. Bartlett, I.P.M.; Hallett, S.W.; Coles, J.W.; Taylor, S.D.; Bentley, J.D.; Toms, Sec.; Whidburn, Treas.; Morris, I.G.; Burton and Cotton, Stewards; Hagerty, Tyler. The ceremony was finally completed by the Installing Master giving the addresses to the I.P.M., explaining the Masonic application of his jewel; to the W.M., the Wardens and the brethren. No other business offering, the lodge was closed by the new W.M. and his officers at 5 o'clock. The brethren adjourned to the Queen's Hotel to partake of the banquet, under the presidency of the Installing Master, owing to the indisposition of the W.M. The arrangements made by the host, Bro. Bartlett, for the entertainment of the members were all that could be desired, and a most agreeable evening was spent, the usual Masonic toasts being duly honoured.

NEWTON ABBOT.—*Devon Lodge* (No. 1131).—The members of this lodge assembled on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at their Masonic Hall, for the purpose of witnessing the installation of Bro. William Samble into the office of W.M. for the ensuing year. The lodge being opened and formal business disposed of, Bro. Samble, the W.M. elect, was duly installed in the chair as W.M. of the lodge for the ensuing twelve months in a very efficient and impressive manner by Bro. F. D. Bewes, P.M., P. Prov. G. S.B., assisted by Bros. Yates, P.M., P. Prov. G.S., and P.G.J.W.; H. G. Beachey, W.M. for the past year, and Bro. Hopkins. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. H. G. Beachey, I.P.M.; J. Haydon, S.W.; G. Stockman, J.W.; the Rev. S. S. Johns, Chaplain; H. G. Beachey, Treas.; Bickford Prowse, Sec.; John Chudleigh, S.D.; E. Samble, J.D.; A. Christee, I. G.; — Weeks, Tyler.

CHACEWATER.—*Boscawen Lodge* (No. 699).—The installation festival of this lodge was celebrated on Tuesday, the 11th inst. There was a good attendance of members as well as several visitors, including Bros. W. H. Jenkins, P. Prov. S.G.W.; T. Solomon, P. Prov. S.G.W.; and Bell, P.M., of the Phoenix; Mackenzie, of the Fortitude; J. Tregay, P.M., P.G.S.; J. George, Sec.; and R. Heath, J.D., of the Druids; Courtney, of St. Andrew's, Tywardreath; J. Hensley, Amity Lodge, Silver City, California; &c. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. S. Mitchell, was conducted very efficiently by Bro. J. Ninness, P.M., P. Prov. G. Reg., who was ably assisted by Bros. W. P. Hugoe, P.M.; I. Hall, P.M., P.G.S.; J. Paull, P.M., P. Prov. G. Supt. of Works; W. Bray, P.M.; and S. G. Monie, P.M. The W.M. selected the following as his officers:—Bros. T. Tonkin, S.W.; J. Climas, J.W.; the Rev. G. L. Church, Chap.; J. Ninness, Treas.; J. Paull, Sec.; P. Oates, Assist. Sec.; C. Rapson, S.D.; J. A. Moyle, J.D.; J. Chegwidder, Dir. of Cers.; O. Matthews, Org.; J. Holman, I.G.; N. Paull and W. Jell, Stewards; W. Lean, Tyler. At the close of lodge business the brethren, presided over by the W.M., partook of an excellent banquet, prepared by Bro. Paull, of the Britannia, for which he very properly received high praise. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given with due honours. Before the conclusion of the festival, Bro. Hugoe, supported by Bros. Bray, Jenkins, Solomon, Mitchell, Moyle, Hall, &c., took occasion to express their sense of the services rendered the lodge and the devotion to Freemasonry by Bro. Ninness, who was specially toasted, with the hearty acclamations of the brethren.

DURHAM.

GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.—*Lodge of Industry* (No. 48).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall, West-street, on Monday, the 24th inst. There were present Bros. J. Stokoe, W.M.; J. Jensen, I.P.M.; R. B. Reed, S.W.; R. F. Cook, J.W.; G. L. Dunn, Treas.; W. Garbutt, Sec.; P. V. Smith, as S.W.; G. Poitiers, as J.D.; J. H. Kendall, I.G.; A. Donnison and W. Cook, Stewards. The visitors present were Bros. J. Anderson, P. Prov. J.G.W., Prov. G. Treas. Northumberland; A. Stephenson, W.M. 424; Ion Cooke, W.M. elect 424; R. Watson, Prov. G. Org. Northumberland; T. Sewell, 541; G. Buttifant, 406. Messrs. G. Wichanowski, W. L. Angus, and G. Gill were initiated; Bros. Locke and J. Patterson were passed; and Bros. T. Craggs and G. J. Robinson were raised, all the ceremonies being worked by the W.M. The new by-laws were altered as suggested by the Rev. Prov. G.M.; and the Treasurer and Tyler were re-nominated for next year. The third degree was worked, with musical accompaniments, adding much to the solemnity; the S.W. explaining the tool in the first and second degrees. There were upwards of forty brethren present, being one of the most successful meetings of this ancient lodge ever held.

LANCASHIRE (WEST).

PRESTON.—*Lodge Concord* (No. 343).—The first regular monthly meeting since the installation of the W.M. was held on Thursday, the 20th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel, Bro. Porter W.M., in the chair, assisted by Bro. Quagle, P.M., as S.W., Bro. Heap, J.W.; Robinson, Treas.; Rev. Bro. Taylor, Sec. and Chaplain; Cockshott, S.D.; Farmer, J. D.; Wilson, I.G. The following amongst many other brethren were present:—Bros. Pritt, P.M.; Robinson, P.M.; H. P. Watson, P.M.; Steib, P.M.; Moss, P.M.; Sanderson, Clitheroe, Ashton, Miles, Ord, Tunnicliffe, Dawson, Hall, Snape, Elton, H. T. Myers, W.M. 314; Don, P.M. 333, Geo. Lawson, P.M. 314; Smith, W.M.

314; C. J. Yates, P.M. 314; Wilson, 333. The lodge was opened at a quarter past seven, and the minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Hall and Elton being candidates for the second degree, were examined and entrusted, and retired for preparation. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when Bros. Hall and Elton, being again admitted, were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Messrs. Penrice and Nettlefold, who had been balloted for and unanimously accepted, were introduced and initiated into the mysteries of the first degree. The lodge was closed with solemn prayer at a quarter to ten, when the brethren adjourned to refreshment. The W.M. and his officers received the hearty congratulations of all the brethren present on the very admirable manner in which they had conducted the ceremonies of installation and passing. Bros. P.M. Yates and Hall officiated alternately at the harmonium.

KIRKDALE.—*Walton Lodge* (No. 1,086).—The brethren of this lodge met on Wednesday, the 19th inst., at 180, Walton-road. There were present, Bros. A. C. Mott, P.S.G.D., W.M.; J. Goodacre, W. Archer, J. Monton, and J. Last, P.M.'s, and a large number of visiting brethren. The business of the lodge was conducted in the first, second, and third degree. A Past Master's gold jewel was presented by the lodge to Bro. James Goodacre, for his energy and zeal during his year of office, for which Bro. Goodacre returned thanks in a feeling manner.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

LEICESTER.—*John of Gaunt Lodge* (No. 523).—A monthly meeting of this held at the Freemasons' Hall on Thursday, the 20th inst., and was numerously attended, nearly thirty members and visitors being present. The W.M. Bro. Toller presided, supported by Bro. Kelly, Prov. G.M. (nominate) the Senior P.M., and Bro. Duff the I.P.M. of the lodge. The Rev. W. Targett Fry, after passing a satisfactory examination, had the degree of Fellow Craft conferred upon him, after which Bro. J. F. Smith was duly raised to the sublime degree of a Master Master in a most impressive manner by the W.M., the musical chants being conducted by Bro. Charles Johnson, P.M., Organist. A gentleman having been proposed as a candidate for Masonry, the lodge was finally closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—*Howe and Charnwood Lodge* (No. 1,007).—An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Bull's Head Hotel, on Tuesday, the 18th instant, at which, by request, the newly nominated Prov. G.M. Bro. Kelly, kindly attended to raise two brethren to the third degree, one of them being the son of a very old P.M. and P.G.O. officer of the Province, Bro. W. Grimes, Palmer, M.R.C.S. The lodge having been opened by the W.M. in the first and second degrees, the W.M. Bro. Kelly took the chair, and after Bros. W. Grimes Palmer, jun., and Arthur Geo. Chamberlin had passed an examination, he proceeded to raise them to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The lodge having been lowered to the first degree, the W.M. Bro. Wilson, P.Prov.G.P., tendered the thanks of the brethren to Bro. Kelly for his performance of the ceremony, and the brethren afterwards adjourned to refreshment. The officers present were Bros. Wilson, W.M.; W. G. Palmer, P.M.; Deane, P.Prov.G. Reg. as S.W.; Capp, J.W.; Goode, Sec.; Burrows, S.D.; Pratt, J.D.; Dougherty, I.G., and others.

MIDDLESEX.

CONSECRATION OF BURDETT LODGE (No. 1,293), AND INAUGURATION OF PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

Saturday, the 22nd inst., as we previously announced, was fixed for the consecration of Burdett Lodge, and the inauguration of the Grand Lodge of Middlesex, which took place at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington. The following brethren were present: Bros. Colonel Francis Burdett, the W.M.-designate; George Kenning, S.W.-designate; Robert Kenyon, J.W.-designate; R. W. Little, P.M.; W. H. Hubbard, P.M.; Major H. W. Palmer; H. G. Buss, P.M.; F. Walters, P.M.; F. Binckes, P.M.; being the founders of the lodge. The visitors comprised:—Bros. John Hervey, P.G.S.D., G. Sec.; Thos. Fonn, Assist. G. Dir. of Cers.; James Brett, A.G.P.; F. Davison, P. Prov. G. Reg., Hereford; E. Bonham, P. Prov. S.W., Wilts; F. Adlard, P. Prov. A. Dir. of Cers., Essex; Rev. D. Shaboo, P.G., Chaplain, Suffolk; W. Roebuck, P.G.S.B., Surrey; H. F. C. Finch, P.G. Reg., Herts; Raynham W. Stewart, P. Prov. G.S.D., Essex; R. D. Odell, P.M. 3; G. Murton, P.M. 7; J. H. Edwards, 8; J. Taylor,

18; W. M. Bywater, P.M. 19; W. Platt, P.M. 23; C. Payno, P.M. 27; Magnus Ohren, 33; J. Batten, 73; J. H. H. Douglas, P.M. 79; R. Boneay, P.M. 79; J. H. Doughnoy, P.M. 79; W. Laro, P.M. 142; Elwards, 144; Theodoro Distin, 175; W. Battye, P.M., W.M. 181; H. W. Williams, 193; W. M. Cameron, P.M. 201; R. J. Elsam, 201; W. Coombes, P.M. and Sec. 332; C. E. Woodward, Treas. 332; James Glaisher, P.M. 382; H. Parker, 435; W. B. Heath, 504; H. C. Finch, P.M. and Sec. 708; J. Hoster, P.M. 788; J. D. McDougall, P.M. 788; A. Frickenhaus, 862; T. Morris, P.M. 865; A. A. Richards, P.M. 865; A. B. Day, P.M. 865; Smith, W.M. 890; T. Wiscombe, P.M. 905; W. Coward, 905; W. Smeed, P.M. 946; G. J. Noyce, W.M. 975; E. Clarke, P.M. 1,194; J. G. Marsh, P.M. 1,194; A. Avery, P.M. 1,194; H. Allman, 1,194; J. Stevens, P.M. and S.W. 1,216; J. J. Wilson, P.M. and W.M. 1,237; C. Tye, 1,237; G. King, Jun., J.W. 1,238, W.M. 1,260; W. Ough, P.M. 1,273.

The lodge being formed at 1.30, the V.W. Bro. John Hervey presiding, and having been opened in the proper degrees. The petition and warrant were read, and the founders of the new lodge placed before the presiding officer, and the lodge No. 1,293, was duly constituted. Bro. James Brett, delivered an oration on the nature and principles of Masonry. Bro. the Rev. F. C. de Crespigny, as Chaplain, solemnly consecrated the lodge, the impressive ceremony being carried out most effectively. The lodge was then dedicated with prayer.

The lodge was then resumed to the second degree. Bro. Col. Francis Burdett, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and Provincial Grand Master (nominate) of Middlesex, was presented to receive installation as W.M. of the Burdett Lodge, (No. 1,293). This ceremony was performed in an able and impressive manner, and the newly-installed Master received the cordial congratulations and hearty good wishes from the brethren present. The W.M. having been placed in the chair of K.S. then proceeded to install his officers as follows: Bros. George Kenning, S.W.; Robert Kenyon, J.W.; R. Wentworth, Little, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Henry Hubbard, P.M., Treas.; Major H. W. Palmer, S.D.; H. G. Buss, P.M., Dir. of Cers.; and John Gilbert, Tyler. Some routine business incident to the establishment of a new lodge having been transacted, several candidates for initiation and joining were announced, and the lodge was resumed to the first degree.

Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec., having taken the chair, and the Provincial Grand officers present acting as Wardens, declared the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex duly constituted. Bro. Col. Francis Burdett was announced as being in attendance for the purpose of being installed as a Provincial Grand Master. The charter or warrant for the Grand Lodge of Middlesex, and also the patent authorising Bro. Col. Francis Burdett to govern the same were read. The Grand Secretary then deputed the Acting Wardens and Stewards to attend on the R.W. Prov. G.M., and conduct him to the Provincial Grand Lodge. On the entrance of Col. Burdett, that R.W. brother was received by the brethren with the greatest enthusiasm. Having taken the obligation of Prov. G.M., he was invested with the insignia of his his exalted office, and conducted to the throne. The R.W. Prov. G.M. then addressed the brethren, thanking them for their cordial welcome. After proposing the election of Bro. Hervey as an honorary member of the Burdett Lodge, the R.W. Prov. G.M. proceeded to invest his officers as follows:—Bros. Frederic Davison, P.M. 10, 708, Prov. G.S.W.; John M. Stedwell, P.M. 718 and 946, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. Frederick Champion de Crespigny, 708, Prov. G. Chap.; Henry Gustavus Buss, P.M. 27, 1293, Prov. G. Treas.; George Cordwell, P.M., 788, Prov. G. Reg.; Robert Wentworth Little, P.M. 975, 1194 and 1293, G. Sec.; Albert B. Day, M.D., P.M., 865, Prov. S.G.D.; John Josiah Wilson, W.M. 1237, Prov. G.J.D.; Edward Clarke, P.M., 1194, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; John Trickett, C.E., W.M., 1194, Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; James Green, W.M., 788, Assist. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; William Coombes, P.M., 382, Prov. G. Sword Bearer; Thomas R. McIlwham, W.M. 946, Prov. G. Org.; William Smeed, P.M., 946, Prov. G. Purst.; John George Marsh, 1194, Prov. Assist. G. Purst.; Antonio John Codner 382, Arthur A. Richards 865, Thomas Cubitt 1194, Alfred Avery 1194, Joseph Taylor, 1238, and George Kenning 1293, Prov. G. Stewards; John Gilbert, Tyler.

The by-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge were then read and approved, and the business of inauguration having terminated, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to the

BANQUET.

The musical arrangements, both during lodge ceremonies and at the banquet, were under the direction of Bro. Henry Parker, assisted by Bros. Theodore Distin and Coward, and gave great satisfaction.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was drunk with Masonic honours.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. next proposed "The Health of the M.W.G.M., the Earl of Zetland."

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed "The Health of Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Past Grand Master." He expressed the pleasure he felt in being able to associate the name of his Royal Highness with the Order, and added to the toast "The R.W.D.G.M., the Earl de Grey and Ripon, and the rest of the Grand Officers."

Bro. Thos. Fenn, P.G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. responded.

Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec., next proposed "The health of the newly installed Prov. Grand Master of Middlesex, Bro. Col. Francis Burdett." He felt sure that the distinguished brother would maintain the dignity of the Craft, and efficiently carry out the important duties attached to his exalted office. He was glad that Middlesex had been constituted as a Masonic province, and that several lodges in that county were now acknowledged, and placed under the control of a brother so well-known and respected. He was eminently the right man in the right place and he called upon the brethren to respond heartily to the toast he now proposed.

The response was given with the greatest enthusiasm.

The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, declared that he felt difficulty in finding sufficiently adequate terms wherewith to return thanks for the kind manner in which he had been spoken of, and the enthusiastic welcome he had received from the brethren. He could scarcely have hoped to receive such an acknowledgment as that which placed him in his present position. Unless well supported, and he had no apprehension to the contrary, all his endeavours on behalf of the province would be of no avail, but he felt sure that his standard would be rallied around by all interested in maintaining its honourable position. He knew that he had assumed a great responsibility, but with the assistance of his officers, he was confident that success would crown every exertion. From this day the province of Middlesex would shine as a bright star in the horizon of the Order. He felt that it was a proud day for him, as Provincial Grand Master, to see so many tried and faithful friends around him. The province was a most important one, and he hoped everything would be done to maintain its importance. He should especially call the attention of the brethren to the charities of the Order, and should ask for their liberal support at the forth-coming festivals of the several institutions. In conclusion, he heartily thanked the brethren for the cordial reception of his name.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. next proposed "The health of the V.W. Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec.," thanking him for the services he had that day so efficiently rendered.

Bro. John Hervey, G. Sec., thanked the brethren for the honour, and said he considered that his services had been amply repaid by his election as an honorary member of the Burdett Lodge, and the cordial reception with which his health had been responded to by the brethren.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed the "Health of the Prov. G. Wardens," which was duly replied to by Bro. Davidson, P.G.W.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed the "Health of the Prov. G. Chaps., Bros. the Rev. F. C. de Crespigny and the Rev. D. Shaboe," each of whom returned thanks.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed "The health of Bro. R. W. Little, Prov. G. Sec.," whose exertions had contributed to the success of the day's proceedings. The toast was drunk with acclamation, and Bro. Little appropriately responded to the compliment.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. proposed the toast of "The Visitors." He observed amongst them many ardent supporters of the charities, and especially called upon Bro. Binckes, the Secretary of the Boys' School, to respond to the toast.

Bro. Binckes stated that although really a member of the Burdett Lodge, he might still be considered a visitor to the Prov. G. Lodge, that he therefore accepted the position in which the Prov. G.M. had placed him, and thanked the brethren for the heartiness with which the toast had been drunk. Being before them he would "improve the occasion," by venturing to appeal on behalf of the Boys' School, and with confidence asked the support of the R.W. Prov. G.M. at the ensuing festival in aid

of the institute he represented, as well as that of the newly-appointed officers of the Prov. G. Lodge.

Bro. Binckes shortly afterwards announced that the R.W. Prov. G.M. and several other brethren had contributed in no small degree in securing the success of the coming festival to be presided over by Bro. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

"The Stewards," "Officers of the Lodge, 1293," were then given, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

NEWPORT.—Isca Lodge (No. 683).

The installation of Bro. Robert James Chambers as W.M. of the Isca Lodge, No. 683, took place at the Masonic Hall, Newport, on Wednesday, the 19th inst., Bro. J. Middleton, Prov. S.W. and P.M. 683 and 1098, Mon., and Prov. G. Sec., Lincolnshire, being the installing master.

The lodge was opened at two o'clock by Bro. Thomas Williams, P.M., acting as W.M. in the absence Bro. W. J. Russell, who has removed from Newport to Waterford, where he was appointed about twelve or fourteen months ago traffic manager under the Great Western Company. There was a full attendance of the brethren, including a goodly number of Prov. G. officers, who may be said to have assembled in force to do honour to the occasion. The brethren, as is not unfrequently the custom on these occasions, availed themselves of a brief interval to adjourn from labour to refreshment. The entire ceremony of installation was most ably performed, after which the following appointments were made by the W.M.:—Bros. T. Williams, I.P.M.; William Parfit, S.W.; J. B. Skeates, J.W.; the Rev. S. Fox, Chap.; Henry Mullock, Treas.; John Middleton, Sec.; James Cheese, S.D.; Lewis Rogers, J.D.; Henry J. Groves, Org.; T. J. Jones, I.G.; W. McFee, Tyler; and Wm. Watkins, Steward.

The usual business, including votes of thanks for services rendered during the past year, having been duly gone through, the lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren repaired to the Westgate Hotel, where

The banquet was held, catered as usual with excellent taste by Bro. Host Hallen. The chair was taken at five o'clock by Bro. R. J. Chambers, the W.M., who was supported by between 30 and 40 of the Craft. Amongst those present we observed: Bros. Lieutenant-Colonel Lyne, D. Prov. G.M.; Rear-Admiral Foote; the Rev. Samuel Fox, W.M. 471, and Prov. G. Chap.; Thomas Williams, P.M. 683, and Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers.; Samuel Coombs, P.Z. and P. Prov. G.J.W.; James Maddocks, P.M. 683 and P. Prov. G.S.B.; John Middleton, P.M. and Prov. S.W., &c.; George Homfray, P.M. 1098 and Prov. G.J.W.; F. Ware, W.M. 960, Cardiff; R. B. Evans, P.M. 471, and P. Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; C. H. Oliver, P.M. 471 and Prov. G. Dir. of Cers.; W. Anstie and Alfred Taylor, 471; L. Doyle, 683 (Mon.), and 167 (Kildare); Austen Phipps, 260, Cardiff; Passadoro, 683; W. Watkins, Prov. G. Steward, 683 and 471; J. B. Skeates, J.W. 683; J. Fothergill, Prov. G. Steward, 471; Llewellyn Grosvenor, 1098; Lewis Rogers, J.D. 683; R. Stallard, 683; J. Lloyd, 471; Henry Mullock, 683; J. Cheese, S.D. 683; J. Thomas, 683; W. Adams, 471; &c.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," which was duly honoured, Bro. H. J. Groves, Prov. G. Org., presiding at the pianoforte, and the National Anthem was sung with that enthusiasm which characterises these Masonic social gatherings. The musical arrangements were most efficient throughout.

"His Royal Highness Bro. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family," was next given from the chair, with special reference to the connection of the Royal Prince with the Order, as Past Grand Master. (Masonic honours.)

The chairman then gave "The M.W. the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, and the Grand Lodge of England," which was drunk with the usual honours.

"The Army, Navy, Militia, and Volunteers," was felicitously proposed by the W.M., coupling therewith the names of Capt. George Homfray, Rear-Admiral Foote, and Col. Lyne.

Bro. George Homfray said he had had the honour of belonging to the Militia, but was not a member of the Army. Nevertheless, he felt proud to be called upon to return thanks on behalf of both services.

Admiral Foote, on behalf of the Navy, also returned thanks in appropriate terms.

Col. Lyne representing the Volunteers, entered at some length into the proposed Government scheme, and confidently predicted that, if carried out in its present shape, he should not

have the privilege this day twelve-months to return thanks for the toast of the Volunteers. As long as the country required a Volunteer army, the Volunteers were ready; when their services were no longer needed, let them be told so honestly, but don't give them the cold shoulder.

The W.M. proposed the better health of the "R.W., the Prov. G.M. of Monmouthshire, Bro. Rolls, and the V.W. the D. Prov. G.M. Bro. Lyne, with the Prov. G.L. of Monmouthshire" (Masonic honours.)

Bro. Lyne returned thanks, and referred in terms of highest eulogy to the fraternal regard and anxiety which Bro. Rolls never ceased to evince towards the well-being of Masonry in the province over which he ruled. The D. Prov. G.M. before resuming his seat, gave the health of the "W.M. (683), Bro. W. J. Chambers," in highly complimentary terms, not only with reference to his Masonic, but his private relations as well, Bro. Lyne having known the W.M. before he came to Newport. The D. Prov. G.M. also took occasion to trace the progress of the Isca Lodge, its foundation on correct principles, its struggles against adverse influences, and its final triumph, having been true to itself, and true to the principles of the Craft, in attaining at length the rank it held in the province. (The toast was drunk with Masonic honours.)

The compliment was duly acknowledged by the W.M., who dilated on the wide field of philanthropy which Masonry opened up to its members, and earnestly expressed his appreciation of the high honour conferred upon him by the lodge, in having placed him in the position of W.M. by a unanimous vote.

"The health of the Installing Master, Bro. Middleton," proposed by the W.M., was toasted with many fraternal expressions of esteem for his never-faltering zeal in the cause of Masonry, and his readiness at all times to take part in the practical working of the lodges. (Masonic honours.)

Bro. Middleton, in returning thanks, prognosticated a prosperous year for the lodge.

Bro. T. Williams gave, "The Visiting Brethren," coupled with the health of Bro. Frederick Ware, W.M. of the Bute Lodge, Cardiff, and Bro. R. B. Evans, 471, who severally returned thanks. "The Lodges in the Province" was responded to by Bro. the Rev. S. Fox and Bro. George Homfray. "The Past Masters of the Lodge," by Bros. Thomas Williams, James Maddocks, and H. J. Groves.

The D. Prov. G.M. gave "The Masonic Charities," and threw out valuable hints for concentrating their power in the provinces, so as to increase their influence in the grand Charities of the Order in the Metropolis, where concentrated wealth, made their isolated action seem comparatively insignificant in its results—a subject which the worthy brother had introduced at the Silurian banquet, and which was then brought prominently before our Masonic readers, as well deserving attention. The toast was coupled with the health of Bro. Samuel Coombs.

Bro. Coombs gave an eloquent exposition of the great landmarks of the Order, and urged unity of action in the particular question of the Masonic Charities, so as to secure the greatest amount of charitable results. Bro. Middleton instanced a case in point, and asked the D. Prov. G.M. to suggest some method of giving practical effect to the very excellent suggestions made by Bros. Lyne and Coombs, to which

Bro. Lyne, in reply, pointed to the powerful organisation of their officers, urging speedy steps in the matter. He should like to see every member a direct contributor to the Charities.

The last toast on the list, "To all Poor and Distressed Brethren," was given by Bro. the Rev. S. Fox, and drunk in silence. Others, however, followed, including "The Officers of the Isca," "Brother Hallen," "The Press," &c., all of which were duly responded to.

TREDEGAR.—St. George's Lodge (No. 1098).—The installation of Bro. J. Lewis as W.M. for the current year, took place at the lodge room, on the 13th inst. The ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. J. Middleton, Prov. S.G.W. of Monmouthshire, Prov. G. Sec. Lincolnshire, P.M. 683 and 1,098. The following officers were invested with their collars and jewels:—Bros. B. S. Fisher, I.P.M.; J. Phillips, S.W.; W. Davies, J.W.; D. Hughes, Treas.; E. Horlick, Sec.; J. Morgan, S.D.; W. Campbell, J.D.; E. Swedenbank, I.G.; G. A. Brown, Dir. of Cers.; H. Fowler, Supt. of Works; J. Griffiths, Org.; C. Peaty, Steward; J. Donlevy, Tyler. The banquet, which was sumptuous and purveyed by Bro. Spencer, was held at the Castle Hotel. There was a goodly number of brethren, among whom were Bros. J. Lewis, W.M.; J. Middleton, the Installing Master; S. G. Homfray, Prov. J.G.W., P.M. 1,098; B. S. Fisher, Prov.

J.G.D., P.M. 1,098; R. Bond, P. Prov. G. Assist. Dir. of Cers. P.M. 683 and 1,098; G. Fothergill, 471, P.G. Steward; Ware, W.M. Bute Lodge; W. Davies, D. Hughes, E. Swedenbank, E. Hulick, J. Morgan, H. Fowler, C. Peaty, J. Griffiths, R. Spencer, T. Spencer, R. Jones, E. Thomas, E. Phillips, Tutton, R. Jackson, and W. Green.

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.—Kingston Lodge (No. 1,010).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Protestant Hall, on Wednesday, 5th January. There were present Bros. C. Jas. Fodd, W.M.; C. Codland, P.M. as S.W.; J. Pyburn, M., J.W.; J. P. Bell, M.D., D.Prov.G.M. for North and East York; P.M.'s L. W. Longstaff, Prov. J.G.W.; S. Moseley, R. E. Harrison, Thos. Sissons, J. L. Seaton. The visitors were Bros. G. Hardy, P.M.; W. Moser, and J. Herschell, S.W., of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250; P.M.'s Bros. W. Croft and W. D. Keyworth, of the Humber Lodge, No. 57, and others. Bro. C. G. Howard was raised by the W.M. to the sublime degree of a M.M. Mr. Joseph Walker, merchant, Hull, was proposed as a candidate for initiation. The report of a committee, appointed at the last lodge to report as to the advisability of removing the lodge was read; and in compliance therewith, the W.M. was authorised to enter into negotiations with the Local Board of Health for renting the Sculptors Hall, and a committee was appointed to carry out the removal. After the usual business of the lodge was concluded, the W.M. called on P.M. Bro. S. Mosely, who stated the pleasure he felt in performing the task allotted to him, that of presenting to P.M. Bro. Longstaff a very elegant Past Master's jewel in gold and enamel, purchased by subscription among the members of the lodge, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Bro. L. W. Longstaff, P.M., J.P.G.W., by the brethren of the Kingston Lodge, No. 1,010, Hull, as a token of their esteem, and in recognition of the valuable services rendered to that lodge during the two years of his Mastership, 1868 and 1869. 5th Jan., 1870." After P.M. Bro. Longstaff had briefly but feelingly responded, the lodge was closed, and the brethren, as usual, adjourned to refreshment. The next regular meeting will be (under Divine dispensation) on Thursday, 3rd Feb., at the same time.

MALTA.

ST. JOHN AND ST. PAUL LODGE, (No. 1349.)

The regular monthly meeting was held on the 3rd January, when Bro. Mackie was passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft.

The D.G.M. Bro. Kingston, being then announced, the brethren received him with the proper honours, and he took the chair, which the W.M. had resigned.

Bro. Haldane, W.M., being re-elected to preside during the ensuing year was installed by the W.M., and appointed his officers, viz., Bros. Stuart, S.W.; Dennistown, J.W.; Dumford, S.D.; Stevens, J.D.; Syms, I.G.; Mac Arthur, Tyler. The lodge was then closed in due form, and with solemn prayer, and the brethren adjourned to the refreshment table, where, after the usual Masonic toasts, the brethren retired in love and harmony.

ZETLAND LODGE, (No. 515.)

The regular annual meeting for installation was held on St. John's Day, the 27th December, when Bro. Gorham, P.M., who had been unanimously elected W.M., for the ensuing year, was duly presented by Bros. Haldane and Conolly, P.M.'s, and installed in the chair of King Solomon by the district G.M. Bro. Kingston, who performed the ceremony in a most masterly manner. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers viz. Bro. Conolly, I.P.M.; Garriot, S.W.; Mowatt, J.W.; Attard, Sec.; Segond, Treas.; Dandria, S.D.; Masen, J.D.; Mac Arthur, Tyler.

The office of I.G. was left to be appointed at the next regular meeting, Bro. Richness meanwhile undertaking the duties.

The lodge was then closed in due and ancient form and with solemn prayer and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, where after the usual Masonic toasts, the W.M. proposed "the health, of the D.G.M.," who had honoured them with his presence, which was suitably responded to. He then called upon them to fill a bumper to "the health of the I.P.M. Bro. Conolly," whom, having been two years in the chair, they were obliged to replace by some other brother; though but few could so well dis-

charge its duties. To do him the greater honour the W.M. had presented a case of champagne in which he proposed that his health should be drunk. The brethren resounded most enthusiastically, and gave him musical and other honours, ending in three hearty cheers.

Bro. Conolly having briefly responded, and the toasts of the W.M., and "officers past and present" been drunk, the brethren separated in love and harmony, having first made a collection for the widow of a brother.

ROYAL ARCH.

MALTA.

MELITA CHAPTER, (No 399).—A very full meeting of this Chapter was held on Friday, January 7th, Comps. Conolly, M.E.Z.; Haldane, H.; Gorham, J.; Doherty, Prin. Soj.; May, Scribe, E.; Rosenbusch, N.; when Bros. Rev. O'Dell, Stevens, Simpson, and Pritchard, were duly exalted. The ceremony being most impressively performed. Great credit is due for the manner in which the working of this Chapter has been impressed, and success has naturally followed. We are glad to hear that the proper robes, banners, etc., are about to be purchased, as without these accessories the ceremony loses much of its impressiveness.

REVIEWS

Everybody's Year Book. A Popular Annual for 1870. London: Wyman and Sons.

Truly everybody's book. It contains Almanack and Callendar, and amongst other information, list of Bishops, Judges and other salaries. The Prime Ministers and the date of the holding office for the last 150 years. Rate of allowance to witnesses, free Exhibitions and London Theatres. Other portions are thus appropriated: "The Poetry of the Affections," "Good Cooking," "The Home Fernery," and "A banful of Anecdotes."

PROFESSOR ANDERSON AND THE FREEMASONS OF DUNDEE.

The Wizard of the North concluded a series of entertainments at Dundee on Monday last. The proceedings were under the patronage of the Masonic brethren of the town, a number of whom were present. Before the entertainment was concluded.

Professor Anderson came forward to the front of the platform, and said—Ladies and gentlemen, I must this evening, prior to concluding the entertainment, call your attention to the very great kindness displayed towards me by the Masonic body—and I can only say that, as a traveller in every section of the world, I have always found every member of that Craft a friend and a brother. I am sure nothing can be more reflective of friendship and brotherhood than to see such a large number of my brethren here assembled this evening, all come to give me their patronage, and to give that which one brother owes to another. Ladies, I am exceedingly sorry that your sex are not permitted to become members of the Craft. But progress is going ahead. Ladies are becoming doctors; ladies are becoming lawyers; ladies are becoming the most useful ornaments of society; and I trust that ere long we shall have a lodge of ladies. There is a great and glorious secret in connection with Freemasonry, and I am convinced that if the ladies were admitted they would all become members simply that they may be placed on the same level with their husbands and brothers who are Masons. Gentlemen, I understand that there are before me a number of Freemasons belonging to the lodges in Dundee, and I assure you that I beg most sincerely to thank them for their great kindness, not only personally but brotherly. And, gentlemen, you who are not Masons, I most sincerely tell you that

the sooner you become members the better. I say this because it is my conviction that you would become better men; you would be more liable to look to your wives and to your children, and more liable to look to the Great Father of all. Before I came to Dundee I attended a meeting of Freemasons in Edinburgh with much pleasure. I never spent a happier evening. I had to deliver a speech, and I need only say that the *summum bonum* of it simply was that Masonry in Scotland ought to be represented as it is in England. I am a member of the English body; and neither my family nor myself ever spent a more glorious day than when I invited the children of the Boys' and Girls' School in London to come to St. James's Hall to witness my entertainment. And they did come, and they were delighted. Clean and well educated—and who were they? They were the sons and daughters of decayed brother Masons, brought up in one of the most magnificent institutions in the world. If the Scotch members are worth anything, let them also follow the example of their English brethren, and found a similar institution, whereby their sons and their daughters may be educated and taken care of. When in Edinburgh, I put down my name for a subscription with this view, and I have no doubt, if unanimity exists amongst the members, in a year or two Scotland could also boast of such an institution. Rest assured I shall have great pleasure in lending my assistance to such a movement. I again thank my brother Masons for their patronage this evening. Now I change the scene. As personal friends, I may say I can address none in Dundee as such, with the exception of those who have come here as my brother Masons. Who knows me personally? None; and almost all only by reputation, and as a man who has all his lifetime been connected with the devil. All my friends in Dundee are dead, and, with the exception of one or two, I don't know with whom I could go and shake hands. It seems almost incredible in me when I tell this audience that I was here forty years ago. That I was; and this town was the cradle of my existence, the cradle of my fortunes; and I owe more to Dundee than any other town in the world. My father died in Aberdeen when I was young, and I was thrown upon the world. I received no education, and how I came to Dundee first I can hardly tell you. But I did come, and I found myself in a "show" covered with canvas, under a man named Scott. At that time there was no Reform-street, the rocks had not been blasted; and in place of that magnificent square there was only a meadow, where assies gae and washed their claes. Scott, my master, could neither read nor write, and I was no better, but I had more perseverance. When we came, there was a fair. I attracted the attention of one or two gentlemen, who pronounced me clever; and ultimately a theatre was built at the bottom of Union-street, which I managed for Scott for about five years. I played tragedy and the leading business, and appeared in such characters as "Wandering Steenie," "Macbeth," &c., &c. I found that my master was pocketing money fast, although I was in receipt of only small wages. That man, I believe, about that time was in possession of £5,000, which was lodged in a bank, and he came to Dundee without a penny. His theatre went into other hands when I left; and on the Queen's coronation night it was burned down. I saw Scott in Newcastle some time afterwards, and I never saw such a wreck in all my life. I assisted him as much as I could, and was only sorry I could not do more than I did. That is my story, ladies and gentlemen. Since that time I have been in every part of the word with this entertainment; and I am here to-night for the last time, unless the "benefits" are accepted which I offered to give on behalf of various objects. Ladies and gentlemen, I again thank you.

The Professor was much affected during the latter part of the above, and at times could hardly give utterance.

LIST OF LODGE MEETINGS, &c., FOR WEEK
ENDING 5TH FEBRUARY, 1870.

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

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, Jan. 31st.

LODGES.—Pythagorean, Ship Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich; Universal, F.M.H.; British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tav., Bancroft-pl., Mile-end.

Tuesday, Feb. 1st.

Colonial Board, at 3.—LODGES.—Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, F.M.H.; Albion, F.M.H.; Old Dundee, London Tav., Bishopsgate-st.; Temple, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.; Old Concord, F.M.H.; St. James's, Leather Market Tav., New Weston-st., Bermondsey; Grosvenor, Victoria Station, Metropolitan District Railway Station; Golden Rule, Great Western Ho., Bayswater; Duke of Edinburgh, New Globe Tav., Bow-rd.—CHAPTERS.—Prudent Brethren, F.M.H.; Temperance, White Swan Tav., Deptford; United Pilgrims, Horns Tav., Kennington.

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.

Grand Chapter, at 7.—LODGES.—Westminster and Key Stone, F.M.H.; Zetland, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Mac Donald, Hd. Qrs. 1st Surrey Vol. Corps, Brunswick-rd., Camberwell.

Thursday, Feb. 3rd.

LODGES.—Egyptian, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Strong Man, F.M.H.; Good Report, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.; Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Ho., Cannon-st.; Ionic, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.; St. Andrew's, F.M.H.; La Tolerance, F.M.H.; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Victoria Rifles, F.M.H.; Excelsior, Sidney Arms, Lewisham-rd.; Perfect Ashlar, Gregorian Arms, Bermondsey-rd.—CHAPTERS.—St. James's, F.M.H.; Moriah, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.; Westbourne, New Inn, Edgeware-road; Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

Friday, Feb. 4th.

LODGES.—Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich; Hornsey, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Star, Marquis of Granby Tav., New Cross-rd.—CHAPTERS.—British, F.M.H.; Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.

Saturday, Feb. 5th.

Gen. Com. Boys' School, at F.M.H., at 4.—St. Thomas's, Bridge-st., Blackfriars.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF
INSTRUCTION.*Monday, Jan. 31st.*

Temple, Old George, St. Mary Axe, E.C.; Justice, Royal Albert, New Cross-rd., Deptford; Old Concord, Turk's Head, Montcombe-st., Belgrave-sq.; Sincerity, Railway Tav., London-st.; St. James's Union, Swan Tavern, Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.; Industry, Dick's Coffee House, Fleet-st.; Crystal Palace, City Arms Tav., West-sq., Southwark; Westbourne, the Grapes, Duke-st., Manchester-sq.; High Cross, White Hart Ho., Tottenham; Tower Hamlets Engineers, Duke of Clarence, Commercial-rd., East; Eastern Star, Royal Ho., Bardett-rd., Mile-end-rd.; Camden, Adelaide Tav., Haverstock Hill.

Tuesday, Feb. 1st.

Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metrop. Dist. Rail, Victoria Station; Domestic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's-wood; British Oak, Silver Lion Tavern, Pennyfield, Poplar; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-street; New Wandsworth, Freemasons' Ho., New Wandsworth; Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's-lane; Rose of Denmark, George Ho., Aldermanbury; Mount Zion, White Hart, Bishopsgate-st.; Royal Union, Duborg's Ho., Haymarket; Hervey, George Ho., Walham Green.

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.

Confidence, Railway Tav., London-street; United Strength, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lambeth; Peckham, Edinboro' Castle Tavern, Peckham Rye;

Pythagorean, Prince of Orange Hotel, Greenwich; Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st., Poplar; Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-street.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-st., Grosvenor-sq.

Thursday, Feb. 3rd.

Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Fitzroy-sq.; Kent, Duke of York, Borough-rd., Southwark; United Mariners, Three Cranes, Mile-end-rd.; Vitruvian, White Hart, College-st., Lambeth; St. George's, Globe Tav., Royal Hill, Greenwich; Manchester, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Berkeley-square; Tranquillity, SugarLoaf Tav., Great St. Helen's, E.C.; Whittington, Thatched House Tav., 9, Red Lion-st.; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tavern, Deptford.—CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.—Joppa, Prospect of Whitby Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, Feb. 4th.

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.; Unions (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.), Freemasons' Hall; United Pilgrims, Horns' Tavern, Kennington; Wellington, Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway, Deptford; Florence Nightingale, Freemasons' Tav., Woolwich; Ranelagh, Windsor Castle Hotel, King-st., Hammersmith; Belgrave, Duke of Wellington, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey; Lily, Greyhound Ho., Richmond; Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes, Surrey; Victoria, George Ho., Aldermanbury.

PROVINCIAL.

Monday, Jan. 31st.

LODGES.—Social, Queen's Ho., Manchester; Lights, Masonic Rooms, Sankey-st., Warrington, Lancashire.

Tuesday, Feb. 1st.

LODGES.—Newall, F.M.H., Islington-sq., Salford; Furness, Ma. Te., Ulverstone, Lancashire; Marquis of Granby, F.M.H., Durham; Warden, Royal Ho., Sutton Coldfield.—CHAPTER. Ma. Te., 22, Hope-st., Liverpool.

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.

LODGES.—Duke of Athol, Nottingham Castle, Denton; near Manchester; Naphtali, Private Rooms, York-st., Heywood, Lancashire; Earl Ellesmere, Church Inn, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancashire; St. Thomas, Griffin Ho., Lower Broughton, Manchester; Harmony, Private Rooms, Ann-st., Rochdale; Albert, Duke of York Inn, Shaw, Lancashire; Key-stone, New Inn, Whitworth, near Rochdale, Lancashire; Ellesmere, Royal Oak Ho., Chorley, Lancashire; St. John's, Royal Mersey Yacht Ho., 90, Duke-st., Liverpool; Royal Victoria, M.T., 22, Hope-st., Liverpool; Athol, Ma. Ha., Severn-st., Birmingham; Phoenix, F.M.H., Sunderland.—CHAPTER.—Fidelity, 1, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

Thursday, Feb. 3rd.

LODGES.—Prince of Wales, Derby Ho., Bury, Lancashire; Commerce, Commercial Ho., Market-sq., Bolton, Lancashire; Affability, F.M.H., Cooper-st., Manchester; Mariners, 22, Hope-st., Liverpool; Tees, Masons' Court, Stockton, Durham.—CHAPTER.—Howe, Ma. Ro., Newhall-st., Birmingham.

Friday, Feb. 4th.

LODGE.—Friendship, F.M.H., Manchester; Sefton, Ma. Te., 22, Hope-st., Liverpool.

[This information is extracted from the "Universal Masonic Calendar," published at 19, Salisbury-street, Strand, and brethren who may detect any inaccuracies (and there are, doubtless, many), are respectfully requested to communicate the same to the Editor at the Office, No. 19, Salisbury-street, Strand.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

SEVERAL communications stand over till our next.