

communications held on 5th Sept., 1883, on 5th Dec. of same year, on 5th March, 1884, and 4th June, 1884.

There was also a special meeting on 24th April last, at which were submitted two letters of condolence, one to Her Majesty the Queen, the other to Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, on the death of H. R. H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, Pro-Grand Master for Oxfordshire.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, was charged to sign and present both addresses.

The Annual Festival was on the 30th April, 1884. The Earl of Carnarvon, as Pro-Grand Master, presided at the 4th June meeting, and having directed the attention of Grand Lodge to the Encyclical letter recently issued from the Pope, the following resolution in reference to it was adopted:—

"First,—That this Grand Lodge has seen with great regret the recent Encyclical letter in which the charges of atheism, sedition, and vice, are made against Masonry in general without, discrimination or qualification.

"And secondly,—That this Grand Lodge, whilst it does not deny that meetings for political and seditious purposes have in some countries been held, under the pretence of their being Masonic Lodges, can only express its astonishment and regret, that English Free Masonry should by some strange misapprehension of facts, be included in this sweeping charge, which the law, practices, and traditions of the Order, as well as the position of its rulers, clearly prove to be utterly without foundation."

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales is Grand Master; Colonel Shadwell Clarke is Grand Secretary.

SCOTLAND AND IRELAND, 1884.

We are without any intelligence from these venerable Grand Lodges, which we much regret, inasmuch as we are unable, in consequence, to note for the benefit of the many Scotch and Irish brethren in our midst what Masonic events of interest may have occurred in the land of their nativity.

FLORIDA, 1884.

The Grand Lodge of this far-off State had its last meeting on 15th of January, 1884, in the city of Jacksonville; M. W. Grand Master Z. H. Mason, ruling from the East. He reports his correspondence on matters connected with the duties of his office as having been voluminous, but the state of his health such as to prevent his doing much visiting among his lodges.

Looking through his decisions we find the following, which as it may be of use here, we give *in extenso*.