

THE installation of the Prince of Wales has given cause for comment on the part of the Catholic press of Europe. It was thought that the defection of the Marquis of Ripon would prove a sign of weakness on the part of Masonry; but the acceptance of the position of Grand Master by the heir apparent has dispelled whatever hopes might have been entertained of the decline of Masonry, consequent upon the noble Marquis retiring from the Grand Mastership. The Roman organ of the Catholics professes to hold that the act of installation identifies Anglican Protestantism with Masonry, and, as a matter of course, that is displeasing to His Holiness and his adherents.

BRO. HUGHAN, of England, and Bro. Norton, have been sparring a little through the *Masonic Jewel*, on the origin of Speculative Masonry, the former having stated that it existed, in part, antecedent to the revival of 1717. Bro. Hughan's reply is to the point, and upsets the entire groundwork of Bro. Norton's criticism, which assumed too much, and made Bro. Hughan mean what he really did not. We prefer this discussion to the one on the Jewish question, which gives no promise of benefitting any body. Masonic controversialists like Bro. Hughan and Norton can render any subject interesting if they choose to make it so.

THE *New England Freemason* suggests the propriety of designating Philadelphia "The Spinster City of Freemasonry in America," in lieu of "The Mother City." We need hardly hint to the *Keystone* that this last "Boston no'ion" smacks of jealousy.

It looks as if we were never to have an end of Masonic discoveries in the City of Brotherly Love, for not satisfied with being the Mother City of Masonry and the first to erect a Masonic Hall in America, Philadelphia now claims to have started the first Masonic periodical. What next, Bro. McCalla?

WE have before us a handsome and neatly printed report of the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania proceedings at the annual communication, in December last, with an appendix containing the committee's report on Foreign Correspondence. The correspondence with Canada occupies considerable space, and Canadian Arch Masonry is highly spoken of.

The *New England Freemason* for March—the latest number received—is graced with a fine likeness of the editor, Past Grand Master Sereno D. Nickerson. In an article on the Grand Lodge of England, the editor speaks admiringly of the manner in which the proceedings there are conducted.

PRESENTATION.—A very pleasing incident in connection with the completion of the furnishing of the Masonic Hall Building, Hamilton, took place on the evening of the 12th May, at the regular meeting of Barton Lodge, No. 6. V. W. Bro. Richard Brierley, P. M., of Barton Lodge, Chairman of the Furnishing Committee, and Bro. J. M. Meakins, of Strict Observance Lodge, a member of the same committee, had devoted much time and thought to the important duties that had devolved upon them; and it was generally conceded that their labors deserved something more than a verbal recognition. Committees were therefore appointed, and a handsome sum was soon collected. At the meeting above referred to, V. W. Bro. Brierley was presented with a magnificent gold hunting lever watch, with a heavy gold chain and keystone appended. The watch was manufactured by the National Watch Co., of Elgin, Illinois, and has the H. Z. Culver movement. Bro. Meakins was also the recipient of a very handsome French gilt 16-day clock and shade. The presentations were made by R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, D. D. G. M., on behalf of the brethren of Hamilton. We must not forget to state that both the presents were purchased from Bro. Thos. Lees the well known jeweller, James street, Hamilton.

DEDICATION.—The Royal Arch Chapter room in the new Masonic Hall Building, Hamilton, was dedicated by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, Grand Z., assisted by R. E. Comps. Henry Carlisle, District Superintendent; R. P. Stephens, Grand Scribe E.; J. B. Nixon, Grand Scribe N.; Richard Brierley, Grand Principal Sojourner, and others. After the impressive ceremony of dedication had been performed, the Royal Arch work was exemplified in an admirable manner by Comps. of Hiram and St. John's