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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1870.

"ORIGIN OF MASONRY."

By BRO. W. P. BUCHAN.

The following remarks, &c., have been called forth by a perusal of the "Origin of Masonry," written by Bro. G. W. Steinbrenner, and published by Macoy and Sickels of New York. At page 16 the author very sensibly says, "yet even at this day (1864) the most confused, absurd, and discordant opinions prevail regarding the origin of the Fraternity. In very many instances Masonic authors, blinded by a foolish vanity, and by a desire of proving the vast antiquity of the institution, have strenuously combated the idea that the Fraternity was derived from the Operative Masons, or have allowed themselves to be deceived, and led into error by the peculiar symbolic representations and ceremonies of our present rituals, and their striking resemblance to those of the Ancient Mysteries. *Instead of endeavouring to ascertain how and when these forms, symbols, and ceremonies were introduced into our present system they leap at once to the conclusion that these are derived directly from the religious mysteries of the ancients.* Each fancied resemblance or agreement with some symbol or alleged custom of these Ancient Mysteries is seized upon as a sure and reliable indication of a direct connection, and thus they not unfrequently involve themselves in matters which have not the slightest bearing on the subject in question." Page 26, "Nothing more can be understood by its origin than that period when its principles were systematized, and the institution

organized by mutual association." Taking the author's view of the meaning of the word "origin," I would almost be inclined to say that our "present system" had its "origin" in London in A.D. 1717. However, in order to save dispute as to the meaning of "origin" I put it that our "present system" was *instituted* and inaugurated in 1717.

At page 29 he says, "Intelligent and impartial brethren place their reliance only on the authentic records and history of their fraternity, and maintain that nursery tales must henceforth be confined to the nursery."

At page 33 he alludes to a work "The Secret History of Freemasonry, London, 1725, and afterwards proceeds to analyze his evidence.

At page 46 "In comparing the social organization, customs; and doctrines of Freemasonry with those of the mediæval building associations, we find indications of a close historical connection (?) existing between the two institutions. For example, we find that the following peculiar usages and customs were common to the Fraternity of Freemasons of the present day and to that of the 'Steinmetzen'—stone-masons, stone-cutters—of Germany; (why say, "of Germany" *par excellence*?) 1. The division or classification of their members into Masters, Fellow-Crafts, and Apprentices." Now before going any further I object to the words "historical connection" being used; the reality being merely an intentional manufactured close *resemblance* in many things, especially in *words*. And as for the old Masters, Fellow-Crafts, and Apprentices, these were different classes of men, working together and mixing among each other, and with "secrets" or "mysteries" common to all; whereas our Masterships, Fellow-Craftships, and Apprenticeships are simply degrees of initiation. In certain Scottish Sixteenth century statutes we read that Apprentices were bound to be present at the admission of all Masters and Fellows, hence they would see whatever simple ceremony was done.

He also asserts that "The form of opening and closing their assemblies" was the same among the old Operative Masons as now among us, as also that "The ritual of initiation or reception into the fraternity" was the same some centuries ago as now? Now I deny both of these last assertions; and at least challenge proof? I am inclined to believe that the customs of the old (in or before

the sixteenth century) Masons at their meetings were merely similar to those of other trades. The opened *box* was generally the sign of the opened meeting, and the ceremony at the admission of new members very simple, and without any of the symbolic system manufactured when our present system was inaugurated in 1717. However, a "book" was sometimes used before 1717, when females were admitted as well as men, which latter circumstance shows the similarity to other gilds or sodalities.

Pages 52 and 53, about the old monks and their works, are worthy of much further elucidation and examination, so that what is said may be reliable and our knowledge of the works of these, in many respects worthy men extended.

At page 55, he begins to give the *Germans* the credit of *originating* the Pointed Gothic, and of carrying it to *perfection*! but I am much afraid his views thereupon are, to say the least, purely imaginary, and only to be excused upon the plea that the writer is himself a German, and therefore wishes to hand over to *his* fatherland the credit of whatever is great and good. The German Pointed Gothic was *copied from* France in the thirteenth century.* Both France and England were much ahead of Germany in that matter then, and the remains of the Pointed Gothic of either is much superior to German. In fact instead of the Germans carrying the art to perfection, they degraded it, they were first taught the art by French workmen, in the thirteenth century, and then did the very opposite of improving upon their masters. In the thirteenth century, the Germans forsook their own Round-arched style before they had had time to perfect it, and began a slavish copying of the new style of their French neighbours. Besides, before they had got a pro-

per hold of it, they lost the grand moving spirit of the French and English Pointed Gothic. When the German Masons got hold of the work independent of the clergy, then farewell to real progress, and then we behold nick-nacks—Chinese pagodas for spires, &c.

The following quotation, is a fair specimen of the effect produced, when our author *himself* allows his imagination to run away with his judgment—a wished-for fiction, taking the place of fact, viz: "Unfettered by the shackles of arbitrary foreign laws and forms, and supported by a brilliant and *natural science of technics*, the national fancy gave utterance to its deepest thoughts, (vagaries?) for the *first* time, in its *own* language; and the German-Gothic-style of architecture made its appearance! Yea verily the German Masons might be good builders, and handy *steinmetzen*, but they were hardly the best of *Architects*."

At page 61, the author leads us to infer that the only, or at least the chief skilled artizans of the 13th century were the "*Steinmetzen* or Stone-cutters of Germany," and that they were the fathers of all the others! but if we examine the very buildings he points to in support of his ideas, we soon perceive his mistake. He speaks of the Church of St. Gereon began about 1201 and vaulted about 1227; but it is nearly a century *behind* in the employment of all those expedients, which give character and meaning to the true Pointed style. Then St. Elizabeth, dedicated in 1283, has all its details of good *early French* style. And as for Cologne, *began* about A.D. 1270, (not "1248,") what is it but a grand *copy*, and that a late one too, at least after many of the great French cathedrals were finished in all essentials. And certainly the design of it is anything but perfect; and not equal to what we would have expected, under similar circumstances, from either a good French or English architect of the period. As I have stated, the French were considerably before the Germans as the dates and style of the following French cathedrals will show, viz., Paris began 1163, and west front finished 1214. Chartres going on about 1200. Rheims began in 1211, and completed in all essentials in 1241. Amiens began in 1220, and completed in 1257: So here we have all these glorious French works executed years before Cologne was even begun! And yet, Bro. Steinbrenner, would have us all believe that it was the Cologne Masons who were the grand *teachers* par

* And just as Germany copied Gothic Masonry from France in the thirteenth century, so did it copy or adopt Speculative Masonry from England in the eighteenth, and in both instances to mar it, for as the great beauty of true Freemasonry is its universality, so the German Masonic statute which excludes the Jew, is a great blot upon the Order. While the soil of Germany and England was trodden by rude and untutored men, the Jew was acting as the pioneer of the highest intellectual progress. More than three thousand years ago, we find the Jew addressing the Great Architect of the Universe Himself, in language which is still unsurpassed for sublimity and beauty. While many of his neighbours worshipped the thing created, he addressed the Creator Himself.

excellence of Pointed Gothic! No, no, Bro. Steinbrenner, that stone won't pass, you must get posted up in your chronology a little better, or else you will be telling us next that it was that imaginary prodigy, Erwin von Steinbach, who designed Salisbury Cathedral, and the unequalled crypt of Glasgow, while Albertus Magnus superintended the restoration of Canterbury, and drew the designs for Lincoln! We hear a great deal of foolish and misplaced praise lavished upon the spire of Strasburg, but although its *height* seems to make people stare, it is not therefore either beautiful or artistic. There is ten times more beauty in the smaller spire of St. Pierre, Caen; and to raise Strasburg to a level with Chartres would be a mistake.

(*To be continued*).

NOTES ON AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

(*Continued from page 403*).

INDIANA.

On the subject of Unauthorized Lecturers the following rule was recommended and adopted:—

"Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction are strictly prohibited from receiving instructions in the esoteric and ceremonial rituals from any one not a member of that particular Lodge, without express permission and authority from the Grand Master, on certificate of qualification from the Grand Lecturer; and any brother so offending shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offence, and may be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled."

The Select Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the publication of the Masonic History of the Grand Jurisdiction of Indiana, reported that "the publication of the early history of Masonry in that State was commenced by P. G. M. Blair, in the columns of the 'Indiana Masonic Home Advocate,' in December last; that after much time and labour (as far, perhaps, as ever can be,) he has secured and collected many valuable and important facts and biographical sketches connected with our early Masonic history. He has continued his labors, and the publication of a vast amount of valuable material connected with this enterprise up to the present time, and we have the confidence to believe, that should the prosecution of the work be continued in his energetic and efficient hands, the time is not far distant when a

complete compilation of the history of Masonry in this State can be secured, and we would most urgently solicit the continuance of the labors of P. G. M. Blair in this much-desired work."

The number of Lodges is 412, of which 31 are U. D.; number of members, 21,205.

IOWA

The address of the Grand Master opens with an eulogy on the prosperity and progress of the State of Iowa, and the "not less wonderful advance" of Masonry in that State. He then enjoins the practice of the virtues inculcated by Masonry. "To honour our professions and thereby to honour ourselves, we must act consistently with our high vocation." In regard to dispensations for new Lodges, he says:—"In matter of names I have tried to carry out the rule heretofore established and approved, of giving to each a name suggestive of some Masonic virtue, principle, character or place."

Some questions asked, and the Grand Master's decisions are curious:—

"Can the Worshipful Master take the charter to another village, within the jurisdiction of his Lodge, and there open a funeral Lodge for the purpose of burying one of his deceased members? *Answer*.—Certainly. To hold otherwise would be to deny Masonic burial to many worthy Masons whose residence is at a distance from the place where the Lodge hall is stationed.

"*Query*.—Can a brother under charges take a change of venue, and have his case tried by another Lodge when satisfied that the members of his Lodge are unduly prejudiced against him? *Answer*.—I know of no law, custom or usage authorizing a change of venue in a Masonic trial. If aggrieved by the action of his Lodge, his remedy will be by appeal to the Grand Lodge.

"*Query*.—A brother applies to his Lodge for a dimit, and a resolution is adopted granting the same. He then removes within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, but has not received a certificate from the Secretary certifying to his dimission. Can the Lodge granting the dimit, at a subsequent meeting, reconsider the vote upon said resolution, and thus restore him to membership and prefer charges against him? *Answer*.—A Lodge cannot reconsider a vote granting a dimit. The vote of the Lodge granting the dimit dissolves the brother's connection with the Lodge absolutely, and he can be restored to membership

only by petition, reference, and a unanimous ballot, like any other unaffiliated Mason. The Secretary's certificate, frequently called a *dimit*, is but the evidence of the fact that the Lodge has voted to dismiss the brother from membership.

KANSAS.

In his annual address the Grand Master stated that sixteen new Lodges had been constituted within the past year.

Also that nine new Lodges have been opened by dispensations since the last meeting.

* * * *

He also states that "The work exemplified before the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication by the Board of Custodians, has been taught in various parts of the State with good success, and has reason to hope that before the next meeting of this Grand Body, every Lodge in the State will use the same identical ritual, and the long-sought and cherished object of the Fraternity of Kansas will have been accomplished, viz: uniformity of work."

He urges upon the Fraternity the importance of having safe and convenient halls in which to meet. In some instances Lodges are still using rooms utterly unsuitable for conferring degrees; and it is to be hoped they will take immediate steps to provide themselves with halls where they can work without endangering the secrets of the Order.

* * * *

He states that the question of the jurisdiction of Lodges over rejected candidates seems to be disturbing the harmony of the Order, and every year demonstrates more clearly to his mind the necessity of a uniform rule and practice throughout the United States. Several instances have come to his knowledge where citizens of this State, while temporarily sojourning within the jurisdiction of a Sister Grand Lodge have been made Masons by a subordinate Lodge; and in one instance a gentleman residing in this State, who had been rejected as a candidate for the degrees of Masonry by a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, after an absence of about two months returned home, having been made a Master Mason in Lafayette Lodge, No. 10, Michigan; and that too, as he informs the brethren here, by Dispensation from the Grand Master of that State. * * * The Grand Master holds the correct rule to be that a candidate rejected in

another State cannot legally be made Mason in this State without the assent of the proper authorities where the rejection occurred. According to some of the Constitutions no Lodge could "initiate into the mysteries of the Craft any person whomsoever, without being satisfied, by test or otherwise, that the candidate has not made application to any other Lodge and been rejected."

"Before the candidate for the mysteries of Masonry is admitted into the Lodge he should satisfy the brethren, by a declaration made on his honour as a man, that he has never made application to any other Lodge or the degrees of Masonry and been rejected; or, if rejected the consent of the Lodge so rejecting should always be obtained before the degrees are conferred." * * * In another portion of his address he remarks, "That Masonry supposes the candidates for its honors to be in some degree intelligent, and requires them, (if meanwhile to be true men,) to extend intelligence steadily while within an earthly Lodge. In other words Masonry is knowledge; not only of rituals but of science, physical, political and moral; and demands a fair share of every brother's time for its mastery. Without such attainment, no man can expect to fulfil his duties to his fellow men, or his Maker. Let the young brother mark this, and each day set apart a portion of time for that thorough self-culture everywhere inculcated in our instructions, and so vital to the perfection expected of him who has thoughtfully entered upon a Masonic life. He will find, let me assure him, work enough for his earlier years, enough for his mature manhood—yes work enough till his last sand has run." * * *

Amongst the decisions of the Grand Master we find the following:

"When charges have been preferred against a brother for unmasonic conduct, those charges cannot be withdrawn, except by unanimous consent of the Lodge."

"During the session of the Grand Lodge the following resolution was offered and rejected:—*Resolved*, That when a brother has been tried for unmasonic conduct by the Lodge having jurisdiction, and acquitted, there can be no appeal to this Grand Lodge which would subject the brother to a second trial on the same charges."

On motion the salary of the Grand Secretary for the ensuing Masonic year was fixed at 350 dols!

After due consideration of the subject it was determined that the "Work" could be best disseminated through "Lodges of Instruction," and it was recommended that the Custodians should hold such Lodges at convenient places in their respective districts, in order that the "Webb Work" might be not only generally understood, but universally practised in this jurisdiction, and the Kansas Lodge be placed upon a secure basis, and that uniformity be attained which has been anxiously sought for ever since the establishment of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Kansas.

The Committee on Lodges of Instruction reported that they had held Schools of Instruction all over the state with great advantage, that they were numerous attended, and great interest felt in the work.

Number of Lodges in the State, 71; Number of Members, 2,645; Passed, 385; Received, 361; Rejected, 157.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Master, in his address, states that during the year he has granted dispensations authorizing the opening of *fourteen* new Lodges.

The Grand Master also "recommends that it be made a matter of expulsion for any member to publish his vote on any petition for initiation, passing or raising, in any manner whatever, either directly or indirectly, or by any implication, to any other brother in the Lodge; and that the same penalty be inflicted on any brother who may be guilty of starting any inquiry, directly or indirectly, as to the manner in which any brother may have voted; requiring all Masters of Lodges to arrest immediately any discussion which may be started in pursuance of such balloting."

The Grand Master remarks "That an excess of legislation is everywhere perhaps the fault of the age, and especially do we regard it as a grievous fault in our Masonic body, whose general policy, shaped and established centuries ago according to ancient usage, certainly neither requires nor admits of any material modification. Instead, therefore, of further legislation, we feel inclined rather to recommend especially to the worthy Masters of subordinate Lodges a more intimate acquaintance with the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and the laws she has already enacted for the government of their respective Lodges."

The Grand Master also states that a convention

was held on the 17th of September, 1868, of representatives from certain Lodges, to take into consideration the propriety of forming a new Grand Lodge, composed of the subordinate Lodges in South Eastern, North-Eastern, and Central Kentucky. It appears that a resolution was introduced at the previous session of the Grand Lodge, by Bro. S. D. McCULLOUGH, of the city of Lexington, to effect the division of the State, and constitute two Grand Lodges in Kentucky, each to have their prescribed limits. This resolution was laid upon the table. The vote on the question being by Lodges, two hundred and sixty-four (264) voted in the affirmative, and forty-six (46) in the negative. Notwithstanding this vote, a call was subsequently issued, and a convention held to effect the division, and another convention was proposed, to be assembled on the 8th of the following October. Grand Master Fitch promptly issued his edict declaring the convention held on the 17th of September, 1868, and the convention proposed to be held on the 8th of October following, "to be illegal and unmasonic assemblages, and their acts done, and proposed to be done, illegal and wholly void * * * and forbid all Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and each and every member thereof, from attending and taking part in the said proposed convention, unless expressly authorized to do so by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, or sanctioned by the Grand Master thereof," and he enjoined "upon them and each of them, and all Masons under the jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge, to pay due respect to this edict." The portion of the Grand Master's address on this subject was referred to a committee, who reported the two following resolutions:—

"1st.—*Resolved*, That it is inexpedient to divide the Grand Lodge.

"2nd.—*Resolved*, that a division of this Grand Lodge would militate against the interests of our ancient and honourable institution." Which report was unanimously adopted.

Number of Lodges, 486; Members, 18,972.

JOURNEY.—Every Freemason, when he is initiated into the Craft, is taught to consider human life as a journey. He would faint with fatigue, lose himself in unknown roads, or fall over high precipices if he was not supported, faithfully conducted, and fraternally warned. By these means he arrives in safety at the end of his journey, and is permitted to receive light himself, that he may be able to support, lead, and warn others when travelling the same road.—*Gadlicke*.

THE LANGUAGE OF ARCHITECTURE.

From a careful investigation of the question as to the development of the Science of Architecture within the past half century in America, it appears that no very marked progress has been made in the study of its principles as applied to great public buildings. The structures erected at Washington, New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Chicago, many of which have been of large proportions, yet not one exhibits any other peculiarity than superficial size, without architectural science. It is said by competent judges, that the Capitol at Washington is a huge mass of stones, but the principles of architectural science have been in a great measure overlooked. If these were even recognized as important. There is nothing in either the Capitol, or the other buildings lately erected near it, which develop the genius of America. Their size, it is true, comports somewhat with the idea of our extensive country, "simply this and nothing more." Take as an example the Capitol itself. It is a centre building, covered by an immense dome, with wings on either side, the main building and its extensions raised above the ground, and thus made of commanding appearance. This, it is true, is but a mere sketch of the character of this edifice, but it conveys all that its architecture can convey to the beholder. If every one did not know it was the Capitol, it might as well be a Museum, a Foundling Hospital, or a Retreat for the disabled in the land or naval service. We do not complain of the architecture as understood in the builder's sense of that term, but we complain that in this structure the science of architecture speaks no language to the observer. He looks, and looks, and all he sees, all he knows, is, that there is a mass of stone in the shape of a building for some human use. The structure tells him nothing, it does not explain its purpose, it does not typify its uses, it is not symbolic of the Council Hall of a great people, where the laws are made that govern now nearly thirty-six millions of people. There is nowhere on the exterior of this pile of "appropriations," a sign, token, symbol, or device, which worked into the architectural construction, points to, or portrays, designates, or distinctively reveals, the only and single object of its erection.

The several styles of architecture are peculiar,

distinguishable, and individual, because they are the expression of the several teachings of the science, as it was understood in the ages and countries which are thus signalized. The fact, that the Roman and the Gothic differ from each other, is the best argument that in both peoples the language of architecture expressed different meanings. The Grecian Temple, the Mosque, the Parthenon, in a word, each distinctive language which spoke in architecture, spoke an idiom of its own. The primary, the fundamental principles of the science, are the same everywhere, but the expression of the cultivation of the science, differs as language differs.

The Freemason reads in the "Great Light" King Solomon's plan of the Temple. In our day it would be called "the specification," but he also reads the expression of the design, aim, purpose of King Solomon in erecting the structure, and beyond all doubt, when finished, it spoke in the language of architecture to those for whom it was erected, what this purpose was. It told it so plainly, that any one of the "twelve tribes," though he could not read his own language, could read the outspoken testimony of the architecture of the Temple.

We have in a former issue called the notice of the Craft to the Hebrew Synagogue, and the Church, side by side, on Broad Street, above Green Street. We again invite the fraternity of Freemasons to visit these buildings and examine them closely. They will at once see exactly what is the meaning of the language of architecture. They will understand at once, that the style of architecture peculiar and appropriate to the purpose of the structure is most signally manifest in these two buildings.

The Synagogue is in a style which tells the whole story of the use, the purpose, and the object of its erection. It tells him of the time of Moses, of the "wonderful works" of God for the good of His people Israel, because it reminds him of the history of the "chosen people," in this, if nothing else, that the architecture is of that style, which is historically connected with the Hebrews.

But on the other side of it stands stone, dumb, lifeless, voiceless, unmeaning, signifying nothing. It is a Church building one may guess—but what is that? A Church of this age, of this day, a place for a congregation to meet in—all else is left to

the common idea of "a Church." There is nothing in the language of its architecture which speaks of God, of His miracles, of His teachings, of the birth of our Saviour, His crucifixion, His ascension, of His Holy incarnation, of His resurrection, of His teachings. Cold, common, barren of signification, it is a pile of stones, and each is dumb, and has not even a syllable of a sermon for the beholder.

The Masonic Order teaches architecture as one of the Sciences—let us have a practical example that its lessons are understood.—*Keystone.*

MASONIC JOTTINGS.—No. 46.

By A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

THE THAMES, THE "FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE."

Bro. C.L.R. There was the impure mixed with the pure in our noble river; and there is the unseemly mixed with the seemly in our excellent periodical. Just as the former has been cleansed, so we hope that the latter will cease to exhibit in its pages aught not befitting the literary taste of the age.

LATIN AND GREEK EVIDENCES.

The following passage is taken from one of "A Masonic Student's" valuable communications to "The Freemasons' Magazine." * "There are plenty of Latin and Greek evidences of the existence of a sodality or brotherhood of Operative Masons, with a form of organisation, and a system of secret probations and companionship entirely akin to our own."

THE PALLADIUM.

Some lines of the charges of 1723, rightly understood, are the Palladium of our English Freemasonry.

NO SPECULATIVE MASONRY BEFORE THE 18TH CENTURY.

A metropolitan correspondent writes thus:—Brother, ascribe what you have heard, ascribe the renewed assertion that there was no Speculative Masonry before the 18th century, to the Compound of stupidity, obstinacy, and ignorance, who, altogether unable, both by nature and by education, himself to collect, examine, and appreciate proofs, nevertheless, does not think proper to look into what has been written on the subject in England and in foreign countries.

WITH TOLERATION.—WITHOUT TOLERATION.

The Freemasonry, of which the Religion is Christianity with Toleration, is not less Christian Freemasonry than the Freemasonry of which the Religion is Christianity without Toleration.

CHURCH OF ENGLANDISM.

In 1717 Church of Englandism was the Religion of our Freemasonry. But in 1723 there was established in its place general Christianity—a Christianity which comprises all denominations of believers in the Divine mission of Jesus, who bear His cross.

CHRISTIAN FREEMASONRY

Where Masonry is a Christian Freemasonry only, Christianity pervades the entire Masonry, and no one can claim to be admitted into it by virtue of NATURAL RELIGION.

THE PIOUS MASON.

The pious Mason,—yes, brother, there are times when
"Some strange thoughts transcend his wonted themes,
And into glory peep." *

THE ROLLING YEAR.

Brother, the rolling year is full of the glorious Architect of heaven and earth.

MASONIC NOTES AND QUERIES.

STRANGE NOTIONS OF HINDOOISM IN RELATION TO FREEMASONRY.

Bro. * * * The reader of our periodical who instructs others, and yet has the strange notions of Hindooism in relation to Freemasonry that you describe,† should begin by instructing himself. *

Freemasonry never did, never does, never will, never can, "hold out the right hand of fellowship" to the Hindoo. The Hindoo is a Pantheist, and cannot be received into Freemasonry unless he has previously abjured his religion.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

THE BIBLE.

"What, then, are the general fundamental principles on which our glorious temple is laid? Upon the Old Testament Scriptures it is quite evident that the first degrees of Masonry are entirely built. Such as have attained to the highest degrees of the art have seen and felt the beautiful concurrent harmony between the Old and the New Testament Scriptures, developed in those most interesting orders.* * A whole Bible we make the basis of our entire proceedings. We place it where it ought to be, on the most honourable and conspicuous pedestal in our lodges. It is carried before us in all our public processions, and, like the Sanctuary of the Ark, we make it the lantern of our feet, and the light of our path. From this pure fountain of truth, we Masons derive

* Henry Vaughan.

† See page 231 of the present volume.

all our principles of religion and morality, our duty towards God and our neighbour.—From a bundle of Masonic Excerpts.—CHARLES PURTON COOPER.

ENDORING THE DIPLOMA OF AN UNWORTHY BROTHER.

From the following decision it would seem that it is justifiable to endorse the diploma of a brother who may be considered to be unworthy of relief, or whose statements are proved not to be founded on fact:—

At Glasgow,—Sheriff Murray presiding,—George Leopold Morton, civil engineer, Monte Video, presently residing at Glasgow, sued James Wallace for £12 damages. From the statement made for pursuer, it appeared that the defender, on October 28, took "advantage of the production of the diploma of pursuer, who had been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in the Lodge Australian Kilwinning, Melbourne, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, for his being a free and accepted Mason, to the committee having charge of the Benevolent Fund of the Grand Lodge, along with an application for relief, and, without warrant or authority, maliciously endorsed on the back of said diploma, "Diploma 269, 19th October, 1870. Glasgow. George L. Morton received from the province of Glasgow £2 7s. 6d.; also £1 from Liverpool—unworthy. James Wallace."—which was untrue, and rendered the diploma useless. The defender admitted that he had put the endorsement on the diploma, but pleaded that he was privileged from his position, and by authority to do so. The pursuer first made his appearance in the province about the 14th of last month, and applied for relief from the Benevolent Fund. An investigation was made by a committee appointed for the purpose, and so satisfied were they that he was not a suitable person for relief, that special instructions were given the treasurer (defender) to mark the diploma as stated. Several statements he made were deemed by the committee to have no foundation in fact. It was explained for the defence that the endorsement was only intended for the members of the Craft, and not for the general public; it was to prevent the brethren being imposed upon, but not to render it impossible for him to get relief from the outside world. Mr. Wallace made several statements to the effect that pursuer was not the owner of the diploma exhibited, and that he had received money in Liverpool, though he represented the contrary. One witness for the pursuer spoke to having examined some papers, and found them correct. For the pursuer, it was contended that the proceedings of the committee and the defender were totally irregular and malicious. Sheriff Murray, after the conclusion of proof, said there was strong *prima facie* evidence for the committee to act as they had done, and it was open to the pursuer to get a new diploma from the Grand Lodge. The Secretary had proceeded quite justifiably, and he would therefore assuize him, without costs.

A CERTAIN CONTRIBUTOR, No. 1.

A bundle of papers, each entitled "A Certain Contributor" has just reached me from Oxford. The subjoined is a *verbatim* copy of the first. There are some of them, I suspect, which it will not be proper to make public without considerable previous modification. HIS FRIEND, HIS WIFE. A certain contri-

butor to our periodical, disjoins his Freemasonry and his religion, and calls his Freemasonry his friend, and his Religion his wife. Now our Oxford brothers hold Religion to be a necessary part of true Freemasonry, and think that they cannot be separated. The separation of them is the immediate extinction of true Freemasonry. A certain Contributor should hasten to re-unite his Freemasonry and his Religion, and cease to call the former his friend, and the latter his wife; or he will possibly be told that he knows as little of true Freemasonry, as he takes the trouble of showing us, almost weekly, that he knows of its surroundings and its history.—A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

IDIOSYNCRASY.

Bro. W. S. N.,—There is, in some members of the Craft, a sort of idiosyncrasy, which makes them eagerly adopt, without examination, any absurd and unfounded theory that may be brought to their notice.—A PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

MASONIC SAYINGS AND DOINGS ABROAD.

At the meeting of the Detroit Conference, one J. Livingston introduced a series of resolutions declaring Freemasonry to be an institution of the most corrupting character, &c. The presiding elder, Baker, declared himself to be a member of the Fraternity, and that his *spiritual* brother Livingston didn't know anything about it. The resolutions were tabled.—*Evergreen.*

Before the year 1440, the Masonic Society was known by the name of John's Brothers, but they then began to be called Free and Accepted Masons, at which time, in some parts of Flanders, by the assistance and riches of the brotherhood, the first hospitals were erected for the relief of such as were afflicted with St. Anthony's fire. Although in the exercise of charity we neither regard country nor religion, yet we consider it both necessary and prudent to initiate none into our mysteries, except those who profess the Christian religion.—*Charter of Cologne.*

A Masonic picnic was held on the Greensburg Pike, Pennsylvania, midway between Ligonier and Latrobe recently, which was visited by the venerable Alex. Johnston, father of Ex-Governor William F. Johnston, now in his ninety-eighth year. This venerable man is the oldest Mason in the United States, having entered the Order in Ireland, in 1795. He is yet quite hale, moves about briskly, and is an example of sauvity of manner.

The interesting ceremony of conferring the 33rd degree took place at the house of Ill. Bro. Dr. John Wolverson, 33rd degree, G. Sec. of the Chapter, and P.G. Commander of K.T. of New Jersey, at Trenton,

on Tuesday Evening, October 25. At that time the 33rd degree and last degree of the A.A. Rite was conferred upon Ill. Bro. William Wallace Goodwin, of Camden, by Ill. Bro. John Sheville, 33rd degree, Deputy of the Supreme Council, assisted by Ill. Bros. Anthony E. Stocker, 33rd degree, Deputy of Pennsylvania; William R. Higby, 33rd degree, of Connecticut; and Thomas J. Corson, 33rd degree, of Trenton, all active members of the Supreme Council for the Northern Jurisdiction, United States. The following honorary members of the grade were also present:—Chas. E. Meyer, of Philadelphia; D. W. Wyman, and George B. Edwards, of Jersey City.

This is but the second time that this degree has been conferred in the State of New Jersey, and not the least remarkable feature of the occasion was the fact that the Bible used in the ceremony is believed to be the oldest book in the State, it having been printed in 1471, being nearly 400 years old. It is the property of Ill. Bro. George B. Edwards, who values it very highly on account of its antiquity.

There seems to be in this "age of unsettlement," nothing that is to be exempt from the assaults of ignorance, bigotry, and falsehood. The most sacred, as well as the most ancient and honorable, of all human institutions alike are the objects of the destructiveness which is now in the world,

It is, therefore, necessary that the Order of Freemasons is again to be the mark for the malignity of those, who, claiming to be teachers of the Gospel of Peace, and the servants of Him, who was proclaimed to mankind by the hosts of the angels, with that sublime announcement, "Peace on Earth and good will to men," should deny their Master and His Holy doctrines.

For the past year, here and there, we have seen reports of meetings of fools and frauds, in the guise of philanthropists, who have tried to make themselves notorious by attacking Masonry. This agitation is not unexpected. R. W. Grand Master Vaux, in one of his Masonic addresses, warned the brethren against the war that surely was to be made on the Order. We remember, when we heard it, that we thought it was hardly possible any such effort would be made, and we doubted if the warning was necessary.

Yesterday, in looking over our exchanges, we found in two papers, neither of them Masonic:

"A call signed by about a hundred clergymen of New York—principally Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists and Congregationalists—has been issued for a convention to assemble at Syracuse on the 15th of November, to oppose all secret associations. This is but a revival of the old anti-Masonic agitation, and

the clergymen who purpose to take part in it would be better occupied in attending to their spiritual duties. If men choose to become members of the Masonic or other societies, whose secrecy is merely an antiquated and harmless formality, but whose object is purely charitable and benevolent, they will do so without asking the consent of either their spiritual or legal advisers." Again:

"A Western professor is proving conclusively to himself that Masonry is the identical 'harlot' of Revelations."

Thus, two public newspapers, on the same day, herald the beginning of an agitation, which will end in the utter confounding of the miserable lunatics, who, bankrupts in brains, are trying to raise capital to support themselves, out of the ignorance, prejudice, and bigotry, which calls itself Christianity. — *Keystone*.

Masonic reception.—On the 13th of Oct., Apollo Commandery turned out under command of Captain Cusack, Generalissimo, and George F. Sims, Past Eminent Commander, to receive the newly elected Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, George Babcock. About half-past eight o'clock the train arrived from the West, and the Commandery, represented by about sixty Knights in procession, received their highly honoured fellow-townsmen, and escorted him to his home on Second Street. The procession was preceded by Sullivan's band, whose music upon this occasion was spoken of by all in terms of high praise. Upon arriving at Mr. B.'s residence, the Commandery was formed in two ranks, and formed an arch with crossed swords; under which the newly elected Commander passed to the steps of his residence, from which he addressed his brethren in a short but happy address. After a short but exquisitely beautiful concert from the band, the Commandery returned to the lodge.

Apollo Commandery was represented in the Grand Commandery at Utica by Eminent Commander, L. A. Rousseau and Captain General H. B. Harvey. There were also present from Troy, the Grand Officers, Deputy Grand Commander, Geo. Babcock, (now Eminent Grand Commander) and Grand Treasurer, John S. Perry, who we may add, had just been installed in his present office for the eighteenth time, an office of trust which it is no light honour to fill acceptably.

It is sometimes a hard matter to be certain whether you have received ill-usage or not; for men's actions oftentimes look worse than they are, and one must be thoroughly informed of a great many things before he can rightly judge.

THE MASONIC MIRROR.

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

THE NEW POSTAL ARRANGEMENT.—On the 1st of October the new postal arrangement came into operation, by which the postage of the MAGAZINE is reduced one-half, of which our subscribers will receive the full benefit. In future, those of our subscribers who pay one year in advance will receive the MAGAZINE post-free. The price of the MAGAZINE will thus be reduced from 17s. 4d. to 13s. per annum. Under this arrangement the following be the terms of subscription:—One year, paid in advance, 13s.; six months, 7s. 9d.; single numbers, by post, 3½d. We hope that by thus giving the advantage to our subscribers they will, in return, use their best endeavours to increase our circulation, by inducing their friends to become subscribers. Anticipating a large increase in our circulation, arrangements are in progress for special new features in the MAGAZINE.

MASONIC MEMS.

His Royal Highness Brother the Prince of Wales, M.W.P.G.M., has consented to preside at the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, on a Wednesday in May, 1871.

It is announced that Col. F. Burdett, Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, will take the chair at the Annual Festival for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and the Widows of Freemasons, on the 25th of January.

THE ROBERT BURNS LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 25), has commenced its winter session, and now meets every Friday evening at the Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, at half-past seven o'clock.

The **LODGE OF INSTRUCTION** attached to the Dalhousie Lodge is held every Tuesday at Bro. J. Allen's, the Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, at eight o'clock, when the members of the Parent Lodge attend, and is well worthy of a visit from the brethren.

The annual banquet of the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860, will be held at the Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney, on Tuesday, the 6th December.

The **ROYAL UNION LODGE OF INSTRUCTION** (382), now meets every Wednesday evening at 8 precisely, at Bro. Duddy's New Rooms, Winsley Street, Oxford Street (opposite the Pantheon).

A Lodge of Instruction under the sanction of the warrant of the St. John of Wapping Lodge, No. 1306, is held at Bro. Hayward's, the Gun Tavern and Hotel, High Street, Wapping, every Monday evening. Bro. Thomas S. Mortlock, P.M. 186, acts as Preceptor.

The Chapter of Improvement, held under the auspices of Prudent Brethren Chapter, (No. 145) meets at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Thursdays at seven o'clock for ceremonies, lectures, explanations, and illustrations. There will be a change of work every evening. We recommend all companions who desire to advance themselves in Capitular Masonry to attend.

Bro. T. Adam's, P.M. Prov. G.P., Annual Subscription Masonic Ball, for the members of the Craft and their friends only, will be held at the new Hall, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, in February next. The tickets can be obtained of Bro. T. Adam, 55, Whitfield Street

Tottenham Court Road, at one guinea each, to admit a lady and gentleman, to include supper and refreshment during the evening. The brethren are expected to appear in full Masonic clothing.

STANHOPE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION (No. 1,269).—A new Lodge of Instruction for the Sydenham, Norwood, Dulwich, and Forest Hill district, has been established under the name of the Stanhope Lodge of Instruction (No. 269), at the Thicket Hotel, Anerley, close to the Railway Station of the Crystal Palace. Bro. Lassam, the proprietor of the hotel, has been elected Treas.; Bro. Baker, Sec.; and Bro. H. W. Lindus, the first Master of the parent Lodge, Preceptor. The Lodge will meet at the Thicket Hotel every Wednesday evening during the session at half-past seven o'clock.

A Committee has been formed for the purpose of getting subscriptions from members of the Craft in aid of Bro. Geo. Tedder, of the Enoch Lodge, No. 11; Yarborough Chapter, 554; Thistle Lodge of Mark Masons, and K. T. Mount Calvary Encampment. Bro. Tedder was known for many years as an eminent vocalist, but for the last seven years has been afflicted with deafness and nervous affection of the brain, and he is pronounced incurable. In consequence of this calamity, he cannot exercise his profession or contribute to the support of his wife and four young children, the eldest being nine years and the youngest three years old. The object of the committee, is to provide a sum sufficient to clear some debts he has incurred during the last two or three years. Bro. Tedder has been elected to an annuity, but until a sum be raised sufficient to clear off these debts, it will be impossible for him to realise any benefit from it. Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the following brethren, viz:—Bros. C. T. Sutton, P.M., P. Prov. G.A.D.C.; J. Owens, Hon. Sec., 861; F. Binckes, P.M., 11 Secretary of the Boys' School; G. Moultrie, P.M., 11; H. G. Buss, P.M., 27, P.G.T. Middlesex; J. Coutts, P.M. 27, A.G.P.; C. B. Payne, P.M. 27; D. G. Berrie, P.M. 27; D. H. Jacobs, P.M. 27; H. E. Hoare, P.M. 27; J. May, 27; H. S. Friend, P.M. 9; C. Swan, P. Prov. G.D., Herts; O. F. Vallentin, P.M., 869; E. Farthing, P.M., 118, and P. Prov. G.S., Herts; H. Newton, 157; T. Roberts, 205; R. Paget, J.W., 228; J. N. Frost, P.M. 704, and Preceptor, of United Strength Lodge of Instruction; C. H. Fielder, P.M., 715; S. G. Myers, P.M., 715; J. Paddle, P.M., 715; T. Green, Panmure, 720; W. Gregory, S.W., 754; E. M. Davey, P.M., 861; F. Walters P.M. 871; Knight, S.W., 1,107; C. Braid, S.W., 1,196, F. G. Harrison, F. Collinwood, W. Beattie, T. Jepson, G. Nicholls, A Baddeley:

The Southwark Masonic Charitable Association, held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, is founded to obtain for its Members a Life Governorship in one of the Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions. The subscriptions are one shilling per week, payable on or before the last Tuesday in each month. When the sum of ten guineas is in the Treasurer's hands, a chance for a Life Governorship will be drawn for by the members. Any lady or gentleman may be proposed as a member, but members of the Craft only will have a voice in the management. Further information may be obtained on application to Bro. M. A. Loewenstark, Hon. Sec., 1 Devereux Court, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. The first ballot will take place on the last Tuesday in January, 1871.

ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, (No. 72).—On Sunday evening, the 4th of next month, at seven o'clock, the fifteen sections will be worked in this Lodge of Instruction, held at the Falcon Tavern, Fetter Lane. Bro. Ashby will take the chair.

The Annual Banquet of the Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction will take place at the Royal Edward Hotel, Triaugle, Hackney, on Tuesday, December 6th, at half-past 6 o'clock. The chair will be taken by Bro. Wm. Bristo.

On and after Wednesday, the 21st December, 1870, the meetings of the Lodge of Benevolence will take place at Six o'clock in the evening, punctually.

The next meetings will be held on Wednesday, 21st December 1870, and Wednesday, 18th January, 1871.

GRAND LODGE.

GENERAL COMMITTEE AND LODGE OF BENEVOLENCE.

The usual quarterly meeting of the General Committee and Lodge of Benevolence was held on Wednesday last in the Board Room of the Grand Lodge, Freemasons' Hall.

Bros. Conrad C. Dumas, P.G. Dir. of Cers. acted as W.M.; James Brett, Grand Pursuivant, as S.W.; Coutts, Assistant G. Pursuivant, as J.W.; Savage; Smith; and numerous other Grand Officers, and the largest attendance of brethren ever present at a meeting of the Board.

The W.M., having opened the lodge, proceeded with the business of the General Committee.

The business to be placed on the agenda paper was considered and included a communication made with reference to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. Nominations were made for the President and Vice-Presidents of the Board of Benevolence, and for other appointments, to be submitted to Grand Lodge at the next meeting.

The Report of the Board of General Purposes was read. It mainly consisted of (1) objections to the use of post-cards for Lodge notices and other Masonic business, which have been interdicted by the Board of General Purposes; (2) as to the fire which recently occurred in the rear of the Grand Lodge premises, by which they were injured; (3) as to the arrangements for the Organ ordered to be provided, by resolution of Grand Lodge.

A Special Report was made with respect to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The appeal of Bro. Bease, against the decision of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay was withdrawn, it having been stated that the matter in dispute had been satisfactorily arranged.

Bro. Brackstone Baker gave notice of a motion, to be proposed at the next Quarterly Communication, with reference to a grant of £100 in aid of the Refugee Fund, under the patronage of Marchioness Lothian.

Scrutineers were appointed for the purpose of taking the votes at the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

The Lodge of Benevolence was then opened. Twelve grants, made at last the meeting, amounting in the whole to £265, were confirmed. Of these, one was a recommendation to the Grand Master for £30, and another a recommendation to the Grand Lodge for £50.

There were twenty-five new cases on the list. The sum of £350 was voted in respect of them. One application was dismissed; another applicant was proved to be ineligible for relief; the consideration of one petition was deferred by the committee; and one postponed, by request.

One sum of £50 was recommended to the Grand Lodge. One of £40, and another of £30, were recommended to the Grand Master. The remainder were relieved with sums varying from £10 to £20.

Craft Masonry.

ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.

METROPOLITAN.

LODGE OF TRANQUILITY. (No. 185).—In the absence of the highly respected Bro. Beigel, M.D., the Master, who is with the German Army, in France, the W. Bro. Harfet, P.M. most efficiently represented him, and initiated into our mysteries Mr. Joseph Minuto, admitted to the second degree, Bros. Matthews, and Krohin, and to the third, Bro. J. Simmons; the W.M., pro tem. was supported in his arduous duties by Bros. Louis Israel, P.M.; Louis Barnett, S.W.; Bloomfield, J.W.; Peartree, Treas.; Philip Levy, Hon. Sec.; Knappe, Org.; Dr. Schnitzler, I.G.; F. Vesper, P.M. 554, Tyler, and a numerous assemblage of members. Visiting, Bros. F. Walters, P.M. 73; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188; A most interesting letter from the absent W.M., (accompanied by his carte-de-visite, in which he is represented in his uniform as a M.D. of the 27th Corp of the Prussian Army) was read. The brethren then adjourned to one of Bro. John Hart's sumptuous banquets, excellently served under the superintendence of Bro. John Hart, and his brother, the proceedings were enlivened by some of the comicalities of our esteemed Bro. H. M. Levy.

JORDAN LODGE (No. 201).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, 18th inst. Present, Bros. Francis Smith, W.M.; Peter Robinson, S.W.; R. T. Elsam, as J.W.; Bro. Sheen, P.M., officiated as Secretary in the absence, from indisposition, of Bro. Spooner. Bro. Colley, 45, was present as a visitor. Bro. Bizard was passed to the degree of Fellow-Craft. A brother was proposed for joining. An excellent banquet followed.

LODGE OF ISRAEL (No. 205).—This lodge met on Tuesday at Radley's Hotel, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, when the respected and highly talented Master, the W. Bro. Michael Z. Emanuel, supported by Bros. Chamberlain, P.M.; E. Stanton Jones, P.N.; J. M. Harris, P.M.; Coote, P.M.; Littaur, P.M.; S. M. Harris, P.M.; H. M. Harris, S.W.; A. McCohan, P.M., Hon. Sec.; Hagard, J.D.; J. Emanuel, I.G.; and numerous other brethren, and T. Vesper, P.M., 554. &c., Tyler. The W.M. in his usual happy style initiated into the Order Messrs. Joseph F. Samuel and John Rexworthy, admitted to the degree of F.C., Bro. T. F. Smith, and conferred the sublime degree on Bro. Thomas Cable, of the Grosvenor Hotel; a poor brother from Devonshire was relieved, and after the arrangement of some routine business the lodge was closed with solemn prayer and adjourned. The only visitors were Bros. Charrier of 1,210, and John Rugg of 781.

CAMDEN LODGE, (No. 704).—The brethren of this lodge held their regular meeting at the York and Albany Tavern, Regents Park, on Tuesday, 18th inst. The chair was occupied by Bro. F. Webb, W.M., ably supported by his officers. The minutes of the former lodge were read and confirmed, Bro. Fitzpatrick was raised to the degree of W.M., in a very perfect and impressive manner, by Bro. W. Meadway, I.P.M. Bros. Schlesinger and Tyler were passed to the second degree. Bro. Garrett, S.W., proposed; and Bro. Frost, seconded, that the sum of 21s. should be given to the fund in aid of Bro. G. Todder, Mr. George Haywood, and Mr. G. Peterkin, were proposed for initiation. The lodge was then closed until January next. The brethren then sat down to a very good banquet. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given. Bro. Meadway, I.P.M. proposed the toast of the W.M. The W.M. briefly and appropriately returned thanks. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Visitors, who were Bros. L. R. Rogers, S.D. 902; Jesse Owens, 861; H. T. Reed; S. G. Myers, P.M. 715; H. M. Levy, P.M. 188; T. White, W.M. 22. The visitors severally responded. The W.M. then proposed the toast of the Past Masters, and he said although there were only three present, they were always ready to render the lodge their truly valuable assistance with Masonic instruction. Br. Tyrell in his response stated that the brethren who wished to gain instruction could do so at the house of Bro. Garrett, the worthy Senior Warden, Bull and Gate, Kentish Town Road, where an excellent Lodge of Instruction was held. Bro. Frost followed and said, he was a member of the Lodge of Instruction, he was also the Preceptor, and he could fully endorse all the former brethren had said. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the officers, alluded to Bro. Garrett, the

S.W., as he was one that he hoped in due course to succeed him in that chair, and he was well qualified to fulfil his duties, and he might say the success of the lodge was due to the able manner the officers had done their duties. Bro. Garrett in responding for the toast of the officers, said Bro. Steward, the Junior Warden, pro tem., was one that could any duty the lodge required. As far as regards himself, he said he had never neglected the duties of his office, except when illness prevented him. But in following the duties of Freemasonry, he was actuated by one feeling, and that was to do all in his power for the benefit of the brethren, and the prosperity of the lodge. Bro. Steward followed, and Tyler's toast concluded a very agreeable evening.

CAPPER LODGE (No. 1,076).—The brethren of this lodge held a regular meeting at the Marine Hotel, Victoria Docks, on Thursday, 10th inst. The chair was occupied by the W.M., who well supported by his Past Masters and officers, and a large attendance of visitors as follows:—Bros. J. Terry, P.M. 228, 1,196, 1,278, P.G.S.B., P.Z. 976, Z. 124; G. Davis, S.W., 13; W. D. May, W.M. 700; Rowland, P.M. 700; W. Graham, S.W. 700; Scurr, P.M. 933; G. Stevens, W.M. 554; Mortlake, P.M. 186; Oritts, W.M. 831; S. Shives, P.M. Prosperity Lodge; T. Smith, W.M. 829; Rev. W. Smith, Cornwallis Lodge; B. G. English, S.W.; Barnes, J.W., Upton Lodge; Watts, P.M. 976; Pain, 913; and Taylor, Canonbury Lodge. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the former meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for three candidates for initiation, and two as joining members, which proved unanimous in each case, and the initiates being present were duly received into Freemasonry. Bros. Pullen and Peskitt were passed to the degree of F.C. Bros. Pinnell, Ginman, and Magan, were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. Bro. Joseph Gaskell, W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. to receive from him the benefit of installation, a board of Installed Masters having been formed. Bro. Gaskell was placed in the chair of K.S., according to ancient custom, and saluted accordingly. The W.M. then proceeded with the appointment and investment of his officers as follows:—Bros. Pincombe, S.W.; Ashdown, J.W.; Henderson, Sec.; Brown, S.D.; Brayshaw, J.D.; Knox, I.G.; Batt, D.C.; Martin, W.S.; Park (re-elected), Treas.; and Alison, Tyler. The usual addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and the lodge, which closed the ceremony of installation. It was then proposed, seconded, and carried, that a vote of thanks be placed on the minutes to Bro. Sisley, for the very able manner in which he performed the installation ceremony. It was also proposed, seconded, and carried, that a treasurer's jewel of the value of six guineas be presented to Bro. Park. The sum of two guineas was also voted to the Tedder Fund. Two gentlemen were then proposed for initiation at the next meeting. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren, to the number of one hundred, partook of an excellent banquet. The cloth having been withdrawn, the W.M. presented Bro. Sisley with the Past Master's jewel voted to him at the last meeting of the lodge, which was received and acknowledged in very appropriate terms. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were then given, and responded to by the brethren.

SOUTH NORWOOD LODGE (No. 1,139).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, South Norwood, on Monday, 17th inst. Present:—Bros. Capt. Evans, P.M.; Dr. Roberts, P.M.; Richard Chandler, W.M. Elect, S.W.; A. Porter, J.W.; W. Duffitt, S.D.; James A. Prince, J.D.; Frederick Everard Hunt, I.G.; John Sanders; William Clark, W.S.; and several other brethren. Amongst the visitors were Bros. C. Milson, P. Prov. G.J.W. of Somersetshire; R. Chandler, Sen. P.M. No. 355; J. Ding, P.M. No. 951; Magnus Ohren, W.M. No. 452, and J.W. No. 23; and Thomas W. White, Sec., No. 21. Messrs. Case, Prince, and Macklin were initiated. The first business of the lodge (after reading the minutes) was the installation of the W.M. Elect, which was performed by P.M. Bro. Capt. Evans, to the satisfaction of the W.M. Elect, and of the brethren generally. The W.M. then appointed his officers as follows:—Bros. Capt. Evans, P.M., as Treas.; Dr. Roberts, P.M., as Sec.; A. Porter, J.W., as S.W.; W. Duffitt, S.D., as J.W.; Jas. A. Prince, J.D., as S.D.; Fred. Everard Hunt, I.G., as J.D.; John Sanders, as I.G.; and Wm. Clark, as W.S. The appointments appeared to give general satisfaction. The W.M., Bro. Richard Chandler, then initiated the three gentlemen above mentioned, and, being well up in his duties, the ceremony was performed in a manner seldom witnessed on the first night of a new Master's working. The

brethren retired to a banquet about seven o'clock, and the W.M. gave further proof of his fitness for the chair by the masterly manner in which he gave the various Masonic and complimentary toasts.

BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS LODGE, (No. 1,150).—The brethren of this lodge met at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday, 16th inst. The chair was occupied by Bro. Hunt, W.M., supported by Bros. Monckton, P.M.; Mullins, S.W.; Long, J.W.; Dixon, S.D.; Dobbs, J.D.; Charlton, Hon. Sec.; Poole, I.G.; and most of the members of the lodge. Bro. Taversham, Royal Irish Lodge, was present as a visitor. Mr. Joseph Cottle Green was initiated. The business of the evening included the election of W.M., Treasurer, Auditor, and Tyler. The installation will take place at the February meeting.

THE GREAT NORTHERN LODGE (No. 1,287).—This lodge met at the Great Northern Hotel, on Thursday evening, the 17th inst., when the chair was taken by Bro. S. Webb, W.M., supported by his officers, Bros. E. Moody, S.W.; H. J. Read, J.W.; T. H. Stalon, S.D.; R. Bescoby, J.D.; and G. Hooper, I.G. There were also present Bros. Alexander, Verdon, Elliot, Buckman, Holyoake, Headon, Marsh, Bower, Wilkie, Askell, Wrighton, Ritchie, Freeman, and Forbes, and visitors Bros. J. Bull, P.M., Royal York Lodge, and J. Stevens, W.M. Macdonald Lodge, 1216. The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Headon, Marsh, Bowen, and Arkell were passed to the degree of F.C. Bros. Wilkie, and Eckford were raised to the sublime degree of M.M. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren after partaking of some refreshments, separated, all speaking in the highest terms of the admirable manner in which the W.M. had presided and performed the duties of the lodge.

PROVINCIAL.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

On Wednesday last the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Carlisle, under the presidency of R. W. Bro. Lord Kenlis, Prov. G.M. About 200 hundred brethren assembled on the occasion.

Union Lodge, No. 310, was opened in their rooms by Bro. Hayward, W.M., and the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in the County Hall.

Amongst the brethren present were Bros. J. Whitwell, D. Prov. G.M.; Dr. W. T. Greaves, P.D. Prov. G.M.; Joseph Nicholson, Prov. G.S.W.; Rev. Jas. Simpson, Prov. G. Sec.; J. Lemon, Prov. G. Treas.; Edward Birchey, P.G.S.B., England, and Prov. G.S.B.; John Barr, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Iredale, P.D. Prov. G.M.; F. W. Hayward, P. Prov. S.G.W.; G. G. Hayward, P. Prov. G.S.B.; James Sumner, Prov. G.P.; Joseph Sealby, Prov. G.J.D.; E. W. Braithwaite, P. Prov. G.S.D.; M. C. G. Thompson, Prov. G.R.; John R. Tickle, P. Prov. G.S.; and a numerous attendance of brethren from the adjoining provinces.

The brethren proceeded in full regalia to the Cathedral, where a sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Carlisle, who took his text from Corinthians I, chap. 13, v. 8, "Charity never faileth." The collection was devoted to local charities.

A banquet was held in the evening at which Lord Kenlis, Prov. G.M. presided.

DEVONSHIRE.

TOTNES.—Pleiades Lodges (No. 710).—Omission since July of accounts of Masonic proceedings at Totnes has been caused by the absence from Devon of the reporter, as marked by the occasional mention of him as taking part in proceedings in other districts. It may be stated, therefore, that in September Bro. W. Cuning, then S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and duly installed in the following month in the presence of Past Masters R. Watson, J. Marks, T. E. Owen, J. Heath, G. Heath, J. Pridham, and Rev. R. Bowden, by Bro. Bridges, D. Prov. G.M. for Somerset, who had been specially invited to perform the ceremony. Among the visitors was Bro. I. Latimer, P. Prov. G. Sec. The following were appointed and invested by the W.M. as his officers. A. B. Niner, S.W.; Stafford, J.W.; Rev. J. Powning, Chaplain; J. Pridham, I.P.M.; Preswell, Sec.; Watson, Treas.; De Schmid, S.D.; Fowle, J.D.; Colden, I.G.; Taylor, Organist; Crocker, Tyler. In the evening the

customary annual banquet was held. On Thursday, November 3rd, the first monthly meeting under the new regime was held, when the lodge was opened by Bro. Cumming, W.M., assisted by Bros. J. Heath, P.M., as S.W.; Stafford, J.W.; Dr. Hopkins, as I.P.M.; and the brethren who hold office as Secretary, Deacons, and I.G. The minutes were read and confirmed, and after a short discussion on internal matters of no general interest, no other business offering, the lodge was closed after a short sitting.

HAMPSHIRE.

BOURNEMOUTH—CENTENARY OF LODGE OF HENGIST (No. 195).

The Centenary of this lodge was celebrated on Wednesday last. The lodge was held in the Bellevue Assembly Rooms, there being upwards of eighty brethren present.

The chair was ably occupied by Bro. W. W. B. Beach, R.W. Prov. Grand Master. The principal business of the lodge was the investment of Bro. Rebbeck, W.M., with a centenary jewel, by virtue of the sanction of the M.W. Grand Master.

At the close of these proceedings the brethren dined at the Bath Hotel, at which the R.W. Provincial Grand Master presided, Bros. W. E. Rebbeck, W.M., and Tuck, P.M., acting as Vice-Chairmen.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly responded to.

LANCASHIRE (WEST.)

PRESTON—Concord Lodge, (No. 343).—The regular monthly meeting of the above lodge was held on Thursday 17th inst., at the King's Arms Hotel. Bro. Porter, W.M. presided, supported by Bros. Banning, S.W.; Heaps, J.W.; Robinson, P.M., Treas.; Brown, P.M.; Watson, P.M.; Moss, P.M.; Cockshott, S.D.; Farmer, S.D.; Wilson, I.G.; and forty brethren. The visiting brethren were Bros. Mills, Lewis Lodge, Whitehaven; Taylor, W.M. Salford; Townshend, Unanimity, 113; T. H. Myers, Peace and Unity, 314. The lodge was opened at seven o'clock, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing Bros. Gittens and Ryder, was then gone through, and the lodge having been resumed in the first degree, Mr. Alfred Beattie, was introduced and initiated. The ballot for W.M. for the ensuing year was then taken, and proved in favour of Bro. Banning, S.W., Bro. Robinson, P.M. being re-elected Treasurer. The lodge was then closed with solemn prayer, according to ancient custom, at 10 o'clock. The brethren then adjourned to the usual good banquet, provided by Bro. P.M. Robinson. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured, and a most agreeable and profitable evening was spent, the brethren retiring in peace and harmony at 11.30.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

LEICESTER—John of Gaunt Lodge, (No. 523).—A monthly meeting of this lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 19th inst. The W.M., Bro. T. H. Buzzard, presided, and there was a good attendance of members and visitors, amongst whom were Bros. Kelly, R.W. Prov. G.M.; W. B. Smith, Duff, Toller, and Chas. Johnson, P.M.'s; Sculthorpe, S.W.; Rev. Dr. Hayercroft, J.W.; Baines, Sec.; Partridge, S.D.; Whitaker, as J.G.; Atkins, Steward; Bembridge, Tyler; Toone, Ross, Kealey, Rowlett, and Lange, Visitors; Bros. Stanley, W.M.; L. A. Clarke, P.M.; Palmer, S.D.; Capt. Goodchild, Statham, and Shuttlewood, of 299; and Quarter Master Sergt. Preston, R.A. of 301. The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for two candidates for admission into the Order, Messrs. Wood, and Thorpe who were duly elected. There were four brethren due for the third degree, viz: Bros. Howard, Wynne, M.R.C.S., Kealey, and Lange, one only of whom (Bro. Lange) was present when required, Bro. Kealey not arriving unfortunately until too late to receive the degree, owing to the delay of a train, by which he travelled from a considerable distance, for that purpose. The lodge having been opened in the second degree, Bro. Lange was duly examined, after which the lodge was opened in the third degree, and he was duly raised as a M.M. On the lodge being lowered to the first degree, Messrs. Wood, and Thorpe were regularly initiated. During the ceremonies of the evening, Bro. Rowlett presided at the organ, and assisted by several brethren, gave the musical chants. A case of distress was brought before the lodge, by the

Prov. G.M., and received the warm sympathy of the brethren, temporary relief was ordered to be afforded to give time for consideration, with St. John's Lodge as to the means of rendering more permanent assistance. The W.M. brought forward a proposal for a Masonic ball to take place during the winter, the brethren of the two lodges being invited to meet, to form a committee to carry out the arrangements. The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, and spent an hour or two very pleasantly in social intercourse and harmony,

MIDDLESEX.

UXBRIDGE—Royal Union Lodge (No. 382).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 21st inst., at Belmont Hall, Uxbridge. Present:—Bros. T. A. Adams, Prov. G.P.; Weedon, P.M.; Horsley, P.M., as S.W.; Coulton, W.M.; Lonsdale, J.W.; Woodward, Treas.: W. Coombes, P.M., Prov. G.S.B., Hon. Sec.; J. L. Coulton, S.D.; Swallow, I.G.; Davis and Hale, Stewards. The following visitors were present:—Bros. Gibbons, P. Prov. G.J.W., Berks and Bucks, P.M. No. 209; Strange, P.M. 209; Goodman, 163; Broodlement, La Tolerance; Lancaster, 1,287. A ballot was taken for five candidates, also for Bro. Duddy, Leigh Lodge, as a joining member, Messrs. Beverley and Tyrell were initiated. The Hon. Secretary read a letter from the Prov. G. Master, Col. Burdett, thanking the brethren of the lodge for their kindness in electing him an honorary member of the lodge. It was moved and seconded that the letter of the Prov. G.M. be entered on the lodge minutes. The newly-revised bye-laws were confirmed, on Bro. Horsley's notice of motion, "To consider where the lodge shall hold its meetings in future," as the lease of the present hall will expire in March next, it was proposed, seconded, &c., that the subject be referred to a committee, viz.:—Bros. Coulton, W.M.; Jaquin, S.W.; Lonsdale, J.W.; Coombes, P.M., Hon. Sec.; W. Smith, C.E., P.G.S.; C. Horsley, P.M.; Woodward, Treas.; Davis; and Swallow. Bro. Woods offered to build a suitable hall for the lodge. Bro. Glenie, "George Hotel" has a large room which was formerly used as the old County Court, which if fitted with alterations, &c., might answer for a lodge room. Bro. Marshall provided a very good dinner for about thirty brethren.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

PONTYPOOL—Kennard Lodge (No. 1,258).—On Monday last the usual monthly meeting took place in the Lodge Room at the Clarence Hotel. In the absence of the W.M., Bro. H. M. Kennard, (who is now at Newport, Isle of Wight, contesting that borough in the Conservative interest), P.M. Bro. Bartholomew Thomas, Prov. G.S.D., took the chair, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a good attendance of brethren. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. John Knipe of Pontypool, was balloted for and unanimously admitted, and that gentleman being in attendance was duly initiated, the ceremony being most correctly rendered by the acting W.M. Some business of a routine character was then transacted, and the lodge was closed in harmony at 8 p.m.

SOUTH WALES (EASTERN DIVISION).

ABERGAVENNY—Philanthropic Lodge (No. 818).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, October 7th, 1870. The officers present were Bros. J. Gosden, W.M.; S. H. Steel, P.M.; S. Browning, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Freeman, P.M. Sec.; D. Meredith, as S.D.; J. Straker, J.D.; J. Smith, Dir. of Cers.; C. Howell, Org.; C. B. Williams, Steward; J. Greene, Tyler. Also Bros. H. J. Higginson, P.M.; J. W. Hallam, P.M. 237; J. C. Sladen; C. Tucker; W. Williams, Junr.; J. Bishop; W. Williams; S. Hill; S. Eames; T. Gorvin; W. Davis; J. Morgan; W. S. H. Pain; S. Dew; and J. James. The following visitors were also present:—I. Ware, Prov. G. Reg. W.M. 960; J. Boley, 610; J. N. Madley, 1,098; H. Sanderson, P.M. 925 (Installing Master); W. J. Thomas, W.M. 679; J. Gardner, 1,177; J. L. Vesey, P.M. 326, and P. Prov. G.S.B. Bristol; John Lewis, W.M., 1,098; J. Phillips, S.W.,

1,098; E. Horlick, 1,098; R. Spencer, 1,098; E. Swidenbank, 1,098; C. Ward, 246; E. D. G. Tapson, 471; W. Binning, 1,258; R. Woolley, 1,258; R. B. Evans, P.M., 471; J. Watton, 1,256; W. H. Hoskins, 1,258; H. Griffiths, 1,258; E. Fowler, Jun., 1,258; J. R. Jenkins, 1,258; H. J. Davies, P.G.S., 833; John Rogers, 237; W. E. Chalinder, P. Prov. G.S.; N. Bradley; R. Spencer; J. Tapson, Tradegar Lodge. The lodge was Tyled at two o'clock (for high twelve). The lodge having been opened in the first degree, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. Elect, Bro. W. Williams, Jun., and officers, presented to the W.M., Bro. Gosden, for the lodge a gorgeous banner, edged and embroidered in bullion lace, with the name, number, and crest of the lodge. The lodge was then opened in the second degree, when the W.M. Elect, Bro. W. Williams, Jun., was presented to the Installing Master, the W. Bro. H. Sanderson, P.M., 925, by whom the ceremony of installation was most impressively performed, and the W.M. was proclaimed and saluted accordingly. The following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year, and invested with their emblems of office accordingly, viz.:—J. Gosden, L.P.M.; D. Meredith, S.W.; J. Bishop, J.W.; S. H. Steel, P.M., Treas.; W. C. Freeman, Sec.; J. Straker, S.D.; C. Tucker, J.D.; C. Howells, Org.; J. H. Garvin, Steward; J. C. Sladen, I.G.; J. Greene, Tyler. The business of the lodge having been concluded, the lodge was closed in solemn form, and the brethren to the number of 70, adjourned to the Angel Hotel, where a most recherché banquet awaited them, which did great credit to the landlord, Bro. Philip Morgan; indeed it was generally admitted that a handsomer dinner has not been supplied in Aberavenny. After the cloth was drawn, the usual loyal and Masonic formal toasts were duly proposed and honoured. The proceedings were enlivened by some excellent vocal and instrumental music. The Tyler's toast brought the banquet to a happy conclusion, after a most pleasant and gratifying anniversary festival.

SUFFOLK.

SUDBURY.—*Stour Valley Lodge* (No. 1,224).—The brethren of this lodge met on Friday, 4th inst. The lodge is at present presided over by the Rev. Bro. Martin, vicar of Long Melford, and Grand Chaplain of England. On the present occasion however, the W.M. being unfortunately very unwell, the duties of the chair devolved on the S.W., Bro. J. F. Hill, who opened the lodge, and presided while the ballot was taken for the admission of candidates, there being two for initiation, and one for joining. The result of the ballot in each case being unanimous in favour. Bro. Robert Ed. Clarke, P.M. No. 1,158, was received as a joining member. Immediately after his election Bro. Clarke was solicited by the W.M., pro tem., to assume the chair for the rest of the evening, which he obligingly consented to do, and in his very best manner initiated Mr. H. Bridgman and Mr. Raymond Howard into the order, his working receiving the highest commendations from all present.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

LODGE OF GLASGOW ST. JOHN, No. 3 bis.—The meeting was held at 213, Buchanan Street, on 15th inst., Bro. John Baird, R.W.M., in the chair. Bros. Kyle, S.W., and Fletcher, J.W., and a large number of brethren present. The lodge being duly opened, the minutes were read and approved of. Seven gentlemen were proposed as candidates, and admitted in due form, Bro. McMillan, Sub. M., ably performing the ceremony. Thereafter, seven brethren were passed by Bro. J. B. Walker, P.M., in his usual masterly style, Bro. David Walker officiating at the harmonium. Several brethren were also affiliated. The R.W.M. then intimated that the meeting for nomination of Office-bearers would take place, as intimated on the circular, on the 29th inst., but he was sorry he would not be able to be present there, on account of an engagement elsewhere. Bro. Buchan asked how it came that the day of nomination was altered from the first Tuesday of December to the 29th of November, without the lodge being aware of it? The R.W.M.

asked to see the rules. The S.W. said that as it had been so printed on the circular the 29th should be held by. The R.W.M. replied not so, for we must go by the rules. The Treasurer handed a copy of the printed list of the Lodge Meetings, showing the proper day to be the 6th of December. The R.W.M. said that in that case he would be able to be present; and as for the 29th inst. being put on the circular that must be a mistake of the Secretary. Bro. Buchan then begged permission to ask who authorized the drawing up of the Memorial which was presented without any signatures, and in name of this lodge, but without the knowledge of the members, to the Grand Lodge at its meeting on the 7th inst., as also who authorized the change of date there given of the Malcolm Charter from 1057 to 1157? The R.W.M. replied that at last meeting he intimated his intention of being present at Grand Lodge to support the interests of St. John's, and to advocate its claims in reference to the carrying of the working tools. And as to the Memorial then presented he would now read a copy of it to the lodge for the information of the members. This being done, Bro. Buchan thanked the R.W.M. for his courtesy, but at same time observed that the drawing up of such a document as a "Memorial to Grand Lodge," without first being authorized by this lodge to do so, and without this lodge having any opportunity of knowing what was in it, and as well as weighing its contents, was very much out of order. He was sorry that such a document had been handed in, as the imperfect one which they had heard read, on account of the many mistakes it contained, and he hoped the brethren would see the necessity that existed for any such important step as this being gone about in a proper and constitutional manner. Bro. Park, P.M., observed that the opinion that their Malcolm Charter was a forgery was only *his*—Bro. Buchan's—for it had been upheld by Grand Lodge, and gave them the high position of No. 3, *bis*, and he was very angry at the way in which Bro. Buchan had attacked the "Memorial" in Grand Lodge, and called their charter a "lying forgery." Bro. Buchan begged to correct Bro. Park, he called it a "disgraceful forgery," and before them all he said such was his opinion still; and they did not get their position of 3 *bis*, on account of it, for the Grand Lodge in 1850, refused to acknowledge it, as any brother present might easily see for himself by reading their Charter from the Grand Lodge, which lay before them. It was the 1628 Roslin Charter gave them No. 3 *bis*; he was sorry that such a document as this "Memorial" had been produced in Grand Lodge, as under the circumstances he felt it to be his duty to attack it there, and the brethren would remember that at last meeting he intimated his intention of going to Grand Lodge to support the motion that the operative lodge of a province should always carry the tools in its own province, which, if carried as proposed, would give them what they wished, and cautioned them against hurrying that motion in any way by any memorial calling in question the past proceedings of Grand Lodge, much less such a document as the one they had only now heard read. Bro. J. B. Walker, P.M., having just entered, observed that he was sorry to hear any dispute going on about this Malcolm Charter, for it had never done them any good. And where was it? They had not it; it was kept by the Incorporation of Masons, hence let them look after it, for what was the use of this lodge making so much noise about a thing it had not got! The Grand Charter for them to hold by was the Charter which lay before them (pointing to the Bible) if they would act according to the principles contained in it, that was the thing that would bring them *real* honour. Bro. Nelson observed that although getting up of this memorial had been gone about in an improper manner, yet the lodge should stand by the R.W.M. now after it had been presented, &c. After a few more remarks, the subject dropped, and the lodge called from labour to refreshment, after which it was duly closed.

TRUSTEE LODGE, (No. 87).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held in the Lodge Room, Croy Place, on the evening of Wednesday the 16th inst., under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Master. There was a large attendance of the brethren, and the following officers were elected to serve during the ensuing year, viz.:—Bro. John Fraser, R.W.M., was unanimously re-elected; John Miller, D.M.; John Reid, S.M.; James V. Henderson, S.W.; James M'Nee, J.W.; Laurence Murray, Chap.; John Dobbie, Treas.; Thomas Hart, Sec.; John Renfrew, S.D.; Alek. L. Jeffray, J.D.; Andrew Miller, S.S.; P. M'Coo, J.S.; Reddie Currie, S.S.B.; Samuel J. Fulton, J.S.B.; C. C. Jenkins, I.G.; Thomas Cowan, O.G.; Samuel M'Phee,

Prov. G.S. After the election, Bro. Gillies, Prov. G.S.B., performed the ceremony of installing and investing the officers in a highly impressive manner.

REVIEWS.

The Rectangular Review. London: J. Hogg.

No. 2 of this half-a-crown Quarterly has reached us. It fully maintains the prestige of the first number. The article "Our Scholastic Institutions. No. I.—The Scholastic Agent," treats elaborately upon the functions of this important class. It is stated that:—

"The general business of the agent may be divided, and, indeed, divides itself into three well-defined departments:—(1). The Scholastic, which consists in the introduction of eligible candidates for tutorial appointments to the principals of schools, and to the heads of families; (2). The Recommendation of Schools to parents and guardians who wish to ensure suitable education and training for their children or their wards; and (3) The Transfer of Schools from one principal to another, and the negotiation of Scholastic Partnerships. Of these departments, the first, if only because it is the most extensive, may be taken to be the most important.

The article is an elaborate dissertation, entering into every detail, and seems thoroughly to exhaust the subject. It certainly gives the Scholastic Agent in an importance to which we had not before assigned to him, having looked upon him as a mere commercial go-between, in fact, a kind of registry office-keeper. Something higher, according to the article under notice, however, seems to be requisite to ensure success in this "profession." The article concludes with the following peroration:—

"The agent should have the faculty of penetrating the veil behind which men hide their own natures, not only from others, but from themselves; a peculiar insight, an intuition of character, fortified by patient induction and analysis. He must know humanity in its aggregate and in its varieties; no unwonted combination should take him unaware. He must have the knack of gleanings information; so far as honour will allow—and even *gossip*, considering the confidential nature of his profession, may be forgiven to him—he will profit by the statements and conversation of all his clients. He is a student of character, and he will omit no opportunity of understanding character. In his efforts to arrive at exact information he will make all reasonable allowances for the particular medium through which he receives the several items of which that information was composed. He will know that no man is exactly that which any one other man finds him to be; that each man is in fact the aggregate or the average of all men's opinion. If, in the prosecution of his necessary inquiries, he do not discourage what, if they were made for lighter ends, might be obnoxious to the charge of triviality, it should be borne in mind that he has no purpose of his own to serve, apart from the best interests, *all round*, of the mass of his employers. And principals and assistants need no more hesitate to allow him to have a full intelligence of them than the sensible patient would grudge to his doctor the employment of any method whatever of ascertaining his symptoms.

Moreover, the agent should have a definite knowledge of the laws and customs which affect educational covenants of every kind; so that, upon occasions of dispute, he may be the friendly judge, the trusted referee and arbitrator. Every one of these things, it may be, and more, which to mention in detail would be supererogatory, are

known in some degree to his clients; but it is his peculiarity to have reduced them to form and precision—to have arranged systematically and scientifically what is with them nebulous or incoherent. He offers a superior and approximately all-sufficient skill for the solution of questions to which the layman brings only ignorance or an incomplete knowledge which is little better than ignorance, or a fancied and unsymmetrical knowledge, which is worse.

Finally, the learning which he either has personally or of which he can avail himself, should be, if not exactly co-extensive with the varied erudition with which he will be brought into contact, at least comprehensive enough to estimate breadth and soundness of attainment in every department of education.

An interesting chapter on "Ancient Mottoes" follows, but they cannot claim much on the ground of originality or research, we think we have seen most of them repeatedly.

It is with the article "Freemasonry: its Use and Abuse" that we have mainly to deal. The author in stating the object of the present enquiry says:—

On the present occasion we intend briefly to show how and where Masonic principles are departed from, and what reforms are imperatively called for if Masonry is actually to take that standing among, or rather above, human institutions that we have assigned to it*, but for the sake of convenience we will relate them in a few words:—

Ethics and Science of Masonry.—Masonry, then, is a peculiar system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, the study of sciences, and the practice of virtue. The Masonic Charges and Symbols impressively inculcate the latter; their teaching may be said to be summed up in the passage of the Charge at the initiation into the First Degree:—"The three great moral duties to God, your neighbour, and yourself, you are strictly to observe: to God, by holding His name in awe and veneration; to your neighbour, by always acting on the square; and to yourself, by not abusing the bounties of Providence, or debasing our profession by intemperance." Such is the ethical basis of Masonry. As to Science, we have shown in our former article that the figures and symbols of the institution represent not only religious, but also physical truths; that its members in remote times diligently cultivated astronomy and geometry, which latter science is the foundation of all other sciences; that the Fellow Craft was taught the principles of architecture and the seven liberal arts; that, in fact, through many ages the Freemasons were the keepers and transmitters of scientific knowledge. And, considering the dignity of the Order, it will easily be understood that it must be one of the fundamental principles of Masonry to exercise the greatest caution and discrimination in the admission of members.

Let us now see whether in Masonry, as at present constituted and practised, the principles of its founders are adhered to, and their noble aims likely to be accomplished."

We find the following remarks upon the Masonic Charities:—

"*Masonic Charities.*—But where reform is as urgently needed is in the collection and administration of the funds of the Order, especially of those devoted to charitable and educational purposes; viz., of those collected for the support of the Masonic institutions for boys and girls at Wood Green and Battersea Rise respectively, for the Aged Freemasons' Institution at Croydon, and for monthly distribution by the Board of

* Article in Rectangular Review No. 1.

Benevolence. The sums thus collected are very large, averaging annually in the aggregate, about £25,000.

The questions, whether most is made of them,—whether they are so systematically and fairly distributed as to be most conducive to the objects of the donors and the benefit of the recipients,—may briefly be answered thus: What remains for distribution is what remains after paying expenses, and these expenses amount to a very large per-centage. We could name several other societies that equally waste the funds thus entrusted to them by the 'public for relief of suffering humanity: one society, with an annual income of £3,000, spends £1,650 on salaries, allowances to officers, &c.; another spends £1000 on salaries, and not quite so much on the objects for whose relief the institution was founded. But these we should think are extreme cases, and the fact that funds contributed for specific purposes are thus permitted to be diverted from their true objects may be explained by that other fact, that the contributors are the general public, who, when once they have paid their money, dismiss the matter from their minds as one in which they have no further concern, nor in reality any means of ascertaining the fate of their contributions. But it is different with the Masonic body, who, forming a brotherhood closely united by common aims, common interests, and common sympathies, and possessing the power of appointing their own officers, and controlling the expenditure of the funds supplied by themselves for the benefit of their younger or decayed brethren—with such a body this waste of charitable funds ought never to be possible, nor submitted to for a day. But as in the world everybody's business is nobody's business, so in the Masonic brotherhood, which is a world in itself, the same rule seems to obtain: hence the abuses we complain of. We are all well aware that no institution can efficiently be worked without expenditure, but when a large per-centage of the funds that ought to be spent on the education of our children, the relief of the distressed, and the support of our decayed aged members, is absorbed by secretaries, collectors, clerks, tavern-dinners, rosettes, and other childish tinsel, gratis tickets for banquets, stationery, printing, &c., we have a right to complain of mismanagement, and to call on the Masonic body to support our demand for immediate and thorough reforms. Many of the existing committees, in fact, are self-appointed and scarcely controlled, and seem to look upon the management of the funds of the Order, and the emoluments and patronage arising therefrom, as vested rights, and, by the apathy of the brethren, are able to keep out any man not belonging to their set, or disposed to disturb "the harmony of the meeting" by untoward questions; indeed, they would consider a mere opinion hazarded by an outsider as an impertinent intrusion. Such committees ought to be superseded by men more deeply impressed with the importance, nay the sanctity, of the duties they undertake; zealous, discreet, and faithful in the discharge of them, men with large hearts, clear heads, and filled with a noble ambition that the Order, as it is first in moral and intellectual status among human institutions, should also be first as far as its secular government in furthering education and affording relief is concerned. That tribe of people who seem to make a living out of the sympathies of society, or any class thereof, for the poor, should have no representatives in the Masonic brotherhood; nor should it, from want of proper supervision, be possible for auditors to make things pleasant, and gloss over the amounts squandered in such manner, and which would go far to assist those who really want aid.

These are sweeping charges, and no doubt will attract the attention of those who have the management of our charities. That abuses exist in many—nay, in most Charitable institutions—is indeed too true, but we had hoped that those connected with, and sup-

ported by the Masonic body were in a great measure free from them, and that the money really reaches those whom it is intended to benefit.

An answer to these strictures will, no doubt, be made on behalf of the three charities; indeed, of one we may almost say that a complete refutation has already been given in the fact that the Committee of the Boy's School have published a detailed account* of the income and expenditure of that institution, showing, under the items of salaries, provisions, clothing, coals, gas, and water, stationery, rates and taxes, incidental expenses, furniture, linen, earthenware, and glass, and general and office expenses.

More than this cannot be required, and we believe the account will compare favourably with any other institution in the country. Although the item of office and general expenses seems rather a heavy one, amounting to one-fifth of the total expenditure, or £8 14s. 10½d. per boy, doubtless the large amount of subscriptions annually received would not be obtained without the judicious outlay of this apparently large sum.

We have every confidence that the committees of each institution will take up the gauntlet, and at once honourably clear themselves of the imputations cast upon them.

ADDRESS OF M.W. GRAND MASTER PRATT TO THE GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of California:—How the years touch us, and spring into eternity? As yesterday we parted, and to-day another mile-stone marks our progress toward the silent city of our common destination. Twelve months more, fleeting, vanishing, like the morning dew-drops glistening for a moment to exhale and perish, have come, lingered, and passed away for ever. To some they have been crowned with the blessings over which memory will ever linger with unabated joy; to others they have been, Oh! how sad, how weary, how desolate and oppressive. To me, indeed, they have been filled with the bitterness which the heart can never taste in all its withering pangs but once. It has been the fateful period in which the Supreme Grand Master has seen fit to demand the sacrifice which dwarfs and overshadows all other afflictions—when the angel of death could not be induced to pass over the happy household, until the jewel had been plucked from the crown, and the fires quenched for ever on the altars. Into these brief months have been poured and shaken down, until the measure has filled and overflowed, the sorrows for which there is consoling reflection save in the sublime lessons taught so well within this temple—in the sad remembrance that, though the allotted years of life be multiplied by themselves a thousand times, no such agony can come again, and in the assurance of the sympathy and condolence of you, my brethren in Freemasonry. But while they have been months of weariness and pain to me, to you I hope and trust they have been filled with gladness and all earthly joys; and that each in his appropriate sphere has shared the general prosperity of this young and vigorous commonwealth.

Turning from our individual and isolated experience to balance the general good and evil, we find indeed abundant reasons to give thanks to Him who has already given so much to us. The zealous earth has yielded

* Which was published in the "Freemasons' Magazine," page 282 of the present volume.

with no sparing hand her accustomed fruits, and the miracle of the wedding feast has been each day surpassed, wherever the hand of patient industry has sought its legitimate reward. While our brethren in foreign jurisdictions have shed each other's blood in obedience to the ambition or caprice of their imperial masters, or suffered persecution and death for no crime save that of being Freemasons, peace and tranquility have pervaded all our borders, and a tolerant and beneficent government has given constant approval to the cultivation of Masonic science. The year has been crowned with the grandest of all earthly blessings, general health; and so with the potent and blessed trio, peace, prosperity, and physical welfare, well may we gather at our altars to-day with hearts filled and glowing with gratitude to the Great Author of our existence.

With pride I greet you on this opening morning of another yearly festival, with pleasure I report to you the general prosperity of the Craft; while with painful solicitude and anxiety I await your judgment of my official acts.

To Freemasonry the year has been sufficiently prosperous, as prosperity is usually estimated. Members have been added in sufficient numbers, and the material strength of the Fraternity, as strength is too often judged, has been in no degree impaired. But let us not deceive ourselves with these appearances. A mere increase of numbers is no cause of congratulation, and I repeat to you my solemn conviction, what has been already said by the Grand Masters of perhaps every jurisdiction on this continent, that if there is one thing which, more than all others combined, threatens the downfall of this patriarchal institution, it is its growing popularity. A rapid accession of indifferent members, a too cautious use of the negative ballot, and a cowardly indisposition to apply Masonic discipline to those already within the fold—these are the quicksands and bars on which Freemasonry may yet founder. Through these faults you are filling your ranks with unworthy members, inspired with no loftier ambition than to live in indolence upon the toil of their brethren; and following this, you have been compelled by the very principles of self-preservation to shift your personal obligations to your brethren, from yourselves individually, to the lodge in its collective capacity; and then permit the lodge in turn to set up an arbitrary and offensive rule to shut off those drones whom your own folly and neglect have brought into your household. Thus the Masonic conscience is compelled to shield itself from the Masonic obligation by the specious but shallow pretext that he who appeals for aid has not performed his duties to the lodge of which he is a member. It is these vices and innovations which may yet destroy the identity of Masonry, and reduce it to the level of a mere mutual aid association. I cannot express to you the chagrin and sorrow I have experienced in consequence of these unhappy conditions. A distressed brother asks for assistance, and he is in turn asked, as coldly as the banker ask for his securities, if he has paid his dues; and if his misfortunes compel him to answer in the negative, no matter what the cause, or how worthy he may be in other respects, his claims are ignored and he is sent empty away. At last he dies, and the penalties of his poverty follow him still. The last rites, so prized by the appreciative Masons, are denied him, because the Secretary has balanced his accounts and found him indebted to the lodge for six month's dues. A few months later, and the widow of the deceased brother comes in her sable robes, with famishing childhood at her side, spirit-broken and sick at heart at being compelled to appeal to us, yet appealing with perfect confidence, because she knows her dead idol was a Mason; and she is gravely told that her husband died under the ban of suspension. Suspended—and for what? she asks. What wrong had he committed which deserved this?

No moral wrong; he was a good man and true; but he was poor, and had not paid his dues for the last six months. And to the humiliation which she experienced in asking for assistance, is added the more humiliating conviction that Masonry is a deception and a snare, failing to practice the beautiful theory it professes; and that her husband, after all his years of labour and devotion to what he deemed the living embodiment of all virtue, lived and died the deluded victim of a mockery and falsehood. In the name of the Ancient Brotherhood, I protest against this unmasonic feature of modern Masonry. If this be in fact the full force of our obligations to each other, let us change the form of those obligations. Let us no longer promise to aid and assist the distressed, but make it in form what we are making it in practice, and promise to aid and assist them if they have balanced their accounts with the Secretary of the Lodge.

These utterances are distasteful to you, my brethren, but they are well deserved; and if you would escape from such animadversion, if you would remove your noble institution from beneath the cloud which overshadows, and beyond the reach of the tempest which threatens it, begin, as I have suggested, at the very foundation of the evil. Remember that the strength of the brotherhood depends not on the number, but on the character of the members, and let the proper and diligent use of the black ball attest your fidelity to this principle. Be diligent, too, in the application of discipline. If you find one among you unworthy of confidence and trust, admonish him gently, reform and bring him up to the true standard of Masonic excellence, if may be; but when the conviction is forced upon you that you cannot accomplish this, cast him out with a quick and relentless hand. Let those who are of us understand that Masonry sets up a higher standard of morals and virtues than the mere law of the land imposes. Let them know that it is not necessary they should commit some crime for which that law will consign them to a felon's cell, before they can be punished by the Masonic code; but that, on the contrary, when one Mason acts in bad faith with another in any degree, he has violated his obligation and should suffer the penalty. Let those, also, who are to be received hereafter, come with the full understanding that they are expected to give rather than receive, to do good to their fellow men rather than be pensioners upon them. Be not satisfied with the mere negative fact that you know no evil of the candidate, but assure yourselves, before you accept him, that his temper and metal are such, that no fear need be entertained that he will ever violate a vow, or make an improper use of his claim upon his Fraternity. The rigid observance of these rules for a series of years, and not many years will be required, will restore the goodly condition of former years, when the moral force of the Masonic obligation was alone sufficient to secure obedience to all requirements, and enable you to feel that it is again an honor and distinction in society to be hailed and recognized as a Freemason. With these views it has been my constant effort, in visiting lodges, to impress upon my brethren, a higher standard of Masonic excellence, more exacting tests of fitness in candidates, a more rigid observance of our solemn personal obligations to each other in all our intercourse, and more readiness to punish every departure from those obligations. I have urged upon them everywhere, that the so-called lesser evils of society, of which the law of the land takes no cognizance—intemperance, profanity, evil speaking, hypocrisy and deception—are all Masonic offences; and, as we would preserve the ancient lustre and hallowed charm which has so long encircled the Fraternity, we cannot be too zealous in their condemnation and punishment. And I am happy in the belief that these efforts have not been entirely barren of results, and only regret that I have not been able to extend my personal observations and efforts further.

I have visited about thirty of the lodges, in all of which, but one, I have witnessed the conferring the third degree, and, in every instance but one, in strict conformity with the prescribed ritual. I have not confined myself in these visits to a simple superintendence of the labours of the lodge for the evening, but have examined the books and records, looked into the manner of transacting the general business, and made diligent inquiry as to the disbursement of Masonic charities. In all these respects I have found but very little to criticise, but have never hesitated

to express my disapprobation of whatever seemed to me in any degree unmaasonic. From this limited experience I am satisfied that, if a general visitation by the Grand Master, or some proper person chosen for the purpose, could be had even at intervals of five or ten years, the good which would result therefrom would be almost incalculable. The matter is worthy of serious consideration. But what provision, if any, could be made for such purposes, I am at a loss to suggest, certainly, something of that sort is needed.

With one hundred and seventy lodges under our jurisdiction, the correspondence of this office has grown to a matter of considerable magnitude. Something more than one hundred and fifty letters have been received by me, asking perhaps twice as many questions of Masonic Law. These have all been answered promptly and in detail. Of all this multitude of questions, but very few are deemed of sufficient importance to report to you—a very large proportion having been already decided by my predecessors and the Grand Lodge, and others being answered by the plain and obvious reading of our Constitution; so that it was hardly possible for me to err. There were some, however, for which I found no precise precedent, and some for which, in my judgment, the rule should be changed, and I submit all such to your consideration.

ADDRESS.

Delivered by Comp. G. Harrington, to the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Companions,—So smooth has been the path of Capitular Masonry in and throughout the Dominion, since we last assembled together, that I have no little difficulty to so prepare the usual annual address, as to make it all interesting. I can, however, at all events, repeat what I said at our last convocation, that I feel happy in once more meeting you, and I pray in all sincerity, that we may be allowed for many a year, to assemble in harmony and good fellowship,—that no cloud may rise in our Masonic sky, threatening to mar the sympathy of our high and honourable branch of Freemasonry,—and that our future may be as sunshiny as our past has been prosperous,—and so I greet you all well, my companions.

And now for a few facts and some brief statistics. We number thirty-nine subordinate Chapters. I have issued dispensations in favour of four new Chapters, and I hope Grand Chapter will, if all is found to be satisfactory otherwise, grant the necessary warrants of Confirmation. The names and the places where held are as follows:—Seymour Chapter, Bradford; Botsford Chapter, Moncton, N.B.; Guelph Chapter, Guelph; Harris Chapter, Ingersoll. One you will observe belongs to New Brunswick,—thus adding cement to our common bond of union!

I am glad to state to Grand Chapter that one of our oldest subordinates, St. Andrew's Chapter, Toronto, is most fully revived, and working worthy its ancient fame. I am also happy to add that St. John's Chapter, on the registry of Scotland, has surrendered its warrant, and amalgamated with St. Andrew's, and in accordance with the desire of the companions members of both, I sanctioned a change of name. The amalgamated Chapter is now called, "St. Andrew's and St. John Chapter," No. 4, Registry of Canada.

I have granted several Dispensations for the election of Principals; all in my opinion being absolutely necessary for the welfare and existence of the respective Chapters interested, owing to the paucity of candidates, otherwise qualified under our Constitution. I have also confirmed many of the bye-laws of our subordinate bodies.

Since our last Annual Convocation the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia has been formally organized, and although I could not help thinking the action somewhat premature, considering the small number of Chapters existing in that Province, yet acting on my conviction, that where there is a Grand Lodge, a Grand Chapter may of right follow, I had no hesitation about acknowledging the "Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia," and wishing that body success and prosperity.

The "Grand Mark Lodge of England" also claimed recognition, and an interchange of brotherly courtesies, and as the Mark Degree is one of those sanctioned by this Grand Chapter, I saw nothing opposed to the allowance of that claim, and the Grand Scribe E. wrote to the authorities in England accordingly by my desire, conveying the recognition and good wishes of Grand Chapter.

Our own subordinate Chapters, I have reason to believe,

are prospering, and our members are increasing in number, and preserving the good name and honour of our Order,—concerning which the several reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts will give you more full information than I can. So also will the statements and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E. put you in complete possession of the financial condition of Grand Chapter. I have caused all the accounts to be paid, as sanctioned by you, and the vouchers will come regularly before your notice.

The report on "Foreign Correspondence" will, as usual, be submitted by the able Chairman of that Committee, and you will see there how zealously and faithfully the interests of Capitular Masonry are guarded and looked after by other Sovereign Bodies, with all of whom we are, I have pleasure in stating, in close fellowship and neighbourly relationship,—who are all flourishing,—and who all manifest a very kindly interest in the welfare of the "Grand Chapter of Canada!"

You will observe on the proceedings of last year, a notice of motion for an amendment to clause No. 4, "of proposing members," in our Book of Constitution, which, if it becomes law, will specifically add to the dispensing power of your Grand First Principal. I deem it my duty to invite your attention to this, as it will be an alteration affecting an important clause.

Another and a most serious matter I submit also for the due consideration of Grand Chapter, is our proposed authorized Ritual. The committee have attended to this very carefully and anxiously, a report is prepared, the work is in readiness for exemplification,—and the result will be submitted to your wisdom and for your determination. And while on this topic, I have to suggest to Grand Chapter to consider the necessity and propriety of working the degrees of "Royal and Select Masters," as practised in the United States of America, and known as "Cryptic" Masonry. These degrees would seem to be proper appendages to Grand Chapter and Royal Arch Masonry, and are interesting, if not absolutely necessary. The Province of New Brunswick has a recognized Grand Council controlling these degrees, and I have been appointed Inspector in and for Quebec and Ontario. But it would obviously be preferable for Grand Chapter at once to assume the government, and grant warrants—which action, when three or more subordinate Councils spring into life, will result in the regular organization of a Grand Council for Quebec and Ontario, and thus place the degrees on a correct and prosperous footing.

The only remaining subject to which I invite your notice is the retirement of the Most Excellent Comp. the Earl of Zetland, from the high office of Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England—which, all of you know, he has worthily held for more than a quarter of a century, and now vacates, owing to ill health,—to the great regret and sorrow of all over whom he has ruled for so long and arduous a period. I think the Grand Chapter would honour herself by sending home to England a complimentary address to that courteous and kind-hearted Nobleman and Companion, expressive of our high esteem and good wishes for his restoration to health and future comfort.

Before concluding, I cannot help making reference to an existing unfortunate condition of affairs in the Province of Quebec. I do not know officially, as your presiding officer, what has occurred there in relation to Craft Masonry, and therefore I have nothing officially to submit to Grand Chapter. But we are none of us blind to the plain fact that there is in that province division in our ranks, and an unhappy state of things, attended with much personal bitterness, which actually precludes brotherly recognition of many most estimable members of our Institution, and which ought not to exist amongst Freemasons! I am sure Grand Chapter will, with me, truly regret all these untoward circumstances, and pray for a harmonious and brotherly arrangement of matters that have caused so damaging a shock to our otherwise perfect structure. You all know to what my present allusions point. Let us not, however, permit discord, if possible, to arise out of those events, in our high branch of the Order. Let us hope and trust that all difficulties will shortly disappear, or be removed. Let us work for that end! And let us bear in mind, that as we have hitherto steered clear of personal differences, so there need be no future ill-will, or angry feeling,—and Grand Chapter can remain, as now, in a condition to look on calmly,—and quietly accept any result,—always desiring prosperity and God speed to all; ever looking to the good of our Institution, and aiding to establish and perpetuate the good harmony,

Masonic Union and brotherly charity and good will! Such should be the true sentiments every member of our Order. Added to which, should be devoted loyalty to our sovereign and country! This should be one of our beacons and watchwords!

Since we last met, the Dominion has been threatened, I will not call it invaded, by another Fenian horde. They went back faster than they came, and let it be a fair subject of pride to us, that their earliest opponent is a Freemason! I allude to Bro. Lieut-Col. Chamberlain, who hurried to the defence of the frontier, and was so fortunate as to command the first of our brave fellows, who made the worthless scoundrels regularly bolt out of Canada! So also was our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Stevenson, one of the foremost, in proceeding with his battery, to meet the Fenian vagabonds, who had once more insulted the territory of our glorious and beloved Queen! And, Companions, you will find Freemasons are ever ready to be in the van on such occasions,—and so they ought,—and they should remember their peculiar tie, and bear and forbear, and drive away discord, even as the Fenians were sent to the right about! I am sure that we all think alike.

And now, in conclusion, let me thank you for your many kindnesses to, and the honours you have conferred upon me. I find I have been elected to preside over Grand Chapter for the past seven years continuously,—and also during 1859 and 1860. I now ask you to relieve me from the duties of my high office. I have endeavoured, to the best of my ability, to promote your interests, and I hope I have not failed. You have many able companions, who are willing,—nay anxious to succeed me to the highest gift you can bestow, and their ambition is laudable and not to be despised. I feel I should give way!—and so I finish by wishing Grand Chapter unceasing prosperity, and praying heartily that the Great Architect of the Universe,—whose Omniscience, Omnipotence, and Omnipresence are so largely dwelt upon, in this the "Capstone" Degree of Freemasonry,—will bless and protect us all. So mote it be!

Poetry.

THE RED-CROSS KNIGHT.

The following is a translation of the poem recently addressed by Ferdinand Freiligrath to his son, on the departure of the youth as a surgeon at the seat of war. The red cross on a white ground, directed by the Geneva Convention to be worn on the arm of such volunteers, suggests the title of the poem:—

THIS leaf, my boy—soon may it
Upon thy arm alight:
The courier winds convey it;
I trust it to their flight.
Afar to thee it saileth,
Where'er amid our host
The battle's heat prevailleth—
'Twill find thee at thy post.
Well wouldst thou in the contest
Strike home for Fatherland:
The Frenchman's ranks thou frontest—
Yet not with sword in hand.
Upon the field thou servest
Yet not in deadly strife;
The hero band thou nervest
To save, not sever, life!
Thy heart so warmly glowing
Impelled thee to the Rhine;
Thy arm the red cross showing
Within the German line.
Thou step'st among the stricken
Upon the field of gore,
The dying life to quicken,
The wounded to restore.
The fevered brow thou soothest
With drops of healing balm,
The way-side pillow smoothest
When comes the deadly quail.
The dying prayer thou hearest
Upon the night-wind swoon,
In dying faces peerest
Beneath the autumn moon.

Sad, solemn thy endeavour!
Yet, boy, take heart of grace;
Though life and death have never
So looked thee in the face.
Let peace be still thy mission
Thy soul aye quick to feel—
War's fierce and fell collision
Can harden it to steel.
Still keep it warm within thee,
By fortune never swayed,
And golden spurs thou'lt win thee
In human-love's crusade.
While war cries round thee heighten,
This truth thy spirit draws;
'Tis better pain to lighten
Than wanton pain to cause.
Then still through dead and dying
Thy faithful course pursue,
And keep the red cross flying
Within each warrior's view.
Ne'er from thy pathway swerving
Friends, foes, alike to shield—
Thy curse for him reserving
Who forced us to the field.
Farewell, my boy! God's favor
Attend thee to the close,
Nor in thy love-task waver—
My blessing with thee goes!
And if we e'er behold thee
In Deutschland's conquering van,
In fond embrace we'll fold thee
A boy no more—a man!

Obituary.

R.W. BRO. COL. WILLIAM BURLTON, C.B.,
P. DIST. G.M., BENGAL.

R.W. Bro. Col. William Burlton, C.B., of Bengal, late Commissary General of Bengal, died at Oaklands, Shepherd's Bush, W., on Thursday, the 10th inst., aged 77 years.

BRO. FRANCIS DENNIS MASSY DAWSON.

Francis Dennis Massy Dawson, Esq., of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law, died on the 16th ult., aged 67 years.

Bro. F. D. Massy Dawson was a G.E. Kt. Kh., 32nd, Scotland; S.P.R.M.; P.M., British Lodge, No. 3.; P.Z., British Chapter, No. 8; advanced in Bon Accord Lodge of Mark Masters; and was a brother much respected.

BRO. JOSEPH LANGDON.

Bro. Joseph Langdon died at Smyrna, in the beginning of this month, of cancer in the tongue and lip. He was a native of Boston in the United States, had been one of the lending merchants in the Levant, where he was long resident, and justly respected by his own and the English Community. He was ever ready to help a brother in distress. He was initiated about 1824 in the old French lodge, then a crack lodge. Soon after, Masonry fell asleep. It was about that epoch that he thought he recognized in a stranger in Smyrna the supposed victim of the American Masons. To this statement he always adhered. During the Crimean War an irregular attempt to revive Masonry was made, and it deceived Bro. Langdon, and several old Masons, being supposed to be under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and it was recognized by the Grand Orient of France. On the restoration of Constitutional Masonry, Bro. Langdon became W.M. of the Eleusinian Lodge, (held at Ephesus as a summer lodge.) and D.G.W. of Turkey, under the Grand Lodge of England. He was also S.G.I.G. He was buried with great testimonies of respect.

LIST OF LODGE MEETINGS &c., FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 3RD, 1870.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS.

Monday, November 28th.

LODGES.—Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall; Castle Lodge of Harmony, Willis's Rooms, St. James's; Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall; Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, King Street, Greenwich; Universal, Freemasons' Hall; Unity, London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street; British Oak, Bank of Friendship Tavern, Bancroft Place, Mile End; Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

Tuesday, November 29th.

LODGE.—Faith, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street.

Wednesday, November 30th.

LODGE.—Temperance in the East, Private Assembly Rooms, 6, Newby Place, Poplar.

Thursday, December 1st.

LODGES.—Westminster and Key Stone, Freemasons' Hall; Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street; Strong Man, Freemason's Hall; Lion and Lamb, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street; Ionic, Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall Street; St. Andrew's, Freemasons' Hall; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall; Exceisior, Sidney Arms, Lewisham Road; Perfect Ashlar, Gaegorian Arms, Bermondsey Road.—CHAPTER.—St. James's, Freemasons' Hall; Moriah, Albion Tavern, Bishopsgate Street; Sincerity, Cheshire Cheese Tavern, Crutched Friars; Melbourne, New Inn, Edgware Road; Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

Friday, December 2nd.

LODGES.—Florence Nightingale, Masonic Hall, William Street, Woolwich; Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street; Star, Marquis of Graubay Tavern, New Cross Road.—CHAPTERS.—British, Freemasons' Hall; Prince of Wales, Willis's Rooms, St. James's; High Cross, White Hart Hotel, Tottenham.

Saturday, December 4th.

General Committee Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

LODGE.—St. Thomas's, Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars.—CHAPTER.—Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

METROPOLITAN LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Monday, November 28th.

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

Tuesday, November 29th.

LODGES.—Faith, Fisher's Restaurant, Metrop. Dist. Rail., Victoria Station; Domatic, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell; Jordan, Alwyne Castle, Canonbury; Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney; Prince Frederick William, Knights of St. John's Tav., St. John's-wood; Dalhousie, Royal Edward, Triangle, Hackney; Royal Albert, White Hart, Abchurch-lane; Pythagorean, Prince of Orange, Greenwich; City of London, Shepherd and Flock Tav., Bell-alley, Moorgate-st.; New Wandsworth, Freemasons' Ho., New Wandsworth; British Oak, Silver Lion Tavern, Pennyfield, Poplar.—CHAPTER.—Metropolitan, Price's Portugal Ho., Fleet-st.; Mount Sion, White Hart, Bishopsgate-st.; Robert Burns, Sussex Stores, Upper St. Martin's Lane.

Wednesday, November 30th.

LODGES.—Confidence, Railway Tav., London-st.; United Strength Bull and Gate, Kentish Town; New Concord, Rosemary Branch Tav., Hoxton; St. Mark's, Mawby Arms, Mawby-st., S. Lam; beth; Peckham, Maismore Arms, Park-road, Peckham-Rye, Temperance in the East, George the Fourth, Catherine-st., Poplar; Prosperity, Gladstone Tav., Bishopsgate-street; Royal Union, Bro. Duddy's, Winsley-st., Oxford-street.—CHAPTER.—St. James's Union, Swan Tav., Mount-street, Grosvenor-square; Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.

Thursday, December 1st.

LODGES.—Fidelity, Goat and Compasses, Euston-road; 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, Sugar Loaf Tav., Great St. Helen's, E.C.; Whittington, Crown Hotel, 41, High Holborn; Royal Oak, Royal Oak Tavern, Deptford; Burdett Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria-park, at 7; City of London, Shephard and Flock Tav., Bell Alley; St. John's, Hollybush Tav., Hampstead; Merchant Navy, Jamaica Tav., W. India Dock Road, Poplar.—CHAPTER.—Joppa, Prospect of Whitby Tav., 57, Wapping-wall.

Friday, December 2nd.

LODGES.—St. Luke's, Pier Hotel, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea Temperance, Victoria Tavern, Victoria-road, Deptford, Unions (Emulation Lodge of Improvement for M.M.); F.M.H.; United Pilgrims, Horns' Tavern, Kennington; Westbourne, the Grapes, Duke-st., Manchester-square; Wellington, Lord Duncan Tavern, Broadway, Deptford; Florence Nightingale, Freemasons' Tav., Woolwich, Ranelagh, Royal Sussex Hotel, Broadway, Hammersmith; Belgrave, Duke of Wellington, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross; St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-row, Bermondsey; Doric, Three Cranes, Mile End-rd.; Victoria, Anderton's Ho., Fleet-st.; Hervey, Britannia, Wallham-green; Metropolitan, Price's Portugal Ho., Fleet-st.; Charter House, Hat and Feathers Tavern, 27, Goswell-rd.; Robert Burns, Union Tav.; Air-street, Regent-st.; Rose of Denmark, White Hart, Barnes; Lily, Greyhound, Ho., Richmond; Stability, Guildhall Tav., 33, Gresham Street.—CHAPTERS.—Domatic, Fisher's Restaurant, Victoria Station.

Saturday, December 3rd.

CHAPTERS.—Mount Sion, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street; Domatic, Horns, Kennington.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

WE shall be glad to receive from brethren any proceedings of Masonic meetings, which shall be duly inserted. Communications should be forwarded so as to reach us as early in the week as convenient—not later than Wednesday if possible. We have to request our correspondents to be particular in writing names distinctly.

A MEMBER OF GRAND LODGE.—Your letter of the 21st inst. is only one of many we have received making the same enquiry, viz:—How is it that the clerks in the Grand Secretary's office are either obliged or permitted to eke out their salary by employing themselves in connection with the Masonic Trade Circular referred to? We have hitherto declined to insert the previous letters, and we cannot answer your present query.

G. C. H.—There is no necessity for any other examination than that ordinary adopted, and the production of the certificate. You are not obliged to admit anyone who applies, it being in the discretion of the W.M. to refuse.