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AND GRAND LODGE CHRONICLE.

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THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of GRAND LODGE was held on the 1st instant, the M.W.G.M. presiding. There was a very full attendance of Past Grand Officers.

On the motion of Bro. SYMONDS, the minutes of the previous G.L., so far as concerned the number of votes for the Benevolent Institution given to Lodges, in consequence of the increased grant, were not confirmed.

The M.W.G.M. desired to bring before G.L. a matter personal to himself. A charge had been brought against him in the MASONIC OBSERVER of "prostituting to political purposes the principal appointments in G.L." This he "indignantly denied," and quoted instances of Brethren who had been appointed P.G.Ms., though differing from himself in politics. So long as he continued G.M., he claimed the support of G.L., upon whom, as much as upon himself, these charges were a reflection.

His lordship favored us with several abusive epithets, which were wholly unnecessary; and beside the point, stated *inter alia*, that the *Observer* was "circulated gratuitously;" a statement which we hope will not induce our subscribers to postpone the payment of their remittances, many of which are long over due.

Sir LUCIUS CURTIS then moved a vote of confidence in the G.M., which was seconded by the G.R., and carried without opposition—we cannot say *unanimously*, for we observed a very considerable number of Brethren who remained perfectly passive.

A petition from VICTORIA, praying for a reduction of fees, was referred to the COLONIAL BOARD.

On the motion, that the report of the BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES be taken as read, LORD CARNARVON asked why the letter from the GRAND SECRETARY to Bro. HARRINGTON, which stood on the business paper, before the report of the Board, had been altogether passed over?

Bro. HAVERS, as well as the G.M., said that no motion could be made upon it, unless due notice were given.

LORD CARNARVON bowed to the decision of the G.M., but remarked that a vote of confidence in the G.M., without any notice, had just been permitted.

Bro. WHITMORE said the business ought to be taken in the order in which it was set down on the paper.

The G.M. refused to allow any motion to be made upon the G. Secretary's letter, without notice.

The Rev. Bro. PORTAL rose to order, and instanced several cases in which motions on papers regularly before G.L., had been made without previous notice.

The GRAND REGISTRAR said that it was only in cases in which action was to be taken, that such motions could be made. These letters were merely laid before G.L. for information.

The subject then dropped.

The Rev. Bro. PORTAL moved a resolution that P.G. Lodges ought to be held annually, either by the P.G.M. or his Deputy; and was proceeding to refer to the case of BUCKS and BERKS, where no P.G.L. has been held for several years, when he was interrupted by the G.M. who stated that he had received an assurance from Lord DOWNSHIRE that a P.G.L. should be held annually. The motion was then withdrawn.

Bro. WHITMORE brought forward a motion for enabling any member of G.L. to move the adoption of the whole, or a part, of any report before it: also to permit an amendment (if relevant) being moved without previous notice.

A somewhat lively discussion followed, the G.R. distinguishing himself by his interruption of the speakers below the Dais, and the Executive contradicting each other as to a difference of opinion having existed between the G.M. and the G.R. upon the state of the law. Finally the motion was agreed to, with an unimportant amendment, and G.L. was closed at half-past ten.

THE M.W.G.M. has denied, in no measured terms, the imputation conveyed in our last number—that politics, rather than the welfare of the Craft, influenced

him in the appointment of the principal officers of GRAND LODGE. We humbly accept that denial; and deeply suspicious as are the circumstances attending those appointments, we can no longer doubt but that both we, and public opinion, have been mistaken upon the point, and that this is but another instance of the weakness of circumstantial evidence.

But called upon as we now are, as loyal Masons, to proclaim to the Craft at large, that no political bias has ever swayed the G.M. in the distribution of his enormous Masonic patronage, we feel at the same time, that as public journalists, our obligation extends somewhat further. It is due to our readers and to ourselves, that we should ask, "what are the *principles* which govern the G.M. in the exercise of his almost absolute prerogative? And what, with him, are the recognized *claims* to offices of honour and distinction in G.L.?"

Judging his motives by his acts—and by no other standard can we measure them—were we to say, in answer to the first query, "Impartial justice and a desire to uphold the best interests of the Craft; and to the second, "Masonic merit and Masonic services;" should we be doing him more than justice? Let us endeavour to ascertain. It is at this moment notorious that in the Provinces little or no interest is felt in the affairs of Grand Lodge—and it is chiefly because those Brethren are impressed with the conviction that they are practically excluded from its councils and honours, while the Grand Master has handed over to an unscrupulous clique the entire Executive of Masonry. Rumour with her thousand tongues asserts—and if only one tongue speaks truth, doubt and suspicion are justified—that one ambitious Brother sways the counsels of the Grand Master, dictates to the responsible officer of the Craft his most trifling duty, and in almost every official document of Grand Lodge, especially those relating to the affairs of Canada, gives unmistakable evidence of his mischievous handy-work.

With reference to the appointments which have been the subject of our criticism, we ask what were the Masonic merits and services of one particular noble earl that they should have procured for him the distinguished honour of being appointed S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge, when he was not even a P.M., as required by the antient charges? and what the demerits or shortcomings of another noble earl,—than whom we fearlessly aver, no living Mason has shewn more zeal or ability in promoting the best interests of the Order—that he should have been thought unworthy of honour or distinction of any kind?

It is not our duty to answer these interrogatories; we leave that task to those whom they most concern.

With regard to the GRAND MASTER'S indignant denunciation of this publication, we have but one remark to offer. It will be time enough for us to defend it from such attacks, when we find that its reputation suffers, or that its means of usefulness are imperilled; and in acting thus, we venture to think that we evince a moderation which the G.M. would have done wisely to have exercised at the last G.L.

A GREEK Philosopher, many centuries ago, said that there was one thing which was impossible for men and God, viz., to undo that which has been once done. But Aristotle, had he lived in our days, would have added to his list of impossibilities, the endeavour of a small minority to put aside the pronounced and unequivocal opinions of the majority in a body where a certain amount of public opinion is supposed to exist, and which professes at all events to be governed in all its decisions, by the majority. The DAIS find fault with us, not so much for what we have written, as for having written at all. But, in the first case, we must reply, with our Greek Philosopher, or with our English Shakspeare, "what is, is;" and it is past our power to recall, as it is past theirs to modify, the winged words which have gone forth for good or evil! And in the latter instance, let us assure our good friends and brethren on the DAIS, that the time has gone, when it was competent for them by a nod to put an end to our typographical existence. And they are engaged in as a vain a contest as was dame PARTINGTON, when she devoted herself to the impossible task of mopping up the Atlantic. But historically viewed, the night of the 1st of September witnessed a somewhat curious spectacle. G.L. was convened within the Temple. The 1st of September had many charms in the country; Great Queen Street, in London, had but few attractions. It was then but an ordinary attendance on the part of those brethren who boast no other decoration than the blue apron, and whose interest in masonry is limited to the simple wish to see the affairs of the craft well regulated.

But when the hour of eight struck, and amid the pomp and ceremonial which so well befits the G.L. of England, the A.G.D.C. announced the approach of the G.M., an indescribable feeling that something unusual was at hand passed through the assembled body—

"For rank beyond rank, file after file,"

the G. officers streamed into the Temple. They filled the centre of G.L.—they thronged the door-way—they almost seemed to out-number the brethren, as they clustered like bees on and around the Dais.

It was evident that great events were on the pale. The nestling of the purple; the glittering of the jewels; the look of triumph, scarce veiled by the necessary decorum of G.L., foretold the coming storm.

And now, amid a breathless silence, up rose the G.M., to whose private character and aimable qualities we have ever paid a cheerful tribute—whose misfortune it is to be placed in his high responsible office at a time when vigour and self-reliance are needed to still the discontent at home, and to save the entire alienation of our

Masonic dependencies abroad—and whose position and nature ill fit him to be the organ of the clique whom he represents far more than the Craft at large. He arose and spoke. “*Quid dignum tanto feret hic promissor hiatu?*” And against whom, and against what, was he about to hurl the accumulated thunders of the last twelve months? Was it against the Canadian G.L., who have cast off his authority? Against the Colonial Petitioners whose memorials lay for so long unheeded in his waste paper basket? Or against the Country Lodges who so justly complain of their exclusion from all real powers of government? Or against those few individual Masons who have refused to worship with a more than heathen adoration—not the eastern sun of G.L.—but his priests and satellites? Was it against any or all of these? No; for with them there might be conflict—there might be even defeat, as the EXECUTIVE before now have had cause to know. No, gentle reader; all these terrible and long-treasured-up lightnings were discharged upon us—us, the humble minister to your amusement, the faithful recorder of those events which as a Mason you share in, of the objects which you desire, of the speeches you make—on us, the little quarto Journal which once every quarter claims a corner of your table, and a nook in your affections. Upon our head the vials of an indiscriminating and somewhat inconsistent wrath, were poured forth. The days of CRUCIFIX were revived. The “antient Masons” of the old partizan quarrels rose to swell the maledictory chorus, and “infamous,” “scandalous,” “libellous,” were the mildest epithets discharged upon our devoted person.

Yet it was indeed with some surprise that we listened to the course of one-sided debate. We leave it to our assailants to explain how those who stated that they had no acquaintance with our publication, that we had no circulation among the London Lodges, *cum multis aliis que nunc perscribere longum*, should evince so remarkably clear a recollection of all which has at various times found a place in our columns. We must leave them to reconcile as logically as they can, the utter contempt which they profess for us, with their evident anxiety to prove themselves in the right, and us in the wrong.

Are there no inconsistencies here? No inconsistency between the transparent sham which followed, when, as was justly observed, a vote of confidence in the G.M. was moved, seconded, and carried, at a moment's warning; and the ascetic self-denial with which another but a less Daistically inclined motion was stifled by the EXECUTIVE, because it had not been placed upon the business paper a fortnight before?

But after all, whatever the rest of the Craft may say to these extraordinary proceedings, we are the last persons who feel disposed to complain. We can assure the EXECUTIVE in all sincerity that as we are not fortunate enough to have their applause, we will reconcile ourselves to deserve, at least, their censure; and that we entertain little doubt, that the record which they have placed of their opinion of us, upon the minutes of G.L., and which we honestly trust may obtain even a wider

circulation than we are able to secure for it, will give us all the advantages of the fullest and most expensive system of advertisement.

THE MASONS OF CANADA are at length united under one banner. The union does infinite credit to Bro. HARINGTON on the one hand, and the authorities of the “GRAND LODGE OF CANADA” on the other. Henceforth we may expect to see the progress of Masonry commensurate with that of the colony in which it has taken root; and we shall be much surprised, if under the happy influence of self-government, its future is not widely different from its past.

Meanwhile the craft in England have surely somewhat to learn from the declaration of Canadian independence. Can any one doubt that it might have been prevented had our rulers been fitted for their post?

Had the statements of grievances been at once attended to, in place of being left for four years unnoticed, the GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND might still have been supreme in CANADA. And who is responsible for this neglect? The GRAND MASTER, and his clique alone.

GRAND LODGE knew nothing of the matter; and when they did, they were as usual arbitrarily prohibited from entertaining the question. The Rev. Bro. PORTAL's motion for redressing Canadian grievances, in June 1856, was refused to be put to G.L. on the ridiculous but ordinary plea that it was against “antient landmarks!” In place of redress, all that the patient and long-suffering Canadians got by the anxiously expected mail was a speech of the G.M.'s calling the wrong people “rebels,” and we know not what beside, and showing more unmistakeably than ever, his entire ignorance of the whole question.

It is no wonder that the Canadians were much influenced by this revelation of the state of affairs at home. They believed that they were subject to GRAND LODGE. They found that they were subject to the GRAND MASTER, and a select duet of Professional Gentlemen. As Brother HARINGTON says, “It is impossible to disguise the plain fact, that although we have been *in theory* governed by the GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND, *practically* we have been under the immediate control of the M.W. GRAND MASTER, and a small body of London Brethren.” They consequently declined to submit any longer to such an unconstitutional authority. We think they have exercised a very sound discretion in the matter, and we venture to predict that if the real “landmarks” of Masonry continue to be invaded, if the supreme authority of GRAND LODGE is injured and a despotism attempted to be set up, CANADA will not stand alone in the course she has adopted. From the “remarkable occurrences in Masonry” we learn what is certainly worthy of remark, and we beg the Craft to remark it, that in 1844, Lord ZETLAND was entrusted with the care of our interests as GRAND MASTER; and at that time CANADA was ours. That noble Lord still watches over us, but CANADA is ours no longer.

IT is high time that something definite were laid down as to the power of GRAND LODGE to deal with documents before it, without previous notice having been given of any intended motion. The present state of things is unsatisfactory in the extreme.

In order to prevent members of G.L. being taken by surprise, it is laid down at p. 20 of the Book of Constitutions, that a "General Committee," (ordinarily called "the Board of Masters,") shall meet before each G.L. and that all intended motions shall be communicated to them for their information.

If this rule were adhered to, it is obvious that no motion could ever be made upon the reports of Boards, upon petitions and representations, or upon any communication whatever, except by the Masters of Lodges, who alone, with those wearing the purple, are members of the General Committee, and hear these papers read, and so all P.M.'s and Wardens, and all Provincial representatives, would be practically unable to deal in G.L. with any document which was then for the first time brought before it.

This would be so inconvenient, that it has always been customary to allow of motions being made upon any paper before G.L., provided the paper itself had previously been communicated to the General Committee. An instance or two will suffice to show this.

In December 1856, a communication was read from Lord NAAS involving the question of whether the Master of a Lodge had the right to refuse admission to a visiting Mason, if he considered him an improper character. There was considerable difference of opinion upon this point in G.L.; and it was a question which might fairly demand a deliberate decision, and on which G.L. ought not to have been surprised into a vote without notice. And yet the GRAND REGISTRAR was permitted without any previous notice whatever, to move a resolution permitting a W.M. so to exclude whom he pleased.

Again, in March last, on a petition being read from TASMANIA, appealing against the arbitrary conduct of the P.G.M., Lord PANMURE was permitted without any previous notice, to move a resolution approving of the conduct of that functionary. And at the last meeting of G.L., an abusive attack was made upon ourselves, without any previous notice even at the Board of Masters, and so, without any opportunity of defence being afforded us: and a vote of confidence in the G.M. was then proposed, again without any notice whatever,—a proceeding highly calculated to "take the Brethren by surprise" (to quote the words of the Book of Constitutions).

Doubtless it was a sore temptation to the EXECUTIVE to make up for the loss of their partridges, by having what we may term a "sitting" shot at us in G.L.; but the proceeding was scarcely more constitutional than sportsmanlike.

At the same meeting of G.L. at which these breaches of the law were allowed, certain letters were placed in the hands of the Brethren, purporting to be written by the Grand Secretary to the Past P.G.M. of Quebec.

As these letters, which we print to-day, are known to have given great offence in Canada, and are, indeed, exceedingly vulgar and impertinent, Lord CARNARVON was anxious to take the opinion of G.L. upon them, as had been done *without notice* upon other documents, by Lord PANMURE and Bros. DOBIE and Sir L. CURTIS, previously. He was, however, refused permission by the G.M.

We are not surprised at this, though we must confess our inability to see the slightest distinction between the cases; except, indeed,—which can of course have no influence with the G.M. or his advisers—that in one case the motion proceeded from a Brother below the Dais, in the other, from those upon it.

WE are happy to see that the PROVINCES are beginning to shew signs of vitality.

Our Canadian brethren complain that "although they have been *in theory* governed by the GRAND LODGE of England, *practically* they have been under the immediate controul of the M.W. GRAND MASTER, and a small body of London brethren." This is perfectly true, and they have very properly adopted their only remedy—independent local organization.

Are we content, however, to allow G.L. to be reduced to the avowed partizans of the G.M. and a score or two of London masons? If not, the Provinces must bestir themselves, must ascertain what they want, and put themselves to the trouble of attending four times a year in G.L., however inconvenient such a course may be.

The LODGE of ECONOMY, No. 90, Winchester, has set a good example in this respect, by subscribing towards the expenses of its representatives. If every Lodge within eighty miles of London would do the same, the existing abuses would be of short continuance. In the P.G.L. of WILTS., we observe Br. BIGGS directing attention to "our representative system." His remarks are sensible, and worthy of being read, and we must express our earnest hope that when once the subject has been started, it will not be allowed to drop till something practical has been done. The first point surely is, for every Lodge within a few hours' distance from London, to make arrangements for sending up one or two representatives to each G.L.; and next, for the Provinces to insist upon voting for the G.M. and the Members of the Boards, without being taxed with their expenses to Freemasons' Hall; that is, as Lord CARNARVON has suggested, by claiming their right to vote by ballot papers in their respective Lodge rooms. Such papers to be verified, if need be, by the P.G.M.

We are also glad to see that both in HAMPSHIRE and WILTSHIRE it has been determined that the interests of the Charities shall not be allowed to flag as heretofore.

Nothing will be easier than to establish a Charities' Committee in every Province, who should take charge of the subscriptions, and by a system of correspondence with each other, secure the election of Provincial candidates. But however much the friends of the Chari-

ties may exert themselves, their efforts will be in vain if ever the system pursued in G.L. comes to be adopted in their management, and an impression is created that persons on the spot have any advantage whatever, in making or altering the laws by which all are equally affected, over those at a distance.

IN WEST YORKSHIRE, a Provincial Board of General Purposes has been appointed, from whose deliberations and suggestions the greatest benefit to the Province may be confidently expected. The D.P.G.M., Bro. F'EARNLEY, has displayed much tact and firmness in bringing this matter to so successful an issue.

FOR magnificent specimens of proficiency in the art "how not to do it" commend us to the Executive of the Grand Lodge of England. What pains-taking, earnest, zeal seems to characterize their efforts to monopolize the honors of that delightful *dolce far niente* pursuit, the attainment of perfection in which appears to be the highest object of their ambition. The last display of their peculiar talents occurred on Wednesday the 1st inst., and to the circumstances connected with it we invite attention. The Board of Masters to which was submitted the business to be transacted in Grand Lodge was held on the 18th of August. Some few days after this the official minutes of the last Quarterly Communication and of the special Grand Lodge of the 16th of June, with the agenda paper for the ensuing Meeting, containing portions of the correspondence between the authorities in this country and Bro. HARRINGTON, late P.G.M., of Quebec were duly circulated. At the Grand Lodge on the 1st inst., on the minutes being put for confirmation, Bro. Lord CARNARVON attempted to direct attention to the letters published in the report of the proceedings of the Special Grand Lodge, but was told he could not do so without notice regularly given at the Board of Masters. Later in the evening the same noble Brother and also Bro. WHITMORE endeavoured to direct attention to the letters appearing on the agenda paper, and were met by the objection that similar notice was requisite. Mark the practical absurdity of this. The correspondence laid before the Special Grand Lodge of June 16th comprises Bro. HARRINGTON's letter, dated April 14th, the reply thereto dated June 10th. "His Lordship," says the minute, "has since given directions that these letters be printed for the information of the Craft." The Board of Masters was held, as before stated, on the 18th August, and not until some days subsequently are these letters, or those contained in the agenda paper, being Bro. HARRINGTON's of July 10th, and the reply of August 12th, printed and published,

though perhaps the latter were read at the Meeting of the 18th August, attended as is necessarily the case, by a very small proportion only of W.M.'s of Lodges. Compliance with the stated requirement was in the one case simply impossible, in the other impracticable. It cannot be denied that these letters are deserving of serious consideration, the sense of their importance being evidenced by the "directions" given that they "be printed for the information of the Craft;" and yet the members of the Craft in Grand Lodge assembled are prohibited from using the information with which they are furnished, and documents appearing on the authorized published minutes are held to form no portion of such minutes, all action upon them being forbidden without such notice as would delay their consideration to a period, when if not useless it would in all probability be inoperative. Can anything more mischievous be conceived than such a system, or to use the favourite expression, "course of practice" as this? It is idle to seek for its justification by an attempted analogy between the proceedings of Parliament meeting and adjourning as it does from day to day, and those of a body holding its sittings once in three months. Rules of business, admirable and tending to good order in the one case, become ridiculous and even obstructive in the other.

On the discussion of Bro. WHITMORE's resolution, Bro. BINCKES sought to enlarge its scope by the insertion of words which would have the effect of permitting that had been attempted in the earlier part of the evening, basing his arguments on the necessity of a prompt consideration of the letters referred to, quoting Bro. HARRINGTON's words—"The Canadian Craft desires the deliberate decision of the Grand Lodge of England, not the opinion of the M.W. Grand Master,"—and complaining that this wish of our Canadian Brethren, urged by Bro. HARRINGTON with a due regard to, and,—as we believe—in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution, should be denied immediate attention owing to an obstinate adherence to forms involving delay, the consequence of which had already been but too clearly indicated. The M.W.G.M. declined to receive such an amendment, declaring, that he "should regard it as a breach of his privileges." Thus are the best interests of our noble institution imperilled, and the affections of distant Brethren alienated, by a slavish observance of a ridiculous routine. Trammelled by the usages of a Procrustean "course of practice"—submitting itself tamely to an irresponsible dictation—enduring with patience the bland superciliousness of some—and even applauding the unabashed effrontery of others—Grand Lodge lays itself prostrate at the feet of an Executive which has raised itself above the Constitution to which it owes its existence, and by virtue of

which it governs. Believing as we do that such a condition of things is pregnant with ill, we shall feel it our duty constantly to protest against its continuance. Heedless of what is said as to "ulterior designs," we announce our main object to be to secure practical efficiency to our councils and administration; and our remonstrances will continue to be urged, no matter how unpalatable they may prove to those in high places.

**T**HE art of cooking has not died with poor Mr. Alexis Soyer. The culinary mantle has descended in all its magic might to the purveyors of the authorized minutes of Grand Lodge proceedings; and we invite those Brethren who assisted at the last meetings to give its due meed of praise to the talent which so admirably evinces its capability to cook a report. With the "Salaries Debate" fresh in our recollection, we are amazed at the audacity of the studied mutilation which seeks to convey to those absent on that night an erroneous impression of what actually occurred.

Not intending to recapitulate all the *pros* and *cons* of that debate, we should fail in our duty did we not call attention to its most notorious incident, respecting which the crisp blue pages before us are ominously but disgracefully silent. The Board of General Purposes in June last with the G. REGISTRAR as its President had formed a decided opinion, and embodied in their report a strong recommendation, that no increase should be made in any of the salaries in the Grand Secretary's department. Such opinion they might have every right to arrive at, nor would we ascribe to them any motive but that of a disinterested economy. Be that as it may, from the effect of this sweeping clause it was the wish of many (whom a subsequent division has shown to be a considerable majority) to except Bro. FARNFIELD, whose long and able services appeared to them worthy of some recognition; and Bro. BEADON (no authority of yesterday on points of order) placed himself in the van as their spokesman.

But a debate ensued as to the precise time when an increase to Bro. FARNFIELD's salary might in order be moved; and it was ruled, after several contradictory opinions, that it might come on as an amendment on the motion for the adoption of the report. Now it would be imagined by those unacquainted with the diplomacy of our officials, that such adoption would have been moved as a matter of course by the President of the Board. So straightforward a procedure is scorned by those who habitually sacrifice public convenience to the tactics of party manœuvre. One by one Bro. ROXBURG moved the adoption of the more uninteresting paragraphs of the report, while he refused to brethren who had come up from all parts of the country to support Bro. BEADON, an opportunity of recording their opinion on the subject of the salaries.

So far then, matters were at a dead-lock. The well-wishers to Bro. FARNFIELD were insulted and snubbed and hushed, while the G. REGISTRAR beamed triumphant in a halo of self-stultification, having succeeded in forming a resolution, which he had not courage to suggest that G.L. should adopt. And by this blaze of triumph the Editor of the authorized minutes seems to have been so dazzled that he saw no further. He has indeed a confused notion that "several Brethren took part in the discussion," but he notices not that Bro. GREEN, to rescue G.L. from the slough of absurdity in which they were prostrate, asked a simple and pertinent question, viz: whether it be not "competent for *any member* of G.L. to move the adoption of any portion of the report?"

He tramples into oblivion the dictum of the M.W. G.M. who replied that it was competent.

He thinks it unworthy of mention that by Bros. GREEN and PORTAL accordingly such motion was made and seconded, and that the G. REGISTRAR declined to submit himself to the ruling of the M.W.G.M.

How Bro. STEBBING told that Brother that he had failed to do his duty, and denounced, amid the cheers of the hall, the whisper along the Dais which whispered away the privileges of the Craft; how he protested against such tyranny over the country members; all this is a matter of record, but we seek it in vain in the authorized minutes. Who is responsible for that publication? Why are the most important portions of debate suppressed? Here we join issue with that Editor. We accuse him of wilfully suppressing what he feels to be damaging to the powers that be. Let the Craft at large give judgment between us and this ministerial brochure, and decide how far a mirror of our proceedings is trustworthy, which either distorts the images it professes to reflect, or glosses over the deformities which disgrace our Masonic rule.

Not that it is hard to trace the point and intention of this emasculated system of reporting. That shews itself pretty plainly in the prodigality of type accorded to the reply upon Bro. STEBBING delivered after mature consideration in the Especial G.L. Fourteen days after utterance of the accusation (which accusation strikes too home on somebody to find a place in the publication before us) the reply of the M.W.G.M. is prominently paraded; but this rather sets one fancying what position a journal would hold, which, professing to report an important trial, should slur over the opening day's proceedings, and begin with the exordium of the counsel for the defence.

However having arrived at facility of suppression we may expect our Editor shortly to aspire to interpolation and invention.

Familiarity with the scissors will breed contempt for simple dull fact. It will be but one more step in the art of *Cooking*. Let us have a spice of romance infused into the mess; already the menial trammels of reporting are spurned, and opinions are introduced and interwoven with recital. Communications from brethren of note in Canada are stigmatized as *irrelevant*, (Page 6 of this

official record) and more pungent epithets, may in course of time be adopted.

Is the object of official writers to allay discontent and inspire us with the notion of living under a just and indulgent theocracy? An imaginary debate will serve the end.

The STUARTS from the Dais shall denounce oppression and infidelity to trusts, and the HAMPDENs from the Hall shall chime in obsequious chorus a laudatory hymnal on the virtues of their rulers.

The universal Craft will then know what reliance to place on these official records, and will accept them (as we ourselves invariably are constrained to do) *cum grano*

But who we repeat, is answerable for this publication? Some one, clearly, who thinks that a faulty dynasty may be bolstered up with disguise and ill faith. It is a mistaken theory. The little cloud may shortly assume the dimensions of a tempest. For ourselves, as it is difficult to dwell with temper on such uncandid dealings, we close this article, lest we draw down censure, as Bro. STEBBING did, for saying what we think.

THERE is nothing that you may not get people to believe if you will only persevere long enough in asserting it; and it is, we presume, upon this principle that Bro. HAVERS gravely maintained in the last GRAND CHAPTER, that when the four London Lodges in 1717 created themselves a GRAND LODGE, the heretofore existing GRAND LODGE of YORK, had ceased to exist, through the *laches* of its G.M.

We on the other hand have always persisted in asserting the contrary. We have always maintained that the four London Lodges withdrew themselves from an existing and actual jurisdiction, and that they were justified in so doing if in their opinion the interests of Masonry required it.

In this view we have been supported by the highest Masonic Jurists in Ireland, Canada, and the United States. But as the main question rests, not upon a disputed theory, but a disputed fact, we beg to place before our readers the account given in *Preston's Masonry*, edited by Dr. Oliver, p. 189. "At the expiration of his (Sir Walter Hawkesworth's) Mastership, Sir George Tempest was elected, a second time GRAND MASTER; and from the time of his election in 1714 to 1725, the GRAND LODGE continued regularly to assemble in York."

The whole account given in *Preston* of this period, is well worth attentive perusal; and it is the duty of every Mason who is desirous of maintaining the constitution of our Order as it is, to make himself acquainted with the more salient points in its history. Nothing but the general ignorance upon these points enables the satellites of the G.M. to hazard their reckless assertions with such freedom from exposure, or to attempt to undermine the supreme authority of GRAND LODGE with any hope of success.

## GRAND LODGE.

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The usual Quarterly Communication was held in the Hall, on Wednesday, September 1st, the M. W. the Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Zetland, presiding, supported by the Right Worshipful Sir Lucius Curtis, Bart., Prov. Grand Master for Hampshire, as D. G. M.; Bros. Col. Brownrigg, S. G. W.; Wyndham Portal, J. G. W.; F. Roxburgh, G. Reg.; W. G. Clarke, G. Sec.; W. Farnfield, Asst. G. Sec.; Crohn, G. Sec. for German correspondence; Chev. Hebeler, representative from Berlin; W. Pulteney Scott, S. G. D.; Hopwood, J. G. D.; Rev. A. R. Ward, G. Chap.; Woods, Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.; D. Gooch, G. S. B.; Daukes, G. Superintendent of Works; Smith, G. Purs.; Hall, Prov. G. M., Cambridgeshire; C. P. Cooper, Prov. G. M., Kent; and large number of P. G. Officers, amongst whom we noticed Bros. Havers, Beadon, Nelson, Lloyd, Pattison, King, Hervey, Masson, Udall, Le Veau, Patten, Walmisley, Breiting, Biggs, Phillips, S. B. Wilson, W. H. White, J. N. Tomkins, Thory Chapman, &c., &c.

The minutes of the preceding Quarterly Communication, and also of the Grand Lodge of Emergency, were read. On the question that they be received—

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON said, he wished to ask his lordship a question about a letter dated June 10, addressed by the Grand Secretary to Bro. Harington. Was it a part of the minutes now put for confirmation?

The M. W. GRAND MASTER replied:—None of that correspondence forms part of the minutes.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON—In what way then can Grand Lodge pronounce any opinion on that correspondence?

The M. W. GRAND MASTER—By substantive motion.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON—And of that substantive motion—

The M. W. GRAND MASTER—Notice must be given. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. SYMONDS moved the non-confirmation of that portion of the minutes which related to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, on the ground that it would be inexpedient to give the Lodges extra votes, and thus diminish the influence of the regular subscribers to the charity. Bro. Savage wished the Lodges to have the extra votes; that was very natural, seeing that Bro. Savage interested himself in a good many cases, and had a great deal of personal influence in the Lodges, which he has acquired by his earnest and successful advocacy of deserving cases. Still this should not lead them to give to the Lodges such a number of votes as would interfere with the votes of the individual subscribers.

Bro. BRINCKES seconded the motion.

The question was then put and agreed to.

### THE GRAND MASTER AND "THE MASONIC OBSERVER."

The M. W. GRAND MASTER then rose, amidst the most profound silence and attention, to make a personal statement. Brethren; during the fifteen years I have occupied this chair I have never till now had occasion to make observations to Grand Lodge on subjects personal to myself. But I do now feel called upon to do so, and when you have heard my statement I think you will agree that I could not do otherwise than bring the subject before you, which I am now about to do. The subject amounts to a breach of privilege; but I am not going to make any motion on the subject myself, or to ask Grand Lodge to agree to any resolution relating to it. I am sure that Grand Lodge must feel that its own dignity is involved in the dignity of its G.M. It is not, therefore, merely for myself personally that I bring forward this matter; I am in duty bound to do so for the honour and dignity of the Craft. In a publication which I have very rarely seen—and for a copy of which I presume I am indebted to the publisher, or to some one who is interested in it—in the *Masonic Observer*, dated June 20th, 1858, I find a passage which commences thus: "We had occasion this time last year to draw attention to the unblushing effrontery with which the principal appointments in Grand Lodge were prostituted to political purposes; we are sorry to be compelled to recur to this very scandalous subject." I will not read any more of this offensive article, but I will, in the first place, declare to you that if the statement which is here put forth is true, I am no longer worthy to hold the office which I now hold for a single hour. (Hear, hear.) If it be not true, then I have a right to appeal to my Brethren for their support. Brethren, I indignantly deny the imputation! (Loud applause.) Under ordinary circumstances if the charge related solely to myself personally, I assure you that I should have treated it with contempt, and leave it, without any further observation, to the judgment of the Brethren. But I have to maintain the dignity of Grand Lodge, which is involved in the character of the G.M., and

I am therefore not at liberty, in my position, so to leave it. (Hear, hear.) I understand, Brethren, that this publication (I have very seldom seen it) is very little known in the metropolis, but that it has a considerable circulation in the provinces, and particularly in the Colonies. I believe my information is correct on this point, for I have observed in the correspondence which is now laid before Grand Lodge, between the G. Sec. and Bro. Harington, the Prov. G.M. for Quebec, that it is frequently quoted as an authority. You, Brethren, know as well as I do that it is no authority at all. (Hear, hear.) So little so, that I have never seen more than two or three of the numbers, of which I have read a very small portion. But, Brethren, though I feel perfectly safe in leaving it to the judgment of the Brethren, who know me, whether in London or in the country, yet I cannot allow such an article to go forth into the provinces and colonies without an indignant denial and a complete refutation. (Applause.) The only way I have of making such denial and refutation known is, by stating the matter in Grand Lodge (hear), the reports of the proceedings at which now go forth in an authorized form, in quite as large, and perhaps to a larger extent, than this trumpety publication. (Applause.) I am informed that this publication is not, like other magazines, published for the sake of profit, but that it is distributed gratis to many in the provinces and in the colonies. I will not stop to inquire as to the truth of that. (Hear, hear.) I think the less I inquire about the motives of the publication the better. (Hear, and laughter.) It will be sufficient for me to deny the truth of the statement in question; and I now do so. I must necessarily recall some facts on the subject, as I am accused of having "prostituted to political purposes" the patronage of the Grand Master. I indignantly deny it. (Applause.) I have now for fifteen years had the honour of being your Grand Master. I never sought that honour, I have never asked any individual Mason to vote for me, and never will do so. If I am elected and supported by a great majority of the Craft, let me be supported as your Grand Master. If I have not that confidence, I beg you will elect another G.M. who will serve you better. But as long as you do me the honour to appoint me to the position I shall call upon you for your support on such occasions as the present. As to my "prostituting the patronage" of the Grand Master, the Masons of London and of England know that it is not the case. But in the colonies I think that something of the sort may be believed, and must necessarily therefore state some facts which may go forth to the colonies, where such stories may have gained some degree of credence. The appointments which I have made, consist principally of Prov. Grand Masters and Grand Wardens. The great majority of the Brethren so appointed have been unknown to me in a political sense; still, I have made some appointments where I could not avoid knowing the politics—such as in the case of my noble friends, Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, and Bro. the Marquis of Huntley—who agree with me in political matters; but then there are Bro. Lord Howe, Bro. Lord Combermere, Bro. the Marquis of Downshire, Bro. Bond Cabell, and Bro. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. I knew their politics, but they were different from my own. (Hear, hear.) I believe that the majority of Prov. G. Masters whom I have appointed, and whose politics I know, are opposed to me in politics. (Hear, hear.) Then there is Bro. Hall, Prov. G.M. for Cambridgeshire; I can assure Grand Lodge that though I have a great regard for him, though I have consulted him on a great many occasions for fifteen or sixteen years, on subjects connected with Masonry, yet I have never had the most remote idea as to what his politics might be. (Cheers.) As to the Grand Wardens, I have appointed both those who agreed with, and those who differed from me, in politics, but as to the great majority, I know not what their politics were. (Hear, hear.) I deny, therefore, the charges made against me in this scandalous and libellous publication. (Loud and protracted applause.) I do think, for the dignity of Grand Lodge, that it is necessary to support the dignity of the Grand Master. I have been asked, and recommended to allow, of a substantive motion, with a view of punishing the Brother who could be guilty of such an offence. (Hear, hear.) But it will, perhaps, be sufficient to notice it in the manner I have done, and let that Brother take warning, that I will not permit the dignity of the Craft to be endangered, by anonymous publications of this kind, with impunity. Those who know me will give me credit for having done my duty to the best of my ability, acting with singleness of purpose, with the utmost desire to maintain the dignity of the Order, and at the same time the highest interests of the Craft. While, therefore, proposing no resolution on the subject, I throw myself with confidence on the protection of the Brethren. I am sure they will deal with me as I would deal with them—support the fair fame of a Brother in his absence as well as in his presence, and firmly repel the slanderer of his good name. (Loud cheering.)

Bro. Sir Lucius CURTIS, Act. Dep. G.M., said that Grand Lodge would uphold the G.M. in repudiating the assertions of this infamous publication. (Cheers.) And he would move to that effect.

Bro. ROXBURGH seconded the motion. He liked free discussion, but hated anonymous slander. He believed that the G.M.'s appointments were never influenced by a political bias. A publication so improperly conducted ought to receive the condemnation of the Craft. (Hear, hear.) It was a publication the Brethren ought to shrink from.

The acclamation of applause which here greeted the Grand Master were loud and long continued, and the motion was carried by a large majority, though several Brethren did not vote.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER when silence was restored, said, Brethren, I can only say that I take this mark of your approbation as decisive as to the feeling you entertain of the publication in question, and I trust that such anonymous charges as those are now put a stop to. (Renewed applause.)

The subject then dropped.

Bro. PACKWOOD was restored to his Masonic privileges in due form.

#### MASONRY IN VICTORIA.

The GRAND SEC. then read a petition from the Prov. Grand Lodge of Victoria, praying for a reduction of the fee of 5s. upon the registration of all members joining the Lodges in that country, on the ground that house rent was high, hotel charges extravagant, and the calls of local Masonic Charities progressing.

Bro. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., moved that the memorial be referred to the Colonial Board, adding that 2s. 6d. would not pay for the parchment and the postage.

Bro. HERBERT LLOYD, P.G.D., seconded the proposition, which was unanimously agreed to.

#### BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was then read. It stated that in June they had voted £101 10s.; in July, £127 10s.; and in August, £62, in relief of distressed Brethren.

#### BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

On the motion that the report of the Board of General Purposes be taken as read—

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON remarked that the letter of the 10th of June, in the Harington correspondence, had been entirely omitted. He thought it desirable that Grand Lodge should have some opportunity of expressing its opinion upon the subject to which it referred.

Bro. HAVERS, P.G.D., thought the noble Brother who last addressed Grand Lodge did not understand the nature of the communication laid before them by the M.W. G.M. That communication formed no part of the minutes of the last Grand Lodge, or of the proceedings of the present one. It had been for some time in print, and had been before the Committee of Masters, at their last meeting, but could not be now taken into consideration unless upon a regular notice of motion.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON said he would be quite satisfied if stopped by the M.W. G.M.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER wished to assure his noble Brother that the letter to which he referred was no part of the report. He could, however, if he wished, have a copy of it; but if he now desired to make a motion upon it, he could not do so, as he had no notice upon the paper to that effect.

Bro. the Earl of CARNARVON stated that he was perfectly satisfied with the ruling of the M.W. G.M. He hoped, however, he should not be considered to have done a very silly thing (laughter) in seeking to found a motion upon it, as he had reason to suppose that it was competent for him to do so, when he that night heard the D.G.M., on the spur of the moment, with the permission of the chair, propose a resolution so formal, so solemn, and so unusual, as a vote of confidence in the G.M. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. WHITMORE remarked that the business of the evening was set down for their information, and said he wished to know if it was to be taken in the order in which it was placed?

Bro. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., rose to order; there was no motion before the chair.

Bro. WHITMORE protested against being interrupted by the G. Reg.

Bro. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., said it was not as G. Reg. he rose to order, but as a Master Mason, as there was no question before the chair, and they were getting on with a discussion on the question put by the noble Brother the Earl of Carnarvon, and which involved

matters not referred to in the report of the Board of General Purposes.

The M. W. GRAND MASTER rose to call both Brethren to order. There was a motion before Grand Lodge, and that was, that the report should be taken as read, and to that they should confine themselves.

BRO. WHITMORE said, that to put himself in order, he should move as an amendment that it should not be taken as read. The reason he did so was, that there stood upon the business paper a letter which took precedence of the report of the Board of General Purposes, and he would now ask if they were not to be at liberty to comment upon it?

The M. W. GRAND MASTER replied in the negative.

BRO. REV. G. R. PORTAL rose to a point of order. He had listened to the explanations of Bro. Havers and of his worthy Bro. the G. Registrar with the greatest patience, but he regretted that he could not understand the principle they wished to lay down. He had the most perfect confidence in the fairness of the decision of the M. W. Grand Master, but he wished to remind Grand Lodge that at a recent meeting a correspondence with the Brethren in Tasmania was laid before them, and on that being read, the noble Brother Lord Panmure, the D. G. M., got up, and without any previous notice whatever, made a motion upon it. Bro. Dobie, P. G. Reg., did the same thing on a letter being read from Bro. Lord Naas, relative to Lodges in the colonies refusing to receive Brethren initiated in the Lodges holding under Irish warrants. These were two important occasions on which resolutions had been entertained and passed on the presentation of papers without any previous notice. He could mention several precedents, but those to which he had alluded would serve his purpose.

BRO. HERVEY, P. G. D., said it was seldom he rose to interrupt any Brother, but he wished to refer Bro. Portal to the Book of Constitutions, and he would see there that the reports of the several committees took precedence of all other business.

BRO. REV. G. R. PORTAL did not see the point which Bro. Hervey wished to urge. There was a certain letter on the paper: that letter had been passed over by the Grand Secretary for the sake of avoiding discussion, and that, he and many other Brethren considered unfair.

BRO. HERVEY, P. G. D., explained that it was in obedience to the command of the M. W. Grand Master that the correspondence was laid before Grand Lodge for information only, and that being the case, he wanted to know what motion could be put upon it.

BRO. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., thought it his duty to call the attention of Grand Lodge to the real state of the matter before them. When the M. W. Grand Master laid before Grand Lodge any communication requiring action, it was competent for any Brother, without previous notice, to move that that action be or be not taken. There was, however, no analogy between such a case and the present, and Bro. Portal himself would see if he read the words on the paper, (and no man could read them with more acuteness), that this Harington correspondence was printed for the information of the Brethren and nothing more. He was surprised one of such ingenuity and sagacity as the worthy Brother whom he had mentioned, did not himself see this.

The M. W. GRAND MASTER wished, in reply to the question which had been put to him, to reiterate what he had already said. He agreed with the G. Reg. that the correspondence formed no part of the report of the Board of General Purposes, and that it was not competent to any Brother to make a motion upon it without having given due notice thereof.

The motion was then agreed to, that the report be taken as read.

BRO. HAVERS, G. D., next moved that it be received and entered upon the minutes, and in doing so, begged leave to remark that it would be his duty to move the adoption of the last paragraph. If there was any portion of the report objectionable to a Brother, the present was the moment for his moving that it be not received.

BRO. ROXBURGH, G. Reg. seconded the motion, which was carried without further discussion.

BRO. HAVERS then moved that the copyright of the forthcoming edition of the Book of Constitutions be vested in the G. Sec. This was duly seconded, and at once agreed to.

#### THE PROVINCES.

BRO. the Rev. G. R. PORTAL, in moving the resolution of which he had given notice—"It appearing, from the returns now before Grand Lodge, that some irregularity has occurred in holding Provincial Grand Lodges, it is the opinion of Grand Lodge that a Provincial Grand Lodge should be held in each province at least once in every year, either by the Provincial Grand Master or by his Deputy;" said he wished to commence by saying that all cause

for his motion would have been removed if the P. G. M. of Bucks and Berks, or his Deputy, had held a meeting of the Grand Lodge of the province, as requested by the G. M.

The M. W. GRAND MASTER must be permitted to interrupt the worthy Brother, by informing him that he had heard from the Provincial Grand Master, who had informed him that his wish should be complied with.

BRO. HERVEY observed, that there was no necessity for the motion, as the rule it would lay down was already part of the Book of Constitutions, as he would find by reference to page 47.

BRO. the Rev. G. R. PORTAL was aware, on page 47—[Bro. Roxburgh—"Section 8."] Yes, section 8. He thanked Bro. Roxburgh for section 8—page 47, section 8. (Great laughter.) That law, however, seemed, through some irregularity, to have fallen into abeyance, or probably, the Grand Registrar had not looked sharp enough after the Provincial Lodges. It was extraordinary that those answers invariably came at the same time with his motions.

The M. W. GRAND MASTER wished to set the worthy Brother right on that point. Long before the notice was given in, he had received from Lord Downshire the assurance referred to.

BRO. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., could only assure Bro. Portal that he should feel obliged to him if he would point out—if he would be kind enough to point out—the Grand Registrar's laches. A filippic from Bro. Portal would be a compliment to the delinquent.

The motion was then withdrawn.

BRO. WHITMORE then moved—"That it shall be competent for any Member of Grand Lodge to move, without previous notice being given, the adoption, or otherwise, of any report, or recommendation contained in such report, of any Board or Committee appointed either by the Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Lodge and Grand Master conjointly; and it shall also be competent for any other Member of Grand Lodge, upon such motion being duly made and seconded, to propose an amendment to the same." He said, that it seemed, from circumstances that had lately occurred, that Grand Lodge had but a very qualified power in dealing with the reports of the several Boards, and the authorities were at variance with regard to the extent of it. On the occasion of the last meeting of Grand Lodge, Bro. Green had enquired of the Grand Master if it were competent for him to move that a certain portion of the report of the Board of General Purposes be not adopted, and he was told that it was. Consequent on that decision of his lordship, a conversation took place between him and the Grand Registrar, and the result of it was, that he was induced to reverse his own ruling.

The M. W. GRAND MASTER wished to set Bro. Whitmore right. He had not at all reversed his decision. He clearly stated that Bro. Green had that right, but that was not the time for him to exercise it.

BRO. WHITMORE said he stood corrected; but the mere fact of a difference of opinion between his lordship and the Grand Registrar—

BRO. ROXBURGH, G. Reg.,—No, I hope you will not say that.

BRO. WHITMORE—The impression of the Brethren was, that there was a difference of opinion.

BRO. ROXBURGH, G. Reg., I am not liable for impressions.

BRO. WHITMORE said he did not find fault with those plausible interruptions; at the same time it might be as well that the worthy Brother should hear him to the end and then explain. (Hear, hear.) It had been his opinion that there was not a coincidence of views between them. His experience of public bodies was, that when a report of a committee was presented to them, it became their property to deal with it as they might think fit, and therefore it was that he brought forward the present motion. He thought the responsibility of deciding how far these reports might be discussed, should not be imposed upon the G. M., but that Grand Lodge itself should do so. He had another reason for his resolution. It was, that he was jealous of the privileges of Grand Lodge. (Hear, hear.) As they had the power of making laws, so they had the power of dealing with their defects. His resolution went to make that power distinct. When a report from any committee came before them, it should be their business to receive, improve, amend, or alter it, in any way they thought proper, such amendment having reference to the subject matter of the report. Here he felt that his notice was defective; but if any Brother would add to it as an amendment, the words he had mentioned, namely, "such amendment having reference to the subject matter of the report," he should most willingly support him.

BRO. BINCKES seconded the resolution, and confirmed the statement that the impression in Grand Lodge was, that there was a difference of opinion between the M. W. Grand Master and the G. Reg. The resolution would be more satisfactory if words were interpolated, giving them a right to move upon all communications as well as the reports of the committees.

BRO. ROXBURGH again explained that it was only where Grand

Lodge was called upon to act, that a member had the right of making a motion that they should or should not do so, and not in reference to the expression of an opinion.

Bro. HAYERS admitted that there had been a difference of opinion on the point at the last G.L., and had no objection to the present motion. He thought, however, that the amendment should be limited to the subject matter of the report.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER decided that Bro. Whitmore might himself make the required addition to his resolution.

Bro. the Rev. G. R. PORTAL supported the resolution, as it would place the other members of Grand Lodge on an equality with the President of the Board of General Purposes.

Bro. WHITMORE then added to his resolution the words, "such amendment having distinct reference to such motion," and moved it afresh.

Bro. NASH seconded it.

Bro. BINCKES moved the insertion of words, "giving a member of Grand Lodge the power to make a motion upon any communication presented to it."

The M.W. GRAND MASTER said such an amendment would be contrary to what he had just ruled, and therefore he should refuse to put it.

The motion, as altered, was then agreed to.

This concluded the business of the evening, after which Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

## The Colonies.

### CANADA.

A meeting of the committee of Officers of the Grand Lodge of Canada, specially convened by order of the M.W.G.M., was held at Hamilton, on the 7th and 8th days of May, A.L. 5858, for the purpose of considering certain correspondence and suggestions which had been received on the subject of a permanent union of all the Lodges in the Province under one Grand Lodge. There were present the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, presiding; the R.W. Bros. W. C. Stephens, Capt. Thompson Wilson, James Daniels, Richard Bull, Thos. B. Harris, John Osborne, Charles Magill, John R. Holden, and the V.W. Bros. F. J. Rastrick, H. Crouse, and H. Grist.

The M.W.G.M. submitted for the consideration and opinion of the committee a letter he had received on the 4th instant, from R.W. Bro. T. G. Ridout, which enclosed a copy of "Proposed Articles of Union between the Grand Lodges of Canada, submitted for the consideration of the Craft, by R.W. Bro. T. D. Harrington," which proposal Bro. Ridout expressed his belief "was well adapted to the wants of the Craft under the Antient Grand Lodge," and suggested, "that if the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada was of opinion that the Grand Lodge of Canada would accept the same as a satisfactory basis upon which to found a union, that the sense of the whole Craft under the two jurisdictions should be taken at a special meeting of each body, to be summoned for that purpose at an early day."

The committee having read the letter from Bro. Ridout, and the suggested articles of union; and having likewise read an address to the Grand Lodge of Vermont, from the M.W. Bro. P. C. Tucker, its Grand Master, which appeared in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge in January last, and also a report to the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, by W. Bro. Albert G. Mackay, its Grand Secretary, which appeared in the printed proceedings of that Grand Lodge in December last, and also various other documents and letters relating thereto; and having likewise read letters from R.W. Bro. A. Bernard, P.D.G.M., R.W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, D.G.M., and R.W. Bro. Kivas Tully, the representative of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, expressive of their opinions on the subject, which were carefully considered and discussed; it was unanimously resolved:—

"That the committee are fully aware that the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, whilst themselves actuated by a sincere desire for the welfare of the Craft in the Province in their action in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1855, readily conceded an equal sincerity of motive to those Brethren who considered that the proper time had not then arrived for taking the final step which was to sever their connection with their mother Grand Lodges—without further efforts being first made to obtain the necessary concessions from the Grand Lodge of England for ameliorating the condition of the Canadian Craft.

"That the prompt recognition of the Grand Lodge of Canada by one of its mother Grand Lodges—the Grand Lodge of Ireland—and

by nineteen other Grand Lodges, affords abundant confirmation of that action having been taken in strict accordance with Masonic law and usage.

"That the desire for union so fraternally expressed, not only in the communications referred to the consideration of this committee, but also by the Brethren generally, of itself shows that on that point no diversity of opinion exists between the members of the Grand Lodge of Canada and those Brethren, who at the time did not concur in its formation, and that whether the proper time for taking such a step had or had not then arrived, which has been confessedly the only point of difference, such doubt has now been removed, and all are agreed that Masonry in Canada should possess its one Grand Lodge.

"The Committee therefore hail with pleasure the prospect of an immediate union of all the Masons in the Provinces, under one Grand Lodge, and would therefore propose that all should now unite, in every respect as if they had originally concurred in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"That the maintenance of the dignity of the Grand Lodge of Canada, for the future, must be an object of equal interest to all the Canadian fraternity, and too much care cannot, therefore, be taken to avoid any disrespect or cause of offence to those Grand Lodges who have so favourably recognized the exertions of the Canadian Craft for the advancement of the Order, and have taken such a fraternal interest in their movements.

"That for the consummation of the union with ceremonies befitting the auspicious occasion, the day most convenient for all parties be selected, the committee suggesting the 14th day of July next—a large proportion of the Brethren in all parts of the province having been summoned to meet in Toronto on that day, for which they will probably have made their arrangements.

"That the first business of such meeting be, to proceed to a new election of officers.

"That in order to render the proposed union of the Canadian Craft perfect and complete, it is essential that all Provincial Grand Lodges, and all private Lodges in the province should be afforded an opportunity of concurring in this union, so that all their Past Provincial Grand Officers may at once assume similar rank in the Grand Lodge, and that all Canadian Lodges may be placed on the Grand Lodge register in numerical order, according to antiquity, and that for such purpose a special meeting of Grand Lodge be called within six months from the date of this meeting, for arranging the proposed union."

The foregoing appears to the committee of the Grand Lodge of Canada to form a fair basis for a union of the Craft in Canada; all parties claiming for themselves, and according to others, equal sincerity of motive—all agreeing in the grand principle of a Grand Lodge of Canada being a matter of present and imperative necessity—all being placed in the position of equally concurring in its formation—and all being alike interested in adopting the course best calculated to secure and maintain for the Grand Lodge a position of dignity and usefulness.—

Resolved:—"That various letters with suggestions for effecting union, referred to in the proceeding of this Committee, have already been circulated amongst all the Lodges of the province, the committee consider it proper that the Lodges should also be placed in possession of the addresses from W. Bro. A. G. Mackay and M.W. Bro. Philip C. Tucker, and any other information that will enable them to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the proper means of accomplishing the union amongst all the Craft in the province, as proposed by the foregoing resolution of the committee, and that the Grand Secretary be therefore directed to have the proceedings of the committee printed and circulated amongst the Craft."

(A true copy)

THOMAS B. HARRIS, Grand Secretary.

The final consummation of the unanimous wish of the Canadian Masons took place in Toronto, on the 14th July, amid the greatest enthusiasm. The largest Masonic assemblage ever witnessed in Canada gathered together on that day to discuss first, separately, as two Grand Lodges, the basis of the union; and having agreed upon them, sent deputations to each other to communicate the intelligence; and then, unitedly, amid the enthusiastic cheers of between three and four hundred Masons, the great Masonic family in Canada became one.

At the last meeting of the Antient Grand Lodge, R.W. Bro. T. D. Harrington was appointed to agree with a member of the Independent Grand Lodge on the details of the union. R.W. Bro. W. C. Stephens, of Hamilton, met him; and finding points of agreement, drew up a series of resolutions. Bro. Stephens reported them to his Grand Lodge, which met early in the day; and they were sanctioned by a vote of 154 to 3. In the evening, the Antient Grand Lodge met, M.W.G.M. Sir A. N. MacNab, Bart., in the chair. After reading the

minutes, Bro. Harington read the resolutions, and informed Grand Lodge, that he was deputed by Bro. Stephens to inform the Brethren that the other body had already sanctioned them. A short discussion as to some verbal alterations followed, but finally, by a unanimous vote, they were adopted; and a deputation, consisting of Bro. Harington, P. G. M.; Bro. Ridout, D. G. M.; Bro. Whitehead, P. G. S. W.; and Bro. Harman, P. G. S. W.; were sent to the other Grand Lodge to inform them of our readiness to meet them. Their reception was most enthusiastic; and on their return, the Antient Grand Lodge proceeded to the meeting of the Independent Grand Lodge, and were received with grand honors. The resolutions of union were then proposed by Bro. Harington, seconded by Bro. Stephens, and unity once more was enthusiastically restored. Addresses were then delivered by the M. W. G. M. s Wilson and Sir A. N. MacNab; also by M. W. Bro. Tucker, G. M. of Vermont; R. W. Bro. Rob. Morris, D. G. M. of Kentucky; R. W. Bros. Ridout, Harington, and others: after which Grand Lodge adjourned.

Next morning the United Grand Lodge met in the splendid Masonic hall formerly belonging to the Antient Grand Lodge, and elected the following Officers: M. W. Grand Master, Col W. Mercer Wilson; R. W. D. G. M., Thomas Gibbs Ridout; D. District G. M. s,—Toronto, F. W. Cumberland—Hamilton, R. Bull—London, James Moffat—Kingston, W. B. Simpson—Montreal, Edward Morris—Eastern Townships, E. B. Gustin; G. S. W., P. D. Brown; G. J. W., J. K. Brown; G. Chaps., Revs. S. Ramsay, M. A., F. J. Lundy, D. C. L., E. Dewar, M. A., and F. Tremayne; G. Treas., Wm. Bellhouse; G. Reg., Francis Richardson; G. Sec., Thos B. Harris.

The following were appointed by the G. M.: G. S. D., E. R. O'Brien; G. J. D., Curtis; G. Supt. Works, F. J. Rastrick; G. Dir. of Cers., S. B. Campbell; Asst. G. Sec., W. R. Harris; G. Sword Bearer, Henry Rowsell; G. Org., W. T. Thomas; Asst. G. Org., J. P. Clarke, *Mus. Doc.*; G. Tyler, J. Morrison.

The following are the preamble and resolutions for the union, as proposed by the R. W. Bro. T. D. Harington, seconded by the R. W. Bro. W. C. Stephens.

"Whereas, the past condition and future welfare of Freemasonry in Canada rendered it absolutely necessary to organize and establish a 'Sovereign Grand Lodge,' for the reasons, and on the basis, set forth in various documents from time to time circulated, the correctness of which has not been refuted, although there has existed a diversity of opinion as to whether the proper time had arrived for severing the connection with the mother Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, without further efforts being first made to obtain such necessary conditions as would tend to ameliorate the condition of the Canadian Craft, and which diversity of opinion has been suffered to operate to the injury of the best interests of Freemasonry in the province, and thereby to militate against the advancement of the entire order, by creating, as it has done, antagonistic bodies claiming separate and independent jurisdictions, by causing division amongst Brethren bound together by strong and mutual ties, and by interfering here and elsewhere with that unity which is essentially a first principle of the landmarks of the ancient institution:

"And whereas the anxious and generally expressed desire for consummating a union of the fraternity under one governing and supreme authority testifies that, whether the proper time had or had not previously arrived, all are now agreed that Canadian Freemasonry should possess its own Grand Lodge:

"And whereas the maintenance of the dignity of the Grand Lodge of Canada for the future must be an object of equal interest to the entire Canadian Fraternity:

"It is resolved: That an impartial review of all the eventful circumstances attending its organization, its priority, its subsequent important proceedings, and its recognition by a portion of the British empire, and by a very large proportion of the Grand Lodges of the United States of America, demonstrates that the Grand Lodge of Canada, organized on the 10th October, 1855, and known and recognized as aforesaid by the style and title of 'The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada,' should be acknowledged by the entire Canadian Craft, and should be and is hereby declared to be the Grand Lodge of the Fraternity in and throughout Canada.

"Resolved also: That the diversity of opinion heretofore mentioned, which in various ways retarded the union of the Fraternity, having given rise, amongst other circumstances to be regretted, to the anomaly in Freemasonry of the erection in one and the same territory of a second Grand Lodge, styled 'The Antient Grand Lodge of Canada,' and exercising jurisdiction over a portion of the Canadian Craft, it is necessary for the interests of the institution, and in accordance with the previous resolution, that the said 'Antient Grand Lodge of Canada' should be dissolved; therefore the same is now

dissolved; its Officers (as Past Grand Officers) and its members and Lodges hereby uniting with, and becoming enrolled according to their respective rank and seniority in the registry of 'The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada,' in every respect as though they had concurred originally in the organization of that Grand Lodge, to which they hereby pledge their willing and faithful obedience, feeling as all do, that the future prosperity and permanent welfare of Freemasonry require unanimity and harmony.

"Resolved also: That a committee, to consist of —, be appointed for ascertaining and defining the respective rank and precedence of Brethren and of Lodges, according to the dates of their original warrants or dispensations; the said committee to report to an especial communication of Grand Lodge, to be convened by the M. W. Grand Master at six months from this date.

"Resolved also: That warrants under the seal of 'The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada,' to bear date on this day of union, be forthwith prepared for each and every Lodge enrolled on the registry of 'The Antient Grand Lodge' aforesaid, and that the names of seven members of each such Lodge be furnished with as little delay as possible to the Grand Secretary for insertion in such respective warrants; the number of each such warrant to be affixed thereto, after receiving the report of the committee aforesaid.

"And resolved also: That all Provincial Grand and private Lodges, not at present in alliance with 'The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada' be notified of these proceedings, and be invited to enrol themselves within six months, that they may be accorded their proper rank and precedence on the register of the said Grand Lodge at the especial communication before mentioned."

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.—In our last issue we announced to the Masonic World the union which had just been consummated in Canada. We had only time before going to press to state the fact, and publish the preamble and resolutions of the union, and the names of the officers elected. We were indebted for the information to the indefatigable and devoted Brother, T. D. Harington, who laboured with zeal and perseverance to accomplish this great end with a singleness of heart and purity of motive; having no other end in view than the unity of the Craft, and the integrity of the Institution.—Bro. Harington informs us that the Grand Lodge commenced its communication on the 14th, and continued its sessions three days. The entire Craft of the Province appear to have been represented in Grand Lodge. About five hundred delegates were present, representing one hundred Lodges, showing clearly the vast interest taken by the fraternity in the important question of a union. The membership of the two Grand Lodges are all now ranged under one head, and under one banner they will pursue their mission of love and charity, in unity and peace. May the great I AM bless them in the performance of their benevolent duties, and crown their labours with abundant success. The Masonic world will unite in blessing and praise for the strong attachment to the principles of Masonry, and the desire to preserve the Institution intact, manifested by the fraternity in Canada.—*American Mirror and Keystone.*

The following Correspondence has passed between the GRAND SECRETARY and Bro. HARINGTON, P. G. M., of Quebec, and is the subject of Lord CARNARVON'S motion in G. L., in December next.

[The Letter from Bro. HARINGTON to which the following is a reply from the Grand Secretary, appeared in our impression for June 20th.]

"Freemasons' Hall, London; 10th June, 1858.

"R. W. Sir and Brother,—I have laid before the M. W. Grand Master your letter received in May, and have taken his lordship's instructions thereon. In reply, I have to point out to you that your first courteous and Masonic communication received from the M. W. Grand Master a carefully considered and deliberate reply. Not satisfied with that reply you forwarded a very lengthy communication, in which you sought to controvert the judgment of the Grand Master; in which you introduced passages from magazines, which were couched in objectionable and offensive terms; and in which you referred to authorities unknown and unrecognized here; but in which you allege no new facts which either require notice, or could justify the M. W. Grand Master in altering his expressed opinion.

"In your present letter, containing a series of errors and misconceptions which are almost inexplicable, you complain 'that the province of Canada West cannot now command more than a dozen lines.'

"Permit me to point out to you that, since by your own voluntary act you have severed yourself from the province of Canada West, you have no claim or title to represent its interests as a part of the Grand Lodge; or, in such capacity, to demand even a reply; that the Lodges and Brethren who now form that Province do command and do receive every attention and every support from the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge which Brethren under their circumstances so well deserve; and that frequent and important communications are received from and made to them, the former not unfrequently containing grievous complaints of their having been kept in the dark by their former officials in Canada; and especially of the communication of the M. W. Grand Master, of March, 1857, having been suppressed, or withheld from their knowledge, until after they had been induced to surrender their warrants.

"You have made your choice whether you would represent a province held under the Grand Lodge of England, or that of an independent and separate body. You cannot claim to be regarded in both capacities; and, when you ask how you could legally throw off your allegiance, you cannot seriously expect that any one could point out to you where in the Book of Constitutions a law is to be found which could justify Brethren in placing themselves above the law.

"You appear to be still in error with regard to certain Masonic publications. I have to repeat that the only authority possessed by them is the permission to publish certain reports of the proceedings of Grand Lodge upon the responsibility of the publishers. As to their accuracy, they are the private speculations of individuals; they are under no other control; and it is imagined that a very slight examination of their contents would be sufficient to show that neither the Grand Master nor the Executive are responsible for, or are represented in, any of the articles which they contain.

"It was observed with pain, that in your letter of the 1st February, you expressed an opinion that the Grand Lodge was guided in its dealings with the Canadian Brethren by mercenary considerations, and you now refer to that subject again in more particular terms in the following words: 'In the first place, then, we read with satisfaction of successful candidates for Masonic annuities in England, and we are glad that our unfortunate Brethren are secured from poverty and distress; we read also of indigent Brethren and widows of Freemasons being safely housed in a Masonic asylum, and again we are rejoiced; we read also of orphan children of Freemasons being educated and provided for, and once again are our hearts gladdened. Now it must be borne in mind that the colonies help to swell the funds necessary to secure the above-named blessings, but what chance have they in any way of securing to a candidate, whose claims they might urge, a successful result? none. It would be absurd to propose a candidate, for our Lodges are not represented in Grand Lodge at all. In the second place, thousands of emigrants land on our shores, and it is no exaggeration to say, that hundreds among them are Freemasons; many require help and encouragement; they get both. But there is no denying the fact, that we send no distress back to England, and, consequently, we are taxed twofold.'

"Upon the latter part of this statement I would first remark, that whilst I admit the probability of the assertion, that many hundreds of emigrants apply for relief to Canadian Lodges and are treated there with a kindness and generosity honorable and becoming to our Canadian Brethren—that I have strong grounds to believe that applications from English Masons are exceedingly rare; and I have further to remark, that you are in serious error when you assert that you are taxed twofold, inasmuch as the Canadian Lodges do not, and are not required to, contribute to the Fund of Benevolence; to which Fund every Mason in this country is compelled to subscribe, and from which Masons of all countries are eligible to receive, and do receive, relief in their distress.

"As regards the charities of this country, and your assertion that the colonies help to swell the funds by which these blessings are secured, permit me to inform you that, with the exception of an annual sum of £150 each, granted by the Grand Lodge to the Boys' and Girls' Schools, there is no fund to which the colonies contribute by which these charities are maintained.

"Their freeholds, their noble buildings, and their funded property were acquired through the liberality of individual Lodges and Masons: and as they were established, so are they maintained—an honor and a credit to the Order—by the generosity of individuals. As the result of the spontaneous liberality of the Brethren, they are justly under the control, not of Grand Lodge which has no power

to interfere in their management, but of the individual governors and subscribers who have established them, and who receive, as eligible for admittance, all who comply with the regulations laid down for their government; and I am quite sure that, such regulations complied with, the respective committees would cheerfully welcome to the benefits of their charities any distressed Canadian Mason, his widow, or his child.

"The evident error and misconception under which you labor, and the circulation which you have given to such erroneous statements, by printing and publishing your letters, even before they have reached the Grand Master, compels me, though unwillingly, to draw your attention to these facts; and in justice to the Brotherhood here, who are held up to reprobation as being actuated by selfish motives, to add, that although some small contributions (in the whole not amounting to £10) have been received from other provinces in Canada, that from all the individual Masons, and from all the Lodges in Canada West, there has never been received one farthing in aid of the Masonic charities in this country.

"If it were necessary to advance any further refutation of the statement that mercenary motives have guided the Grand Lodge of England, or have weighed with her in endeavoring to remedy past difficulties and still maintain a Masonic union between Canada and the mother country, it would only be necessary to say, that out of 63 Lodges registered on the books of the Grand Lodge of England as existing in Canada West, a majority have never made any returns, or contributions in any way to its funds, since their warrants were granted; and of these, the warrants even of many were granted without the payment of fees; and I may add, that looking to the gross total of all monies received from Canada West by the Grand Lodge of England, the amount is so inconsiderable as not to deserve notice; and it would not be difficult to name many London Lodges, the contributions of any one of which to the Grand Lodge and its charities, during the last ten years only, would very much exceed the total receipts from all the Lodges in all Canada West, from the period of their formation to the present moment.

"With these facts before you, I think you will feel some regret at having hazarded so rash and so ungenerous an assertion, calculated not alone to mislead your Canadian Brethren, but to wound the feelings and impugn the liberality of the Brethren here.

"Lastly, I have only to remark, that had Sir Allan Mac Nab resigned his appointment (as you did) on the severance of his allegiance in September last, or had he, during his lengthened stay in London, taken the opportunity of doing so, the M. W. Grand Master would have been spared the disagreeable necessity of superseding him in the February following.

"I have the honor to be, R. W. Sir and Brother,

"To T. D. Harington, Esq.,      "Yours fraternally,  
Toronto."      (Signed) "WM. GRAY CLARKE, G. S.

"Toronto, Canada, 10th July, 1858.

"V. W. Sir and Brother

"I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 10th ultimo, written under instructions from the M. W. Grand Master. On the 14th instant the two Grand Lodges now exercising separate jurisdiction in this Province, will meet for the purpose of consummating the Union of the Canadian Craft under one supreme authority, and there is happily every prospect that this most desirable event will then take place. As your letter affects the character of the Fraternity throughout this extensive territory very materially, I shall feel it to be my duty to move that it be referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in order that its various items may receive due consideration and be reported upon to Grand Lodge. Your assertion startled me, and I think it will astonish others, viz.: 'That out of sixty-three Lodges registered in the Books of the Grand Lodge of England, as existing in Canada West, a majority have never made any return, or contributed in any way to its Funds, since their warrants were granted, and of these the warrants even of many were granted without the payment of fees'—and—'that from all the individual Masons, and from all the Lodges in Canada West, there has never been received one farthing in aid of the Masonic Charities of this Country.' The passages are underlined by you.

"As regards myself, for your letter is very personal, and you will pardon my adding that it bears *prima facie* evidence of its being intended principally to evoke the sympathy of the English Provincial Lodges, who have for some time passed evinced their dissatisfaction with the management of Masonic affairs at head-quarters, as evidenced by the Periodicals so greatly decried by you, I feel it necessary to state—

"1st. That I quoted passages from the *Magazine* because the M.W. Grand Master asserted, that what had occurred in Canada arose from dissensions amongst ourselves, and not particularly from neglect in England, and I wished to bring prominently to his notice, that (if for no other reasons) we were justified in claiming the right of independent Government by that very dissatisfaction of Brethren who, from their proximity to the fountain head, could hardly fall into error as to the necessity of some great radical change in Masonic affairs and Government.

2nd. I published my correspondence by request of my Brethren here, and I acquainted the M. W. Grand Master of my intention to do so, in order that they might understand and have knowledge of all that is taking place, inasmuch as the M. W. Grand Master had propounded the doctrine, that when documents were addressed to him, Grand Lodge had nothing to do with them—a doctrine that the Craft at this distance never could contemplate, and certainly would not subscribe to. I will add that this decision of his influenced me, in resigning my appointment of Provincial Grand Master. The Book of Constitutions declares that—"In the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of enacting Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Craft, &c."

3rd. The Canadian Craft desired the deliberate decision of the Grand Lodge of England, not the opinion of the M.W. Grand Master.

4th. The M. W. Grand Master's letter of March, 1857, was not suppressed, but is printed at length in the published proceedings, a copy of which I transmitted to you with my resignation of office, and its tenor was known to the Brethren at the time they confirmed the concluding sentence of their Memorial, in which they state that the time for concessions had passed, and nothing but absolute independent Government would satisfy their wants and condition.

5th. I deny that my letter of the 14th April last contains a series of errors and misconceptions. I did not say—"That the Province of Canada West cannot now command more than a dozen lines"—"but that this important Province," &c.—meaning Canada. There is no Grand Lodge of Canada West.

6th. I have not severed myself from Canada West. On the contrary, I never was so closely connected with it as at this moment—and such is the gratifying confidence reposed in me and my motives, that I am deputed to arrange for the Union of the Craft on the part of the Antient Grand Lodge of Canada, and have reason to believe that my appointment has given satisfaction to the Fraternity generally.

7th. Mercenary motives have never been imputed to the Grand Lodge of England in its dealings with Canadian Brethren. I stated that 'money' and 'obedience' have been the principal results derived from their connection therewith, but it was well known that I alluded to the indifference that communications met with at the hands of the Executive (your own office, I should say) unless they contained remittances.

8th. I am not ignorant of the generosity of English Freemasons, or of the establishment of their magnificent charities, their maintenance, &c. You are not better informed on the subject than we are on this side of the Atlantic, and yet I must take the liberty of reiterating that the Colonies are taxed two-fold. They transmit funds to you, and send no distress to the Old Country, although much reaches them. When we speak of 'England' here, we mean the British Kingdom.

9th. Nothing that has been written can be properly tortured into, 'The Brotherhood in England being held up to reprobation as being actuated by selfish motives,' as your letter states. But allow us to look on the other side of the picture, and to ask you if the M. W. Grand Master instructed you to write, and to convey emphasis by underlining your words, 'that, looking to the gross total of all moneys received from Canada West by the Grand Lodge of England, the amount is so inconsiderable as not to deserve notice, and it would not be difficult to name many London Lodges, the contributions of any one of which to Grand Lodge and its Charities, during the last ten years only, would very much exceed the total receipts from all the Lodges in Canada West from the period of their formation to the present moment.' You must have lost sight of the emigration from the Old Country to these shores, and, I beg to state, from personal knowledge and experience, that the necessitous Brethren hailing from England have been pretty equal in number to those from other portions of the empire. If you will be so good as to refer to the M. W. Grand Master's letter of March, 1857, you will there see that the reduction of fees was one of his proposed concessions, and I only alluded at all to money matters in justice to the Canadian Fraternity, who have attached little or no importance thereto when asserting their claim to self-government.

Finally. I can feel no such regret as you hint at, because I have not hazarded any rash and ungenerous assertions, calculated not alone to mislead my Canadian Brethren, but to wound the feel-

ings and impugn the liberality of the Brethren in England.' I would do neither if I could, and it is a comfort to me to be able to announce that I have received the thanks of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec since my resignation, accompanied by a most fraternal letter from my successor in that district, and that, however we may differ at present, my honest motives are appreciated.

"Rest assured, V. W. Sir and Brother, that the Canadian Craft will have a lasting and sincere affection for their Mother Grand Lodges, and that we hope and will strive to be on terms of the most close and satisfactory communion with them, but we are not blinded to the present condition of affairs at the fountain head. True and reliable information reaches us in the same way that it does the English Provinces at home; and it is impossible to disguise the plain fact, that although we have been, in theory, governed by the Grand Lodge of England, practically we have been under the immediate controul of the M. W. Grand Master and a small body of London Brethren.

"Depend upon it that the English Freemasons have no more attached friends than the Canadian Craft; but the latter are the true judges of the cause of their past disabilities, and of their present and future practical wants and requisite remedies, and they are too numerous and (I write advisedly) intellectual a body to be turned from what they consider their true Masonic course of conduct by hard words and official assertions, and the M. W. Grand Master is more likely to perpetuate disunion than to banish discord, by instructing the Grand Secretary to adopt the extraordinary tone of your last letter. We cannot point to a better precedent for the establishment of a Canadian Grand Lodge, than the present Grand Lodge of England, its organization in 1717, and the historical facts appertaining to that period. No one in Canada can possibly intend or imagine disrespect to the Earl of Zetland personally, most certainly I could not, who am indebted to him for having once filled a high and very responsible Masonic office.—I beg to remain, V. W. Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

(Signed)

"T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON,

"Past P. G. Master, &c.

"P. S.—I find that I have neglected to notice the reason you offer for Sir Allan MacNab's so-called removal from office. If you will have the goodness to recall the circumstances to your mind, you will remember that he had no opportunity, after reaching England, of tendering his formal resignation to the M. W. Grand Master, as your letter of removal, being in readiness, was put into his hands at the first interview you had with him. Presuming that your last letter will be laid before Grand Lodge for general information, I have no doubt that you will acknowledge the propriety of treating this, my reply, in the same open way, as positive charges are brought against us. It will be my duty to place the communications before the Brethren here, as all former ones have been.

"T. D. H."

"Freemasons' Hall, London, August 12th, 1858.

"R. W. Sir and Brother,—I have received, and laid before the M. W. Grand Master, your letter dated the 10th July. It does not appear that any advantage can be gained by prolonging this correspondence. In my former communications I have confined myself to simple statements of facts. I have no doubt those facts are startling, and I am not surprised that they should be unpalatable; but you must bear in mind that they were evoked by the charge of selfishness preferred by you against the Grand Lodge of England, and that such charge could only be met by a plain and straightforward statement of the truth.

"There are one or two errors in your present letter which I am directed to correct; but it would be neither profitable nor becoming to notice other portions of it, which contain gratuitous assumptions, quite unfounded, and imputations of motives which might as well have been omitted. Having corrected the errors to which I refer, I think that—unless you are prepared to disprove the statements which, in justice to the Grand Lodge over which he has the honour to preside, the M. W. Grand Master felt it his duty to direct me to make, or until you have any new or beneficial communication to make—it is better that this correspondence should here cease.

"In reference to your second paragraph, I have to observe that the Grand Master has never (as you allege) propounded the doctrine 'that when documents were addressed to him, Grand Lodge had nothing to do with them.' The Grand Master has only said, in reference to a particular memorial, that when a petition is addressed to him, requesting him to do that which is within his own prerogative

tive and privilege, that he, and not the Grand Lodge, is the judge of it.

"As regards paragraph 4. I am perfectly aware that the letter of the Grand Master of March, 1857, is published. The complaint, which I stated as having been made to me, is that it was not published until after the proceedings of the September following, and that it, therefore, was not, and could not, be generally known until after the decision was come to.

"As regards paragraph 6, I did not mean to imply that you have severed yourself from Canada West. My remark was, that you had severed your connection with the Grand Lodge of England.

"In reference to your 7th paragraph. If your letters do not bear out the imputation of mercenary motives against the Grand Lodge, and if the publication of such letters is not calculated to wound the feelings of Brethren here and hold up the Craft in England to reprobation, then there is no longer meaning in words. Of this, however, neither you nor I are the judges. Our Brethren are to judge: and the Grand Master feels, and feels strongly, that so long as he has the honor of presiding over the English Craft, that his duty as their representative, as well as his own inclination, both prompt him to defend that Craft against unprovoked and unfounded attacks, come whence they may.

"As regards Sir Allan MacNab, I have to remind you that the painful step of giving notice of his removal from office was not taken until nearly five months after the declaration of independence by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, nor until many weeks after his return to this country, during which he had the most ample opportunity of tendering his resignation if he were so minded.

"There being no other part of your letter which has not already been fully meet in my previous communications, it is needless for me again to go over the same ground.

"The Grand Master has given his earnest and unremitting attention, and has spared no exertion, to arrange the difficulties which have occurred, and from causes not entirely on this side of the water. He has the satisfaction of believing that his Brethren here have generally appreciated those exertions.

"I have only to say in conclusion, that no matter what you may hear to the contrary, either from interested parties or otherwise (and it is evident that there has been grievous misrepresentation somewhere), that there is a very strong feeling of regard on the part of the Craft here towards their Canadian Brethren; and that there is no individual Mason in this country who will rejoice more at the termination of their difficulties than the Earl of Zetland himself; and no one who will give a more hearty co-operation towards restoring and cementing the good feeling which should always exist amongst Masons, when unanimity shall once again be shown to prevail amongst his Canadian Brethren.

"I have the honor to be, R. W. Sir and Brother,

"T. Douglas Harington, Esq.,  
Toronto, Canada.

"Yours fraternally,  
"WM. GRAY CLARKE, G.S.

"P.S. By direction of the M. W. Grand Master, I send you a copy of a return, which, by his lordship's command, will be laid before the next Grand Lodge."

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.—The following Grand Lodges have fully and cordially recognized the above-named Grand Lodge, viz.: Connecticut, Ohio, District of Columbia, Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, Oregon, South Carolina, Florida, Texas, North Carolina, Illinois, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Minnesota, Louisiana, Mississippi, and California. The following consider its formation as irregular and revolutionary, viz.: Massachusetts, New York, Alabama, Georgia, and Virginia. The other Grand Lodges have not taken definite action upon the subject.

#### UNION IN NEW YORK.

[From the *Masonic Journal*.]

We are pleased to be able to announce that the body of the Craft in New York are once more united in friendship and brotherly love. We presume all our readers know that in consequence of a change in the constitution disfranchising Past Masters in 1849, a large number of the New York city Lodges set up the standard of rebellion; since which time there has been "trouble" among the Craft in that state even until now. After several attempts at a settlement of their difficulties, finally, through the persevering efforts of a few real peacemakers, the constitution has been amended so as to allow those

who were Past Masters previous to June, 1849, to seats and votes in Grand Lodge. Following this, a committee was chosen from each body, who agreed upon articles of union, which were unanimously adopted by both; and subsequently, the Officers of the so-called "Herring Grand Lodge" were received and welcomed into the Grand Lodge of the state, over which John L. Lewis presides. The scene is described as a deeply affecting one.

The outline of the articles of union is as follows: There is to be but one Grand Lodge in the state; all proceedings had in relation to suspensions and expulsions growing out of the difficulties of 1849 are rescinded, and those thus suspended or expelled are restored to full membership; article third provides for numbering the Lodges; the fourth provides for withdrawing and settling costs of suits at law growing out of the above-named difficulties; number five declares that the Grand Lodge is composed of the Grand and Past Grand Officers, and the Masters and Wardens of the subordinate Lodges, or the representatives of the latter, and all such Past Masters as were elected, installed, and served one year in the chair previous to December, 1849; the constitution to remain in force until constitutionally amended; all allusions to past differences to be avoided.

It is fervently to be hoped that the "union" may be a happy one; but we must not be surprised if disappointed ambition should from time to time cause dissensions and difficulties among the Craft in the metropolis of the empire state. Yet, hoping for the best, we heartily congratulate our New York Brethren, and the whole Masonic family elsewhere, that peace once more prevails in its borders. Long may it continue.

#### INSTALLATION OF THE PROV. GRAND MASTER FOR QUEBEC, ETC.

On Monday, May 26, according to previous appointment, the Masonic Chambers, St. Francis Street, were filled to overflowing with Brethren of the mystic tie to witness the installation of the R. W. Bro. James Dean, jun., as Prov. G. M. for the district of Quebec and Three Rivers, under the registry of England.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in due form by the R. W. Prov. G. M., and his patent of appointment from the Earl of Zetland, M. W. G. M. of England, read, he was then installed according to ancient custom by the R. W. Bro. George Thompson, P. D. Prov. Grand Master.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

At the present time Masonry in New Brunswick occupies a proud position, so far as numerical strength and respectability are concerned. Within a brief period it has encircled within its capacious folds a mighty host, and we believe we should be justified in saying, of worthy and devoted men, who have endeavored to become acquainted with its mysteries. But it is a matter of regret that the mode of government is not such as might be commended. There are Lodges at present in this Province holding under the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland. This diversity of authority cannot fail to counteract the good effects or results which would or should flow from the fraternity. When we come to revolve the subject in our minds, and think of three Grand Lodges—all holding under the dominion of

"The flag that's braved a thousand years  
The battle and the breeze,"—

granting warrants for the working of Lodges in a province under the dominion of the same mighty empire, we feel utterly astounded. What would be said of the grand bodies of either England, Ireland, or Scotland, if they should, in the granting of warrants, encroach upon the dominion of each other? We fancy the aggrieved parties in this case would not feel very comfortable under the innovation. But here we have Lodges working under the three different authorities. At present everything may appear quite calm and serene; but how long is this going to last? Are there no feelings of jealousy between the rival bodies, beneath this pleasant exterior? We fear that too often it is the case. Yes! we can recollect cases where such jealousy has really existed, and where the rulers of one branch have endeavored to retard the progress of the other. A better plan and a more harmonious system might have been adopted, even if the three Grand Lodges had divided the Colonies equally, so that each body might have had a separate and distinct control over some certain portion. But it was not supposed that the colonies would occupy such an important position as they do now. Little did the parent bodies suppose that Canada, with her host of Brethren, would one day seek for an independent existence; or that Australia would be on the verge of asserting her independence; or that the West Indies would be disaf-

fectured; or that Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland, if not now ready to take upon themselves the entire control of their own affairs, will no doubt, ere long follow in the wake of the other colonial dependencies. Little do the parent bodies suppose that the system which is now in operation will eventually be the means of weaning the Brethren from their original allegiance, and encouraging them to unite in one independent body.

The only Grand body in New Brunswick is under the English jurisdiction, having as its chief head, a Brother who is Provincial Grand Master in Nova Scotia—a rather strange anomaly, one Provincial Grand Master over two Provincial Grand Lodges, under the same jurisdiction—with a Deputy in St. John. Before a Provincial Grand Lodge was instituted in this Province, the head of English Masonry in Nova Scotia was the controlling power.—*Freemason's Monthly Monitor* (New Brunswick).

### NEW ZEALAND.

(From the "Colonist" *New Zealand Journal*, of March 5th, 1858.)

#### NEW MASONIC HALL AT NELSON.

The laying of the foundation stone of a public edifice is at all times an interesting ceremony, and, as a token of progress, it is highly gratifying; but the fact of laying the foundation stone of a structure belonging to a fraternity that existed before chronology became a science, and which numbered among its members the wise Solomon, the politic Henry VII., and the great Cardinal Wolsey, was an occasion possessing peculiar interest. This event, which occurred on Tuesday, the 2nd of March, might aptly be termed a red letter day in the annals of Nelson, whether we regard it as an out-door demonstration of good feeling on the part of the assembled multitude, or as an exhibition of well-regulated order and display on the part of two most important societies, acting together in concert for an imposing and good object. Moreover, this was the first occasion of the Freemasons in Nelson appearing in public.

The Brethren, who had assembled at the Wakatu Hotel, formed in procession, and moved at half-past two, and passed up the centre of the two Nelson Lodges of Odd Fellows, who were courteously waiting to receive them; the latter then fell into line, and the whole moved to the site of the intended building in Trafalgar Street, headed by a band playing martial airs. On reaching the ground, his honour the Superintendent, and J. Poynter, Esq., resident Magistrate, joined the procession, and the following hymn was sung, Mr. J. Percy kindly presiding at the harmonium:—

#### OPENING HYMN.

Great Architect of earth and heaven,  
By time nor space confined,  
Enlarge our love, to comprehend  
Our brethren,—all mankind.

Where'er we are, whate'er we do,  
Thy presence let us own;  
Thine eye, all-seeing, marks our deeds,  
To Thee all thoughts are known.

While nature's works and science laws  
We labour to reveal,  
O! be our duty done to Thee  
With fervency and zeal.

With faith our guide, and humble hope,  
Warm charity and love,  
May all at last be raised to share  
Thy perfect light above.

When this was concluded, preparations were made for the ceremony of laying the stone, by Bro. T. Sullivan, and a parchment record was enclosed and sealed in a glass jar, with this inscription:—

"This foundation Stone of a Masonic Hall for the Southern Star Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, in the province of Nelson, New Zealand, was laid by THOMAS SULLIVAN, P.M., on March 2nd, A.D. 1858, A.L. 5858. OFFICERS—John Sharp, W.M.; Nathaniel Edwards, P.M.; Fedor Helling, S.W.; John Percy, J.W.; Richard Beckford Scott, S.D.; John Symons, J.D.; John Reed Dodson, Treasurer; Henry Jossey Goodman, Secretary."

After the usual Masonic ceremonies, the workmen slowly lowered the stone, the band accompanying with solemn music; and when

this was concluded, and a prayer offered up, the Venerable Archdeacon Paul uttered a benediction in an impressive manner. The proceedings then terminated with a concluding ode:—

"Placed in form the corner-stone,  
True and trusty Brothers own;  
Come and bring, in thought sincere,  
Hands to help and hearts to cheer,  
Marked with love, the Master's will  
Kindly proved the work of skill.  
Beauteous forms in grace shall rise,  
'Neath the arch of favouring skies.

#### CHORUS.

"Beauteous forms in grace shall rise,  
'Neath the arch of favouring skies.

"Join we now our offering true,  
While our homage we renew.  
Bear to him whose praise we sing,  
Thanks that from each bosom spring.  
When on earth our work is o'er,  
Be a dearer life in store,  
Each in form, in heart upright,  
Taught by truth's unerring light.

#### CHORUS.

"Each in form, in heart upright,  
Taught by truth's unerring light."

The procession then retired in the order in which they arrived, the band playing "God Save the Queen."

The building, when completed, will cost about £620. The design is simple and elegant, and reflects great credit on the able architect, Bro. Maxwell Bury, who has nobly given his professional labours gratuitously.

### AUSTRALIA.—VICTORIA.

#### PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Victoria was held at the Lodge Room, on Monday the 29th of March, 1858, the R.W. Prov. G.M., the Hon. Capt. Clarke, R.E., presiding, supported by his Prov. Grand Officers.

The Prov. G.M. announced that from various reasons which he assigned, he deemed it desirable to re-appoint the Brethren to the Provincial offices which they now respectively held. The Prov. G. Treas. was also re-elected.

The R.W. Prov. G.M. for South Australia, Benjamin Archer Kent, Esq., M.D., having been announced, he was duly ushered into the Prov. Grand Lodge by the Deacons and Stewards, and received with the grand honours on his being conducted to the right of the P.G.M.

On a complimentary vote of thanks being voted to Bro. Kent, on the motion of V.W. Prov. G.S.W., Bro. H. W. Lowry, seconded and supported by Bro. J. J. Moody, P.Prov. J.G.W. for Cheshire, and Bro. Robert Levick, P.M., and others, that distinguished Brother, in an appropriate speech, returned thanks, expressing his gratification at seeing Freemasonry so ably supported in Victoria, and alluded to his being happily instrumental in promoting to his office the R.W. Prov. G.M. for Victoria, the Hon. Capt. Clarke, R.E., whose appointment had been so cordially approved by the Brethren.

The Prov. G.M. caused to be announced his having granted dispensations to three new Lodges.

The several sums collected by the respective Lodges for the sufferers in India were then announced. The subscriptions were still being collected.

On the motion of Bro. J. J. Moody, seconded by Bro. Levick, P.M., it was resolved to transmit such funds through the Prov. G.M. to the Prov. G.Ms. of the Presidencies in India, where the mutiny had taken place, for distribution among the destitute Brethren, and those of the survivors of deceased Brothers who had suffered from the mutiny. Bro. J. J. Moody explained that this application of the fund was just, as numerous Brethren had not only subscribed to the Melbourne Citizen's Fund, but also to the Masonic Fund raised in their respec-

tive Lodges. An amendment by Bro. J. Harris, to pay this fund to that of Melbourne was negated by a large majority.

In accordance with previous notice,

Bro. J. J. Moody then moved, and Bro. H. W. Lowry seconded, a motion and the adoption of a petition to Grand Lodge.

As the petition prays for a representative in Grand Lodge of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Victoria, and embodies a principle affecting the relations of the Grand Lodge with the whole Colonial District Grand Lodges of the British dependencies, it may be desirable briefly to recapitulate the material portions of Bro. Moody's speech on introducing the motion.

Bro. Moody said: "Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, in submitting this motion to the District Grand Lodge, I desire to be distinctly understood as an earnest advocate for its continued connection with the Grand Lodge of England. I will not conceal that the District Grand Lodge of Victoria is vigorous, influential, and numerous, and might assume independence with a certainty of success; but there are so many glorious associations connected with the Grand Lodge of England, many of its members have shed so bright a halo around Freemasonry, and have illustrated and adorned it by their distinguished talents; it has upheld so earnestly and extended our beneficent institutions, it has exhibited such wisdom and moderation in its government and fraternal conciliation in general towards dissentient Brethren, thus displaying the most eminent virtues by which our Order is distinguished, that I should deeply regret, and would on no account be instrumental in weakening the attachment, or severing those fraternal ties which have endeared us to that honored body, which has so consistently upheld the principles of our Order, and supported the dignity and influence of Freemasonry. It is because I desire to prevent what we have witnessed in another British dependency—it is because I desire to strengthen and perpetuate those fraternal ties which unite the Grand and District Grand Lodges—that I now so warmly support this novel but practical motion. It is not the Colonial Board of General Purposes, useful as I deem it, that can supply our requirements. It is not the authority to appoint a member of that Board that would suffice to secure the due recognition of our wants. No; such a one would, if zealous, be deemed a partisan; if apathetic, unimportant; and, in either case, so numerically disproportionate to the whole number of the Board, as to be powerless in action, and inadequate to obtain the objects of this appointment. An independent representative will alone fulfil the duties to be imposed upon him. He would thus draw closer the ties that unite us; our whole policy of government would be unfolded to him; our wants and wishes, interests and requirements, freely communicated to him; and a discretionary power vested in him, by which the gathering clouds of misunderstanding would be speedily dispelled, the elements of discord promptly suppressed, fraternal feeling cultivated and extended, differences promptly adjusted, reciprocal action promoted, and our allegiance thus strengthened by an enlightened view of our respective duties and obligations, and of the sphere of action assigned to each in supporting, extending, promoting, and diffusing the glorious principles of Freemasonry, the pioneer or precursor of civilization throughout the world."

On being requested to name the representative he intended to propose, Bro. Moody said he intended to propose Bro. Henry Udall, barrister-at-law.

On the suggestion of the R.W.D. Prov. G.M., Bro. F. T. Gill, and Bro. J. Lewis—for the purpose of ensuring general unanimity, and full notice to absent Brethren—Bro. J. Moody consented to renew his motion at the next quarterly communication.

Bros. E. T. Bradshaw and Robert Levick spoke in high terms of Bro. Udall.

## Mark Masonry.

### GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS.

The half-yearly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 23rd of June, Bro. William Jones, P.S.G.W., occupied the place of the Grand Master who, as well as the Deputy Grand Master, was unavoidably prevented from attending. Bro. Keddel occupied the chair of S.G.W., and Bro. Barnard that of J.G.W.

There were present a goodly assemblage of Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers, and a very fair proportion of the representatives of the Lodges in the provinces.

In the absence of Bro. Collins, the G. Sec., the minutes of last Grand Lodge were read by Bro. Ridgway, the G. Reg., and unanimously confirmed.

The G. Reg. then reported the progress made by the degree during the past six months, as more particularly exemplified in the increased number of applications for warrants; and alluded also to the highly satisfactory results arising from the exertions of the Grand Master to promote an union of all the English Mark Lodges.

The Treasurer's report was read, showing not only a good balance in the hands of the bankers, but a statement of further assets to an extent evidently beyond the expectations of the Brethren present.

Bro. Jones, P.S.G.W., announced that the Grand Master had, since the last Grand Lodge, been pleased to appoint the D.G.M., Earl Carnarvon, to be Prov. G.M. of the Mark for the province of Somerset, and Bro. Wm. Kelly to be Prov. G.M. for that of Leicester; adding that his lordship was actuated in making these appointments by the knowledge of the satisfaction with which they would be received in the several provinces.

Upon the proposition of Bro. Lazarus, G. Org. seconded by Bro. Barrel, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh was unanimously re-elected Grand Master of the Mark for the ensuing year.

Bro. Barker then proposed Bro. Norton for re-election as Grand Treasurer. The result of his charge of the funds was so apparent that he anticipated no dissentient to his proposition.

Bro. Lazarus seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. Jones then proceeded to announce the names of those Brethren whom the Grand Master desired to appoint to be Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon to be D.G.M.; Sir Edmund Lechmere, Bart., to be S.G.W.; Bro. Wyndham Portal, to be J.G.W.; the Rev. G. R. Portal, S.W. of the Carnarvon Lodge No. 7, and the Rev. Dr. Woolley, P.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, Portsmouth, to be G. Chaplains; Ridgway, P.M. of the Mark Lodge No. 4, to be G. Reg.; Wm. Louis Collins, Sec. of the Bon Accord Lodge, to be G. Sec.; the Rev. Wentworth Bowyer, of the Hiram Lodge No. 17, to be S.G.D.; Edward Burrell, of the Keystone Lodge No. 3, to be J.G.D.; Binford, of the Portescue Lodge No. 9, Southmolton, to be G. Sup. of Works; Barker, of the Northumberland and Berwick Lodge, to be G. Dir. of Cers.; Bagshawe, W.M. of the Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, to be Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.; Bradley, W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, Portsmouth, to be G. Sword Bearer; Hadow, of the Russell Lodge No. 23, Tavistock, to be G. Org.; and Jessie Turner, of the Mallet and Chisel Lodge No. 5, to be G. Purs.

It was then further announced, that the six Lodges who had this year, under the 45th article of the constitution, the right of nominating Grand Stewards, had all omitted to make the requisite return, and no nomination had been made by the General Board; therefore, as the appointment was thus, under the constitution, left in the hands of the Grand Master, his lordship desired to exercise his right in favor of those six Lodges who had (doubtless through inadvertence only) neglected their return. He would, therefore, appoint as Grand Stewards: Bros. Hammerton, J.W. of the Carnarvon Lodge; Captain Trower, W.M. of the Portescue Lodge, Southmolton; Bisgood, S.W. of the Leigh Lodge, at Erith; Babington, J.W. of the Hiram Lodge, at Richmond; Cann, S.W. of the St. George's Lodge, Exeter; and Harcourt, W.M. of the Joppa Lodge, Chertsey.

The next business was the election of five members to serve on the General Board for the ensuing year. The names of the several Brethren proposed had been duly submitted to the previous committee of Masters; the ballot having taken place, the following Brethren were declared elected: Bros. A. Ridgway, G. B. Cole, R. Norton, J. A. L. Barnard, William Jones. It then rested with the Grand Master to appoint a president and five other members, when his representative in the chair, following his lordship's known rule of strict impartiality, selected the names of the following Brethren as having received the next largest number of votes: Bros. the Rev. Dr. Woolley, E. Burrell, George Lambert, G. Barker, and Mark Tomkins.

Bro. Lambert desired to make a few remarks (which were received with great approbation by the Grand Lodge) on the subject of the position of our colonial Brethren in the Mark Degree. Communications were constantly being made to the Colonial Board of the Grand Lodge of England, of which he was a member, respecting the difficulties existing in the colonies from the non-recognition of the Mark Degree, and the consequent irregularities forced upon them. Bro. Lambert desired to suggest that some printed statement should be drawn up by the General Board for the information of colonial Brethren as to the facilities to be afforded them in this Degree by the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters, and this statement he would take steps to forward to those parties whom he had mentioned as seeking such a guide.

It was thereupon decided that the matter be recommended to the consideration of the General Board.

Bro. Ridgway, G. Reg., rose, in pursuance of his notice, to propose: "That the Grand Master be authorized to appoint three additional Grand Officers under the title of Grand Overseers, and that the precedence of such Grand Officers be determined by the General Board." He made this proposition for several reasons: first, although at the present time, no officer was appointed under the constitution to work in the Lodges under the title of Overseer, yet the function of the Overseer was most prominently alluded to in our working, and in several old Lodges which had joined the Grand Lodge the office was not only mentioned and recognized as with us but the officer in person was essential; secondly, that the English Lodges yet isolated almost universally worked with Overseers, and that to carry out the great object of unity and uniformity, the recognized working would in all probability, before long, require to be modified by a clearer recognition of this office; thirdly, that it would give the Grand Master the opportunity of annually distinguishing a larger number of worthy Brethren by conferring on them an office in the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Burrell, J.G.D., had great pleasure in seconding this proposition. It had been universally approved on several occasions of its being brought before the General Board, and was also fully discussed at the committee of Masters.

Bro. Jones, P.S.G.W., considered that there had not been sufficient opportunity of considering this question. He had not heard of it before, and was therefore not prepared to support it until he had an opportunity of discussing it at the General Board. He thought the object offered simply to create a place, which could not be considered other than a corrupt object. He wished to suggest, whether the proposition had not better be withdrawn.

Bro. Payne, of the Royal Cumberland Lodge, Bath, said that his Lodge worked with the Overseers; indeed he could scarcely see how they could work without them. He knew that the Howe Lodge, Birmingham, the Newsted Lodge, Nottingham, and a Lodge at York, also worked with the Overseers; and the appointment of such a Grand Office would show that his Grand Lodge recognized such an important element in the working of several ancient Lodges of their number.

Bro. Barker could also bear testimony that his own Lodge (the Northumberland and Berwick) the officer, as well as the function, was recognized; and other Brethren followed to the same effect.

Bro. Barnard considered that the matter should be left until after a settlement and uniformity should have been brought about.

Bro. Ridgway replied.—He could not admit that no opportunity had been afforded of considering this matter: the approbation of the General Board and the notice and discussion at the Committee of Masters was proof to the contrary. He could not agree that this matter should be postponed to the final revision and settlement of the working; such a settlement might be most materially aided by the evidence of fairness exhibited by this Grand Lodge in passing such a resolution as that he proposed. The creation of a place did not necessarily imply a corrupt creation. In this case it would enable the Grand Master to extend that satisfaction which his previous exercise of patronage had so universally given.

A show of hands was then taken, and declared in favor of the resolution.

Bro. Barker desired to have the opportunity of mentioning a fact of very great significance, in respect to the extraordinary and unwarrantable course adopted by the Grand Chapter of Scotland as to this degree; and which was exposed not only in this Grand Lodge on the last occasion of meeting, but by the subsequent recall of the false certificates and the professed Mark charter based thereon. He alluded to a letter written about 1842 to a member of his Lodge by the Scotch authorities, in which he saw they coolly mentioned that they were preparing for the Mark and other degrees, and requesting information; this coincided with the date, 1843, when, according to a repeatedly published yet uncontradicted statement, the Grand Chapter first assumed to govern the degree, even in Scotland itself: but he should bring this matter forward in another way, and not detain the Grand Lodge further at present. He wished, however, to know whether there was any truth in the statement that the scheme attempted to be carried out with reference to Brethren of the Kent Lodge was not an isolated case; and whether, at the self-same time, similar false certificates were not issued by the Grand Chapter of Scotland whereon to ground another warrant for a Lodge to be held in the neighbourhood of London.

The Grand Registrar, in reply to Bro. Barker, stated it had come to his knowledge that, although the Grand Chapter of Scotland had professed to be scandalized at its own conduct in respect to the Kent Lodge, and to have undone what wrong they had committed, yet they had not repented their sin, but only that one of their pet sins

had been found out. This was proved by the fact that a Lodge at Woolwich was constituted in a precisely similar manner to the one just alluded to, namely, by the issue of these false certificates. He, the Grand Registrar, had not the power to produce, as he had done on the former occasion, the striking evidence of the false document itself; but he stated, on very good authority, that the circumstances of the Woolwich Mark Lodge were the exact counterpart of those of the Kent, except that the Kent affair was discovered promptly, the other had only recently oozed out.

Bro. Payne said he was enabled to state an additional fact bearing on this matter. Bro. Thearle, the Masonic Jeweller in Fleet Street, had had thrust upon him, quite unsolicited by him, one of these false certificates, at the same time as the others were issued; but finding the false position in which he had been placed, he demanded the return of the fees; this, however, the Scotch authorities demurred to, and it was not until this very morning the money had been returned, under absolute threat of legal proceedings.

Bro. Jones was utterly astonished at the accumulation of circumstances attending this Masonic invasion of England by the Grand Chapter of Scotland with false certificates and pretended authority. He trusted these matters being published would open the eyes of those in this country, whom the Grand Chapter of Scotland had enticed into vassalage.

After some further discussion of this matter, and the transaction of sundry other business, the Grand Lodge was closed until the second Wednesday in December.

## Masonic Charities.

### FREEMASONS' GIRLS' SCHOOL.

A Quarterly Court of the Governors of this School was held at the offices in Great Queen Street on Thursday, July 8th, when seven children (the whole of the candidates) were admitted into the school, six coming from the country and one from London.

The Report of the Committee on Education was brought up, and, after some discussion, adopted, with the addition of a proviso that the friends of the children to be taught music should pay 10s. 6d. a quarter, to pay the expense of new music and other incidentals.

A proposition was made to increase the salary of Bro. Crew, the excellent secretary, by £50 a year, thus making it £150. On this an amendment was moved to increase it to £200. The amendment was carried.

Some formal business was then transacted, and the meeting adjourned.

The following circular has been issued:

"London, July 28th, 1858.

"Worshipful Sir and Brother,—In the report of the committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, dated 6th February, 1858, there appeared the following paragraphs:

"The committee, while gratefully acknowledging the liberal support they have received from some of the Lodges and Brethren in the provinces, cannot but regret that in many instances this institution has not received that encouragement to which it is, from the number of country boys now on its books, fairly entitled. Many cases come before the committee, recommended by long lists of Provincial Grand Officers and other influential Brethren, none of whom, or their Lodges, subscribe to the institution. The committee, therefore, venture to appeal to their provincial Brethren for their increased aid in carrying out the objects of the charity, and feel confident that it is only necessary to call their attention to the subject to meet with a ready and liberal response.

"The committee may perhaps mention here, that out of the twenty-five boys in the school-house, fifteen are from the provinces; and twenty-one of the other forty-five on the institution; making a total of thirty-six country boys."

"With respect to this subject, several influential Brethren in the provinces have addressed letters to Brethren connected with the committees of this institution and of the Royal Freemasons' Girls' School, in which they direct attention to the fact (of which we believe there can be no doubt) that this difference in the amount of London and country subscriptions is owing to no indisposition on the part of the provincial Brethren to recognize the claims of the charities,

but arises from the non-existence of any kind of organization for bringing and keeping those claims under the notice of Brethren and Lodges in the country. In the words of one of the Letters: 'The soil is there, and all the elements of fruition, wanting only the labor of cultivation.'

"These various communications having been referred to us, the undersigned to 'consider and report,' we have prepared the report appended hereto, which the managers of both institutions have empowered us to circulate in the provinces, in order to ascertain the opinions of the provincial Brethren as to the suggested scheme, and to invite propositions for its amendment or extension, or for the adoption of some other scheme calculated to effect the great object in view, viz: to procure and to maintain for the two Masonic schools an increased amount of country support.

"We shall be extremely obliged, therefore, by your kind consideration of the scheme suggested in the accompanying report, and by your consulting other influential Brethren in your province on the subject to which it relates.

"As we are very desirous to avoid delay in submitting to the authorities of both schools an abstract of the replies we may receive, so that the subject may be fully considered in all its bearings, and such measures finally adopted as may be deemed advisable, we shall be further greatly obliged by your transmitting to us a reply not later than Tuesday, the 31st August, addressed to Bro. John Symonds, 3, Ingram Court, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

"We feel quite persuaded that the subject matter of this communication will be deemed sufficient apology for the trouble we have thus ventured to impose upon you.

"We have the honor to be, Worshipful Sir and Brother,

"Yours faithfully and fraternally,

"W. H. LYALL, M.A., P.M. No. 10.

"FREDERICK BINCKES, P.M. No. 11.

"JOHN SYMONDS, P.M. No. 21.

"Late Governors, and Members of the Committees of both Schools.

"Should you desire a further number of copies of the report, we shall be most happy to send them on receiving a line to that effect.

"The following analysis of the subscriptions to the two Schools, is extracted from the respective lists last published. Under the head of 'neuter' are included: 1st, Brethren whose residences are partly in London and partly in the country or whose addresses are not stated; 2nd, The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter subscriptions:

GIRLS' SCHOOL.	London.	Country.	Neuter.	Total.
	Subscribers, Subscribing Lodges, &c. Votes to which the Amounts contributed by the above entitled them ...	1048	307	113
BOYS' SCHOOL.				
Subscribers, Subscribing Lodges, &c. Votes to which the Amounts contributed by the above entitled them ...	667	236	69	972
	1810	456	277	2543

"Carrying out the reference made to us which was suggested by letters received from Brethren in the provinces, we beg to submit for consideration the following

#### REPORT.

"We are of opinion that, with the view of making the Masonic schools better known amongst our country Brethren, it is highly desirable that agencies of some kind should be established in every province; and we feel sure that if some such organization be employed, not only will it be cordially welcomed by numbers who as yet know so little about the schools, but the institutions themselves would obtain such an increase of pecuniary resources as would enable them to take a position second to none among educational establishments of a similar kind in this country.

"Accordingly we recommend:

"I. That Corresponding Secretaries be appointed in every province by the Provincial Grand Lodges, subject to the approval of the general committee of each School, and that their duties shall be:

1. To attend the meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodges, and to visit from time to time the private Lodges of the province, in order to advocate the interests of the Schools, to afford information, to procure Stewards for the annual festival dinners, and to solicit donations and annual subscriptions from individual Brethren, as well as from Lodges, Chapters, and other Masonic bodies.
2. To distribute copies of the rules and regulations, lists of subscribers, annual reports made at the festivals, &c.
3. To be empowered to give printed receipts for money received by them.

"II. That for the purpose of providing for travelling and other incidental expenses, the Corresponding Secretaries be allowed the usual per centage on subscriptions and donations remitted by them.

"III. That the Corresponding Secretaries act, if possible, for both schools.

"Previous to appointing Corresponding Secretaries, we think it would be desirable that London deputations should visit as many of the various Provincial Grand Lodges as possible, in order to give an impetus to the movement, and for the purpose of affording all requisite information.

"W. H. LYALL.

"JOHN SYMONDS.

"16A, Great Queen Street, July 3, 1858. "FREDK. BINCKES.

"P.S. Since the foregoing was presented, it has been suggested by some that the Provincial Grand Lodges should annually elect 'Local Committees' to act as agents in behalf of both the Masonic schools; which proposal, together with the one shadowed forth in our report, we commend to the consideration of the Brethren."

The children in this school had a most interesting treat on Thursday, the 12th August, when they visited Brighton, on the invitation of the Royal York Lodge, No. 394, and were most hospitably entertained. The festive gathering was attended by several of the supporters of the charity.

#### ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION FOR AGED MASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

At the monthly meeting of the committee of this institution, on Wednesday, July 14, Bro. John Hervey in the chair, the accounts were examined; and it was ordered that £450 be invested in consols on account of the Male Annuity Fund, and £350 on account of the Widows' Fund. This makes the sums invested £10,750 for the Male Fund, and £2,950 for the Widows' Fund.

The pensions paid during the last quarter amounted to: male annuitants, £234 15s., being at the rate of £939 per annum; and to female annuitants, £123 2s. 6d., or at the rate of £492 10s. per annum.

Since the previous meeting, one of the male pensioners, Bro. Thos. Miller, of Stockport, an annuitant of £25 per annum, had died.

Bro. Farnfield, Sec., reported that he had received a communication from the Secretary of the Board of Grand Stewards who conducted the last Grand Festival, desiring that the collector of the institution might call upon their treasurer, it having been resolved that the balance of deposits, which remained in hand after paying all the expenses of the festival, should be handed over for the benefit of the Benevolent Institution, as follows: £10 10s. to the Widows' Fund; £10 10s. to the Male Fund; and £7 16s. for the purchase of coals and candles for the inmates of the Asylum during the ensuing winter.

It was resolved, that the thanks of the committee should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Board of Grand Stewards for their liberal donation, and that Bro. Farnfield be requested to superintend the distribution of the £7 16s. in the manner proposed by the Grand Stewards.

We have great pleasure in being enabled to add, that Bro. Isidor Levinson, P.M. of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance (No. 7) has liberally handed a cheque for £7 12s. 8d., the amount received by him for delivering the Prestonian lecture (being the interest on the amount left by Bro. Preston to secure the delivery of the lecture), to the Secretary of the Royal Benevolent Institution, to be applied in aid of the Sustentation Fund of the Asylum.

The next Festival will take place on Wednesday, January 26.

The vote of Grand Lodge on the last occasion raised the annual subscription to the Fund for Aged Freemasons, to £500 per annum, which, contributed by individual subscribers, would give them 2000 votes. Each Lodge having four votes, the number of Lodges possessing the privilege should, strictly speaking, not exceed 500.

The highest number of a Lodge is now ...	1057
There are various numbers absent from the List, amounting in all to ...	184
There are Lodges on Foreign Stations (some of them are within such easy distance as to be able to vote, but it shall be assumed that none can do so) ...	312
There are Military Lodges (some of which also might vote) ...	9
There are entered as "erased" ...	4—459
	•Leaving 598
Strike off for Lodges not yet erased from the List, but which are not likely to be revived ...	48
	Remain 550

After, therefore, making the most liberal deduction, there remain 550 Lodges possessing the privilege of voting, and fully capable of exercising that privilege. These 550 Lodges possess 2200 votes; whereas the £500 subscribed, only entitles them, if the rule which regulates individual subscriptions be applied, to 2000 votes.

The additional £100 per annum now voted, only partially redresses the balance against individual subscribers, which has been steadily increasing with the increase of Lodges. In 1842, when £400 per annum was first voted, the highest number of a Lodge was little in excess of 700, now it is more than 1050.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

The Quarterly General Court of this school was held at the offices in Great Queen Street, on Monday, July 19, Bro. Benj. B. Cabbell in the chair.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Court, and of the general and house committee, having been read, it was proposed and seconded, that the salary of Bro. Thiselton, the Secretary, be increased to the amount of £150.

After some discussion, the proposition was amended by substituting an annual gratuity of £50, in consequence of the long and faithful services rendered by Bro. Thiselton, thus leaving the salary £100 per annum.

An election for the Boys' School will take place in October. There will be eight vacancies to be filled up from a list of sixteen candidates. The girls have had a summer fête, when will the boys have theirs?

The Province.

SCOTLAND.

THE NEW FREEMASONS' HALL IN EDINBURGH.

On Thursday, the 24th of June, the imposing ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Freemasons' Hall for Scotland, took place in Edinburgh with great magnificence.

At an early hour the city was in a state of bustle and excitement. Members of the Craft were everywhere seen hastening to their respective places of meeting; and at the doors of each Lodge-room crowds of curious spectators were soon collected, anxious to catch the first view of the various contributory streams which were to unite and form the great procession of the day. The weather was peculiarly favourable to the display. The heavy rain of the preceding night had cooled the air, and the sun shone out cheerily and

pleasantly, without creating any inconvenient heat. Twelve o'clock had been announced as the hour for opening the Grand Lodge at Holyrood; and as the time drew near all the approaches to the Palace were filled with a dense mass of human beings, through which the members of the several Lodges, in their gay costume, and accompanied by bands of music, banners, and their mystic paraphernalia, slowly made their way. Soon after the members of the Grand Lodge had assembled in the picture gallery of the Palace, the Duke of Athole, M.W.G.M., proceeded to open the Lodge, and the aspect of the vast assembly was then imposing in the extreme. Rarely has that noble chamber witnessed so brilliant, and at the same time so popular a gathering.

In addition to the ordinary constituents of the Grand Lodge, the office-bearers, Masters, Wardens, and representatives of Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge, were numerous stranger Brethren of distinction. After the usual formalities, the reception of the deputies from the sister Grand Lodges of England and Ireland took place with the stately ceremonial which the Brethren love to practice on such occasions. The deputation from the Grand Lodge of England consisted of the R.W. Lord Panmure, D.G.M.; the Hon. Fred. Dundas M.P., S.G.W.; Wyndham Portal, J.G.W.; and R. Jennings, G. Dir. of Cers. The deputation from the Grand Lodge of Ireland consisted of Bros. Quinton, G. Treas., and Dr. Hidman, G. Sec. After the necessary business had been gone through, the Grand Master adjourned the Lodge. The Brethren who were not members of the Grand Lodge having in the meantime been marshalled in the Palace yard, the grand procession was then set in motion, the junior Lodge taking the lead.

Notwithstanding the great numbers present, and the difficulty of moving large bodies of men unaccustomed to march in concert, the arrangements were so expeditiously carried out that less delay took place than might reasonably have been expected, and the proper order of the Lodges was maintained without the slightest confusion. As the Lodge of Edinburg, Mary's Chapel, No. 1, which as the most ancient Lodge of Scotland, had the privilege of immediately preceding the Grand Lodge, began to move off the ground, the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge were seen issuing from the portals of the palace. The vast procession, without a break in its magnificent entirety, then moved along the densely crowded Canon-gate, escorted by guards of honour, while, the line on each side was kept clear by the military. The scene was one of the most astonishing kind. The procession itself was full of varied interest. The quaintly decorated flags, the diversified costumes of the several Lodges, and the gorgeously decorated office-bearers, presented a unique and dazzling picture, while the usual numbers that took part in the procession imparted to it great dignity and impressiveness. Scarcely less extraordinary, however, than the procession itself was the aspect of the streets. Although the roadway was thronged with human beings, the crowds there seem to have afforded no relief to the living swarms congregated in, on, and about the houses. Every window had its cluster of human faces. Every balcony was crowded. The gabled housetops, the roofs of churches, the most inaccessible ledges of wall, had all their contingents of gratified spectators. No spot from which a glimpse could be gained of what was going on was without its occupant. When the head of the procession reached the High Church, the line halted, and formed open order. The Grand Lodge, preceded by a band of music, passed up through the ranks, the Lodge of Edinburgh, and the other Lodges according to their seniority, following. Arrived at the High Church, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the gallery, the other Lodges following into the body of the building. The Rev. Dr. Arnot the Grand Chaplain, then delivered an able and most appropriate discourse, selecting for his text the 8th verse of the 13 chapter

of Genesis. At the same time the Rev. Andrew Bonar, minister of the first charge of Cannongate, who had agreed to act as assistant chaplain on this interesting occasion, conducted divine service in West St. Giles. The reverend gentleman delivered some judicious remarks in reference to the ceremony that was about to be performed, and warmly impressed upon the Brethren the nature of the obligations which all Masons had taken upon themselves. At the conclusion of the services the procession was re-formed in the same order it had taken up at its departure from the Palace. The route then lay along High street, Bank street, the Mound, Princes street, Charlotte street, and square, into George street. Along this line of road, the interest manifested, and the anxiety not to miss any of the more striking features of the procession, were evidently as great as had been exhibited during the march from the palace to the church. The whole course was lined with spectators, and every available spot from which a good view could be obtained was filled up. The aspect of the procession in this portion of its career fully justified the curiosity so generally displayed. As it passed down the Mound and wound into Princes-street, a more variegated, picturesque, and attractive spectacle could scarcely be imagined. Probably no gayer scene has ever been witnessed in that locality; and old inhabitants state that they cannot recal any event which excited, and deservedly, so much enthusiasm, except perhaps the visit of George IV.

When the head of the procession reached the site of the new Hall in George street, the line again halted, and took open order. The Grand Lodge, followed by the other Lodges according to their seniority, passed between the ranks as before, towards the spot where the great ceremony of the day was to take place.

The entrance to the ground was handsomely and tastefully decorated by Mr. Scrymgeour with flowers and evergreens, and the walls were covered with fluted calico tapestry in columns of red, white, and blue. Inside, an inclosure was railed off for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge, and in the centre was erected a dais covered with crimson cloth, for the chief members of the Lodge. The band of the Lancers was stationed on a gallery at the south end of the ground. All being in readiness, the Grand Chaplain offered up an appropriate prayer.

The band then played the National Anthem, after which

The Duke of Athol said—"I beg now to call upon the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Clerk to deposit the coins and other articles within the cavity of the stone."

A jar, containing a number of the coins of the realm, the *Edinburgh Almanach*, copies of the newspapers of the day, a plan of Edinburgh, &c., was accordingly placed in the cavity of the stone.

The Band then struck up the Old Hundredth, finishing with the Masons' Anthem; and

The Grand Master stepped from the dais, and, surrounded by the heads of the Lodges, lowered the stone to its resting-place, laying the mortar with an elegantly worked silver trowel. The moment the level and square were adjusted, one loud hurrah broke from the assembled Masons; a flag was immediately hoisted on the roof of Hall, and in answer to this signal, the cannon in the Castle thundered forth their repeated salvos, announcing the completion of the laying of the stone of the new Freemasons' Hall of Scotland.

The following was the inscription on the stone:—"By the favour of the Almighty Architect of the universe, in the twenty-first year of the reign of Queen Victoria, and on the twenty-fourth day of June, in the year of the Christian era MDCCCLVIII, and of the Masonic epoch MMMMM.DCCC.LVIII, the foundation stone of a new Hall for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge of representatives of the Ancient Fraternity of the Freemasons of Scotland, was laid with great solemnity, by his Grace George Augustus Fred-

erick John, sixth Duke of Athol, Knight of the most ancient Order of the Thistle, Grand Master Mason of Scotland, assisted by the Grand Office-bearers, in presence of representatives of the R. W. Grand Lodges of England and Ireland, and of a great assemblage of the various Lodges and Brethren of Edinburgh and the provinces.—David Bryce, Architect; Robert Hutchison, Master Builder."

Rolls with the names of the Grand Officers of the honorary members, the representative members, the Provincial Grand Masters, the Past Grand Masters, and the Board of Grand Stewards, were placed in the hollow of the stone.

The band having again played the National Anthem, on its conclusion a gallant Mason solicited "a cheer for the ladies," which was given with right hearty good-will.

Cheers for various distinguished Brethren having been given,

The Grand Master advanced to the edge of the dais and spoke as follows:—"R. W. and W. Brethren—On occasions like the present, it is usual, I believe, for the Grand Master to make a short speech; but, however, on this occasion there is not so much to say as on other occasions where I have gone to lay foundation stones for public institutions. But I cannot but take this opportunity of saying how pleased and gratified I have been in seeing the Masons of Scotland have come forward to erect a grand hall—(loud applause)—for I am sure all brethren must feel with myself the necessity there is for such a building; and I must at the same time take this opportunity of thanking all the brethren for the very gratifying manner in which they have turned out to-day. (Cheers.) We are all extremely happy to see the deputies from the Grand Lodges of England and Ireland come down to join with their brethren in Scotland in laying this most important foundation stone; and I trust that the stone laid this day will in course of time have such a superstructure that will do credit to the Masons of Scotland. (Hear, hear.) And I am sure I need say nothing more, except that it must be as gratifying to the brethren as it is to me to-day, to see the very flattering reception we have met with in Edinburgh. (Loud Cheers.)"

At seven o'clock about a thousand of the Brethren sat down to dinner in the Music Hall. The gallery was devoted to the use of ladies, a considerable number of whom were present. His Grace the M. W. G. M. occupied the chair, and was supported on the right by Lord Panmure, D. G. M. of England; Bros. Whyte Melville, D. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Hon. F. Dundas, M. P.; Wyndham Portal; Lord James Murray; R. W. Jennings; William Mercer, Prov. G. M., Hong Kong; Henry Inglis, S. G. W.; and W. A. Laurie, G. Sec.; and on the left by Bros. Quinton, from the Grand Lodge of Ireland; Hyndan, from the Grand Lodge of Ireland; Lord Loughborough, Substitute G. M. of the Gaand Lodge of Scotland; Sir Archibald Alison, Bart.; Hon. F. Drummond; Captain Drummond; A. J. Stewart, G. Clerk; and General Swinburne.

The usual toasts were given and responded to.

A grand Masonic assembly was given in the Assembly Rooms, commencing shortly after ten o'clock.

There were about four hundred ladies and gentlemen present.

#### IRELAND.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland met on the 5th of August, and passed the following law. "A Lodge shall not confer more than one degree on any Brother at the same meeting, and one month at least shall intervene between conferring each degree, unless the W. M., Wardens and Secretary of the Lodge unanimously agree that a necessity exists for conferring the degree within a shorter period. The first or third degree shall only be conferred on one Brother at a time."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES have been held during the past quarter in KENT, LINCOLNSHIRE, NORFOLK, SOUTH WALES, and SURREY, at which the proceedings were of the ordinary character, and call for no especial notice.

YORKSHIRE (WEST).—A very interesting Meeting was held at Saddleworth, on the 12th of June, when the worthy D.P.G.M., Dr. Fearnley, laid the foundation stone of a Mechanics' Institute.

The P.G.L. of the ISLE OF WIGHT was as usual well attended; and the banquet graced as heretofore with the presence of a numerous assembly of ladies. The P.G.M. and his excellent Deputy, Bro. HYDE PULLEY have reason to congratulate themselves upon the satisfactory state of Masonry in this Province.

At the P.G.L. of HAMPSHIRE, it was agreed that a Committee should be formed to promote the interests of the Charities.

The first meeting of the Charities Committee was held at the house of the D.P.G.M., on the 7th, when it was agreed to recommend to the several Lodges in the Province, that a charity box should be sent round at the banquets, half of the proceeds of which should, aided from the Lodge funds, constitute the Lodge, an annual governor of each of the Four Charities; and that the other half should go to form a sinking fund, by means of which, each Lodge would, in time, become a Governor of the Charities during its existence. It was also agreed that the Secretary of the Committee should correspond with other P.G.L.'s, so as to secure co-operation in the election of Provincial Candidates. It seemed to be the opinion of several of the Committee, that much of the lukewarmness of Provincial Brethren in the cause of the central Charities, arose from the monopoly in the government of the Craft, enjoyed by the London Brethren; as well as from the very discreditable conduct of some among the latter, on various occasions, at the festivals.

HAMPSHIRE—*Lodge of Economy*, (No. 90), WINCHESTER.—At the regular meeting of this Lodge, August 25th, it was proposed by Bro. Russ, P.M., seconded by Bro. La Croix, and carried unanimously:—"That in the opinion of this Lodge, the funds of the Masonic charities would be considerably improved, and the general good of Freemasonry advanced, by an increased interest on the part of the Country Brethren in the proceedings of Grand Lodge, and in order to promote this important object, they would suggest that it is highly desirable that all country Lodges should take steps to ensure their due representation at the quarterly communications and other meetings of Grand Lodge; and that prior to such meetings, the motions intended to be then brought forward should be laid before and discussed in open Lodge, in order that the opinions of the Brethren be elicited and properly represented in Grand Lodge."

STONEHOUSE—*Lodge of Sincerity* (No. 224).—According to ancient custom the new W.M. of the Lodge was installed on Monday, the 24th of June. The election of the W.M. took place at the previous meeting, when the choice of the Brethren fell upon Brother Lord Valletort, S.W., who is justly held in the highest estimation in the neighbourhood, and regarded by the Brethren as a most zealous and able Freemason. It was not surprising, therefore, that the ordinary Lodge room was found too small to accommodate the Brethren desirous of witnessing the installation. The difficulty was, however, easily remedied by removing the furniture to the large room in St. George's Hall, in which building the usual Lodge room is also situate. The large room is one of the most extensive and best proportioned in the West of England, and was upon this occasion well filled by the Brethren. The Lodge having been regularly opened, the R.W.D.P.

G.M. for Devon, the Rev. J. Huyshe, and the V.W.P.G. Secretary, Wm. Dennis Moore, accompanied by a number of Provincial officers, past and present, were announced by the I.G. The D. Prov. G.M. was received with every mark of respect, and the W.M. Bro. Wm. Hunt, handed him the gavel, which he was pleased to accept. The W.M. subsequently introduced Bro. Viscount Valletort, as W.M. elect, to the D. Prov. G.M., who duly installed his Lordship in the chair as W.M. for the coming year; the R.W.D. Prov. G.M. admirably performed the ceremony, being most ably seconded by the V.W.P.G. Secretary, and the effect being enhanced by a suitable accompaniment on the organ by Bro. E. Rowe, P.M., and P. G. Organist. The newly installed W.M. then invested, with their respective collars and ensigna, Bro. W. Hunt, as P.M.; Bros. R. Robinson Rodd, S.W., and Lord Graves, J.W.; Bro. the Rev. George Knowling, Chaplain; Bros. Lorenzo B. Tripe, (P.M.) Treasurer, John Cree Hancock, (P.M.) Secretary; Bros. Robinson Ridley, S.D., and H. Evelyn Barton, J. D.; Bro. Samuel Cater, I.G.; Bros. James Hughes, P.M., and John Honey, Stewards. After the installation, about fifty of the Brethren dined together at Bates' Royal Hotel, Plymouth. Bro. Lord Valletort was supported by the D. Prov. G.M., the Prov. G. Sec., Bro. Evens, Prov. S.G.D., and Bro. Damant, Prov. G. Sup. of Works, and a number of other Past Provincial officers; Bro. W. Hunt, the P.M., Bro. the Rev. G. Knowling, Chaplain, and the newly appointed officers. The W.M. gave the toasts with short but very apposite and telling speeches. His declarations as to the estimate he formed of the principles of the Craft, while showing that he had given considerable and earnest attention to the subject, were such as to encourage all who heard them to hope that his active interest in Freemasonry would not be of a mere temporary character, but for many years continue to add to its prosperity, not in this particular Lodge and province, but throughout the country. In proposing the health of the P.M., the W.M. paid a tribute of respect to the zeal, attention, and ability of Bro. Hunt; who, in acknowledging the compliment, detailed some interesting facts connected with the doings of the Lodge during his year of office. During the past twelve months there had been 21 meetings, all of which, as well as the meetings of its Committees, he had personally attended. There had been 16 initiations, 12 passings, and 29 raisings, and the whole of the work he had personally performed, except one initiation and one raising. During the same period the Lodge had dispensed, in casual charity, about £14; voted to Masonic and local charitable institutions, a further sum of about £21; and paid for dues and fees to Grand Lodge and Prov. G. Lodge, some £23 or £24. It may be interesting to add, that amongst the initiations was that of a Turkish officer, Colonel Kadri Bey, who was present at the installation, and some seven or eight officers in the army and militia. The Treasurer begins the year of office of the present W.M. with a balance in hand of more than £30 in favour of the Lodge.—*Abridged from the "Masonic Mirror."*

KENILWORTH.—*Stoneleigh Lodge*, (No. 1027).—This Lodge, having resolved on celebrating the festival of St. John in a becoming manner, invited the Prov. G.M., Lord Leigh, to honour them with his presence. His Lordship having accepted the invitation, Wednesday, the 30th ult., was fixed upon as the day, and a large number of Brethren signified their intention of being present. The Lodge was opened at the King's arms hotel, Kenilworth, at 4 o'clock, Bro. Chas. Elkington, P.G.S.B., as W.M., Bro. Chandos Wren Hoskyns, S.W., and Bro. Fred. Dee, P.G.J.W., J.W. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, the Prov. G.M. was announced, and on entering the Lodge was received with every mark of respect. Nothing more than routine business was disposed of, and the Lodge, at 5 o'clock, adjourned for the purpose of refreshment, about 100 Brethren sitting down to a banquet which was served by the host, Bro. Burrell, in a style that elicited universal praise. The chair was

filled by Bro. Right Hon. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. and W.M. of the Lodge, supported by Bros. Chas. W. Elkington, P.G.S.B. and J.W., C. Wren Hoskyns, S.W., Dee, Meelin, Kettle, Empson, Goode, J. Goode, Lingard, Boddington, Isaac, Briggs, &c., &c., &c.; members of various Lodges in the Provinces, Bro. Joy (425), Prov. of Oxford, and Bros. Shrewsbury and Binckes, London. The cloth having been removed and grace said, the usual loyal toasts were given, the Prov. G. M. prefacing them with a few admirable observations. In giving "the Visitors," his lordship said: "They were honoured by the presence of many visitors, the great majority of whom were connected with the Province, whom they were delighted to see, and to whom they accorded a hearty welcome. In addition to these were Brother Joy, from the neighbouring Province of Oxford; and from London, Bros. Binckes and Shrewsbury; the latter, nearly connected with their excellent Bro. Elkington, and therefore especially welcome: the former, connected with a highly-distinguished Lodge, presided over by the Earl of Carnarvon, a member of the present Government. Politics were wisely eschewed at Masonic meetings, but this he must be permitted to say, that whether they approved of Lord Derby's policy or not, it was admitted on all sides that the Earl of Carnarvon was one of the most rising men of the day. He should give them the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the name of Bro. Binckes." Bro. Binckes considered it a signal honour, in the presence of so numerous and distinguished a company, to have his name coupled with a toast so kindly proposed, and so very cordially received. He would not speak of himself, nor would he touch upon the justly forbidden ground of politics; nay, at a convivial meeting like that, not even on Masonic politics. He would, however, avail himself of the opportunity afforded by the mention of Lord Carnarvon's name, to assure them that no one could possibly have the good of Masonry more at heart than that noble Brother, to whom he was delighted at all times to render his humble support. The part that he, and those who acted with him in Grand Lodge, took in support of Lord Carnarvon, exposed them, at times, to odium and animadversion, and interested and unworthy motives were imputed to them; but their sole object was, by endeavoring to introduce something of vigour into the government, and improvement in the management, to further, to the utmost of their ability, the success of our noble institution. They wished to see the Provincial Brethren become a more integral portion of Grand Lodge, and that they should have a more active share in the elections and ruling of the Order; and it was hoped that some scheme would be devised by which this would be effected.—*Ibid.*

**LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ST. MARY'S, TAUNTON.**—The foundation stone of the new tower of the parish church at Taunton, St. Mary Magdalene, was laid on Tuesday, August 3rd, by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, Col. K. K. Tynte. It is impossible to imagine a more imposing ceremony. The morning was ushered in by the firing of the Sebastopol gun, in Vivary Park, and the bells of the neighbouring churches sent forth merry peals. The Lodge of Unanimity and Sincerity, No. 327, assembled at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning, in the Grand Jury Room at the Shire Hall, (the use of which had been kindly granted by the County Magistrates), when the Lodge was opened, and the Grand Lodge proceeded to visit them at Twelve. Among the Brethren were the R. W. Bro. Vernon, Prov. G. M., Worcester; H. Shute, Prov. G. M., Bristol; J. R. Randolph, D. Prov. G. M. of Somerset; Dr. Falconer (Mayor of Bath), Prov. G. Treasurer; Major A. P. Browne, Prov. G. Secretary (whose indefatigable and courteous services in connection with the entire proceedings have earned for him the warmest thanks of the Craft); Dr. Pope, of Glastonbury; R. E. Peach, S.G.W.; the W.M. and officers of the Lodges of the Province; with the Prov. G. Lodges of Dorset, Devon, and Bristol; the repre-

sentatives of the Grand Lodge at Switzerland, and many others; in all, about three hundred.—*Ibid.*

**LEICESTERSHIRE—Provincial Grand Lodge**—A P. G. L. of this province was held at the Town Hall, Hinckley, on Thursday, the 29th July, at one o'clock, by Right Hon. Earl Howe, G. C. H., Provincial Grand Master.

**WILTSHIRE**—A P. G. L. was held at Trowbridge on the 24th Aug., and was presided over by Bro. Gooch, D. P. G. M. Bro. Biggs, in proposing the health of Bro. Maundry, the worthy host, and thanking him for the handsome banquet he had provided, took occasion to congratulate the Brethren on the result of their meeting that day—feeling sure that it augured well, not only for the prosperity of their province, but also for the whole Craft. He would have them ever recollect that Masonry was to be compared to one vast machine, and that each Lodge and each province was but as one of the wheels by which it was kept in motion; and that, while conducting their own affairs, they were never to lose sight of what was transacting beyond their own circle. They had that day appointed a committee of Masters and Past Masters to dispense their benevolent vote to the different charities, and otherwise increase the sum subscribed. He felt sure that very many other subjects connected with the Craft would be discussed amongst what might be very properly called the Provincial Board of General Purposes; and he hoped the first subject would be our representative system. They had voted a sum of money to be placed at their disposal for the benefit of the charities—and did it not necessarily follow that those who subscribed the funds should have a prominent voice in its disposal. In Hampshire (and he would appeal for the accuracy of his statement to Bro. Sherry) he understood that each Lodge subscribed from its funds a certain sum to defray the Master's expenses to attend every quarterly communication of Grand Lodge; and if he, the Master, was prevented from so doing, he was pledged to provide a substitute. Now, that was a move in the right direction; it not only caused the Lodges in that province to take a greater degree of interest in their Masonic legislation, but gave them a position in Grand Lodge, which must of necessity be of great benefit to the province.—*Masonic Mirror.*

**NOTICES OF MOTION.**—In Grand Lodge on December 1st, the Earl of Carnarvon, W.M., No. 10, will move, "That this Grand Lodge views with great regret the tone of the letters dated the 10th June and 12th August respectively, and addressed by the Grand Secretary to the R. W. Bro. Harington, late P. G. M. of Quebec." Motions will also be brought forward condemnatory of the unfairness of the official version of G. L. proceedings, and in favour of recognizing the Grand Lodge of Canada.

**THE FIRST STEP.**—The first step in Freemasonry is the most important, and should not only be so considered by the candidate, but he should be so instructed by the Master in his charge. The obligations of all future teachings in all the succeeding degrees are based upon the lessons taught in the initiatory degree. It is for this reason that the Master should be particularly careful to impress upon the candidate the exalted privileges to which he has been admitted by having the honours of Freemasonry conferred upon him. In receiving this degree he is made a link in the great chain of Masonry, which binds him with good and true men in every part of the world. He becomes one of the great brotherhood. He is for the first time admitted into a Lodge of Freemasons, and becomes acquainted with some of the mysteries of the Order. Before his admission he is like all the world, in darkness as regards the secrets of Freemasonry. Having entered, he is brought to light, and beholds that which to the uninitiated must ever remain a secret.

## Correspondence.

To the Editor.

Sir and Brother,—I perceive in the *Magazine* for September 1st an article written in solemn tones of warning and advice to the *Masonic Observer*. With Bottom, the Editor may say:

"I grant you, my friends, if that you should fright the *Dais* out of their wits, they would have no more discretion but to hang us; but I will aggravate my voice so, that I will roar you as gently as any sucking dove; I will roar you an 'twere any nightingale." *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

I am sure you must receive the chidings of your contemporary with all due respect and humility. The writer of the article can point with an air of unctuous satisfaction to the columns of the *Magazine* for its uniform consistency, its gentle, courteous tones, its inflexible adherence to refinement of language and absence of personality; and if practical proof of this were necessary, I would quote the following felicitous paragraph from the number published in December, 1855:—

"Not get an answer from the G. Secretary's Office, quotha! Bah! as well get the G.M. to attend upon any public Masonic occasion, except indeed, the nomination to office of some Whig *protege* is mooted, then indeed, he is punctual. The presence of our excellent Brother Dobie, with his sound practical head, and talents for business, has been the shield of Ajax over and over again, behind which *the incapables*, Lord Zetland, Brother White, and Co., have been glad to cower. Their duness it is which has lost us Canada, and for which the West Indies is already threatening severance—let the system go on, and the development of Masonry will shortly be reduced to two individuals, the placeman and the toady; whilst the G.L. will, in all probability, be removed to Newmarket, the only place whence no plea operates to withhold our G.M."—*Magazine*, Dec., 1855.

Here is choice phraseology!—so elegant indeed, that I search in vain the columns of your journal for a parallel passage.

I turn to the opening article in the *Magazine*, of the date first mentioned, and there I find the writer, whilst bewailing the faults and warning the *Masonic Observer*, betrays "an umble," Heep-like penitential tone, quite edifying to minds independent. I admire consistency and I cannot tolerate expediency and miserable compromises; a bold and truthful policy will ever command the sympathy of the honest and fearless. The *Magazine* has achieved a great, a sublime consistency—vindicated a great principle—it has, to use a not very elegant expression of Lord Castlereagh's, "turned its back upon itself," and should henceforth inscribe on its title-page, as its legitimate motto, its own epithet, "The Placeman and The Toady."—I am, Sir and Brother, yours truly,

PLUM.

To the Editor.

Sir and Brother,—The M.W.G.M., in open G.L., made an attack on the *Masonic Observer* at the last Quarterly Communication. His lordship says that political feeling has, in no respect, guided him in his choice of G. Officers, and appeals to his appointments in confirmation of the fact. This was unfortunate, because the enquiry has very often been enforced upon one, why certain noblemen, and others, were appointed to high positions, notoriously unfitted by their habits and knowledge of the Craft, to fill them. As an illustration of what I mean, take the appointment of Bro. the Earl of Durham to the G.S.W.'s chair. His lordship at the time he was so promoted was not only unfitted by reason of his inexperience and the slender services he had rendered to the Craft, but he was not legally qualified, according to the Book of Constitutions, to fill the post; and yet

the G.M. selected and placed him over the heads of men distinguished by their ability, zeal, unwearied application, and signal services to the Craft. And wherefore? By what principle is the G.M. guided in his appointments? If the exalted position of a G.O. of England be a reward for distinguished services to the Order, as in theory it is, where, when, and how, had the noble Bro. performed these services? This is by no means a solitary instance of the nepotism and striking unfairness which prevails in the bestowal of the honours of G.L.

I am not prepared to say that the M.W.G.M. is biased by political feeling, but I should be better satisfied that such is not the case, by a more practical manifestation of his impartiality than his lordship's "indignant denial." Sir, the feeling in the country (and it is not confined to the country) by no means acquits Lord Zetland of the charge alleged against him, nor will the Brethren generally acquiesce in the policy of his lordship and the *Dais*, until fresh vigour, energy, and disinterestedness be more conspicuous in its development.

It occurred to me and many others, that this speech of the G.M. was a clap-trap, a mere vapouring in order to divert the minds of Brethren from those important subjects which many Brethren bring forward and urge with so much ability, and such inconvenient pertinacity.—I am, Sir and Brother, Yours fraternally,

BLUE APRON.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir and Brother,—What are our friend Warren and the *Magazine* about? Have they jumped

JIM CROW?

Bath; September, 1858.

To the Editor.

Sir and Brother,—I was irresistibly reminded in G.L. of the well-known instruction whispered into the ear of a counsel whose cause was breaking down,—"Abuse the plaintiff's attorney."

You certainly received enough of that article: but still facts are facts; and the fact remains, which since the G.M.'s denial of political motives, is perfectly inexplicable, that the last and present D.G.M., the last and present G. Wardens, are all Whigs. Since it is the case that noble Brethren are not excluded on account of their politics, the only alternative is this, that they are excluded because of the independence of their course in G.L., which is as bad a reason as the other, and entitles the excluded to the sympathy and support of every independent Mason.

It has been alleged by the clique, that there is in G.L. a faction determined on opposition to the Executive for opposition's sake; and the following funny reason is given for the statement: that the late Executive only, i.e. poor old White, were responsible for Canadian mismanagement, and that things are now so well conducted by the gallant Clarke and his shadow, that there is no room for anything to be desired. But unfortunately the G.M. was proved by the investigations of the Board of General Purposes, to have had the Canadian memorial in *his own possession* for months, which indeed his lordship avowed and justified: and next, the last act of our pattern Executive, has been to write two letters to Bro. Harington, so vulgar in their tone, and slang in their expression (to say nothing of their wretched grammar), as to be taken by him as a personal insult, and involve our whole relations with Canada to a worse extent than ever, which was probably their object. Doubtless our worthies think to escape in the dust and confusion of the scurrilage that is likely to ensue; but the English Craft will be strangely forgetful of their responsibility in the

eyes of the rest of the Masonic world, if they allow their name to be thus taken in vain, and such impertinences to be written by their paid servant, and his *bete noire*.

While, however, these things continue to be done, there is need of all the vigilance of which the independent party in G.L. are capable, if they would save the Order from being hopelessly compromised by the placeman and the toady.—I am, Sir and Brother, fraternally,

A PROVINCIAL P.M.

How LITTLE is known of what is in the bosoms of those around us! We might explain many a coldness could we look into the heart concealed from us; we should often pity where we hate, love when we think we can never forgive, admire when we curl the lip with scorn and indignation. To judge without reserve of any human action is a culpable temerity, of all our sins the most unfeeling and frequent.

WE commend to the perusal of our readers the advertisement of the GRAND LODGE CLUB, which appears in our columns to-day. It will, we think, prove of invaluable service as a point of union and information for Provincial Masons, while it will afford a convenient opportunity for deliberation upon all questions of Masonic interest; and thus enable the independent section of G.L. to mature their policy, and present a united front to their official opponents.

The plan reflects great credit upon its originators: it is simple, practical, and capable of indefinite extension. We hope, in time, to see a reading room, and a coffee room, included in the scheme.

The names of the Executive of the Club—well-known and tried men—offer every guarantee for its efficiency and success.

## Advertisements.

### MASONIC QUARTERLY PAPER.

THE MASONIC OBSERVER AND GRAND LODGE CHRONICLE is published on the 20th of March, June, September, and December; and contains a full Report of the proceedings in the previous GRAND LODGE, as well as Articles upon the various subjects affecting the welfare of the Craft.

It is intended to meet a rapidly increasing demand for fuller information upon matters of general, as distinguished from local, interest.

The actual condition of Masonry at home and in the Colonies, its policy, the measures required for its progress and efficiency, as well as the state of its Charities, are the subjects principally noticed.

The great success that has attended the establishment of this Paper, leads the Proprietors to hope that it will be recognised as a useful medium of information, as well as of mutual communication, by the Craft at large.

## MASONIC CLUB.

AT a Meeting held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 14th September, it was resolved:—

"That a Club be now formed to be called 'THE GRAND LODGE CLUB,' (which shall consist only of Members of G.L.) for the following objects:—

- "1. To maintain the constitutional supremacy and privileges of G.L.
- "2. To amend or modify—so far as can be done—with a due regard to the preservation of the antient landmarks of the Order—such of the Masonic laws and regulations as are found to operate prejudicially to the interests of the Craft.
- "3. To secure to Provincial Brethren a more active participation in the proceedings of G.L.
- "4. To promote the adoption of a liberal and enlightened policy towards Colonial Lodges.
- "5. To encourage throughout the Craft a more extended interest in the Charities of the Order.
- "6. To form a Masonic Library of Reference."

The Entrance Fee to be 5s.; Annual Subscription, 5s.; Election of Members by Ballot. The Club to dine together before each G.L.; Dinner 2s. 6d., Wine, 3s.

The following have been appointed officers, *ad interim*.

Bro. UDALL, Past G. Deacon, P.M., No. 10, *President*.

Bro. JOHN WHITMORE, W.M., No. 326, *Treasurer*.

Bro. F. BINGKES, P.M., No. 11, *Secretary*, Freemasons' Tavern.

With whom Brethren desirous of joining the Club must communicate on or before October 31st.

THE "CANADIAN MASONIC PIONEER" is published on the 1st of every month, at Montreal, C.E. Terms: Five Shillings Cy., per annum, payable *invariably* in advance.

All communications must be pre-paid, and addressed to the Editors, *Masonic Pioneer*, Montreal.

### GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTERS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, AND THE COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS OF THE BRITISH CROWN.

Bro. The LORD LEIGH, *Grand Master*.

Bro. The EARL OF CARNARVON, *Deputy Grand Master*.

LODGES desirous of Uniting under the English Constitution, and Brethren wishing to obtain New Warrants to work the Mark degree, are requested to communicate with Bro. W. L. COLLINS, the Grand Secretary, at the Office of the Grand Lodge, No. 40, Leicester Square, London.

### NOTICE.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—We have to request our Subscribers to forward the amounts for which application has been made, either in Stamps, or by Post Office Order, at their earliest convenience.

The *Masonic Observer and Grand Lodge Chronicle* is published on the 20th of March, June, September, and December; and may be obtained from the London Publishers, through all local booksellers.

SUBSCRIBERS may be supplied direct from the Office, by sending their subscriptions (2s. per Annum) *in advance* to Mr. Peach, Bridge Street, Bath.

ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to Mr. Peach, Bridge Street, Bath, or to Mr. J. Clements, Little Pulteney Street, London, by the 15th of March, June, September, and December, and not later than one week after each G. L. of emergency.

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